

# KIAULL MANNINAGH JIU

*Jerrey Fouyir 2023 October*

MANX MUSIC TODAY

## SCRAN'S NEW ALBUM - JEES

*Exceptional young Manx band, Scran, have released their hotly-anticipated second album of traditional music.*

'Jees' (Manx for the number two) is a blend of enchanting slow Manx airs, lively jigs and reels, alongside original compositions and traditional tunes from further afield.

Highlights include a harp duet celebrating the famed Manx artist Archibald Knox, an imaginative twist to "Cur dty Vainney", an old Manx Gaelic milking song popular with young musicians all over the Island and beyond, and exciting modern compositions such as "The Road to Jurby" and "Raad ny Foillan". In complete contrast, the mandolin trio has a lot of fun with the Tetris computer game theme – originally a Russian folk tune!

Scran is a secondary school age band mentored by David Kilgallon (Mec Lir, Manannan's Winterfest, Chronicles, King Chiaullee) and Paul Rogers (Mabon, Strengyn & The Fecktones). An off-shoot of Culture Vannin's Manx music youth movement, Bree, the members of Scran are aged between 12 and 18 and between them play harps, fiddles, mandolins, whistles and accordion. This eagerly-awaited second album follows on from the band's debut album 'Nane' (number one), which was released in 2018.



The CD is £10.00 and is available from local shops, or it can be downloaded as a digital album for £7.00 from the Culture Vannin Bandcamp page: <https://culturevannin.bandcamp.com/album/jees>

The band launched the album with an informal music session at the Black Dog Oven in Peel on the 3rd September. Scran will be auditioning for more new members soon, so any teenage musicians who are interested in joining should get in touch with Dr Chloë Woolley, Manx Music Development Officer for Culture Vannin.

### *In this month's edition...*

- **Big Bree Workshop Weekend #17**
- **NEW Manx Hop tu naa song (adopted from Scotland!)**
- **Cooish Manx Language Festival 2023**



# Calling all young Manx musicians and dancers - the BIG Bree workshop weekend is coming!

Culture Vannin's annual Big Bree Workshop 'Weekend' will take place next month at St John's Methodist Hall on Sunday 22nd and Monday 23rd October.

Led by voluntary tutors from the traditional music and dance scene, students in school years 6 – 13 (ages 10 – 18) are invited to join the team to learn about Manx culture through singing and playing instruments, dancing, composing, Manx language, traditional crafts and drama.

This year's overall theme will be fishing and all of the students will perform in a free concert for family and friends.

Bree, which is Manx for 'vitality', was set up by Culture Vannin in 2006. The youth education movement aims to ensure that Manx music and dance remain a living tradition. The group usually meet once a month to play and sing, but some of the more advanced musicians are also members of the band 'Scran' who have recently released their second album, 'Jees'.

All young people are welcome to get involved in the 17th 'Big Bree Workshop Weekend', and for just £10 for two days of fun and creativity, it is the ideal opportunity to get involved in Manx culture!

Closing date for applications: Friday 6th October.

Contact Dr Chloë Woolley, Manx Music Development Officer for Culture Vannin for more information: [manxmusic@culturevannin.im](mailto:manxmusic@culturevannin.im) or tel. 694758.

Application form: <https://tinyurl.com/tkps657s> or end of KMJ

Watch videos from previous Bree weekends: <https://tinyurl.com/57jeedy7>

Manx music, dance & folklore

## THE BIG BREE

Manx language, history & culture

### WORKSHOP 'WEEKEND'



Two days of fun workshops for young singers, musicians & dancers aged 10-18

only £10 for 2 days!

Sun 22 & Mon 23 Oct / 10am - 4pm  
St John's Methodist Hall

CONCERT ~ 3pm, Mon 23 Oct

Further info:  
[manxmusic@culturevannin.im](mailto:manxmusic@culturevannin.im)  
or tel. 01624 694758  
[www.manxmusic.com](http://www.manxmusic.com)



# MANX MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS AT COOISH 2023



The annual Manx language festival takes place from 1st - 5th November and includes lots of events for music lovers including song workshops, choir performances and expert help for singer-songwriters who might like to enter the Arrane son Mannin contest in January 2024.

- Friday 3rd November, 10am – 10.45am – **Manx songs and rhymes for children.**

Fun for children aged 0-4 years old (with a parent/carer). £2 per child.

Booking essential: [www.manninmusic.shop](http://www.manninmusic.shop)

Hosted by Mini Musicians by Mannin Music.

Venue: Mannin Music Studio, Pulrose

- Friday 3rd November, 7pm – 9pm – **Mooijer Veggey song night** »

Wallow in nostalgia with this opportunity to relive twenty-five years of rhymes and songs from Mooijer Veggey and the Bunscoill Ghaelgagh. Cup of tea anyone?

Hosted by Mooijer Veggey.

Venue: Royal Chapel Hall, St. John's

- Saturday 4th November, 10am – 3pm – **Cooish, Cappan as Croo.**

Christmas song workshops, a special Arrane son Mannin lyrics workshop, and musical performances form part of this family-friendly outreach day in Castletown, celebrating the Manx language.

Venues for the whole event: Civic Hall, Art Squared, The George – Castletown.

## Workshops:

\* 10am – 11.30am: Drop-in lyrics workshop with Bob Carswell. Get ready for Arrane son Mannin with your original song! Bring your completed English lyrics to this drop-in event, and receive one-to-one expertise from the brilliant Bob Carswell. Just turn up (but you might like to email [gaelg@culturevannin.im](mailto:gaelg@culturevannin.im) to RSVP, if you definitely would like a spot with Bob!) Venue: The George Pub, Castletown

\* 11am – 11.45am: Manx language Christmas songs workshop with Ruth Keggin Gell. All welcome – perfect for beginners! For adults, and accompanied children (aged 7+). Booking is essential for this popular workshop:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/726675314427?aff=oddtcreator>

Venue: The George Pub, Castletown

\* 2pm – 2.45pm: Manx language Christmas songs workshop with Ruth Keggin Gell. All welcome – perfect for beginners! For adults, and accompanied children (aged 7+). Booking is essential for this popular workshop:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/726690610177?aff=oddtcreator>

Venue: The George Pub, Castletown

- Saturday 4th November, 8.30pm onwards: **Kiaull as Gailck** in the Fyn Bar, Ramsey. Manx chat, tunes, and cocktails! Bring your instrument and/or your voice, and join in!

\*table booking advised due to limited space\* Venue: The Fyn Bar, Ramsey





# PROGRAMME/GLAARE

More information on / Tooilley fysseree er:  
[www.learnmanx.com/cooish](http://www.learnmanx.com/cooish)

## Wednesday 1 November

## Jecrean 1 Mee Houney

9.15am – 10am	Learn numbers in Manx! Ynsee earrooyyn ayns Gaelg	Free Nastee	Greens Café, St. John's Thie Bee Glass, Balley Keeill Eoin
12pm – 1pm	Cozy lunchtime Cooish Cooish as Kirbyl	Free Nastee	Atrium, Tower House, Douglas Atrium, Thie yn Toor, Doolish
12.20pm – 12.50pm	Come and try Manx! Tar as cur eab er y Ghaelg!	Free Nastee	Santander Work Café, Douglas Café Obbyr Santander, Doolish
1.20pm – 1.50pm	Come and try Manx! Tar as cur eab er y Ghaelg!	Free Nastee	Santander Work Café, Douglas Café Obbyr Santander, Doolish
7pm	Bunscoil Ghaelgagh – Film night Oie ny Filmyn – Bunscoil Ghaelgagh	See / jeeagh er learnmanx.com	Methodist Hall, St. John's Halley ny Saasilee, Balley Keeill Eoin

## Thursday 2 November

## Jerdein 2 Mee Houney

9.15am – 10am	Learn useful Manx phrases Ynsee raaghyn Gaelgagh ymmydoil	Free Nastee	Greens Café, St. John's Thie Bee Glass, Balley Keeill Eoin
11am – 11.45am	Learn numbers in Manx! Ynsee earrooyyn ayns Gaelg!	Free Nastee	Greens Café, St. John's Thie Bee Glass, Balley Keeill Eoin
12pm – 1pm	Cozy lunchtime Cooish Cooish as Kirbyl	Free Nastee	Greens Café, St. John's Thie Bee Glass, Balley Keeill Eoin
6pm – 9pm	Make bonnag, cream & jam in Manx! Jean bonnag, eeym & jingan ayns Gaelg!	£30	Juliette's, 2 Michael Street, Peel Juliette's, 2 Straid Vaayl, Purt ny Hinshey
8pm →	Manx conversation Coloayrtys Gaelgagh	Free Nastee	Whitehouse Pub, Peel Y Thie Bane, Purt ny Hinshey

## Friday 3 November

## Jeheiney 3 Mee Houney

10am – 10.45am	Manx songs and rhymes for children Arraneyn as draneyn son paitchyn	£2	Mannin Music Studio, Pulrose Studio Mannin Music, Poyll Roish
10am – 11am	Manx conversation Coloayrtys Gaelgagh	Free Nastee	Mad Hatter's Café, Ramsey Thie-bee yn Eddeyder Keoie, Rhumsaa
11am – 12pm	Guided walk in Manx around Ramsey Turrys shooyl mygeayrt Rhumsaa	Free Nastee	Meet at the green on East Street, opposite Penny Farthing, Ramsey
12pm – 1pm	Cozy lunchtime Cooish Cooish as Kirbyl	Free Nastee	Rowany Golf Club, Port Erin Club Golf Rowanee, Purt Chiarn
7pm – 9pm	Mooijer Veggey song night Oie dy Arraneyn Vooijer Veggey	Free Nastee	Royal Chapel Hall, St. John's Halley yn Chabbal Reeoil

## Saturday 4 November

## Jesarn 4 Mee Houney

10am – 3pm	Fun, family-friendly outreach event 'Cooish, Capan as Croo'	Free Nastee	Civic Hall, Art Squared, The George Castletown – Balley Chashtal
4.30pm – 6pm	Cocktail making in Manx (age 18+ only) Keirdlann er jannoo cocktailyn (18+ ynrican)	£28	Fynoderee Distillery, Ramsey Thie-sheelee Fynoderee, Rhumsaa
7.30pm – 8pm	Fireworks! Chentagyn!	Free Nastee	Mooragh Park, Ramsey Pairk y Vooiragh, Rhumsaa
8.30pm →	Music and Manx – session Kiaull as Gailck – seshoon	Free Nastee	The Fyn Bar, Ramsey Yn Fyn Bar, Rhumsaa

## Sunday 5 November

## Jedoonee 5 Mee Houney

1pm – 2pm	Ned Maddrell Lecture (in English) Leaght Ned Maddrell (ayns Baarle)	Free Nastee	iMuseum, Douglas / online iMuseum, Doolish / er-linney
2pm – 4pm	Panel Discussion about Manx research Resooney Pannyl mychione ronsaghey Gaelgagh	Free Nastee	iMuseum, Douglas / online iMuseum, Doolish / er-linney
6.30pm – 9pm	Manx bingo night – family-friendly Oie Vingo	£5 / £2	Corrin Hall, Peel Halley Corrin, Purt ny Hinshey




THE OLDEST SHIP IN THE WORLD  
THAT STILL SAILS  
WAS BUILT IN RAMSEY IN 1863

CLOIDERYN THEATRE GROUP  
RAMSEY ISLE OF MAN

160TH ANNIVERSARY  
STAR OF INDIA  
RAMSEY - SAN DIEGO  
SONGS FROM THE MUSICAL

# CATCH US LIVE

CONCERTS  
ISLE OF MAN

ST PAUL'S HALL RAMSEY SAT 7TH OCTOBER 2023 7.30PM £6

CALIFORNIA, USA

SAN DIEGO MARITIME MUSEUM 9TH - 11TH NOVEMBER 2023

POP-UP GIGS RAMSEY, ISLE OF MAN


RAMSEY COURTHOUSE SAT 2ND SEPT 11AM & 2PM  
ON THE QUEENS PIER SUNDAY 3RD SEPT 3PM  
AND MORE...

ON THE QUAYSIDE NEAR THE TRAFALGAR  
ON DATES TO BE ADVISED





CLOIDERYN NORTHERN THEATRE  
PRESENT A SPECIAL  
**CONCERT**  
SONGS FROM THE MUSICAL  
"THE STAR OF INDIA"  
&  
**SEA SHANTIES**  
With Guests  
**Geoff Collier & Manx Dancers Ny Fenee**  
Proceeds to help fund Cloideryn with the  
invitation from San Diego Maritime Museum to  
represent Ramsey & the Isle of Man to perform  
at the 160<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Festival for this famous  
ship built in Ramsey Shipyard in 1863  
SATURDAY 7<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER ST. PAULS HALL AT 7.30pm  
Admission £6 includes Refreshments  
— RAFFLE —



## Karma Waves Presents: 18+ Hop-Tu-Naa Competition Time!

Do you dare to impress Jinny the Witch?  
Are you a Poet, Songwriter or Spoken Word  
performer?  
Do you dare to enthrall an audience with sheer  
fear?  
if the answer is yes, then this is your calling!

Competition Date: 3rd October 2023  
Time: 6:30pm-9pm - 7pm start  
Location: Vibe Cafe, Douglas Isle of Man

Will you take home the Trophy?  
Rules: Must be your own authentic work  
Inspired by the Isle of Man  
Comment on post or email us at  
neveahoceana@gmail.com  
Best of Luck you beastly bunch!

# The Great Manx Hop tu naa quiz

## 1. What does 'Hop tu naa' celebrate?

- a) The countdown to Christmas      b) The Celtic New Year's Eve  
c) Manx National Day      d) AGM of the House of Key Witches of the IOM

## 2. In the song, why did Jinny the Witch fly over the house?

- a) To fetch a stick to lather the mouse      b) To get some dust to give to the louse  
c) To drink the jough at the local alehouse      d) To flap her wings and fly like a grouse

## 3. What is a 'moot'?

- a) A troublesome neighbour      b) A Manx name for a turnip  
c) A brass instrument played at Hop tu naa      d) Jinny the Witch's pet mouse

## 4. How many dancers are needed to perform the Hop tu naa dance?

- a) 1      b) 2  
c) 3      d) 4

## 5. What is traditionally scooped out to make a lantern at Hop tu naa?

- a) A pumpkin      b) A potato  
c) A turnip      d) A marrow

## 6. What is a 'soddag valloo'?

- a) Peat bog turf for the fire      b) An unpleasant tasting fortune-telling dumb cake  
c) A big fire set to ward off witches      d) A wicked buggane who appears at Hop tu naa

## 7. According to the song, what did the old woman wrap the bit of bonnag in?

- a) Silver foil      b) Loaghtan wool  
c) Silk      d) Bark of the tramman tree

## 8. Who do local historians think was the real Jinny the Witch?

- a) Margaid of Baldhoon      b) Mona Douglas  
c) Sue Woolley      d) Joney Lowney

## 9. Which band recorded a modern version of the Hop tu naa song in 2017?

- a) Barrule      b) Biskee Brisht  
c) Boghnid      d) Birlinn Jiarg

## 10. Which of the following IS NOT used in divination in the Isle of Man?

- a) Manx cat fluff      b) Dumb Cake  
c) Salted Herring      d) Ball of Wool

\_\_\_\_\_/10

[ANSWERS AT THE BACK OF KMJ!]

**Want to find out what's happening or buy Hop tu naa products!?**

Then join: **it's hop tu naa, not halloween** [www.facebook.com/groups/4578414411](https://www.facebook.com/groups/4578414411)

**Listen to a Hop tu naa themed podcast by Blasstal:**

<https://audioboom.com/posts/8184722-moots-blasstal-1>

**Hop tu naa resources:** <https://culturevannin.im/manxfolklore/hop-tu-naa-468995/>



*We were sad to hear that Manx folk musician Paul Cringle had passed away recently.*  
Obituary: [www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100071804922190](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100071804922190)

Many of you will be familiar with one of his most well-loved tunes, "Auldyn River", which has reached all corners of the globe as a popular harp solo.

Here is a lovely performance of Paul playing Auldyn River on guitar:

<https://soundcloud.com/paul-cringle-1/auldyn-river-paul-cringle>

Download the sheet music: <https://tinyurl.com/2p8mwhtz>

Harp tutorial by Rachel Hair: [https://youtu.be/xD6r9OBwj54?si=BNrcrZ6b\\_YkV\\_iZx](https://youtu.be/xD6r9OBwj54?si=BNrcrZ6b_YkV_iZx)

Filmed performance by harpists Lucy Gilmore & Arabella Ayen:

<https://youtu.be/XPEFQtHBl8?si=Zge84luAKcZo8C19>

## Heritage Open Days

Manx National Heritage's annual Open Days include this free tour of St Thomas' Church murals and organ with Charles Guard. Sun 1 and Sun 8 Oct - 2pm & 3.15pm

<https://manxnationalheritage.im/whats-on/detail/hod23/>

Programme on Issuu: <https://tinyurl.com/4thbkz57>

If you can't attend, listen to Charles talking about the organ on Manx Radio podcast:

[www.manxradio.com/podcasts/late-lunch/episode/late-lunch-podcast-inside-the-secret-organ/](http://www.manxradio.com/podcasts/late-lunch/episode/late-lunch-podcast-inside-the-secret-organ/)

Charles also leads a video tour of the church bells in this film:

<https://culturevannin.im/watchlisten/videos/st-thomas-church-clock-and-bells-353322/>

Guide to Isle of Man organs with audio demonstrations by Gareth Moore;

[https://culturevannin.im/exploremore/church\\_organ/](https://culturevannin.im/exploremore/church_organ/)

# kiauli noa

**NEW ON FILM ~ Two Manx tunes arranged for guitar and performed by Mark Lawrence:** 'Mylecharaine's March' is a traditional Manx tune and 'Shennaghys Waltz' is composed by his sister Katie Lawrence: <https://youtu.be/v-DpByWlglA?si=jMGmLGmW0Qx00S7L>



Two Manx guitar tunes: Mylecharaine's March & Shennaghys Waltz

More about Mark Lawrence and his music can be found here:

<https://marklawrence43.bandcamp.com/>

This performance took place at the Yn Chruinnaght Celtic Gathering 2023, inside St John's Chapel, St John's, Isle of Man, on 29 July 2023. This film was produced by Culture Vannin.

## Mainshter Frank - Manx song by Liz Marshall

The Master Frank is the oldest Manx-built boat still afloat, launched in 1896 and restored by Joe Pennington in 1990s. What better than a song in Manx to celebrate it!

Liz Marshall originally wrote the song for the 2015 Arrane son Mannin contest, and it was arranged and performed this year by the Manx Gaelic choir Cliogaree Twoaie in Lezayre Church and Arts Centre, Isle of Man.



WATCH: <https://tinyurl.com/myjfr4fa>

[The Master Frank is currently for sale!]

Photo credit: <http://harrisonbutlerassociation.com>

### Youtube corner

Members of Caarjyn Coidjagh sing the Manx Gaelic version of the "Hop tu naa" song at the Dalby Hub for Manx Radio's Hop-tu-Naa Ta Mee Gindys Special 2018.

[https://youtu.be/uFEby5Q-\\_MQ?si=05hAFTpk5TPr0wz7](https://youtu.be/uFEby5Q-_MQ?si=05hAFTpk5TPr0wz7)





**RAMSEY LADIES' LIFEBOAT GUILD**  
 INVITES YOU TO  
**"MINES A SHANTY  
 AND MORE"**

AT  
**SULBY COMMUNITY HALL**  
**FRIDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**  
**DOORS OPEN 7.00PM: CONCERT 7.30PM**

COMPERED BY OUR OWN JUDITH LEY

Tickets £10 per person  
 to include a glass of wine or non-alcoholic drink  
 Tea and coffee also available  
 Plus our delicious canapes will be served  
 during the interval

**RAFFLE**

Tickets available from Guild Members, RNLI Shop Ramsey or ring 815515

RNLI (Isle of Man) charity registration number 1308.

**PEEL CENTENARY CENTRE**  
**20TH ANNIVERSARY**  
**October**  
**13th - 21st**  
**EDUCATING RITA**

**KANDA BONGO MAN, GASPER NALI  
 AND MICHAEL MOUNTAIN**

**MEZ AND THE FEZZES**

**AFTERNOON FILM**

[WWW.CENTENARYCENTRE.COM](http://WWW.CENTENARYCENTRE.COM)

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**Manannan's  
 Winterfest**  
 A Magical Manx Christmas!

**Manannan's Winterfest No 6**

Less than 3 months to go until  
 Manannan's Winterfest hits the  
 Gaiety Stage once again!

Get ready for a night of  
 unforgettable moments from some  
 of the Island's best talent, and with

plenty of laughter and entertainment, as the iconic Dot and Geoff return  
 to the stage with their hilarious sketches, this night is sure to get you in  
 the festive mood!

Mark your calendars for this incredible event:

Date: December 8th

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Gaiety Theatre, Douglas

Book your tickets now to this family friendly evening!

[www.villagaiety.com/whats-on/manannans-winterfest-6/](http://www.villagaiety.com/whats-on/manannans-winterfest-6/)

**YOU CAN  
 SING!**

Have you ever been told you can't  
 sing? Or maybe you lack the  
 confidence to let your voice soar. If  
 so, join us for this relaxed and fun  
 six-week course as we help you find  
 your voice and reassure you that  
 you both can and should sing!

The course will take place on six consecutive  
 Friday evenings, from 3rd November - 8th  
 December, 7-8pm at St Andrew's Church,  
 Glencrutchery Road, Douglas, and will cost £50.  
 For more information, or to book your place,  
 email [youcansingiom@gmail.com](mailto:youcansingiom@gmail.com)

A new playlist of 18 Ny Fennee videos of brilliant Manx dancing & more:

<https://tinyurl.com/2tuyvz3n>

Videos of the North's great Manx dance troupe Ny Fennee are now accessible in one place. The 18 videos in the playlist cover nearly 30 years of Manx dancing, from their 1995 appearance at Yn Chruinnaght through to their concert with Cliogaree Twoaie earlier this year. Enjoy!



# Harrish y Cheayn - Across the Sea

## Australian Celtic Festival Glen Innes, NSW, Australia

*Year of Ireland & Isle of Man*

Applications to perform, trade and volunteer at the 2024 Australian Celtic Festival are open now!

The festival will run from Thursday 2 to Sunday 5 May with the main event taking place on the weekend of 4 & 5 May at the Australian Standing Stones - our national Celtic monument in Glen Innes, NSW.

This time, we're celebrating Ireland and the Isle of Man, so if your performance or trade stall highlights these Celtic nations, we'd especially love to hear from you!

PERFORMERS APPLY HERE: [www.australiancelticfestival.com/apply/performers/](http://www.australiancelticfestival.com/apply/performers/)



<REMINDER>

## Invite to performers to fly the flag for the Isle of Man in Brittany 2024!

Festival Interceltique de Lorient in Brittany is the biggest Celtic festival in the world, and for over 40 years, the Isle of Man has been involved in showcasing Manx music, dance and culture to the rest of Europe. The 53rd edition of the Interceltic Festival of Lorient will take place from August 12-18 2024 with the theme:

**'Celtic Youth'.**

The festival's Isle of Man delegates, Grainney Sheard and Ealee Sheard, are now inviting musicians and dancers to express an interest if they'd like to be considered for next year. The festival favours acts who perform traditional music and/or dance from the Isle of Man, or artists who perform in the Manx Gaelic language.

FIL is a wonderful experience and opportunity for performers. Travel, dorm accommodation and catering are provided by the festival, and performers are normally expected to stay for the whole festival.

If you or your group are interested in representing the Island at next year's festival, contact the Delegates ([mannin@festival-interceltique.bzh](mailto:mannin@festival-interceltique.bzh)) along with your promo pack (biog, photos, recordings, website, etc.) which will be passed onto the festival committee for consideration.

The deadline for proposals is the 8th October 2023. You should expect to hear back from the delegates in early December. We look forward to hearing your proposals!





**Fiddle and guitar duo Elizabeth and Daniel** will represent the Island at Lowender Celtic Festival in Cornwall later this month. Elizabeth and David will be giving concerts, offering workshops on fiddle technique and guitar accompaniment, and they will be joining Manx dancer Caitlin Allinson to call some ceili dances: [www.lowender.co.uk](http://www.lowender.co.uk)

**Manx Gaelic song to feature at an international music festival in Canada!**

The duo Ruth Keggin - Manx Gaelic Singer and Rachel Hair : Harp Player will be jet-setting across to Nova Scotia, Canada next month to perform at Celtic Colours:

<https://celtic-colours.com/artists/ruth-keggin-rachel-hair/>

Taking place in Cape Breton every year, Celtic Colours is an incredible festival. Ruth and Rachel will take part in the opening concert of the festival, alongside stellar acts including Blazin' Fiddles and Le Vent du Nord. The concert, entitled 'The Universal Language', celebrates indigenous languages and the universality of music, and indeed the whole festival has a theme of languages this year, in recognition of the United Nations' declaration of 2022-2032 as a decade to celebrate indigenous languages. The duo will give other performances throughout the festival, too. Sharing Manx music and language with new audiences, and finding out more about Gaelic in Cape Breton and indigenous languages like Mi'kmaq, shows the wonderful power of culture to transcend borders. It also is a great way to shout about how yindyssagh (wonderful) the Isle of Man is!

**Mec Lir** have just played at Celtic Classics in Bethlehem, Philadelphia USA and next they're off to Feis na Mara festival in Arisaig, Scotland from the 6th to 8th October 2023.

[www.feis-na-mara.com](http://www.feis-na-mara.com)



## Rachel Hair gave a talk on Manx music and culture

for the Spanish Harp Retreat in Colorado, USA last weekend. The attendees got to browse the red and yellow Kiaull yn They books, and they later learnt harp hit Auldyn River and Flitter Dance (but sadly couldn't dance it due to the altitude!)



Skeddan Jiarg Manx dancers & Un Chorraa community choir performed in Thie Ny Gaelgey, St Judes for Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh's Autumn Fair last weekend (24/09/23)



# RESEARCH NEWS

“DEAR MR HALL CAINE”

Dear Mr Hall Caine,

Our common Nationality must plead my excuse for sending for this little sheaf of Wild Oats—chiefly Manx—in the hope that (despite Dr Johnson’s depreciation of porridge) you may possibly find, among the chaff of it, a grain or two of wholesome food.

Yours faithfully

W.H. Gill

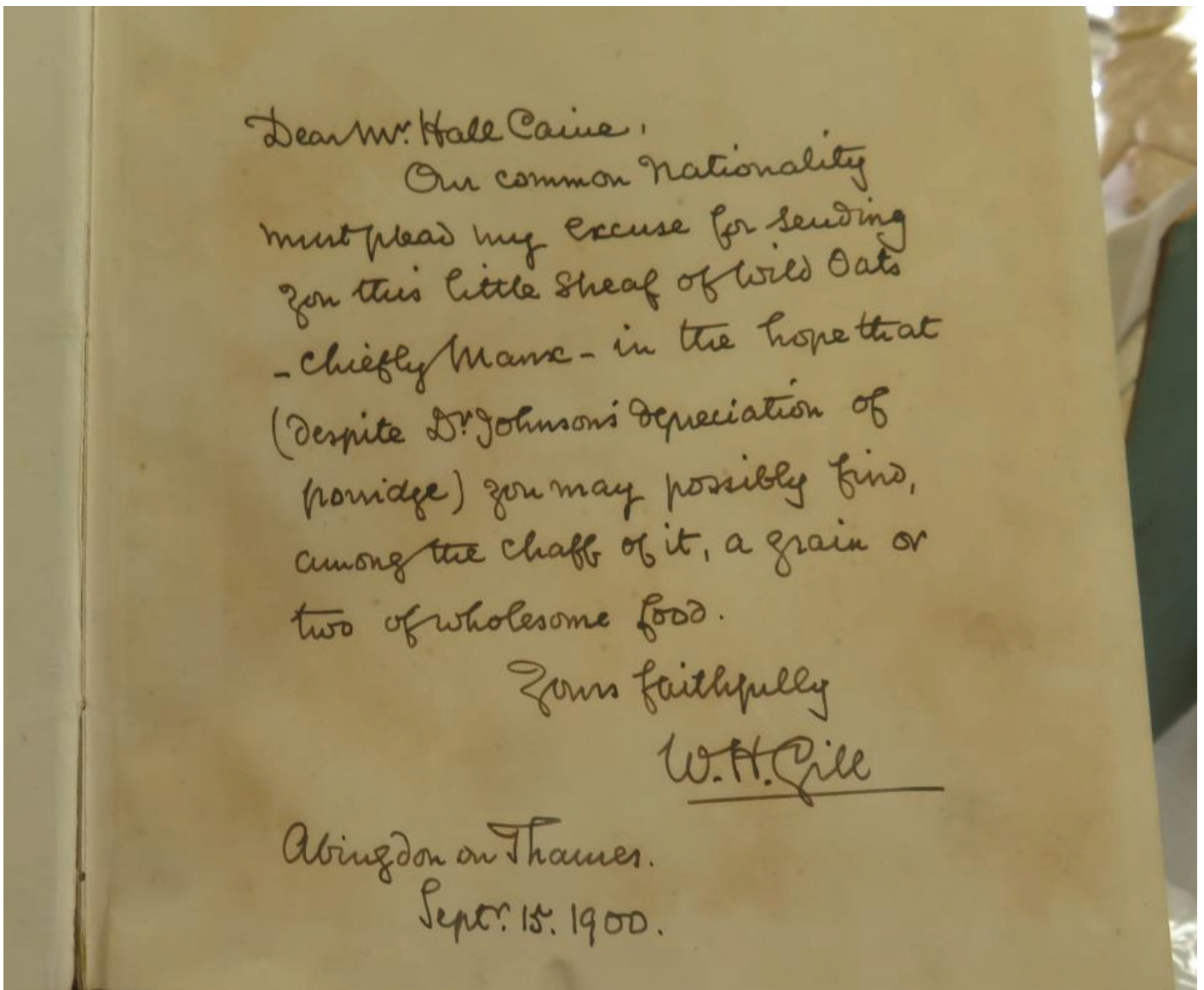
Abingdon on Thames.

Sept 15. 1900.

This inscription is to be found in a copy of W.H. Gill’s *A Manx Wedding and Other Songs* ([1900]) offered for sale in September 2023.\* “Oats. A grain, which in England is generally given to horses, but in Scotland supports the people,” was the entry in Johnson’s *Dictionary of the English Language* (1755). Whilst W.H. Gill was being somewhat obsequious in his approach to Caine and was likely angling for a suitable quote for a future publication, it shows the afterlife of publications with authors circulating copies to others to bring their work to attention.

Stephen Miller, RBV

\* I am grateful to Dr Chloë Woolley for bringing this item to my attention.



This, the second extract from Harry Wood's 'Cavalcade' of music, was compiled in May 1938 as a personal record of the music performed at the Palace and Derby Castle during the heyday of the Manx tourist industry. It was not intended for publication, and I know of only two surviving copies. I have transcribed, edited and occasionally amplified Harry Wood's rather dry entries with additional information - composer's full names, the correct titles of pieces - where I believe it would be useful.

## **Cavalcade of Music**

**1888-1938**

**by Harry Wood**

transcribed and annotated by Maurice Powell

**1889**

**'The Palace'**

**(Castle Mona Grounds)**

**Opened on Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1889.**

Mr. Fred Vetter's band was engaged.<sup>1</sup> I was his repetiteur violin.

First March to be played in the Palace was from Suppe's *Boccaccio*, and the first dance was the waltz, *The Grenadiers* by Émile Waldteufel.

The first Sunday Concert held in the Palace was on August 4<sup>th</sup>, when excerpts from the *Messiah* were performed by the Huddersfield Glee and Madrigal Society under the direction of Mr. John North, one of my musical friends (from Slaithwaite, in West Yorkshire, the town of Harry Wood's birth).

The soloists were: Madame (Lori) Rescoschewitz, mezzo-soprano; Miss (Elizabeth) Dews, contralto; Mr. John Leyland, tenor; Mr. Edward Grime, baritone. Band and chorus of 100 performers (under the direction of Fred Vetter).

### **Dances played at the Palace:**

Valses (Waltzes. Harry Wood invariably used the French form 'Valse' throughout.): *The Grenadiers*, Waldteufel; *All in the Garden Fair* by (Otto) Roeder; *Natalie* by (Edwin H.) Prout; *Morning Star* by (Joseph) Labitzky; *Tales from the Vienna Woods* by Strauss; *Doctrinen* by Eduard Strauss; *The Beggar Student* by (Carl) Millöcker; *Ebb and Flow* by (local composer) F(rederick) C(harles) Poulter; <sup>2</sup> *My Queen* on melodies of (Procida) Bucalossi.

Polkas: *See Me Dance the Polka* by (Edward) Solomon based on the song by George Grossmith; *Minuet* ('Minuit') by Waldteufel.

Schottishes: *Song and Dance* by W. Williams; *Don't Tease* by (Ezra) Reed.

Lancers: *The Royal Corinthian* by (Ezra) Reed.

## Concert Music at the Palace:

Overture *A Midsummer Night's Dream* by Mendelssohn; selection from *Carmen* by Bizet; cornet solo *A better Land* by (Frederic) Cowen; piano solo *Pasquinade* by (Louis Moreau) Gottschalk; entr'acte *The Murmuring Stream* by (Ladislav) Zavertall; Gavotte *Air du Dauphin* by (Joseph Leopold) Roedel; Spanish Ballet Music (*Divertissement Espagnole*) by (Louis Cesar) Desormes; Hungarian Dances nos. 1,2 and 3 by Brahms; selection from *La Fille de Madame Angot* by (Charles) Lecocq.

1. Frederick Vetter (1844-1920), violinist, concertina virtuoso and conductor. He spent twenty-four years with the Hallé Orchestra and was a respected adjudicator at brass and concertina band contests.

2. See Frederick Charles 'Pa' Poulter, Maurice Powell, [manxmusic.com](http://manxmusic.com)

## 1890

### Dance Music at the Palace:

Valse: *The Distant Shores* by Sir Arthur Sullivan; *Toujours aux Jamais* by Waldteufel; *Rosée du matin* by (Phillip) Farbach; *Passing Clouds* by (E. H.) Prout; *Amoretten Tänze* by (Josef) Gung'l; *The Blue Danube* by Johann Strauss II; *Boccaccio* by Eduard Strauss; *Boule de Neige (Snowflakes)* by (Carl Michael) Ziehrer; *Sunny Spain* by J. W(arwick) Moore; *La Gitana* by (Ernest) Bucalossi; *Cordova* by (Juan) Gomez.

Polkas: *Matchbox* by Dobrowolski; *Par ci par la* by Waldteufel.

Schottishces: *Happy Darkies* by A. E. Godfrey; *Dinah* by Dilbert Bryan.

Lancers: *Nell Gwynne* by Liddle? (possibly by Theo. Moses (Tobani) arr. Liddle - the composer of *Hearts and Flowers* - on themes from Robert Planquette's 1884 operetta of that name.

**Concert Music at the Palace:** Overture *The Merry Wives of Windsor* by Otto Nicolai; selection of *Songs Without Words*, Mendelssohn; cornet solo *The Lost Chord*, Sullivan; piccolo solo *Fairy Revels* by (John Jesse) White; *Berceuse in A* by (Georges) Delbrouk; *Dance Irlandaise* by (Charles) Le Thiere; *Minuet* from *Don Giovanni*, Mozart; ballet music *Excelsior* by (Romualdo) Marenco; suite *The Language of Flowers* by (Frederic Hymen) Cowen; *Italian Symphony*, movements 1 and 2, Mendelssohn.

The selection *La Fille de Madame Angot* (Lecocq) and the valse *My Queen* (Bucalossi) were very popular in Douglas with our visitors. The selection was played regularly by request, and the dancers would ask Mr. Vetter to play *My Queen* almost nightly.

Discover all of the *Transcriptions of the Month* songs & tunes here:  
[www.manxmusic.com/learn\\_page\\_467456.html](http://www.manxmusic.com/learn_page_467456.html)



“PLEASE DO COME AND DO YOUR STUFF”

BILLY CAIN WRITES TO MONA DOUGLAS  
(1948)

(1)

[*On headed notepaper of The English Folk Dance and Song Society*]  
Mr. W. Cain.

[*left*] WCC/NP | Ref.A.H.5.

[*centre*] Central 1797.

[*right*] 24 Strand Street, | Liverpool.

23rd June, 1948.

Dear Mona,

Just a short note to acquaint you with the final arrangements for Edinburgh.

I have had a letter from D.N.K. [Douglas Neil Kennedy–SM] telling me that he has arranged with the Committee for me to perform at all the Public Performances and that he has no objection to Leightons chap being used at the Lectures etc. He says he does not want to look for trouble as it is easy to find it without looking!

I have not given up hopes yet that you will be at Edinburgh. You must not miss this Festival, Mona I feel it will be a long time before there is another like it. So please do come and do your stuff. Remember if you hadn't collected all this material there would not be any Song Dance Leighton or myself to do it! So please come along and present it on the very important occasion.

With all good wishes,

[*in ink*] p.p. Billy Cain,

North-West Area Representative.

Miss M. Douglas

(2)

[*On headed notepaper of The English Folk Dance and Song Society*]

34 Strand Street, | Liverpool 5th July 1948.

Dear Mona,

Thank you for your letter which reached me O.K. in Edinburgh. How I wish you had come. Yours was by far the most interesting paper, and evoked much comment and useful discussion. Mrs Macintosh handled it superbly and I greatly admired her for the sincere loyalty she portrayed on yours and my behalf.

Douglas [*ie.* Douglas Kennedy–SM] was in rather an unenviable position when Leighton turned up with his chap to perform the 'Dirk Dance' and took the easiest way out and allowed him to perform on all occasions. Being employed by the Society, as well as a Member of the English Team placed me in a cleft stick rather, and I could do nothing about it. It was all very difficult for me, as after your paper had been read with its pleasing references to myself as its exponent I was inundated with requests to dance myself! I did on the last night, as the other chap had left to catch a train and could not dance at the final evening performance. I objected strongly to Douglas, but was firmly told to get on with it. I did of course but felt that I did not do it justice, as I was wearing Shoes and Breeches! However it wasn't too bad I was told.

I am enclosing a cutting from the 'Scotsman' which deals with your paper. I object to Leighton's reference to his team being the only one doing Manx Dances. He also said that only one person could do the Dirk Dance at a time, and that he had never had two people trained to do it at the same time. Being an Englishman I suppose I am a has-been as far as the dance is concerned! I don't agree really, especially as the music and instructions can be purchased for anyone to use.

I did not think a great deal of the Manx Team's technique and think the standard is lower than it used to be though I thought his fiddler was very weak and gave nothing to the dancers. Where did this long cord on the fiddle originate whilst the girls spin round and the men honour as an introduction? I felt it was not Folk and very Theatrical. Maybe I am wrong and it may have a religious significance, but it looked pure showmanship when it took place each time. I had one or two talks with L.S. and he wants me to over to the Island and do something about getting a bit more dancing done. Says he will have a word with Mr Fletcher about it, in an effort to do something in the schools. Have you any suggestions on the matter? I have an idea in my mind about trying a weeks dancing combined with a holiday next summer and think I can bring some dancers over to tour the villages etc. The idea is to dance in the streets 'on tour' and finish up with a Social Dance at each place each evening. What do you think about it? I would need some liaison with someone on the Island about the cost of the week re accommodation etc. Also the question of Halls. Douglas would have to be the Centre I think. The thing would have to take place in the summer when some of the dancers who are teachers would be on holiday. I think we could also plan an Edinburgh Festival for Douglas. I'm keen on the idea but it would require plenty of time an organising. Be a grand thing in the Season as you remark. Could you let me have Mrs Macintosh's address? I want to drop her a letter of thanks for all she did etc. I also met her daughter (Mrs Drummond) who is the most delightful person I have had the pleasure of meeting. I hope to link up with them again in the future. I do quite a bit of work

in Cumberland and may slip over the border sometime. I have been invited to do so when possible. Must ring off for now, Take care of yourself and dont work too hard.

Yours,

[*in ink*] Billy

P.S. Edith Jones never answered my letter.

Letters from Billy Cain to Mona Douglas, 23 June, 1948 & 5 July 1948, MNHL, MS 09545, Mona Douglas Papers, Box 15, [Folder] Billy Cain.

By Edinburgh is meant the Folk Music and Dance Festival being organised by the Scottish Anthropological and Folklore Society and planned for 28 June to 3 July 1948: "The scope of the Festival is limited to the British Isles. It is hoped that England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and the Isle of Man will all be represented by folk-singers and dancers." It was intended to bring together the English Folk Dance and Song Society, the Scottish Country Dance Society, the Irish Folklore Institute, the Belfast Folk-Dance Society, the Folk-lore Society, and the Royal Anthropological Institute. Papers were to be delivered in the morning, and the evenings were for folk dancing displays and open-air performances. There was also to be an exhibition of material relating to folk dances and music.

Billy Cain by this date whilst well-known as the exponent of the Dirk Dance was now working for the English Folk Dance and Song Society. As seen, Mona Douglas was not able to be present in Edinburgh but did prepare a paper for it, one that was read in her absence not by Cain but by a Mrs Macintosh. It was later published as "Folk Song and Dance in Mann with Some Notes on Collection and Revival of the Dances," *Proceedings of the Scottish Anthropological and Folklore Society*, iv.1 (1949), 51–60. Her paper had a definite impact as the English Folk Dance and Song Society reported: "While at these conferences the 'old stagers' heard comparatively little that was new to them (except in the extraordinarily interesting discussion following the paper on Folk Song and Dance in Mann) [...]." Cain's second letter here as one can read has its own "extraordinarily interesting discussion," in this case about Leighton Stowell and Manx folk dances.

Stephen Miller, RBV

**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**

### **2.7 Daunse son Troor (Dance for Three)**

This is a popular dance performed by all the modern dance groups, usually under the title Dance for Three and to the tune Three Little Boats, not the tune published in Leighton Stowell Book of Manx Dances. The MFDS [Manx Folk Dance Society] do, however, still use the original tune.

Stowell composed this dance for himself and two women, Margy Stewart and Anne Gawne, based on steps and movements of other dances. The tune was composed based on a children's hymn 'Springtime Clothes...' and Stowell notes that he did not ever compose a purt-y-beayll for it. It is apparent that the dance was originally written with honours to begin, but these were not included in the publication and are not performed today. (Stowell: 1972, MSS09863 & Stowell: 1981)

#### **READ THE FULL THESIS:**

[www.manxmusic.com/media/History%20photos/MANX%20DANCE%20THESIS%20Cinzia%20Curtis%202006.pdf](http://www.manxmusic.com/media/History%20photos/MANX%20DANCE%20THESIS%20Cinzia%20Curtis%202006.pdf)

#### **WATCH:**

**"Dance for Three" performed by Grainne Joughin, Ali Carroon & Maeve Callister**

<https://youtu.be/M2VfdULHcdo?si=nqmTAJDcroiyF7Wq>

**"Dance for Three" performed by Ny Fennee**

[https://youtu.be/cHMEKIARbcg?si=XUK60xNcc\\_AXTliA](https://youtu.be/cHMEKIARbcg?si=XUK60xNcc_AXTliA)

#### **LEARN:**

<https://youtu.be/EtIHB1e8v9I?si=JIFiyOcMxYo3QI4Q>

# TRANSCRIPTION OF THE MONTH

see [www.manxmusic.com](http://www.manxmusic.com) for more printable pieces of Manx music

This transcription derives from an old Scottish Gaelic song. The story behind their traditional Halloween waulking song is similar to a Hop tu naa divination practice, so we have had it translated into Manx. Try it out!

## Quoi shid hoal er kione y choyrd aym?

Scottish trad.  
translated by  
Bob Carswell 2022

Ill iù ill\_ ò, Ill a ro ho, Ill a ro ho a, Ill iù ill\_ ò

7

Quoi shid hoal er kione y choyrd aym? Ta\_\_ mish, aeg -lagh y folt bwee ayn.

Co-chiaull: Ill iù ill ò, ill a ro ho,  
Ill a ro ho a, ill iù ill ò.

1. Quoi shid hoal er kione y choyrd aym?  
Ta mish, aeglagh y folt bwee, ayn.

2. S'trimshagh mish ayns traa y gheuree,  
Shenn Oie Houney, 's mish gyn oohyn.

Originally a Scottish Gaelic waulking song called "Cò Siud Thall air Ceann mo Ròpa?"  
Collected from Miss Peigi MacRae, North Glendale, South Uist 1943.

Scottish original and recording on *Tobar an Dualchais*:

LISTEN: <http://tobarandualchais.co.uk/en/fullrecord/26811>

The first couplet of this waulking song says "Who is there at the end of my rope? It is me, the fair-haired youth." The second says "Sad am I at this time of winter. It is Halloween and I have no eggs."

This Manx translation by Bob Carswell RBV 2022

### Manx Hop tu naa divination custom:

At midnight, take a ball of wool secretly to the barn. Twist the end of the yarn around your wrist and throw the ball as far as you can into the darkness. Wind it back in and if you find it held in the darkness, call out: 'Who is holding the thread?' You will then hear the name of the person you will one day marry.

# CALENDAR

## SEPTEMBER

29 Traa dy Liooar open mic, Black Dog Oven, Peel, 7.30pm

29 Mine's a Shanty and more, Sulby Community Hall, 7.30pm, £10 inc. refreshments

## OCTOBER

31 Sep – 8 Oct Manx National Heritage Open Days

<https://manxnationalheritage.im/whats-on/detail/hod23/>

3 Karma Waves Presents : Hop-tu-naa competition time, Vibe Cafe, Douglas, 6.30pm

6 Mec Lir at Feis na Mara, Scotland  
[www.feis-na-mara.com/](http://www.feis-na-mara.com/)

6-7 Ruth Keggins and Rachel Hair at Celtic Colours, Cape Breton Island

7 Songs from the musical "The Star of India" & Sea Shanties, St Paul's Hall, Ramsey, 7.30pm, £6

13-21 Peel Centenary Centre's 20th anniversary [www.centenarycentre.com](http://www.centenarycentre.com)

22-23 Big Bree Workshop 'Weekend', St Johns Methodist Hall, 10am-4pm

25-29 Lowender Celtic Festival, Redruth, Cornwall

31 Hop tu naa!!

## NOVEMBER

1-5 Cooish Manx Language Festival

9-11 Songs from the musical "The Star of India", San Diego Maritime Museum, California, USA

## DECEMBER

8 Manannan's Winterfest, Gaiety Theatre, 7.30pm

15 Lesh Shee as Graih concert, St Ninian's Church, Douglas, 7pm

### The Great Manx Hop tu naa quiz answers

- |      |      |       |
|------|------|-------|
| 1. B | 5. C | 8. D  |
| 2. A | 6. B | 9. B  |
| 3. B | 7. C | 10. A |
| 4. D |      |       |

Please send in dates so that we can publicise events here & online:

[www.manxmusic.com](http://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** 8.30pm Trad session at The Mitre, Ramsey  
**FRI 8pm** Trad session at the Colby Glen  
Last **FRI** of month 9pm, Kiavull as Gaelg, Albert, Port St Mary  
First **SUN** of month 1-4 Trad session in Laxey Sailing Club  
Third **SUN** of month 1-4 Trad session in The Mitre, Kirk Michael

Stay up to date: [www.facebook.com/TradMusicWeekendIsleofMan](http://www.facebook.com/TradMusicWeekendIsleofMan)

~ SESSIONS ~

## culture vannin

For information on Manx music & dance contact:  
Manx Music Development Officer **Dr Chloë Woolley**: [chloe@culturevannin.im](mailto:chloe@culturevannin.im)  
[www.manxmusic.com](http://www.manxmusic.com)

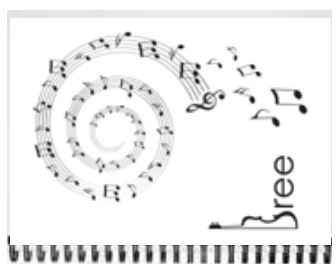
**Call:** Chloë: 01624 694758 (answerphone)  
**or write to:** Culture Vannin, PO Box 1986, Douglas, Isle of Man IM99 1SR

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



**BREE MEMBERSHIP** *Student name:* \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bree members meet once a month for music sessions, busking, performances and to take part in the Manx Folk Awards. It is free to join & you will receive updates by email until membership ceases. You can opt out at any time by emailing [manxmusic@culturevannin.im](mailto:manxmusic@culturevannin.im)

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 I enclose cash/cheque for £10 made payable to 'Culture Vannin'  [tick]  
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 c/o Culture Vannin, Fairfield House, Main Rd, St Johns IM4 3NA  
 More info. tel: 694758 email: [manxmusic@culturevannin.im](mailto:manxmusic@culturevannin.im)

Fishing images by Crabsticks & Crumpets/Vicky Webb & Archibald K.mox

*Manx music, dance & folklore*  
**THE BIG BREE**  
*Manx language, history & culture*

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St John's Methodist Hall

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**PLEASE KEEP & READ THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY**

- Students will require their own instruments & dance shoes where applicable.
- No experience of Manx music needed, but students are expected to be competent on their instrument and must be in school years 6 - 13.
- Students will require a packed lunch or written permission to leave premises (U16).
- Students are expected to attend the whole weekend, unless otherwise agreed in advance.
- A showcase concert for family & friends will take place at 3pm on Monday 23 October in St Johns Methodist Hall. Free to attend!
- **Culture Vannin Child Protection Policy:** [www.manxmusic.com/education](http://www.manxmusic.com/education)
- Bree has a closed Facebook group - parents can join to add and see official photos of the weekend and find out about other Bree events. Please see the note below about not sharing photos yourselves.

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- Personal data collected will only be used in relation to the Bree Manx youth movement and will be kept secure and retained until student membership ceases.
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[www.culturevannin.im/page\\_529488.html](http://www.culturevannin.im/page_529488.html)

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**BIG BREE WORKSHOP WEEKEND 2023**  
APPLICATION FORM

Name/Ennym \_\_\_\_\_  
School Yr / Blein \_\_\_\_\_  
Address/Ennmys \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency tel./Çhell. \_\_\_\_\_  
Email/Post-l \_\_\_\_\_  
Medical conditions, allergies & other info we should be aware of? \_\_\_\_\_

**Tell us about your interests: I enjoy (tick)...**

Playing  Singing  Dancing  Drama   
Manx Gaelic  Composing  Song-writing

**Brief info about you...**

e.g. which instruments you play; how long you've been playing, singing and/or dancing; music exam grades; level of Manx Gaelic (if any); groups you perform with... \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**\* IMPORTANT - CONSENT\***

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