**Failt erriu dys Gaelg Vio** - Welcome to living Manx

**Naight as sket - News and sket**

**Y Chooish - The Cooish**

The Mighty Cooish is now over but hopefully the legacy of the 2007 bash will echo through the world of Gaeldom (well... Purt ny hlnshey, at least) for many a year to come! Loads of Gaelg and Kiaull, Bonnag to die for (and lets be honest there were some casualties!) and some fantastic publicity. I hope to put together a proper photographic review of this year’s events in the near future but in the meantime for more information about the Cooish, including advice on how to get involved in next year’s events, then check out the Cooish Community on Facebook.

Raising the profile of the language is one of the key aims of the festival, and this year, I think we excelled ourselves. It has been heart warming to see the growing number of organizations who are keen to get involved and support the language in ways that are appropriate to them. Manx Telecom’s (Čhellinsh Vannin) support has been particularly encouraging this year.

During the Cooish they had banners in front of the Victoria Street shop, a fantastic display in their Strand Street shop and a banner at Quarterbridge.

They also had radio adverts playing on all three stations, a front-page advert in the papers and they used web banners extensively on various Internet sites. Staff also answered the phone in Gaelg; a move which has been appreciated by customers.

If you haven’t already visited the Manx language, music and heritage downloads at [www.modo.im](http://www.modo.im) then give it a go. A big Gura mie eu to all at Čhellinsh Vannin and indeed to all those who supported the festival.

**Shalee ny ghao - A project or two**

The Manx Heritage foundation ([www.manxheritage.org](http://www.manxheritage.org)) continues to support the language and cultural identity of the Island. In addition to the work I carry out we have established two new part-time posts aimed at supporting adult learners of the language. One project will put together a professional language course. Using best practice in the Island together with examples from the rest of the Celtic world we hope to
**Cummal seose y Ghaelg – supporting Manx Gaelic**

put together a course aimed at helping improving a learner’s spoken Manx.

In conjunction with this project we have a second one under way that aims to put together a programme of events for learners.

The aim is to get people out of the classroom and involved in a social network where people can use Manx. Events will include (hopefully!) Karate through Manx, film nights, walks, guided tours etc. The programme will be open to anyone who has, or is, learning Manx regardless of whether you have been learning the language at night classes, by using books or through the Internet.

I will be sending out more information regards this project soon but in the meantime if you are a keen learner (or would like to be again) please let me know of events and activities that you would feel would help develop your Manx. 838527 / 451098 greinneyder@mhf.org.im

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**Lioar noa - A New book**

The last couple of years have seen a big increase in the number of books published in Manx; the latest one is *Jeih Skeevalyn Scaanjoon* (Ten Ghost Stories) translated into Manx by Rob Teare. This is a collection of traditional Japanese stories by Koizumi Yakumo. It is great to see stories from the ‘Days of the Samurai’ now available in Gael. The stories are accompanied by some fantastic drawings by Yukiko Teare.

The book will soon be available (once I pull my finger out and get it sorted) in local bookshops but in the meantime you can get them direct from myself.

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**Cowrey y vee - Sign of the Month**

This month’s prestigious award is given to what is probably the biggest sign in Manx in the Island: *Oik Postagh Ellan Vannin* is probably well know to many but is there a larger sign that we don’t know about? Indeed, why not design one to out-do the Post Office’s own efforts!

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**Fow yn Ghaelg – Find that Manx**

Those of you who drink in the south should know where you can find the following signs? But what about the rest of you?
Coyrle as cooney – Advice and assistance

Loayr rish Illiam - Ask Illiam Dhone

This month’s question for our very own ‘Agony Patriot’ Illiam Dhone comes from Tommy Hudson from Surby:

‘As a good-looking coal merchant with black hair I’m likely to be out on the Quaaltagh again this New Year’s Eve. I thought I would go for a really Gaelic one this year: any advice?

Illiam responds:
I’m aware that this age old tradition has been superceded by ‘buy on get one free’ New Year’s Eve Specials in the Island’s pubs and clubs: what a shame! Good to hear it is still going strong in the South. How about the following refrain:

Nollick ghennal erriu as blein feer vie Seihll as slaynt da’n clan luigh-thie Bea as gennallys eu bio ry-cheilley Shee as graih eddyr mraane as deiney Cooid as cowryn, stock as story Palçhey puddase as skeddan dy liooar Arran as caashey, eeym as roaryt Baase myr lugh ayns uhlin ny soalt Cadley sauchey tra vees shiu ny lhie As feackle y jiargan nagh bee dy mie

A Merry Christmas and a good new year
Long life and health to the whole family
Life and merriment living together
Peace and love between women and men
Goods and wealth, stock and store,
Plenty potatoes and herring enough
Bread and cheese, butter and beef
Death like a mouse in the corner of the barn
Sleeping safe when you’ll be in bed
And the tooth of the flea may it not be good!

Lioar Vanannan - Manannan’s Book Club

Thought I’d get into the Christmas spirit; it’s the Celtic Deities Christmas bash in a couple of weeks and I’m going as Santa. Watch out for us all on Strand Street; my apologies in advance for any inappropriate behaviour by Finn MacCooil: you know what he’s like!

Thought I would mention this time a book which is a much more recent publication than others I have discussed in this column. Manx Place-names have always been a source of fascination to many but an accessible and modern guide has taken some time in being produced.

Nevertheless, it was worth the wait. Published last year George Broderick’s A Dictionary of Manx Place-names is a superb introduction to the subject. It combines some fascinating history, details on Parish Names, an excellent glossary and an extremely useful pronunciation guide: there will no longer be any excuse for not pronouncing Lewaigue correctly!

Available in all local bookshops this book will appeal to the place-names spotter that exists within us all.

Nollick ghennal as blein vie noa from the both of us
Gammanyn as aitt – games and fun

Crosh-ockle - crossword

Bannaghtyn y Nollick – Some Christmas Greetings

Shirrey fockle - word search

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

Er-tessen / Across                      Sheese / Down

1 Balloon (6)                          1 Balloon (6)
2 Ivy (6)                               2 Ivy (6)
4 Christmas (7)                         4 Christmas (7)
7 Snow (9)                              7 Snow (9)
9 Carol (6)                             9 Carol (6)
11 Holly (6)                            11 Holly (6)
12 Gift (5)                             12 Gift (5)
13 Cake (7)                             13 Cake (7)

Crossword solution

Answer to Fow yn Ghaelg – Find that Manx

No surprises here: the Albert in Port st Mary or should I say yn Ĉhenn Lhong aysn Purt le Moirrey.

Just a couple of the many Manx signs to be enjoyed over a pint in the South’s favourite Thie-lhionney
C’raad ta’n Craue? = Where’s the bone?
Cha nel…my vluckan = No…my ball.
Ayns shoh = Here…
Cha nel…my yeeal = No…my lead.
Fy-yrrey… = Finally…
Shoh eh… = This is it…
As fer elley! = and another one!

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

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