

# The Manx Society of Minnesota Newsletter

## September 2016

### Last Meeting



The Minnesota Manx were at the Scottish Festival. It was a beautiful sunny day at the festival this year. We set up the table with books, hats, flyers, and Manx decorations. We had quite a few people stop by, some asked questions others shared stories about their travels to the island. We also marched in the parade at noon with the Manx flag. It was lots of fun there were the heavy games, music, dancing, shopping, and vintage cars & motorcycles.

Peggy Rudniski in Picture.



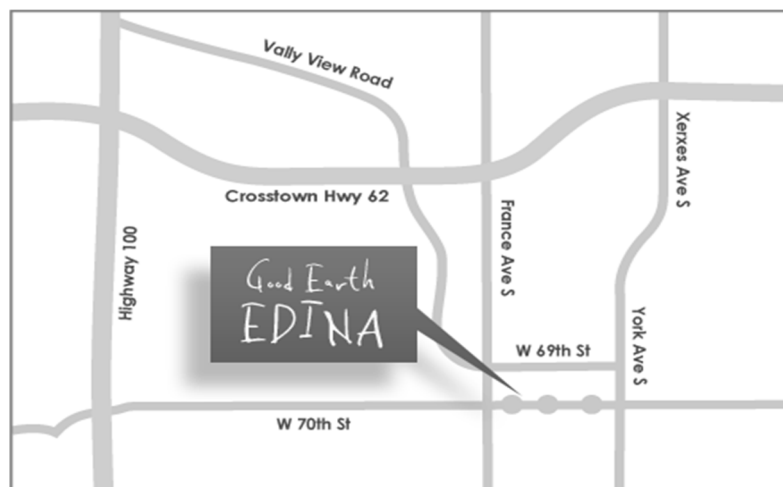
### Next Meeting

We will be having our next meeting at the Good Earth Restaurant in the Galleria in Edina.

Saturday, October, 01, 2016 from 10:30am to 12:30pm.

This meeting will have a social time, meeting, auction planning discussion, and then a presentation on Manx language.

RSVP to Sally Dahlquist, Co-Prez at [salgrl@comcast.net](mailto:salgrl@comcast.net), Hope to see you there!



# News

From BBC News Isle Of Man / Ellan Vannin

## Isle of Man government 'concerned' about Sellafield safety

8 September 2016



The Isle of Man government said it is "not happy about the state of the Sellafield" but added it is "content is trying to improve the safety situation"

The Manx government is "concerned" about the safety of the Sellafield nuclear site, a spokesman said. On Monday, the BBC's Panorama programme uncovered several safety concerns, from staffing levels to waste storage. The Mannin Branch of the Celtic League has called on the Manx government to campaign for a full, independent inspection of the plant in Cumbria. Sellafield says the site is safe and has been improved with significant investment in recent years. A spokesman added: "Safety is our priority and we are managing a very complex site which has got a great deal of hazardous radioactive materials on it."

### Monitoring radioactivity

The Isle of Man is located about 34 miles (55km) from the nuclear fuel reprocessing plant. Due to its potential impact on the Manx fishing industry, the Manx government began monitoring radioactivity levels in the Irish Sea in 1989. A government spokesman said: "Seafood fished in Manx waters can contain traces of radio-nuclides associated with effluent discharges from Sellafield to the Irish Sea, therefore these are monitored regularly to confirm that they remain well below maximum safe limits. "The BBC investigation was prompted by a whistle-blower - a former senior manager who was worried by conditions at the plant. He said his biggest fear was a fire in one of the nuclear waste silos or in one of the processing plants. The Manx government said it was particularly concerned about "the structural integrity of ageing waste storage ponds and silos". A spokesman added: "However we are content that Sellafield Ltd and the nuclear regulators are trying to improve the safety situation. "The government has asked questions about the technical solutions being developed to decommission these redundant structures and representatives have visited the site to look at the work under way".

## WW1: Merseyside war hero remembered 100 years after death

8 September 2016



A cross will be placed at an Isle of Man war memorial later in memory of a Merseyside war hero who was killed 100 years ago during World War One. The Royal British Legion said Capt. Harry Crippin of the Royal Artillery died "gallantly" serving his country on the Western front. A minute's silence will be held at 18:30 BST at the Ramsey war memorial close to where his parents later lived. Ramsey Town Commissioners said anyone can come and pay their respects. The Royal British Legion said Capt. Crippin, from Huyton near Liverpool, was reconnoitering for new gun positions when an enemy shell burst and killed him along with his General. He was mentioned in Dispatches and awarded the Military Cross in 1915 by Sir John French for "gallant and distinguished service

in the field". According to the Royal British Legion, Capt. Crippin was a qualified French interpreter who served in the role of Brigade Major and had also gained the Distinguished Certificate for Signaling. His body is buried at the Citadel New Military Cemetery in Somme, France. Britain and its Empire lost almost a million men during WW1; most of them died on the Western Front.

## Dougie Lampkin reveals bike for TT course wheelie attempt

7 September 2016



The multiple world champion has spent six months designing the bike for his TT wheelie challenge. English trials rider Dougie Lampkin has unveiled the bike on which he will attempt to continuously wheelie around the 37-mile Isle of Man TT course. Multiple world champion Lampkin will need to navigate more than 200 corners on his back wheel and climb 1,385 ft. (422 m) above sea level. Lampkin and his team of engineers have spent six

months developing a specially modified machine for the challenge. The Skipton rider said it would not be possible on a standard trial bike. Lampkin's engineering team led by Francesco Romani and Blackie Holden have based the machine on a Vertigo Combat Ice Hell - 300cc Fuel injected single cylinder two-stroke machine. The team have made boxes. The changes include the addition of a small electric motor fitted to the hub to keep the front wheel spinning throughout the challenge. The team said it is needed to allow the bike to be steered despite the front wheel being aloft for more than two hours. They have also removed the front brake as it is not needed and the workings of the front forks to save weight. Work has also been carried out to optimize fuel consumption and changes made to the gearbox which will mean that the majority of the TT course can be ridden in one gear. Lampkin, who has won five consecutive World Indoor and seven consecutive World Outdoor Championships, said it will be one of his "toughest ever challenges." "The 40-year-old from North Yorkshire added that it will "push him and his machine to the absolute limit". The Red Bull athlete hopes to complete the challenge in under two hours with an average speed of around 20 mph on 24 September. The mountain course is a road-racing street circuit used for the Isle of Man TT since 1911.

## Manx rider breaks world speed records on homemade motorbike

25 August 2016



An Isle of Man rider has set four world land speed records on a motorcycle he built in his basement. Bike enthusiast Paul Hodgson set the records at Bonneville Speed Week in Utah between 13 and 19 August on the machine he designed and built at his Lonan home. He said he was "very tired, happy and content" with his achievements. The former British sprint champion's fastest speed was more than 181mph (291 km/h).



The Manx man's machine started as a 1994 Yamaha FZR600. Mr. Hodgson, who was also chief engineer when a Manx team broke a 33-year-old speed record in 2012, saw his records come in four separate categories of the modified 500cc class, based on fuel type, frame and streamlining. The Manx Gas Service technician was responsible for the design, electronics and all engineering work on the bike, which started as a 1994 Yamaha FZR600. He originally shipped the bike to the US to take part in last year's Bonneville event, but it was cancelled, leaving him separated from machine for a "frustrating" 12 months. The 44-year-old said: "It was a little frustrating having a bike sitting in the USA for so long without being able to improve it." "I have many new ideas and probably would have changed a number of things if the bike had been on the same continent as me." He added that he believed the bike could achieve over 200mph (321 km/h) and was planning further record attempts. The 44-year-old set four world land speed records at Speed Week in Utah.

## Parish celebrates its Viking heritage

Sue Woolley 18:15 IOM Today Sunday 11 September 2016



No parish is more proud of its Viking heritage than Jurby. The name Jurby is Scandinavian, the 'by' ending said to give special status to a settlement. There are stories of the Isle of Man's most famous monarch, King Orry, landing at Jurby Head and of a battle at Sandygate between north and south, when the southern women came to support their menfolk. As well as legends such as these, there is much evidence of Jurby's Viking past. Excavations of burial mounds of Cronk Moar and Ballateare on the Jurby coast just after the Second World War helped historians to understand the rituals that attended the burial of Viking chieftains (which in one case included human sacrifice), the sort of weapons they used, the animals they kept and even how their cloaks were made from spun and woven Loghtan wool. We know from the cross slabs found in the churchyard and those taken from the Ballaconley keill that the Vikings who settled in Jurby were converted to Christianity within a generation. The crosses show Christian motifs alongside characters from Norse mythology, such as the epic Sigurd cycle. One man, PMC Kermode, dedicated his life to researching and collecting the fragments of the crosses as well as carrying out his day job as curator of the Manx Museum. No other parish has a collection of Viking crosses as well as a Viking burial mound in its churchyard and possibly another just a few hundred yards away as potent symbols of this past. All this and more is revealed in an exhibition called 'Jurby and the Vikings', which can be seen in Jurby Church until Sunday, October 16. Doors are open daily from 10am to 4pm. If visitors who go along before Sunday, September 11, there will be tea, coffee and cake as well.

### **Manx Society of Minnesota Officers**

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**Please feel free to contact any of the officers if you have a question, comment, or suggestion for your society. We are always looking for new places to hold our meeting and new topics for discussion.**

