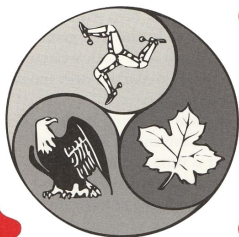


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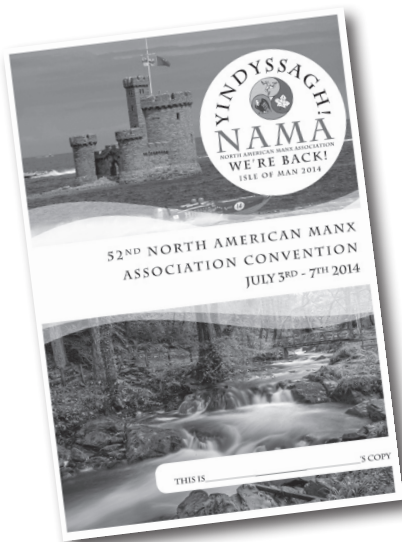
NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

VOL 85, No.2 To preserve "Whatever is left to us of our ancient heritage." T.E. Brown Summer/Fall 2014

NAMA CONVENTION 2014 - YNDYSSAGH! WE WENT BACK.

A QUICK RECOUNTING OF OUR WONDERFUL CONVENTION ON THE ISLE OF MAN

Dear Members, I want to share some highlights from the 2014 Convention on the Isle of Man with you. If you couldn't come, we missed you! If you came and liked it -- start preparing for Annapolis, MD in 2016. Kelly.



Day One - July 3rd 2014 We checked in our 64 delegates and doled out tickets for various events, both to our party of official members, and the other large group of Peterson family members who came along with Lucy. Altogether we had around 90 American Manx, two Canadians and one Australian on this trip! Our convention bags were donated by Island of Culture and contained Manx gifts and leaflets from a variety of generous local sources, including the Manx Fudge Company, Culture Vannin, the Manx Shipping Register and the Isle of Man Post Office. The Convention Souvenir was a Laxey Woollen Mills blue Manx tartan scarf embroidered with the three legs. (Some are still available at \$20 inc. postage. Contact Kelly McCarthy. First come; first served.)

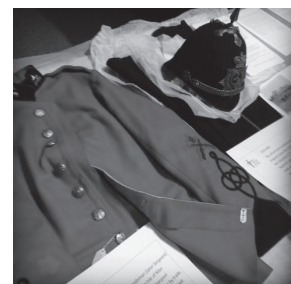


Check-in was conducted by local volunteers Anne Minay and Voirrey Horne, and gave members their first sight of the beautiful Manx Roof Pattern quilt generously donated by Mannin Quilters. Later that day, through the kindness of Madame President Clare Christian, we were taken on a tour of the three houses of Tynwald. She showed us her official robes and explained the symbolism embroidered upon them. The NAMA Board was afforded the very great honor of holding our Board meeting in the Legislative Council Chamber. The minutes from this meeting reflect the fact that we did indeed "go back."



The President of Tynwald explains the heraldic emblems on her robes

In the evening, Manx National Heritage hosted us at the Museum where we could tour the fabulous exhibits, including their collection of World War I artifacts. They even brought out Kearsley Walsh's great-uncle's uniform from the Boer War. Among the guests welcoming us were His Worship and Mrs. Stan Cain, the current Mayor and Mayor-ess of Douglas, Mr. Alex Downie, OBE, MLC and Mr. Edmund Southworth of Manx National Heritage. Many of the MNH trustees had come to welcome us and mix with this large group of American visitors. We were entertained with wine and Manx cheeses under the bleached bones of the great whale in the Manx wildlife room.



Uniform of James Thornhill Wood worn in the Boer War.

(continued next page)

Day Two - Friday July 4th

begin with the laying of a wreath at the Manx Aviation and Military Museum, Ronaldsway Airport in Ballasalla. Our friend, Ivor Ramsden had worked hard to create a beautiful Canadian Memorial Garden to commemorate the lives of 28 Canadian airmen who died in flying accidents in the Isle of Man between 1941 and 1944.



Then we drove, in the pouring rain, to Cregneash. (It was the only bad weather day of the trip.) We were fortunate to have Andrew Foxton onboard our buses (he swapped between them) who is an experienced tour guide. He described where we were driving and how important the living folk museum is to the history of the island. (You may have seen it featured in the movie, *Waking Ned Devine*.) We also stopped at the Sound for a breathtaking -- and windy -- photo op. Thanks to Manx National Heritage -- especially Edmund Southworth and the Trustees -- for all their support and assistance in putting together this trip.



Bill Cassidy at Harry Kelly's Cottage

Lunch was a catered affair at the Castletown Civic Centre. We were met by Chairman of the Commissioners, Richard McAleer and other local dignitaries. The hall had been beautifully decorated for us by local Manx friend, Dawn Scott. Castletown Commissioners very gracefully presented us with gifts bearing their symbol and we responded with a gift from Mount Vernon, home of George Washington.



After lunch we visited sites in Castletown including The Nautical Museum, which houses "The Peggy," a perfectly preserved old schooner from the "running trade" (smuggling) which had been boarded up and left undisturbed for many years. We also visited the Old House of Keys, and many went to clamber around Castle Rushen. From there, we went to Peel and received a generous Afternoon Tea from the Dean and Chapter of the Cathedral Isle of Man.

That evening we celebrated the 4th of July with an American themed buffet and the fabulous Castle Rushen High School Swing Band. We also took our Convention photo. It's reproduced on the back of this Bulletin.

Day Three - Saturday July 5th A peaceful day. We began with a Manx quilting masterclass with Chris Eastham of Manx Quilters. Then we were left to our own devices during the day. Later, there was a talk on Y-DNA and Manx heritage given by John Creer. In the evening we held our Convention Dinner at the Sefton hotel. Again, beautiful and elaborate table decorations featuring Manx flowers and fabrics graced our tables courtesy of the very talented Dawn Scott.

Honored Guests at our Convention Dinner included: *Alex Downie, OBE, MLC, Guest Speaker; Hon. Tim Crookall, MHK, Minister for Education and Children presenting NAMA Youth Award; Mandy Griffin, 2014 Cleveland Medal Winner; Edmund Southworth, Director, Manx National Heritage; Adrian Cain, Culture Vannin; Peter Kelly, President World Manx Association and Honorary Vice-President of NAMA; MeShell Berry, Department of Education and Children. The invocation was given by NAMA Chaplain: Rev. Canon Stephen Schaitberger*

During the dinner a special award carved from Manx Mountain Ash was presented to Florence Abbinanti who was celebrating her 22nd NAMA Convention at the tender age of 93. A gift was also given to former Chief Minister Donald Gelling who was born on Tynwald Day, July 5th. David Nixon accepted the NAMA Youth Award from Minister Tim Crookhall on behalf of Sometimes Y, the Massachusetts-based dance group that entertained crowds at Tynwald Fair in 2013. Anne Minay, the Island organizer of the Convention was presented with an American flag throw and to her great surprise, Honorary Life Membership of NAMA for all her hard work and support. The NAMA Scholarships were awarded to American members under-30 who had traveled to the island for the Convention.



Photo: NAMA Scholarships were awarded to: Kevin Smith, Jenelle Smith, Angus Walsfi, Duncan Walsfi and Nicole Wozny.

Mandy Griffin movingly explained that the Cleveland Medal was the event that had inspired her to become a singer when she was just ten years old. She went on to perform the songs that had just secured her fourth victory in the highly competitive Cleveland Medal competition at the Manx Music Festival, or Guild, as it is known on the island. It was an honor and delight to hear her and we hope she will visit us in America.

Alex Downie OBE, MLC, our Guest Speaker and great friend of NAMA, gave a very interesting speech about the Manx who had left for America and the fact that not all of them were model citizens (one was hanged for bigamy!) before going on to describe Manx successes of the past few years in economic, social and sporting fields.

During the dinner, Jack Cormode, as the senior Past President present, officiated as 1st Vice-President Kelly McCarthy became President and the 2014 slate of members was approved by the General Membership. We welcomed new Trustee, Bill Cassidy from Virginia and our new 3rd Vice-President, David Nixon from Massachusetts. Adrian Cain, the Manx Language Officer, ended our evening by drawing the raffle in Manx and teaching us a few phrases including the expression "Ta mee toiggal beggyn Gaelg" (I understand a little Manx!) We closed the evening with a rendition of "Ellan Vannin" bolstered by local singers in our midst including Noel and Mary Cringle, Dollin Kelly RBV and his wife Jean, Donald and Joan Gelling and Mandy Griffin.

Day 4 - Sunday July 6th We started our proceedings in the atrium of the Villa Maria Arcade with the National anthems sung by the sparse collection of members accompanied on the Mighty Wurlitzer. It was magnificent! Following our Board meeting we were treated to a backstage tour of the Gaiety Theatre and all its secrets including the world's only Corsican trap.

Then it was off to get changed for the Tynwald Garden Party at the Nunnery. Hats and frocks were in abundance. Margie Martinsen had hand-assembled her entire costume. We were guests of Tynwald and treated to a beautiful day as well as tea and cakes on the lawn. All very Downton Abbey!



Members of the Chicago Manx enjoy the Tynwald Garden Party at The Nunnery L-R standing: David Holmes, Christine Holmes, Jofin Prendergast, Brad Prendergast, Nicole Wozny, Mary Prendergast, Albena Wozny, Seated: Florence Abbinanti.



Margie Martinsen shows us how it's done!

Our last call on Sunday was a Memorial Service at Loch Promenade Church to honor our late members and celebrate our wonderful Association of Manx people and this great trip back to our roots. Afterwards we stepped upstairs and were served a delicious meal of Fish and Chips delivered by the Terrace Chippy!

Day Five - Monday, July 7th - Tynwald Day Celebrations. Our last day of the Convention was very special. The President of Tynwald, our dear friend, Clare Christian, had organized grandstand seats for us to watch the ancient ceremony of the promulgation of the 2014 laws. Presidents Jody Morey and Kelly McCarthy were given guest tickets to the St. John's Chapel for the service and signing into law of the Acts. Everyone enjoyed the delights of a perfect Fair Day and all the entertainments that go with it. Manx Dancing, Manx food, handcrafts, artworks and locally produced goods of every kind were available. Members were also welcomed to the World Manx Association's tent - a haven for the weary.



Kelly and Bill McCarthy, NAMA President and Secretary, scrub up as official guests of Tynwald for the annual ceremony of promulgating the laws.

Because of Tynwald's own Banquet dinner, the Sefton Hotel kitchen and serving staff was called away to work at the nearby Villa Marina. So we asked the local Italian restaurant, The Italian Job, whether it would open up especially for us. What a great buffet meal! It was fantastic. From there, and to end our Convention, we gathered for one last time in the Garden Room at the Sefton Hotel for a Cooish. Celebrated local reciters, Dollin Kelly and Anne Clark entertained us with Manx stories and we sang some classic Manx songs accompanied on keyboard by John Riley.

With one last chorus of *Ellan Vannin* and a thank-you toast proposed by Jody Morey, the 2014 North American Manx Association Convention drew to a close. Thank you to everyone who helped make it such a great success. The Manx welcome was more than we could ever have anticipated. *Gura mie eu, Ellan Vannin.*



NAMA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Members,

I'm sure you'll all agree that the Convention on the island was one to remember. In the main, the weather cooperated and we were welcomed with warmth and kindness wherever we went. We want to send a huge thank you to everyone who helped. Everyone who attended now knows Anne Minay, the Manx end of the organizing team. It was her hard work and attention to detail that ensured our events went so smoothly. Thank you too, to our sponsors who were so very generous with their convention favors and advertising and we thank them for their support.

Our hosts at Tynwald, Peel Cathedral and Manx National Heritage could not have done more. In particular, we must

thank President of Tynwald and friend of NAMA, Clare Christian, for allowing us to hold our Board meeting in the Manx Legislative Council Chamber. This is the first time that the North American Manx Association has been able to record in its Minutes that its meeting was held in Tynwald.

Clare, and Third Clerk of Tynwald, Marie Lambden also ensured we had tickets to the Tynwald Garden Party and seats at the Tynwald ceremony. I am sure that when "these summer days are over" these Manx memories will remain with us all for as long as we live.

Thank you to everyone who managed to make the trip. International travel is brutally expensive and in the case of an island, difficult as well. But to those who came, thank you for making the Convention such a fun event. I hope it rekindles your love of your Manx heritage. We hope to see you again in Annapolis in 2016. Let's pick up the party again there!

Lesh gagh yeeearree vie

Kelly

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Honorary Vice-Presidents

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Peter Kelly MBE, President World Manx Association

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Mary Kelly
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Lawrence Skelly
Sally Dahlquist
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Joyce Benjamin, Madison, WI
Richard Corrin Jr., Glenview, IL
Dorothy Gawne, Niles, IL
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NAMA MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM

PROMOTE AND PROTECT OUR MANX HERITAGE

Join now and make sure you keep receiving your newsletter and don't forget to mail us if you change your address!

Please print your information and mail with your check to John Prendergast at the address below.

Name _____ Spouse _____

Street _____ Phone _____

City _____ email _____

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Individual Membership	Dues	Amount
Annual	\$15	_____
LIFE MEMBERSHIP		
Under age 50	\$250	_____
Age 50-59	\$175	_____
Age 60 and over	\$125	_____
Junior (age 1-18 yrs, no bulletin)	\$2	_____

Family Membership	Dues	Amount
Annual	\$20	_____
LIFE MEMBERSHIP		
Under age 50	\$325	_____
Age 50-59	\$235	_____
Age 60 and over	\$200	_____

To become a NAMA member, or to renew your membership, please send this form and your check made out to North American Manx Association or money order to John.

Total Remittance
(in U.S. Dollar or equivalent amount) _____

John Prendergast
NAMA Treasurer
10251 South Bell Ave.
Chicago, IL 60643-1901 USA

..... Detach Here



PRESENTATION OF THE 2014 NAMA YOUTH AWARDS

On Friday, July 4, 2014 Manx students were awarded silver medallions for making significant contributions to Manx culture and life. Individuals under the age of 18 were awarded this year for outstanding achievement in Manx Music, Arts and Crafts, Manx Language, Manx Culture and outstanding contribution to the Manx Community. There were also awards for a student over the age of 18 for Outstanding Contribution to Manx Culture and for Outstanding contributions by a group under the age of 25.

Each year the Department of Education and Children invites nominations for the yearly awards. Winners are then chosen from those nominated. The silver medallions, minted by the Pobjoy Mint, are highly regarded by the recipients. NAMA hopes that by sponsoring these awards, students will encourage others to excel in the knowledge and sharing of Manx traditions. The awards took place at the Barrule Suite in the Tynwald, or parliament building.

This year, some of the students shared their talents by playing music, showing a art project and sharing their knowledge of the Manx language. The photo shows the awardees. The adults seated are: Hon Tim Crookall, MHK, Minister for Education and Children; Peter Kelly, MBE, CP, President of the World Manx Association; Jody Morey, President of the North American Manx Association; Hon Phil Gawne, BSc MHK, Minister for Infrastructure and the Hon Clare M Christian, BSc MLC, President of Tynwald. *Jody*.





Marshall Hopewell Cannell Jr. passed away unexpectedly on March 11, 2014, at the age of 83, just before we sent the last Bulletin to press. He was our Honorary President and will be greatly missed. He was born in Providence, Rhode Island, son of Marshall H. Cannell, Sr., and Sarah Catherine McKenzie Cannell. He graduated from the Moses Brown School and Brown University in Providence.


In 1956, he began his career by becoming one of the first computer programmers in the country. He had a long career with Systems Development Corporation (SDC) as a systems consultant to the US Air Force. He retired in 1991. He then served 15 years teaching Technical Theatre and the Origins of Western Drama at Wellesley Middle School. One of his most cherished positions was as President of the North American Manx Association (NAMA).

Marshall is survived by his wife of 62 years, Valentina Cannell (nee Baudel de Vaudrecourt); his daughters Bonny Cannell Nothorn and Alejandra Cannell Huete, four grand children, a brother, Christian Cannell and a sister, Mary Cannell Andrews of Virginia.



STAYING CONNECTED WITH THE NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

Visit our website: www.northamericanmanx.org. You can check this website to find links to Manx Societies across America and Canada as well as recipes, Membership details and random Manx facts. The NAMA Members Only area of our website is password protected and can only be accessed by paid-up members of NAMA. Type in these passwords when prompted. **User Name:** nama **Password:** tynwald

 We're on Facebook at North American Manx Association.

Our blog is used to update members on events of interest to Americans of Manx descent. <http://namanx.blogspot.com>.

WANT TO GET IN TOUCH WITH US?

If you have news you'd like to share with the members of the North American Manx Association, please email Kelly McCarthy at Kelly@mustgoto.com.



CHILDREN'S CORNER JODY'S SCAANJOON KEYLLEY!



Look who we found on the Isle of Man! Lemurs are part of a very interesting and varied species of primate. They are only found on the islands of Madagascar and Comoros. There are almost 100 different kinds and they vary greatly in size (from under two ounces to 20 lbs.) and looks (they can look like a monkey, a mouse or a squirrel). They can differ in color, food preferences and the way they move about. Most are more active at night although some prefer moving about in the daylight. They are quite social and live in family groups, in trees or on the ground. Because there are so many different kinds they are fun to learn about. Jody met this fine lemur at The Wildlife Park on the Isle of Man. The Manx word for lemur is *scaanjoon keylley*. "Skan-JOON kehlllya"



SOCIETY NEWS

THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA MANX

From the Northern California Manx: Jack Cormode, 13085 Franklin Avenue, Mountain View, CA 94040
Tel: (650) 961-6117 Email: jarmode@comcast.net The NoCal Manx held a special pre-Convention Cooish on June 1, 2014 at the home of Kim Parker and Peter Herrer. Una Reed, our Social Director, did her usual great job of organizing the event. We had several Manx matters to discuss and these were taken care of in due time. An important item was getting our email list straightened out and up to date. Geoffrey Smith, Director of Social Media, has taken on the challenge and made things right. Geoffrey has also coordinated with Jim Kneale, NAMA website manager, to create a seamless exchange between Northern California and NAMA. A major problem is that we have lost contact with several of our members who have moved away and we don't have good postal or email addresses for them. The main thrust of the meeting was to discuss the upcoming NAMA Convention and help each other with logistical informa-

tion and tips and reminders of the many things to see and do while on the Island. We are also planning on a post-Convention cooish.

Message from Jack: I arrived on the IOM on July 2, 2014, little knowing that former Douglas Mayoress Helen Callow had passed away that very day. She was active in the World Manx Association and was a good friend and great help to NAMA and the Convention of 2000.

GREATER WASHINGTON MANX AREA SOCIETY

The Washington Manx made a good showing at the 2014 Convention with ten members making it to the island. (GWAMS now boasts the President, Secretary, 1st Vice President and a Trustee of NAMA.) A few of us met up when we got back to share photos and memories and to plan for the 2014 Convention on our own turf in Annapolis, MD. We are also planning an Afternoon Tea at some nearby gardens to bring back memories of the splendid tea we enjoyed in the grounds of the Nunnery, Douglas, Isle of Man.

Bill Cassidy and Kelly McCarthy also paid a visit to our former President and Governor Emeritus, Avril Shipman, at her nursing home in Hyattsville, MD. She was in splendid form and loved the photo Bill had brought her of a Loughtan sheep in front of Harry Kelly's cottage in Cregneash. It turned out she had a little music box of exactly that cottage in her room. Avril was born on the island in 1926 and has vivid memories of the island pre-WWII. She was an artist in her younger days and we were able to bring her news that three of her early works had just sold for hundreds of pounds in England.

THE MANX SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA

This was our first meeting of the year held at The Good Earth restaurant in Edina, Minnesota. Everyone arrived at the restaurant to a warm candlelit table decorated by Sally with Manx flags and her wonderful and ever growing collection of



L-R: Sally Dalquist, Lynette Schaitberger, Mike Schaitberger, Norbert Johnson, Billy Boefine, Pat Boefine, Heather Johnson, Rev. Canon Stephen Schaitberger, Sharli Schaitberger.

Manx items, books and pictures. The first part of the meeting was mainly a social hour at which time we learned Stephen and Sharli Schaitberger would be attending the 2014 Convention on the island. They were very excited and Stephen even generously offered to hold the Fall meeting at his home with a presentation of the trip later this year. After all the food was delivered and everyone had settled in, Sally began the meeting. She started by reminding everyone about the upcoming Scottish festival we would be attending as the second meeting of the year. She also discussed the ideas for the Minnesota Manx tartan and the details involving that process. It was decided that first we need to nail down the colors we want to use and since not everyone can attend every meeting a vote by postcard would be the best way to do it. Heather Johnson added that she knows a weaver that she could contact once all the final decisions and approvals were achieved. Sally then brought up the idea for a Facebook page and welcomed any ideas for what we should have on it. Hopefully, we will have it up and accessible by fall this year. After that she concluded the meeting and thanked everyone one for coming. At this point with everyone well fed and the plates cleared away the meeting wound down and people began chatting about former trips to the island and old family stories. It was a great meeting and we hope to see everyone



THE CLEVELAND MEDAL



The Cleveland Medal is the highest award in Manx singing - a gold disc that is traditionally given every year by the Manx Society of Cleveland, OH at the end of the Manx Music Festival or "The Guild" as locals refer to it. The six finalists are the winners of their Special class for bass, baritone, tenor, contralto, mezzo-soprano and soprano. To enter the Special class they must previously have won an Open class. This year's winner, contralto Mandy Griffin is a four times Cleveland winner. She very kindly sang for us at our Convention Dinner.

North American Manx Association

Kelly McCarthy

1751 Olde Towne Road

Alexandria, VA 22307



YINDYSSAGH! WE WENT BACK!