

BULLETIN *of the* North American Manx Association



VOL. 45 NO. 1

"To preserve what'er is left us of ancient heritage"

SEPTEMBER 1971

The Tale of a Party and a Turkey

Being the kind of person who likes joy and happiness and people and parties, I was for ever looking out for an excuse to give a party. It did not matter if it was a birthday, Halloween, St. Patrick's Day, or any gala day whatever Lillian gave a party. Well, along came a special day, our Ruby Wedding, so of course a party. I made out the guest list, decided the menu and began all the planning.

I decided to have a cold dinner arranged for 6 p.m. The menu was to consist of cold turkey, ham and tongue as the meat course and with it went three kinds of salads together with the usual things that go with cold cuts: olives, radish roses, celery curls and various pickles. The invitations were sent out and the meats, all to be cooked at home the day before, were ordered.

On the day of the party, the cooked tongue and ham was returned to the butcher together with platters and he was to slice them all on the machine and place very nicely, I may say in party style, on the platters trimmed with fresh parsley. The dinner was to end with a beautiful ice cream cake especially made for our Ruby wedding.

Well very early in the afternoon I dispatched my two daughters off to get the cake as the firm did not deliver, and as I had been busy all morning getting all the etceteras ready I asked them if they would take care of setting the table. This meant moving a table out of the breakfast room to be added to the dining room table to be able to seat twenty people and of course to get the flowers and silver, napkins and place cards and all the usual things that go to set a nice table.

Now it fell to my part to carve the turkey. In my kitchen I had a pull up table that was part of a utility cabinet and when not in use it went back and one could not guess that there was a table there. I also had a son who came early and almost drove me up the wall

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CONVENTION PLANS FOR 1972

Plans are beginning to get under way for the N.A.M.A. Convention to be held in Niagara Falls, Ontario, next summer. A meeting of the executive committee is to be held at the Sheraton Brock Hotel in Niagara either the first or second week of October and it is expected that final decisions will then be made as to the exact dates of the Convention and tentative plans will be made for the programme for the four days. It should be possible to give you some idea of the fun you can expect

to have at the 1972 Convention by the time the December issue of the Bulletin goes to print.

Planning this Convention is very much an experiment as this is the first time that one is to be held in a place where there is no nucleus of Manx folk to take charge of the organizing. If it is to be a success we shall need the support of all our members and their friends so start thinking NOW about joining us in Niagara Falls in 1972.

A VISIT TO WISCONSIN

Bob and Jean Kelly of Chicago visited Mineral Point, Wisconsin, while on vacation this summer. This town was one of the first founded in the State of Wisconsin and the first state capitol was nearby. It was founded about 1830 by Cornish lead miners and many Manx also settled in the town about that time. These were lead miners from Laxey.

Bob and Jean have a Manx cat which originally came from Mineral Point.

While there they visited with Lyman and Elsie Kirst. The Kirsts moved to Mineral Point last October from Chicago. Lyman was born in Mineral Point and his family included Kellys and Skillicorns. He now voluntarily works to help the tourist board promote the town and took the Kellys around showing them the many points of interest and the early Cornish homes. They had Cornish pasty for lunch.

They also visited Mrs. Mabel Lindauer who is a member of the N.A.M.A. and a native Manxwoman. Her maiden name was Callin.

The Wisconsin State Historical Society has placed a marker at the site of the Laxey Church just outside of

Mineral Point. This was the only Manx church in the United States and was torn down in 1961. The cemetery is still there. The marker reads: "During the mid 19th Century, hardy immigrants from the Isle of Man settled in this vicinity naming it Laxey, after their ancestral home. Here Manxmen, whose roster included such names as Callow, Kelly, Cowley, Skillicorn, Craine, Hudgen, Kermode, Kewley, Quirk and Quine, laid rock for the only Manx-built church in America. Through mud, dust, and snow; on foot, by wagon, or by sled, members came for religious services. Served by lay preachers and circuit riders, they worshipped with typical pioneer zeal. Laxey Church became the hub of their community — a testimony to the pioneer spirit of the Manx. 1855-1961."

The Mineral Point and Laxey cemeteries both contain many Manx names.

The Cornish Restoration which has been carried out in Mineral Point by the State Historical Society is described in their journal "Wisconsin Then and Now" Vol. XVII, Number 12, published in July, 1971.

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N.A.M.A. Membership Fee \$4.00 including subscription to Bulletin published four times annually. Membership without Bulletin \$1.00.

VISIT TO WISCONSIN

Cont'd from page 1

"Pendarvis, the complex of restored Cornish miners' homes on Shake Rag Street in Mineral Point, has become the sixth historic site of the State Historical Society... The complex includes Pendarvis House, a one-storey stone cottage; Polperro, a three-storey stone and log house; Trelawny, a two-storey stone structure; Tamblyn's Row, which actually is three homes — a two-storey log building and two one-storey stone structures — built side by side; a work-

shop; a cottage that has been modernized and is used as a guest house; and several unassembled stone and log structures... Pendarvis opened under Society supervision on May 15 and will remain open at least until October 15. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Admission is \$1 for adults and 50¢ for children. Group rates are 80¢ for adults and 25¢ for children. Society members are admitted for half price."

Pendarvis became famous for its Cornish food under its previous owners, Robert Neal and Edgar Hellum, and their recipe for pasty quoted in the journal includes:

Crust:

2½ cups flour
1 teaspoon salt
¼ pound lard
¾-¾ cups cold water

Filling:

2½ pounds beef shoulder
5 cups potatoes, cut in small,
thin pieces
1 cup coarsely chopped onions
½ cup finely chopped kidney suet
1½ teaspoons salt
scant ¼ teaspoon black pepper

For crust, combine flour and salt and work in lard. Add ¾ cup water (more if necessary) until dough holds together. Knead well and form into a ball. Refrigerate until needed. For filling, remove bone, membrane and gristle from meat and cut into half inch cubes. Combine meat, potatoes, onions and suet. On a well-floured board roll dough into a circle about 16 inches in diameter. Carefully place half of circle on a baking sheet, the other half lapping over the side. Add salt and pepper to meat mixture, mixing well. Carefully place mixture on the dough, keeping mixture 1 inch from edges and as straight as possible on the diameter side. Moisten this inch with water and with a quick, careful motion, flip lapping half over. Press edges together well. Also fold over ½ inch and pinch to seal well. Make 3 cuts in top crust to allow steam to escape. Bake at 350° for 2 hours. Use four large spatulas to lift onto serving platter. Serves 6-8.

There is no mention of the Manx in this issue of the journal devoted to the Cornish Restoration but there undoubtedly would be much of interest for people of Manx descent to see in a visit to Mineral Point. Further information could be obtained from The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 816 State Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53706. Membership in the Society includes subscription to "Wisconsin Then and Now" which is published monthly.

SLOW ME DOWN LORD

Slow me down, Lord!

Ease the pounding of my heart by the quieting of my mind. Steady my hurried pace with a vision of the eternal reach of time. Give me, amid the confusion of the day, the calmness of the everlasting hills.

Break the tensions of my nerves and muscles with the soothing music of the singing streams that live in my memory, Help me to know the magical, restoring power of sleep.

Teach me the art of taking vacations — of slowing down to look at a flower, to chat with a friend, to pat a dog, to smile at a child, to read a few lines from a good book. Remind me each day of the table of the hare and tortoise, that I may know that the race is not always to the swift — that there is more to life than increasing it's speed. Let me look upwards into the branches of the towering oak and know that it grew great and strong because it grew slowly and well.

Slow me down, Lord!

And in this way inspire me to send my roots deep into the soil of life's enduring values that I may grow toward the stars of my greater destiny.

Submitted by

HILDA PENRICE,
Georgetown, Ontario

MANX LIFE

Readers of the Bulletin may be interested in a new publication from the Isle of Man commencing with the first issue this summer. It will be a "glossy" type magazine with lots of photographs and covering all aspects of Manx life. There will be 6 issues per year and the annual subscription is £1.68 (One pound, sixty-eight pence). Orders should be sent to:

MANX LIFE,

C/o Isle of Man Weekly Times,

Athol Street,

DOUGLAS, Isle of Man

and payment of the subscription is preferred by International Money order. Your local bank can work out the American or Canadian dollar equivalent.

TALE OF A TURKEY

Cont'd from page 1

by following me about with a glass of sherry in his hand and talking constantly. I would much rather have been left alone to concentrate. Time was passing — no girls, no cake appearing, no tables laid and myself becoming more frantic by the minute. Phoned my guests to say dinner was delayed a little and make it six-thirty. Five o'clock, still no girls, no cake and no table laid or turkey carved. My son said, "Don't worry, Mother, I will help" which he did by starting to pull up the table. I put the three platters on and he put the turkey on for my battle with it and the carving knife.

What he did not know was that there was a certain trick to make the chain catch to hold the table secure. Here the gremlins came barrelling in with a rush. The weight of the turkey, plus platters, was just too much and down went that bird and also the three platters belonging to my dinner service, breaking them into a hundred pieces.

Just then the girls came in. They had been window shopping no less! Lots of excitement and myself blowing my top. Told them to get busy in a hurry and get that table out and do it in a hurry and get everything done right or they would hear more about it.

Going into the kitchen, taking one look at havoc and turkey sitting on kitchen counter where my son had rescued it from the floor. I looked at it and by now the tears started to flow and I was on the point of hysterics when Frankie took one look at me and decided something drastic had to be done. He did it by bursting out laughing. For one moment I was furious at him, and then the gremlins decided to scam, for all at once I saw the comedy of it all and I joined him in a hearty laugh too. It saved the day! We picked up the large pieces of the dishes and swept the rest out on to the back porch. Someone got wet cloths to wipe up the grease. Just then my husband came home. There were many explanations and he gave the girls a helping hand, after a good lecture, then away into the bathroom to shower and get ready.

Amid all the laughter Frankie said, "Wipe it off, Mom, and no one will know". More hysterical laughs while I got clean towels and gave that bird a jolly good wiping off and started carving. One of the girls meantime was frantically searching for plates big enough to hold it; at last finding some in the garage an inch thick in dust; getting in my way at the sink washing them in hot water and drying them;

MEET YOUR OFFICERS — ROBERT KELLY

1st Vice-President

Robert Kelly is the son of Emily I. Kelly and the late Robert Cecil Kelly (formerly of Peel). His wife is Jean and they live on the far northwest side of Chicago at 6858 North Osceola.

Bob is presently Head Accountant at Bodine Electric Company in Chicago and was formerly Assistant Treasurer at Evangelical Theological Seminary in Naperville and for 17 years worked for the C&EI Railroad as Supervisor of the payroll department and Systems Programmer in the Data Processing Department.

Both Bob and Jean are active in the United Methodist Church. They team teach a 3rd and 4th grade church school class. Bob is President of the Methodist Men's group and a Lay Speaker. Jean is President of the Women's Society and an instructor in Christian Education in the Conference. She also works part time at the office of the American Bible Society.

Bob became the first Junior Member of the NAMA at the Chicago Convention in 1933 and held Membership Card #1 as long as he was eligible. He was elected Second Vice President of the NAMA at the Convention in Toronto in 1965 and First Vice President at Huntington Beach in 1968.

He is presently President of the Chicago Manx Society and has been in charge of the Chicago Manx exhibit at the Holiday Folk Fair for several years.

popping paper doilies on to cover them all over and that illfated turkey was served on beaten up old discarded plates well covered with the fancy papers.

I took a quick look in the dining room to see if all had gone well. A couple of things to put right, then a quick dash into the bathroom, another quick rub over my face, no time to shower, a frantic run into the bedroom and a grab at my dress which I got into and to the front door just in time to greet the first guest.

Well, the Ruby wedding party was a great success and no one knew what I had gone through. They all enjoyed that turkey and no one knew how it had decided, with a little help from my son, to take a slide along the kitchen floor.

That ends the tale of the turkey, the party and a hectic day in the life of.

Lillian Marrion-Tipper.



ENGELBERT'S BROTHER

In the Isle of Man Courier of August 20th it was reported that the brother of the famous Engelbert Humperdinck, Eddie Dorsey, would be the guest artist at the Majestic Hotel, Douglas, for two weeks.

It was at the Majestic that Engelbert got his first introduction to the mike, when he entered an amateur talent competition in 1958 under his own name, Gerry Dorsey.

WORLD MANX CHARTER POSSIBILITY

The World Manx Association are going to try and organize a charter flight from the Isle of Man to Canada to coincide with the Convention which is to be held next year in Niagara Falls, Ontario. This would be an excellent way for members here to bring relatives out for a visit.

We are sure that either Harold Cain, President of the Association, or Miss Doris Clague, Secretary, would be pleased to answer any enquiries directly and on our part we will try and obtain information for publication in the next Bulletin.

Mr. Harold Cain,
Miss Doris Clague,

NEWS OF THE MANX SOCIETIES

CHICAGO

Thirty-two members and friends of the Chicago Manx Society gathered on Sunday, July 25th., for their annual picnic at the home of Ruth and Ellen Carlson in West Chicago. Ruth and Ellen own the Glen Orry Manx Cattery and those at the picnic were privileged to see their prize winning Manx cats, including "Toshee" voted Best Cat during the past cat show season.

It was a very enjoyable day, one to remember by all who attended. It was also a sad day for the Chicago Manx as we bid a fond farewell to loyal and long time members, Walter J. Stevenson and his daughter, Myrra Johnson and family. Randy and Myrra, with their daughters, Jennifer and Julie, along with Walter Stevenson moved at the end of August to Scottsdale, Arizona, as Randy was transferred to Phoenix. The Chicago Manx presented Walter with a new Isle of Man "Many Cat" Crown. Walter whose story "Our Manx Heritage" was on the cover of the last issue of the bulletin has belonged to the Chicago society for over 51 years. Myrra is third Vice-President of the N.A.M.A. To these friends we say "God be with you till we meet again" and hurry back to see us.

Robert Kelly, President
Emily Kelly, Secretary

TORONTO

The May meeting of the Toronto Manx Society was an auction sale. An evening of this kind is always successful. The annual picnic in June was held at a new location, Clairville Park, which was a beautiful place and had everything to make an enjoyable day including a swimming pool with guards for the children.

It has been a quiet summer for the Toronto Manx and they are looking forward to a fruitful winter of interesting meetings to be held as usual at the Westbury Hotel, Toronto. Anyone passing through Toronto area and wishing to attend a meeting can phone one of the three ladies listed below

Minnie Oakley, Treasurer
752-1897

Dot Hall, Secretary
463-8144

Eileen Mitchell, Convener
248-1236

Dot Hall, Secretary.

SAN FRANCISCO

The San Francisco Manx have not had any business meetings during the summer but have kept in touch with each other and are hoping to resume regular meetings this fall. Some of the members are looking forward to attending next year's Convention in Niagara Falls.

Evelyn Corlett.

VANCOUVER

The annual summer picnic was held on Saturday, August 14th, in Stanley Park. Although the weather was disappointing we had a good turnout, including visitors from the Island: — Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jopson from Ramsey; Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Corlett from Maughold and Mr. John Singleton from Port Erin who was visiting his father. The Society was also proud to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mayfield of Whalley, B.C., who led a group of sixty school children forming the Whalley Youth Band to England and the carnival week activities throughout the Isle of Man in July-August. They were given a tremendous reception on the Island and presented to the Society a plaque from the Ramsey Town Commissioners. Mr. C. T. Jopson presented Mr. Mayfield with a Manx flag for his household from the Ramsey British Legion. A good day was enjoyed by all.

Meetings for the winter will resume in September and we hope to have various activities this coming season.

Fenella Jopson, President.

CLEVELAND MANX SOCIETY

The Cleveland Manx Society Annual Basket Picnic was held Sunday, August 8, 1971, at the Grace Episcopal Church grounds in Willoughby, Ohio.

It was a beautiful day and over 100 members and friends attended. Some of our less active members attended and were given a hearty welcome. There were contests and drawings and prizes galore!

Miss Elizabeth Clucas shopped for Manx Key Rings on her recent trip home. These were presented to the

members as they registered. Mrs. Richard Kelly donated prizes she had brought from the Isle of Man. Mr. Robert Cowin donated another of his hand-carved wooden three-legged Manx plaques which was won by one of our oldest members, Mrs. Minnie Nicholl.

Mrs. Floyd McClure and her committee did a fine job of entertaining the children with various games and competitions. The children were each given a grab bag which contained, among other things, a ball point pen from the Island and a new Manx penny. Mrs. Cyril Nicholl, in charge of refreshments, furnished coffee, tea, cold drinks and ice cream to the group.

After supper our President, Richard Kelly, welcomed everyone and expressed the hope that they would attend our regular monthly meetings throughout the year. He thanked all of the committee members who worked so hard to make the picnic such a successful event. The affair was closed with some good old Manx tunes rendered by Joe Clucas, Fred Gorry and Elizabeth Clucas, accompanied by Mrs. Richard Kelly and Mrs. Fred Gorry on the piano. They also lead the entire group in a community sing.

Plans are now under way for our Annual Christmas Dinner Party. The Trustees are pleased to be able to furnish the picnic and the Christmas dinner party free of charge to our members. These two events, along with our regular monthly meetings and our many willing workers, help to improve our Society and increase our membership.

In keeping with following some of the Manx traditions, we had a Manx "Harvest Home" at our September meeting. Mrs. Bessie Leece Auty was in charge of the program. In our imaginations, we stopped at a farm on Niarbyl and attended services in Patrick Church. Many of our Peel members had attended that church. Members brought flowers, produce, and other suitable things which were all displayed and judged — thus taking an active part in the proceedings.

October brought along a "Sale of Work" — another event familiar to those from the Island. (Explanation for American Manx . . . it is somewhat like a church bazaar.) Mrs. Floyd McClure was chairman of this event.

OUR OWN PEOPLE

Mr. and Mrs. Earel M. Belford and children of Urbana, Ohio were visitors in the Galva area in June visiting with friends and relatives. They returned in August to attend the 25th reunion of his high school graduation class in Galva.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Kelly of Galva spent five weeks in June and July in Europe where they visited their daughter Krisann, her husband Dan Empson and their grandson in Frankfort Germany. Dan is a paratrooper with the U.S. forces. They also visited the Isle of Man and Sweden and other countries of interest en route. They report a wonderful time on the Island.

Golden Wedding Anniversary

Over one hundred relatives and friends attended a reception for Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Caveen on the occasion of their Golden Wedding Anniversary on June 25th.

The reception, which was held at the Warden Woods Community Centre, was given by their sons and daughters — Gordon, Scarborough, Ontario; Donald, Rimouski, Quebec; Mrs. George Foster, (Dorothy), London, Ontario; and Mrs. Tony Easthope (Barbara) Ivanhoe, Ontario, and the eighteen grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Most of the people at the party were Manx, or of Manx descent. A huge wedding-cake was baked by Mrs. George Foster Sr. and Mrs. Johnny Owens. A lot of presents were received, including a cheque from the Toronto Manx Society. Letters of good wishes came from the Queen, Prime Minister Trudeau, The Honourable John Diefenbaker and The Governor of the Isle of Man. Telegrams arrived from The World Manx Society, The North American Manx Association, and members of the family in the Isle of Man, British Columbia and Quebec.

Mr. Caveen is past president of the N.A.M.A. and both Dolly and Fred have been members of the Association since 1929. Dolly and Fred have also been members of the Toronto Manx Society since it was formed in 1913.

We wish them many more anniversaries!

Mr. and Mrs. Folmer Petersen of St. Petersburg were again visiting the Isle of Man and England this past summer. They left in July for 6 weeks. They made their first visit last year to attend the Convention and while staying in Douglas Elsie met for the first time a cousin visiting from New Zealand.

Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Shimmin of Largo, Florida, spent the month of August visiting relatives and friends in Chicago and touring Canada and some Eastern States.

Sam and Hilda Penrice of Georgetown, Ontario, are entertaining Sam's brother, Harry, and his wife Nancy from Huddersfield, England. They were to arrive on September 13th and stay in Canada for three weeks. Harry is past president of the Yorkshire (West Riding) Manx Society.

62nd WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. James Kewish observed their 62nd Wedding Anniversary with a family dinner at the Boston House in Galva that evening. Those attending were: their only daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jackson and their granddaughter Mary of Kewanee, Robert Kewish and daughter Mabel, Mrs. Tirus Kelly and Mrs. Charles Scott of Galva. A surprise phone call from their granddaughter Jane and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gramkow of Highland Falls, New York added to the pleasure of the occasion. Mr. and Mrs. Kewish are active members of the Galva Manx Society.

Those Pink Slips

Use one slip when sending your dues to the Treasurer. Send the other to someone who might be interested in joining NAMA or use it to make a "gift" subscription to someone. If you haven't paid your dues or have the extra slip around, please give it your attention now. Let's all help to make NAMA grow.

The Lil' People

Born — to Mr. and Mrs. John Cannell a daughter — Jennifer Jane. Jennifer is the only son of Mr. and Mrs. John Cannell of Newbury Park, Calif., now has two children, a boy and a girl.

Born — April 22, 1971, to Mar Mylroie, wife of Leon Robinson Burley, Idaho, a son, Brent Merrill Robinson, a grandson of George E. Mylroie of Franklin, Idaho, formerly of Lacey, I.O.M.

Born — March 17, 1971, to Margaret and Leon Mylroie, a son, Frank Lee; also a grandson of George Mylroie.

"Here's to the Cleveland Manx"

Here's to the Cleveland Manx Society
The glorious, wondrous Manx Society
We have Dick Kelly in the President's seat

His lovely wife a helpmate so neat
You have to admit that's a team
that can't be beat!

We have May Nicholls who says
she is not Manx but to her we give
a vote of thanks:

She lines up the hostesses so charming
and neat and gets us the food so
delicious to eat!

Now we have Edna Cowin who counts
all the money

She looks at Bert and says 'Listen he
honey,

They are going to cut the bank interest
and raise the postage what will
we do?

But Bert will come up with a couple
of clues.

Now we have Bert Cowin he comes
to the meetings with never a frown

But when he goes to the Island —
he's a man about town.

He walked from the Strang to school
everyday — sometimes he was late
cause he picked apples on the way.

Now we have Fred Gorry a worthy
Trustee

Many years ago he went to the Island
to see what he could see:

The Peel girls all met — they were
in the air

They knew romance was at Tynwald
Fair.

But Fred didn't know he had met
his fate

So he proposed to Flo on his very
first date!

Now we have Amy Abell — last
but not least

She makes Roly Polys and my what
a feast!

She brought her girls up to be truly
Manx and now to our officers
we say many thanks!

Original poem by Bessie Auty
read at our "Free-n-Easy" Night
June 8, 1971.

KNOW YOUR ANCESTORS

By Mrs. Edna Cowin

In response to reader's enquiries, this month we will devote our column to the ORIGIN OF MANX PERSONAL NAMES:

MOORE is a Gaelic name. The old Irish form was O'Mordha, meaning descendant of the majestic one. The first record of the name in the Island is in 1496, and a John Moore was Deemster from 1498 to 1505. Philip Moore, who lived from 1705 to 1783, had a large share in the translation of the Bible into Manx Gaelic.

BREW, in old Gaelic was MacBruhghadha, meaning son of the innkeeper, and is first found in Manx records in 1408 as MacBrow. In 1422 it had become MacBrew, and by 1611 the Mac had been dropped and the name was spelled Brewe.

QUINE is a Norse name, and its basic meaning is Page. The original form of the name was Sveinn, a Norse king. The Manx Gaelic form was MacHweinn, and this was written in the early Manx records as MacQuyn. The spelling MacQuine is first found in the Island records in 1540. In 1403 one Luke MacQuyn, a scholar, received certain church lands called particles reserved for the maintenance of poor scholars who were expected to enter the church. The family has given its name to farms called BALLAQUINE in the parishes of Malew, Braddan, Lonan and German.

CLUCAS is a Gaelic name, the original form being MacLucais and the Manx Gaelic form as MacLugaish. It is recorded in the Manorial Roll of 1511 as MacLucas and in 1643 as Clucas. BALLACLUCAS in Marown was the main seat of the family. William Clucas (1782-1832) of the Strang, in Braddan, was the famous bonesetter of the Island. John Thomas Clucas (1827-1887) was a member of the House of Keys, secretary to the Governor, Clerk to the Council and Treasurer of the Isle of Man.

Do you have a Manx Personal Name or Place Name you are trying to learn more about? We'd be glad to try and research it for you and publish it in a later issue. Send your letters to Mrs. Robert S. Cowin, 1223 West Melrose Drive, Westlake, Ohio 44145.

HARPER'S VIEW OF THE ISLE OF MAN — 1875

PART IV

About three miles from Douglas there is an antiquated little village which Hawthorne has celebrated. "I never saw any thing prettier," he has written in his English Note-Books, "than the little church at Kirk Brad-dan. It stands in a perfect seclusion of shadowy trees — a plain little church that would not be remarkable in any other situation, but is most picturesque in its solitude and bowery environment." The road lies over the bridge above the market-place, and through a turnstile path which leads you across some luxuriant fields to the ruins of a nunnery of which St. Bridget was prioress. The only part of the building remaining is a wall of the chapel, with Gothic windows and an old bell smothered in ivy; but an ancient writer describes it as one of the finest monastic establishments of Great Britain. The prioress was baroness of the isle, held courts in her own name, and possessed great powers, both temporal and spiritual. Among the gravestones found on the grounds was one inscribed, "Illustrissima Matilda Filia Rex Merciae," which is supposed to have commemorated the daughter of Ethelbert the Saxon, who died a recluse. Another one was inscribed, "Cartesmunda Virgo Immaculata, A.D. MCCXXX.," which is supposed to refer to Cartesmunda, "the fair nun of Winchester," who, flying from King John, here found an asylum, and died in peace. The grounds are now included in the estate of a gentleman who has converted them into a paradise, and the ashes of the pious Sisters blossom again in sweet-smelling beds of the choicest flowers.

After passing the nunnery you reach a bit of a village called Ballaughton. It consists of about half a dozen cottages, with little gardens in front flaming with the prodigal fuchsias that carry their clusters of blossom as high as the bedroom windows. The profuseness of this plant imparts a warmth of color to these small homes which I have never seen equaled. The cottages have that peculiarly English appearance of rusticity the charm of which is plainly felt and not easily explained. It is not found in any refined details of architecture, in which they are far excelled by the villages of France. As nearly as I can come to it, it consists in what a clever American writer has called their

mellow tone and homely sincerity. They are not merely shelters for men and women; they impress one as being active participants in human life. The open doors revealing the clean kitchens, with their crockery ranged on shelves reaching to the beams in the ceiling; the common wooden chairs and tables, rounded and smoothed with age; the old Dutch clock complaining in a corner; the deft little curtains strung across the windows; the grandam seated at the threshold, knitting a pair of thick woolen stockings, and nodding a good-afternoon to the passers-by — what fascination and inspiration there are in these homely sights! A little farther along the road you come to a stone, hollowed on the upper side, which projects about two feet from the wall in which it is set. This is the "fairy's saddle," and granny will tell you that on moonlight nights it is mounted by a dashing sprite who rides a fiery steed over the moor.

A walk of a few hundred yard under an umbrageous canopy of leaves then brings you to the old kirk. It is set back from the road in a mossy church-yard on the brow of a hill; and as you stand at the gateway, looking at it in its nest of oak and beech. I think that you will agree with Hawthorne, who declared that no description could do justice to its quaint beauty. It has every requisite for an ideal country church. It is exceedingly Lilliputian, and is absolutely without other decorations than those that age and time have given. The roof slants so low that a tall man can reach it with his hand, and the mellow walls are broken only by a few narrow arched windows. At the west end there is a square tower, on which are two small bells in open arches, with the date of erection, 1774. The ivy and lichen have lovingly thrown a decent velvet pall over it, and on one side the humble little sanctuary has sunk below the level of the oozy ground, as though inclined to follow the generation of worshippers that are buried around. A silent company of grave-stones crowd out the living and mark the full harvest of a hundred years. Among these simple monuments of fishermen and yeomen — most of them thin squares of slate a few feet high — there is a lofty obelisk in me-

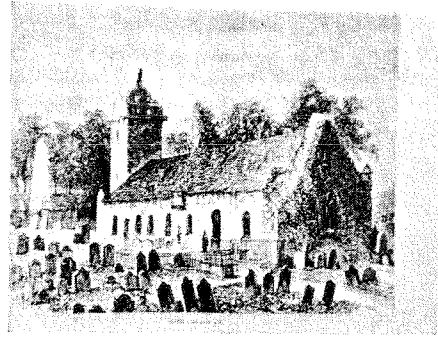
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mory of the son of John, Duke of Athol; and near to this Henry Hutchison, Wordsworth's brother-in-law, lies buried, his virtues extolled in an epitaph written by the poet.

The objects of the greatest interest in the church-yard, however, are the ancient sculptured monumental crosses with Scandinavian legends, which are more numerous in the Isle of Man than in any other part of the kingdom. Readers of Mr. Conway's articles on Ilkley are already familiar with their general character. They are vertical stones of a considerable height, decorated with elaborate scroll-work and representations of serpents and various fanciful animals — evidently borrowed from Northern mythology — which are graven on the surface. Most of them are also inscribed with Runic letters; and it is to be supposed from the amount of labor which must have been spent upon them that they were built only to the memory of Norsemen of high degree.

There are seven of these curious stones at Kirk Braddan, and one of them is described by a learned author as being the most thoroughly Scandinavian of all in the island. It is a rectangular pillar cross decorated on three sides with serpents and knot-work. The



Kirk Braddan

fourth side bears the inscription, "THUR-LABR-NEAKI-RISTI-KRUS-THANA-AFT-FIAK-SUN-SIN-BRUTHUR-SUN-EABRS," which, interpreted, means "Thorlaf Neaki erected this cross to Fiack his son, the nephew (brother's son) of Jabr." A fragment of another cross, ornamented in the same fashion, stands close by. Upon one of its sides the dragon and serpent device is engraved, and on the other there is a beautiful design of knot-work in panels. The edge is inscribed with Runic characters to the effect that "Ottar erected this cross to his father, Fraka, but Thornborn, the son." A third stone, less ornate than the others, and in a poorer state of preservation, is inscribed, "Thorstein erected this cross to Ofeig Klinaison."

When we consider how old these monuments are, the centuries they have carried their stories of paternal and filial love between fathers and sons, I think we will admit them a little nearer to our sympathies than ashy antiquities are wont to come. It is only of late years that any care has been bestowed upon them. One of them long occupied the place of a door-step at the entrance of the church. Another was used as the stepping-stone of a stile. Yet they survived this vandal desecration, as they survived the storms and changes of seven hundred years. The waves of time have scarcely worn a knot out of the intricate tracery of their panels, and the warm hearts of the rugged old Norsemen, so long ago extinct, are vindicated in the simple Runic letters.

The church is dedicated to St. Brandon (Brandinus, or Brandanus), an abbot and confessor, who died in the Isle of Man in the eleventh century. He was created a bishop in 1025, and was also much honored in the Hebrides. The present edifice is only a year older than the Declaration of Independence, but the site has been occupied by a church since 1291, in which year thirty-six canons were enacted by a synod there assembled.

To be continued

SUMMERLAND LEISURE COMPLEX OPENS IN DOUGLAS

The Isle of Man Courier of July 16th, 1971, issued a special advertisement supplement for the opening of Summerland and gives the following account of the project:

The world's largest indoor entertainment centre — the Summerland leisure complex — is so vast an undertaking that one visit is not enough to take in all the attractions contained under one roof.

The entire Derby Castle development, with its fine Aquadrome, is a magnificent project and Douglas Corporation is to be congratulated for their foresight in providing for the future needs of the Manx tourist industry.

Summerland, which opened this past July, provides all-round, all-weather entertainment for all members of the family.

Twenty professional entertainers are busy from the time the centre opens at 10.30 a.m. until 8.30 p.m. Entertainment continues much later in the Marquee Showbar and the Discotheque.

Man in charge of the operation is Mr. Bernard Beetles, formerly 18 years with the Rank organisation.

He believes that as well as providing constant entertainment for summer tourists, the centre should also be utilized as a show place for local talent, summer and winter.

Summerland has been designed on six levels, all kept at a temperature of 80-85 degrees.

Starting on the lower ground floor is the Discotheque and bar.

A low ceiling of aluminium tiles; diffused lighting that beats in and out in time to the music; walls like television screens that continuously change in psychedelic patterns; plus music that almost beats you off the floor, turned out by disc jockeys John Hughes and Peter Walker.

The ground floor, with its natural cliff face and waterfall, pools and tropical plants, has a children's centre and cartoon cinema, concert stage and plenty of deck chairs, a shop, cafeteria and bar.

Behind it is the funfair, with street lamps to add to the outdoor atmosphere.

Take the escalator up to the Carousel bar and terrace restaurant; the bingo

hall, the cliff walk; children's play area; shops; concert stage; and the golf course, out-of-doors on the terrace.

Above that again is another cliff walk, another bar, and then through double doors into the gracious Edwardian Marquee Showbar, where one can drink and watch the cabaret by the light of flickering brass wall lamps.

On the fifth floor is another dance area, a colour T.V. lounge, a snack bar, and the Sundrome and sauna baths.

The Sundrome, carpeted both floor and walls in rich purple, provides artificial sunlight all the year round. Visitors are limited for their own safety to 20 minutes a session.

The floor space of the new Summerland entertainment centre covers an area of three and a half acres; 40,000 square feet of luxurious carpeting has been laid down at a cost of £21,000; electrical equipment to the value of £60,000 has been installed. The roof covers an area of 27,000 square feet and has been built to withstand gusts of wind up to 120 m.p.h.

OBITUARIES

CHRISTIAN, Annie of 3511 East 25th Avenue, Vancouver, died on August 29th, 1971. She is survived by her loving husband, Charlie; 2 daughters, Mrs. Marie Dobson and Mrs. Helen Bright, both of Vancouver; 4 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. Also dear friend and sister-in-law Mrs. Mollie Lindholm. Mrs. Christian was a member of the Vancouver Manx Society.

COSTAIN, Maggie K. of East Helena, Montana, died May 31, 1971, aged 83. Mrs. Costain was born May 24, 1888, in Ramsey, Isle of Man, to Moses and Margaret (Skelly) Kinvig. At the age of 14 she came with her parents to the U.S.A. and settled in East Helena, Montana, where she completed High School and was then employed at a general merchandise store. On February 28, 1917, she married Robert F. Costain who is also from the I.O.M. (Colby). She was a member of the East Helena United Methodist Church and a very faithful worker in the Sunday School and other activities of the church. A member of the Rebekkah Lodge, Ladies Auxilliary of the Patriarch Militant Lodge and past president of the Woman's Club. She was also interested in the Manx Conventions and with her husband attended conventions in Canada, U.S.A. and the Isle of Man. She is survived by her husband and two cousins in Montana.

A PRAYER FOR THE MIDDLE/AGED

Lord, Thou knowest better than I know myself that I am growing older and will some day be old.

Keep me from the fatal habit of thinking I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from the craving to straighten out everybody's affairs. Make me thoughtful but not moody; helpful but not bossy.

With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all, but Thou knowest Lord, that I want a few friends at the end.

Keep my mind free from the recital of endless details; give me wings to get to the point. Seal my lips on my aches and pains. They are increasing and love of rehearsing them is becoming sweeter as

CUBBON, Harold J., 53, the only son of James and Ada (Moore) Cubbon of Galva passed away July 25 after suffering a stroke at his home July 13. Harold has served as assistant to the City Collector of Galva for the past six years. Survivors include his wife, Rose whom he married in 1947, his mother Ada, one son, John, and one grand-daughter, Vickie. His father preceded him in death in 1952. Burial was in Galva cemetery. Harold will be missed by the Galva Manx Society.

KILLIP, Winefred, of San Clemente, California, passed away July 31st, 1971, after a long illness. Winefred was born in Douglas, Isle of Man, the only daughter of Charlotte and Alfred Robinson. At the age of 15 she was the sweetheart of Edwin Killip who emigrated to the United States in 1911 and in 1914 she joined him here. They married in Miami, Arizona, on June 20th, 1914, and had 57 happy years together. She is survived by her husband Edwin; daughter Peggie De Camp and son-in-law Bill; one grandson; two great-grandsons, and a brother, Jack, in the Isle of Man. Winnie was a past president and a loyal member of the Los Angeles Manx Society and will be sadly missed by all her old friends.

PRENDERGAST, William R. of Chicago, died April 19th, 1971. He was the beloved husband of Florence Kneale Prendergast and father of John W. and Brad. E. Mrs. Prendergast and her father are members of the Chicago Manx Society.

the years go by, I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others' pains but help me to endure them with patience.

I dare not ask for improved memory, but for a growing humility and less cocksureness when my memory seems to clash with the memories of others. Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet; I do not want to be a Saint — but a sour old person is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places and talents in unexpected people. Give me the grace to tell them so.

Amen. - Anon -

Submitted by
HILDA PENRICE
Georgetown, Ontario

QUARK, Emma Charlotte, of Vantage, Saskatchewan, died August 8, 1970. Born in Ramsey, Isle of Man, in 1876 she was the daughter of John and Charlotte Clarke. Her father was Harbour Master of Ramsey for many years. In 1899 she married Daniel Frederick Quark of Bride, I.O.M., and they emigrated to Canada in 1911, moving in 1914 to Vantage where they have resided ever since. Mrs. Quark was a life-time member of the United Church Women and was choir leader for many years in the Vantage United Church. On April 4th, 1970, Mr. and Mrs. Quark celebrated their 71st wedding anniversary. She is survived by her husband; two daughters Mrs. R.N. Campbell (Lilian) of Moose Jaw; and Mrs. W. Silverthorn (Ruby) of Stow, Ohio, U.S.A.; also three sons: Eric at Vantage, and Percy and Ramsey, both of Moose Jaw; 20 grandchildren; 17 great grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

REID, Ida of San Francisco, Calif., died on September 7th, 1971. She was a member of the San Francisco Manx Society and the wife of Cummy Reid who was one of the entertainers at the 1955 Convention in San Francisco.

WARD, Mary Caine of Gardena California, passed away on June 8th, 1971, aged 84. She was the youngest child of William and Mary Ann (Coole) Caine born in Cornell, Illinois. She was educated at Illinois Wesleyan University and was head of the Inglewood High School Library for a number of years. She was predeceased by her husband Oscar Ward. Burial was in Inglewood Cemetery. She was an active member of the Los Angeles Manx Society as long as she was able to attend their meetings and was a past officer of the Society. She is survived by six nieces.

WHALEY, Mrs. Esther, 79, youngest daughter of Thomas and Catherine Radcliffe Taggart, Malew, Isle of Man, passed away June 27 after a long period of failing health. She was a resident of the Galva-Altona area since coming to America in 1913. Survivors include two sons: Floyd Irwin and Stewart G. and a sister, Mrs. Jennie Fargher, and two grandchildren, all of Galva. She was predeceased by her husband, Glen, and six sisters and one brother. She was a staunch member of the Galva Manx Society as long as her health permitted. Interment was in Galva Cemetery.

To relatives and friends of the above we extend heart felt sympathy.