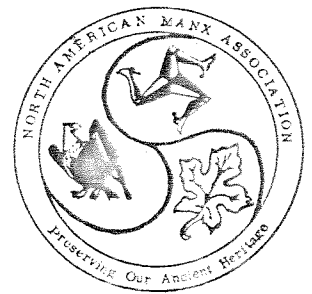


BULLETIN of the North American Manx Association



VOL. 47 NO.2

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

DEC. 1973



Ollick Ghennal As Blien Vie Noa

A PRAYER

MAY IT BE THY WILL; OUR GOD AND GOD OF OUR FATHERS,
THAT THIS COMING YEAR BE UNTO ALL THY PEOPLE:
A YEAR OF PLENTY,
A YEAR OF BLESSINGS,
A YEAR OF ASSEMBLY IN THY SANCTUARY,
A YEAR OF HAPPY LIFE FROM THEE,
A YEAR OF DEW AND RAIN AND WARMTH,
A YEAR IN WHICH THOU WILT BLESS OUR BREAD AND WATER,
A YEAR IN WHICH THY MERCIES WILL BE MOVED TOWARD US,
A YEAR OF PEACE AND TRANQUILITY IN WHICH THOU
WILT SET A BLESSING UPON THE WORK OF OUR HANDS.

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE

-from-

Stan Shimmin
Past President

Robert Kelly
President

Rev. James C. Caley
1st Vice President and Chaplain

Hilda Penrice
Bulletin Editor

Margaret M. Joughin
2nd Vice President

Edna Cowin
3rd Vice President

Elizabeth Clucas
Secretary

Clarence Creer
Treasurer

Richard Corkill
Hon. President

Harold Cain C.P.

Charles Craine

Fred Caveen

Hon. Vice Presidents

1974 CONVENTION WASHINGTON, D.C.

Your executive have held a very successful meeting to plan the 1974 Convention in Washington, D.C., USA, the following are the dates, time and place: -

STOUFFER'S NATIONAL CENTER
INN, 2399 South Jefferson Davis High-
way, ARLINGTON, VA.

REGISTRATION COMMENCES:

SUNDAY AUGUST 18th, 1974

CONVENTION CLOSES:

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 21st 1974

A fuller account of the programme will be given by the Convention Chairman, Mr. Ed Sayle, you will also be hearing from the Co-Chairmen for the Prize Distribution, Clarence Creer, Norman and Helen Clucas, also from the Souvenir Booklet Chairman, Sam Penrice.

This Convention has been planned for YOU. Plan your 1974 vacation NOW! You will renew friendships with those we would not otherwise meet, it will give you an opportunity to meet new friends with common interests.

The first mailing with full information will reach you ALL early in 1974 we need YOU, your PRESENCE and SUPPORT to make this CONVENTION the success I am confident it will be.

Tell your RELATIVES and FRIENDS especially those from the ISLE OF MAN about our 1974 NAMA CONVENTION.

THE TIME -- AUGUST 18, 19, 20, and 21st, 1974.

THE PLACE -- STOUFFER'S NATIONAL CENTER INN, ARLINGTON, VA.

Robert Kelly,
President NAMA

LOOK UP AND SEE THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Lights and candles have always been associated with Christmas Day. They were used both on the tree and lighted in the windows of the houses.

This is in keeping with the celebration of Christ's birthday; "Christmas" means "mass of Christ", the word derives from the church celebration of the day, which formed a very important part of the holiday observance in early medieval days.

It is not the actual birthday of Christ we observe, for the date is lost in legend. There was no celebration for over 200 years after His death!

The Romans had a great feast in honor of Saturn, the Sun god. This Saturnalia was held in December at the turn of the winter solstice. The northern races celebrated the Yuletide (heathen winter feast) at the same time, decorating trees with lights. These lighted trees were called sun trees.

About 400 A.D. the Pope Julius I, fixed December 25 as the date on which Christmas was to be observed and ordered masses to be held to replace the pagan rites.

The Middle Ages were a period of light in many ways. There was light for the higher spirit of man, reflected in the resurgence of creative arts. And the rites of Christmas were at a zenith. Carols and hymns were written and sung by the monks. So hauntingly beautiful, so timeless, these hymns are still very much part of the beauty of the Season in our own time.

Originally designed to honor the Christ, the vestments and accoutrements of the Church ceremonies were splendid indeed.

1st American Christmas Card Printed In Albany

In America, credit for the first Christmas card goes to an obscure Albany, N.Y., engraver named R.H. Pease, the promotionally-minded proprietor of Pease's Great Variety Store.

The card isn't dated, but most experts think it was done in the 1850's. They note an impish Santa Claus and his reindeer at the top of the card; since the famed cartoonist Thomas Nast is known to have been the first to come up with that idea about 1850, the date seems fairly certain.

The first American cards published in any quantity came from the Roxbury, Mass., shop of Louis Prang, a German political refugee who went into the printing business.

The result of all this is that the average American family mailed some 110 cards this Christmas and the Post Office Department collected over \$200 million in stamps, according to spokesmen for a greeting cards trade group.

A SPECIAL NOTE TO ALL THE LADIES:

As plans for our 1974 Convention move forward, we should all be thinking of how we can "lend a hand". Any fund-raising you might do, on behalf of the Ladies Auxiliary, whether you have a Society in your vicinity or not, will be greatly appreciated.

WE'RE COUNTING ON YOU TO HELP MAKE THIS THE "BEST CONVENTION EVER"

President of Ladies Aux.
Mrs. Helen Clucas
Itasca, Ill. 60143

The officers and members of the Ladies Aux. send Greetings and all good wishes for a Very Happy Christmas and a New Year full of happiness to all Manx friends everywhere.

Helen Clucas, President
Elinor Cain, Sec.-Treas.



MANX FARE

The recipe given below is an economical cake which is very good for cutting if kept for a few days and is a welcome supplement to Christmas cake.

BUN LOAF OR SPICE CAKE

1 lb Flour
½ lb Lard
½ lb Brown Sugar
½ lb Currants
½ lb Sultanas
4 ozs Mixed Peel
½ lb Raisins
1 teaspoonful Mixed Spice
1 teaspoonful Bi-carbonate of Soda
2 cups Milk
2 tbsp. Black Treacle (Molasses)

Method. Sieve dry ingredients, rub in fat, add fruit, mix treacle with milk and mix to a soft consistency. Turn into a greased tin and bake in a moderate oven — approx. 350° — for 2½ to 3 hours. A little more spice can be added if liked.

For those who use the American method of measuring by cups the table of measurements which follow may be useful.

1 lb granulated sugar equals 2 cups
1 lb brown sugar equals 2½ cups
1 lb butter or lard equals 2 cups
1 lb flour equals 4 cups
1 lb currants equals 2-3 cups
1 lb raisins equals 3 cups



Mr. Edward Sayle has made arrangements for the NAMA to be listed in the next issue of "The Encyclopedia of Associations" published by the Gale Research Company, Detroit, Michigan which is found in most libraries.

Copy of Writeup. This will be listed in "The Encyclopedia of Associations".

NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION (NAMA)

6858 N. Osceola Ave.
Chicago, Ill. 60631
Robert Keely, Pres.

Founded 1928 — Members 600 — Societies 13. Societies of individuals with proven Manx birth, marriage or descent and Manx men and women and their descendants who do not live in area served by independent Manx Societies. Formed by independent Manx ethnic Self-help and relief associations founded in the United States and Canada throughout the nineteenth century by immigrants from the Isle of Man. Purposes include mutual benefit and social welfare of the Manx people and their descendants, establishing a close union of all Manx people and those of Manx origins in North America and to stimulate ties with the Isle of Man through the I.O.M. based World Manx Association. Publications: (1) Bulletin quarterly; (2) Convention Yearbook biennial; (3) Factsheets, irregular. Affiliated with: World Manx Association Convention/Meeting; Biennial — next 1974.

WATERLOO RD., METHODIST CHURCH, RAMSEY, ISLE OF MAN.

An appeal has been received for the reorganising and modernising of the Waterloo Road, Methodist Church, Ramsey, Isle of Man, the scheme will cost £52,000 of which the society has to find £7,000 to £8,000. To those of our members who have the interest of the Isle of Man in general and particularly to the Waterloo Rd., Methodist Church, to those who were brought up in Ramsey and were associated with this Church your help and donations would be greatly appreciated. Any amount however large or small would be gratefully received. Please send your contributions to either the Secretary-Mr. J. Harold Cannan, Cronk-ny-Greiney, Beaumont Road, Ramsey, I.O.M. or the Treasurer-Mr. J.F. Corkhill, Walpole Drive, Ramsey, I.O.M.

SUMMERLAND DISASTER FUND TOPS £70,000

It is announced that the Summerland Disaster Fund, opened by the Governor, Sir Peter Stallard, immediately after the terrible blaze, has now reached £70,639.

News and Christmas Greetings from the Manx Societies

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE WORLD MANX ASSOCIATION

TO MANX PEOPLE THROUGHOUT
THE WORLD:

"Memory spans the distance with
thoughts of you. Healthy and Happy may
your Christmas be.

Your New Year blessed with prosperity"

President Harold S. Cain, C.P.
Hon. Secretary Doris M. Clague
Hon. Treasurer Wilfred P. Waid, F.C.A.

MONTREAL MANX SOCIETY

Not too much news from the Montreal Manx at this time. Mr. Douglas Corlett and his wife Jean, spent a most enjoyable vacation in England and on the Isle of Man, they met Miss Doris Clague of the W.M.A. and Syd Boulton of the "Examiner", the weather was pleasant and Doug says that the Island is as beautiful as he had always been led to believe, they visited in Ramsey with cousins.

The Montreal Manx express Best Wishes for the coming Christmas Season and New Year to Manx Folk everywhere.

SAN FRANCISCO

The October meeting of the San Francisco Manx Society was held at the Red Chimney, Stonestown, several members attended and enjoyed a delightful luncheon. No meeting was scheduled for the month of November, but tentative plans were made for a Christmas get-together and luncheon this will be followed by a social evening at the home of Miss Evelyn Corlett.

To all of our friends in the NAMA we wish a very Happy and Blessed Christmas and a most enjoyable New Year.

(Mrs.) Hilda I. Corlett
7605 Winona Lane,
Sebastopol, CA 95472

May this be your Merriest Christmas and we hope that the New Year will bring to all good friends Good Health and Happiness.

The Rochester Manx may be few in number, but our good wishes are without end.

Rochester Manx Folk

TORONTO MANX SOCIETY

On Saturday, September 15, we held our first meeting of the season. It was well attended and proved to be a most enjoyable evening. Following the business session a surprise presentation was made by our President, Mr. Will Lahmers, to Mrs. Dot Hall, in recognition of all the work she has done on behalf of the society as secretary over the past several years. Dot has relinquished her position due to the pressures of other commitments. We are all appreciative of Dot's efforts and are pleased she is continuing in office as treasurer.

We were saddened to learn of the untimely passing of Mr. Percy Clucas. Mr. Clucas was a prominent tenor soloist and had entertained us on many occasions over the years. He will be sadly missed and we know his many friends in the NAMA will join with us in extending our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Clucas and the family.

Our November meeting will be held at the home of Alice and Peter Foster of Oakville and we are looking forward to an evening of good fellowship.

As this news will be printed in the December Bulletin it is time for Christmas wishes. We, the officers and members of the Toronto Manx Society wish all our Manx friends everywhere a very Merry Christmas and a New Year blessed with good health and happiness!

Marion E. McLaren
106 Hiltz Avenue
Toronto, Ontario

CHICAGO MANX SOCIETY

There have been no meetings of the Chicago Manx of late, but plans are being discussed for a get-together in the near future.

Mrs. Emily Kelly, who was the very faithful Secretary-Treasurer and reporter for the Chicago Manx Society is now residing in the Northbrook Nursing Home, Northbrook, Illinois. If anyone wishes to send her greetings it would be best to send them in care of her son Robert Kelly, 6858 North Osceola Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60631.

SMILE

The difference between "She's good looking" and "She's looking good" is about 20 years and 40 pounds.

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF NAMA

As the Holiday Season once again approaches with the world in turmoil, our thoughts are reminded of the age-old message as stated in the Bible of "Peace on Earth, Goodwill to Men." I earnestly wish all of you the very merriest Christmas and all of the best for the New Year. I trust that in this New Year all of us may have the desire to Preserve Whatever is left of ancient heritage and with your sustained membership, support and interest the NAMA can go forward to an even better tomorrow. We hope to see many of you in 1974 at the Convention in Arlington, Virginia.

May the Prince of Peace abide with you this Christmas and throughout the New Year.

Sincerely,
Robert Kelly

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

The Officers and Members of The Southern California Manx Society send greetings and good wishes to all Manx friends everywhere, for a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Malcolm Kinley President
T. Donald Bain Vice-President
Ellen Bain Secretary-Treasurer

VANCOUVER MANX SOCIETY

The Vancouver Manx Society haven't too much news at this time, they were delighted to receive a call from Mrs. Nancy Rooney, formerly a member of the Montreal Manx, the Rooney family have recently moved to Richmond B.C., they will be welcomed into the Vancouver Manx Society. The members were saddened to learn of the death of Mr. John T. Kneale, of 6168 Bruce St., Horseshoe Bay, West Vancouver, he was a long time member of the Vancouver Manx and the NAMA. Sympathy goes out to Mrs. Kneale and her family at this time.

The Vancouver Manx Society sends Greetings to all their friends for peace and Joy at Christmas and in 1974.

Fenella Deal (nee Jopson)
1659 West 60th Ave.,
Vancouver 14, B.C.

BISBEE ARIZONA

The September meeting of the Society was held at the home of Helen McKay 17 adults and one child attended, original games were played with lovely and original prizes of canned fruit, jams and novelty items which were made by the Hostess. The October meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Gertrude Quill, with Mrs. Maud Franks as Hostess, a splendid turnout of 19 members and one child Jamie Quill. An evening of Bingo was enjoyed with the welcome cup of tea and good food, plans were made to hold the November meeting on November 12th at the home of James and Ann Quill, this will be in the form of a White Elephant Auction to raise money to provide the yearly Thanksgiving basket for a needy family, baskets are given out at Thanksgiving and Christmas plus \$5.00 to the Salvation Army, this Society tho only a small group are to be commended for their help to charity, it might be an idea for other Societies to follow.

Mrs. Eva Cunningham has been very ill having undergone surgery, she returns to hospital early in the New Year, another member who has been absent from meetings through illness is Mrs. Oliver Hall, we wish them well. Mrs. Wilna Wood recently attended General Grand Chapter of O.E.S. in Denver Colorado. Much sympathy will go out to the Corrin family in the death of their cousin Percy Clucas of Toronto. "Our heart's door opens wide to you And love keeps house within. So on this Happy Christmas day Come in dear friends come in".

We are all so blessed with material things that sometimes we fail to think of those in need and lose the real meaning of Christmas, we hope that all will have a grand and Wonderful Christmas Season.

Ivy Dillon, Secretary,
207 Hazzard Street,
Bisbee, Arizona 85603.

CLEVELAND

Our good wishes and greetings go out to all you Manx folk everywhere from the officers and members of the Cleveland Manx Society. May your holidays be happy ones!

At this writing, we cannot tell you who will serve as officers in the coming year for election took place at the November meeting. This information will be included in a future edition of the Bulletin. We can tell you that an "Old Fashioned Manx Coolish" followed the meeting and refreshments were served.

On December 14th, another annual Christmas dinner party was scheduled to be held at the Cove Church in Lakewood, Ohio—a western suburb of Cleveland.

Our members enjoy these dinners very much for the committee always manages to come up with an evening that "sets the scene" for a true Christmas feeling.

Marge Krach, Publicity
319 Ridgeview Drive
Seven Hills
Cleveland, Ohio 44131



Around this time of season comes
Enchantment in the air,
Hard to define it, but one feels
It's presence everywhere.

Oh, that this charm could make its home
Within our hearts always
To give the World that kindly touch
We feel on Christmas Day.

Alice Garrett
Regional Director



NAMA EXECUTIVE MEETING

An executive meeting was held on Saturday, November 3rd, 1973 at the Sheraton Inn, Rocky River, Ohio. Those present were Bob Kelly, Pres: NAMA, and his wife Jean, Chicago; Elizabeth Clucas, Sec: Cleveland; Edna Cowin, 3rd vice Pres., Ohio; Alice Garrett, Rep Ladies Aux: to NAMA, Rochester, NY; Ed Sayle, Convention Chairman, Arlington, Va; Clarence Creer, Fin; Treas: Illinois; Dick Corkill, Hon. Pres: Detroit; Fred Caveen, Hon. Vice-Pres: Toronto; Rev. James C. Caley, 1st Vice-Pres: California; Margaret Joughin, 2nd Vice-Pres: Montreal; Stan Shimmim, IPP; Toronto; Hilda Penrice, Bulletin Editor; Georgetown, Ont; Sam Penrice, PP; Georgetown, Ont; Elinor Cain, Sec; Treas: Ladies Aux: to NAMA. Absent were Norman Clucas, P.P. and Helen Clucas, Pres: Ladies Aux: to NAMA. While not a member of the executive Mona Haldeman was also present being appointed Chairman of Time and Place Committee at the 1972 Convention.

Many items of business were discussed, but the most important was the initial planning for the 1974 Convention.

The executive of the NAMA would like to express their sincere thanks to all the members and friends of the Cleveland Manx for the kindness and hospitality shown to them whilst in Rocky River, Ohio. For the friends who provided the transportation to and from the Airport especially, their help was greatly appreciated. Thank you all so much.



OUR OWN PEOPLE

There are many talented members in the Cleveland Manx Society, but none more than Mrs. Minnie Nichols who was born in Onchan 91 years ago. Her sparkling eyes and Manx complexion belies her age and her handiwork is magnificent. She dresses dolls in beautiful crochet dresses in lovely pastel colors and the undergarments are sewed by hand each stitch perfectly sewed. Even the hats and handbags are crocheted. They are exquisite. I told her I would like one for the Salvation Army in Douglas, IOM for their Sale of Work; Mrs. Nicholls gave me six which I sent to Miss Ada Moore who was very happy to receive them.

Mrs. Nicholls loves the Island and hearing from there is a great joy to her. Her sister, Miss Ada Callow, lives in Southlands, Port Erin. And her great grand niece, Miss Jean Davies, lives in Onchan. She lived alone until a few years ago tending her garden and plants but now lives with her son and his wife. She is a very active member of the Cleveland Manx and very rarely misses a meeting. Her daughter-in-law May is a past Vice President and for many years has worked hard for the Cleveland group.

JOE CHRISTIAN "HOME"
AFTER FIFTY YEARS

Guests at the Marina Hotel, a Douglas favorite for homecomers, last September were enthralled with tales of life on the Isle of Man over fifty years ago, as NAMA member Joseph P. Christian of Yachats, Oregon, celebrated his first "homecoming" in fifty years.

Joe, as he likes to be called, was born in Peel over eighty years ago, though his spryness denies his years. His family was in the fishing business and for a time, published one of Peel's early newspapers. When Joe was fifteen he emigrated to Ohio, the hub of American Manxland and achieved success in the printing industry prior to his retirement and settling in Oregon. He recalls returning to the IOM in 1923, his first "homecoming" and the many changes he noted during his visit fifty years later. "For one thing, the distance between Peel and Douglas doesn't seem as great as it was when I was a lad," he mused. And, it came as a bit of a surprise to Joe during a visit to Peel to see his birthplace, to be recognized and greeted by some of his old school chums, who quickly filled him in on events and personalities of the half century he had been away. Mrs. Christian, who had accompanied him, busied herself at the Manx Museum, exploring old family records and learning more of her husband's forebears. As we said earlier, Joe is most spry for his years and after three hectic weeks on the Isle of Man is already contemplating his next insular visit, the warmer climes of Hawaii.

KNOW YOUR ANCESTOR

by Mrs. Robert S. Cowin.

1223 West Melrose Dr., Westlake, Ohio
44145

A good genealogist has an innate pride in family and country and recognizes his duty to search out and record the truth. He becomes, first of all, a full-time detective, a thorough historian, an inveterate snoop and at the same time, a confirmed diplomat, a keen observer, a hardened skeptic, an apt biographer, a qualified linguist, a part-time lawyer combined with a studious sociologist and — above all, an accurate reporter.

People who are interested in genealogy fall largely into two distinct groups — those interested in joining heredity societies where membership is based upon the achievements of their ancestors and others who, in appreciation of what their ancestors have accomplished, are inspired and dedicated to make their own contribution to the preservation of family history.

A few **DO'S** and **DON'TS** in genealogy:

DO contact all members of your family and ask them for information

DON'T delay until they are gone.

DO write down everything as it is told to you, always making sure that dates and places are included.

DON'T trust your memory and do not use scraps of paper. Keep a note book for this purpose.

DO make a chart of your ancestors.

DO keep a record of the references you find to each family.

DO read over your bibliography frequently. What made no sense to you at the last reading, may, in the light of new discoveries, give you the clue you seek.

DO keep searching, even though you sometimes find nothing.

DON'T get discouraged and give up after a few set-backs. Try a new angle of approach.

DO learn to search and use public records available. We are fortunate to have access to such good Manx records.

DO write your family history.

DON'T wait until you have successfully traced every line, for that time may never come and your work will be lost.

President Robert Kelly recently received a letter from the Wisconsin State Historical Society requesting additional information about the Manx settling in the Mineral Point, Wisconsin area to work the lead mines. Any information our readers have should be forwarded to Robert Kelly, 6858 N. Osceola Ave., Chicago, Ill., 60691, for consolidation and copying before being forwarded in order that the NAMA may have a record for it's historical files.

REFLECTIONS

And numerous indeed are the hearts to which Christmas brings a brief season of happiness and enjoyment.

How many families whose members have been dispersed and scattered far and wide, in the restless struggles of life, are then reunited and meet once again in the happy state of companionship and mutual goodwill, which is a source of such pure and unalloyed delight, and one so incompatible with the cares and sorrows of the world, that the religious belief of the most civilized nations and the rude traditions of the roughest savages, alike number it among the first joys of a future state of existence, provided for the blest and happy! How many old recollections, and how many dormant sympathies, does Christmas time awaken!

We write these words now, many miles distant from the spot at which, year after year, we met on that day, a merry and joyous circle. Many of the hearts that throbbed so gaily then, have ceased to beat; many of the looks that shone so brightly then, have ceased to glow; the hands we grasped, have grown cold; the eyes we sought, have hid their lustre in the grave; and yet the old house, the room, the merry voices and smiling faces, the jest, the laugh, the most minute and trivial circumstance connected with those happy meetings, crowd upon our mind at each recurrence of the season, as if the last assemblage had been but yesterday. Happy, happy Christmas, that can win us back to the delusions of our childish days, that can recall to the old man the pleasures of his youth and transport the sailor and the traveller, thousands of miles away, back to his own fireside and his quiet home!



COME HOME

*Come home to the Isle of Man —
Where the air is fresh and clear,
Where time stands still and memories stir
of the things we hold so dear.*

*The blue of the sky and water
the peace of the walks and glens,
The gold of the gorse, the soft Manx voice —
"Come Home — come home again."*

*Take back with you the warmest thoughts
of the sunsets and the rock bound shore,
your childhood dreams, the sunny sands
and the music of the waves deep roar.*

*As the years go by, you'll return again
in your waking thoughts and dreams —
"Lilan Vannin" with your green hills,
valleys and mountains reflected in
bright shining streams*

Original Poem By H. P.

CHATTING by HEP.

AUTUMN — What a lovely, sad word, it conjures up the end of the sweet smell of summer, the lightness of the butterflies, the crickets, frogs and grasshoppers, the song of the birds, which apart from those which stay with us all winter will be gone soon, not to return until Spring. **AUTUMN** — is a time of preparing, to prepare for the rigours of the coming winter, now is the time to close up the summer cottage, cut off the water, lay the boat in storage, empty the cupboards of food which might spoil with a sudden cold spell, Autumn is a time for reflection and a time for taking stock of oneself. Without a doubt living in Canada, as I do, I think the Autumn with the magnificent colours of the Maple trees, is the best season of the whole year.

As I grew up on the Isle of Man, the Autumn to me was a sad time, as a tourist resort the summer months would be alive with excitement, visitors, entertainment etc., kippers, herring, ice cream, tennis, Sunday school picnics, spending the days lazily on the beach, around the harbour and the old open air swimming "baths", then suddenly school re-opened, the visitors returned to their homes, a walk along the Prom was a sad dismal journey, the coloured electric lights would be flashing bravely, but not a soul around to enjoy them.

AUTUMN — a lovely, sad word, but so much nicer than the word Fall. The only other nice thing about Autumn was the thought that Christmas was just around the corner, Christmas with it's joys and expectations, friends, family, cosy fires burning in the grate, presents and good food.

FOR EVERY THING THERE IS A SEASON AND A TIME FOR EVERY PURPOSE UNDER HEAVEN.

(Ecclesiastes 3:1.)



What is a grandmother? A grandmother is someone who will make a fuss over you when everyone else is making a fuss over your new baby brother. Someone who will take you on her lap and hug and kiss you until you can hardly breathe.

Someone who brings you colouring books and asks you if she can hang up your best picture so her friends can see it. Someone to run to and be cuddled by after you've been spanked by your mother.

Someone who bakes neat cookies but she can't give anybody a recipe because she never measures anything.

Someone who looks very old but seems very young because her ideas are sharp and she is up on everything.

Someone I'd like to be like in about 100 years because she's a super lady.

MEET YOUR OFFICERS

Treasurer
Clarence Creer

Clarence has been the NAMA Treasurer for five years. His wife Mona helps to process the hundreds of memberships received each year and for this he is most appreciative. They have two daughters, Diana 19 and Judy 13. Mona and Judy were on the Isle of Man for Tynwald Day in 1972 and enjoyed the ceremony. Clarence had the good fortune of meeting Tom Matthewman, of Douglas, I.O.M., at the Niagara Falls Convention. Tom had helped Clarence tour the I.O.M. in World War II days. Orland Park is Clarence's home and he has been employed at the Argonne National Laboratory for the past 25 years. James Creer, father of Clarence was born at Union Mills, Isle of Man. Mona's mother Elsie (Joughin) Broadbent was born in Ramsey, I.O.M. While Mona lived in Oshawa, Ontario, she was a member of the Toronto Manx Society, they are both now members of the Chicago Manx. To complete the Manx atmosphere in their home they also have a Manx cat which answers to the name of Gilroy which came from the Glen Orry Cattery.



Secretary
Miss Elizabeth Clucas

Miss Elizabeth Clucas, our Secretary, was born in Peel, Isle of Man and received her education there.

She is the daughter of Mrs. Lily Clucas and the late Mr. Evan Clucas; the sister of Mrs. Helen Moore and the niece of the late Mr. Joe Clucas, a noted Cleveland Manx soloist.

She was employed as a medical secretary at Noble's Hospital for over twelve years before emigrating to Cleveland, Ohio, in 1968. She is currently employed as secretary to Dr. Howard Fagan, a prominent Cleveland doctor.

She likes to travel and has managed to arrange her holidays to enable her to visit her Island and family every year.

Elizabeth is an active willing worker in the Cleveland Manx Society. She is gifted with a lovely soprano voice and is a member of the Windermere Methodist Church Choir. She enjoys sports, knitting, reading and is very fond of animals.



Bulletin Editor
Mrs. Sam Penrice

Hilda was born in Ramsey, Isle of Man, the second daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Bridson. Hilda was educated in Ramsey and for several years worked for the late Mr. Alf. Edmondson, hairdresser on the Market Place, Ramsey. In 1939 she was married to Sam Penrice, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Sam Penrice, who at that time operated the Sulby Woollen Mills. Sam served with the Royal Air Force during the war years, on his return they decided to immigrate to Canada, this they did in 1947 settling in Moncton, N.B., together with their two children, a daughter Jean and a son John. In 1950 they moved to Georgetown, Ontario, where they still live, another son Douglas was born in 1951. It was a sad loss when their son John died in 1955 at the age of 8 years old.

Hilda takes a great interest in all things Manx and the Isle of Man, she has a vivid memory of her growing up years on the Isle of Man, this stands her in good stead as Bulletin Editor. In 1968 she was elected Secretary to the NAMA, her husband Sam was elected President at the same time at the 1968 Convention held at Huntington Beach California. She held this office during the 1970 Convention on the Isle of Man. In 1972 at the NAMA convention at Niagara Falls, Ontario, Hilda was elected Bulletin Editor, this office had been in the capable hands of Margaret Joughin for the previous ten years. Since taking over she has produced three issues of the Bulletin, she is most grateful to all her contributors for their news items and enjoys all the letters she receives from Manx Folk throughout the world. Hilda and Sam are members of the Toronto Manx Society, anyone Manx is always assured of a warm welcome at their home. Hilda is an officer of the Order of the Eastern Star, Ontario, a Past Regent of the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, and a member of the Hospital Women's Aux. Hilda and Sam are proud grandparents of three little granddaughters — Deborah and Denise Glass and Sandra Penrice.

OUR OWN PEOPLE

Mr. Harold Cain, C.P. President of the W.M.A., and Mrs. Cain will shortly be moving, their new address will be — Millholme, Mount Murray, Santon, Isle of Man.

On a recent visit to the Isle of Man, Mrs. Jas. Gawne, of Penticton, B.C. had the misfortune to lose her traveller's cheques, but through the kindness of Miss Doris Clague, Sec. W.M.A. who contacted the American Express Co. in Liverpool, she was able to redeem her losses. Mrs. Gawne enjoyed her visit nevertheless, especially the beauty of Groule Glen, a ride on the horse trams, and on the electric Railway to Snaefell.

Robert Kelly has received a questionnaire from the Program of Ethnic Studies School of Library Science, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, for the information about the NAMA to be published in the "Encyclopedia of Ethnic Organizations in the United States."

ITS MAGIC TOUCHES EVERYONE

Christmas . . . what memories it evokes. What joys it promises. In all of the recorded history of man, what other holiday compares with it?

It is the day long looked forward to by children — yes, even in this cynical age, in this year of 1973 when even young children are quite knowledgeable. However, the smart youngsters keep some of this sophistication to themselves at Christmastime. It is economically feasible to at least pretend at Christmastime. Even if we have "strayed like lost sheep" from the faith of our childhood, if we can recapture some of it, we would be the better for it.

Some of the magic will "wear off" on us. That is magic, itself. And who is to dispute the validity of it?

Those of us who live in climates where snow can be expected at Christmas are lucky, indeed.

But all of us can simulate this pretty holiday picture. When the fog rolls in from the sea in the early morning during the "rainy season" in California, for example, we can pretend we are once again "lost" in that wonderful blizzardy world when one can hardly see out the windows!

As Sir Walter Scott says . . . "Heap on more wood! the wind is chill — But let it whistle as it will. We'll keep our Merry Christmas still."

Some of us wish that the wind would be chill, and whistle, and give us red noses, so that we would be afraid, as children, it might fall off!

But we can keep Christmas in our hearts, and in our spirit, wherever we live.

OBITUARIES

CLUCAS, Percy, passed away October 10th, 1973 at Sunnybrook Hospital, Toronto. Mr. Clucas was the son of Thomas (Tossie) and Matilda Hall Clucas of Peel, Isle of Man. Percy came to Canada in 1929 at the age of 18 with his friend Bill Cubbon also of Peel. They were employed on farms in Sunderland, Ontario, a year later Percy and Bill attended their first NAMA Convention and decided to move to Toronto. This proved to be very difficult years during the depression and many times they were hungry, but being proud Manxmen they decided to stick it out. Percy was later employed by the car firm of O'Donnall and Mackie Ltd., and became Parts manager and after 25 years he received a gold watch. He was with this firm for 40 years. Through the years Percy was very active in Choirs and singing groups, he had a beautiful tenor voice, which he used to good advantage singing at Conventions and meetings of the Toronto Manx Society, of which he was a long time member. He also performed Old Country Music on Radio and was called the Manx Golden voiced tenor. Percy was active in the Masonic Order, he also loved to paint, mostly scenes from his beloved Isle of Man, he recently painted a picture of Peel Castle, which is to be presented to the Peel library, where his sister, Mrs. Myrtle Nicholson is Librarian. He is survived by his wife Doris, whom he married in 1936, one daughter — Mrs. Robert Syme, two sons Ronald and John and three grandchildren, a sister Mrs. Myrtle Nicholson, Peel, Isle of Man, two brothers Donald and Hayden and sister Gladys of Peel, I.O.M. predeceased him. Interment was in York Cemetery, Toronto, Canada.

COCK, Richard Alexander, Beloved husband of Veronica; dear father of Joan Margaret and Judith Anne; dear son of Rev. Alexander Cock; dear brother of Donald Marshall Cock. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. John M. Hill on November 9th 1973, interment was in Woodmere Cemetery, Detroit, Michigan. The late Mr. Cock's father, the Rev. Alexander Cock was formerly Chaplain to the NAMA.

We regret to record the deaths of:

Chas E. Gawne
315 Lynian Ave.
Oak Park, Ill. 60304

Mr. Joe Clucas
357 North 15th St.
Laramie, Wyoming 82070

KNEALE, John Thomas, passed away on September 8th, 1973, aged 83 years, he was a Veteran of World War I, and a long time member of the Vancouver Manx Society and the NAMA. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. John Robertson on September 12th, 1973. Cremation followed. Mr. Kneale is survived by his wife Helen; 3 sons- Charles, Houston, Texas; Douglas, Prince George; Harry, Richmond; 1 daughter: Mrs. J. (Irene) Birrell, Leduc, Alta; 12 grandchildren; 1 brother: William, Burnaby.

WOOD, Walter K. Passed away Thursday October 14th, 1973, at the age of 84, burial was in Knollwood Cemetery, Mayfield Heights, Ohio. He is survived by his wife Florence Kneen Wood. The late Mr. Wood was a member of the Cleveland Manx Society for many years.

To relatives and friends of the above we offer our deep and sincere sympathy.

THE ANIMALS IN THE STABLE TALK AS CATHEDRAL BELLS PEAL

Many years ago there existed a custom among the farm people on Christmas Eve to "light the animals to the stable."

The farmer would light two candles — one for himself and one for the shepherd boy assisting him. They held their flickering candles for a moment in the corners of the animals' stalls. Then each stood at one side of the doorway, while the animals were herded in. The candles were snuffed out and the animals were served double rations, for was it not their Christmas celebration too? They had shared their shelter with Him that first wonderful night.

One Christmas Eve the farmer's family readied themselves for Mass at the great Cathedral as was their custom.

In the stable the well-fed beasts drowsed contentedly. At midnight they were roused by the joyful pealing of the Cathedral bells. As if by signal, the animals stirred themselves.

Flying to a high perch in the stalls the rooster stretched its neck and crowed: "Christ is born!"

"When?" croaked the raven, flapping its wings.

"This night," cawed the rook.

"Where?" asked the ox.

"Bethlehem," bleated the sheep.

"Let us go!" brayed the donkey.

With a buzzing of wings the bees flew out of the stable in swarms, singing a dissonant carol as they went.

And so, while the human beings sang praises to the newborn King of Elms in the Cathedral, the animals in their own simple way performed their acts of reverence. Some knelt in devotion.

THE CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

As this message comes to you the Oie'll Voirreys is over and the carvals are sung and the sound of "hark the harrall" and "Hunt the Wren" has faded away for another year. I hope that you had a Merry and Blessed Christmas and now as the New Year dawns I come to you as your QUALTHAGH. Since I am a Celt and of dark complexion (well, I used to be before some snow appeared on my thatch) I know I will be welcome. As a child I used to extend my hand, palm upwards, as I went from door to door on New Year's Day, hoping to receive a "fairin'" as a reward for being first to cross the threshold. The magic formula was:

"Happy New Year,
Am I the first here?"

Now I come to you with hand extended hand-shake fashion, wishing you a Happy and Prosperous New Year in the Name of the Lord.

We pray that this New Year will have many good things in store. At the same time we must learn to accept and adjust to hardship and disaster and weariness. While we hope for the best we prepare for the worst. Last year brought us the end of the War in Vietnam but it brought the outbreak of war in the Middle East. It brought many blessings to our Island Home, but it brought also the dreadful tragedy of Summerland. As we reflect upon it we see that the evil is ever mixed with the good and while we consider human progress in transportation, communication, science, medicine, we remember that this has been the saddest of all centuries. In fact there has been more destruction of life and property in this century than in all preceding centuries put together. Next April we will be marking another anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic and we realize in retrospect that the Victorian Era, the Old World, the Status Quo went down on that fateful Sunday night. In June our minds will turn to Sarajevo where a trigger was pulled sixty years ago — a trigger which ignited the whole world and sent millions to their doom. In September we will be looking back thirty-five years to the beginning of World War II. Let us hope and pray that even in this New Year of grace the fruits of all our past sufferings and tribulations will begin to be evident and that we will experience at least a glimpse of that New Heaven and New Earth to which our Holy Book refers.

And the Angel said, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for thou hast found grace with God. And behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb and shalt bring forth a son; and thou shalt call His name Jesus. He shall be great and shall be called the Son of the Most High . . ."