

# BULLETIN *of the* North American Manx Association



VOL. 55 NO. 3

*"To preserve whatever is left us of ancient heritage"*

MARCH 1983

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Homecoming 1983! While July may seem a long way off, it is really around the corner. Many have already decided to attend the Homecoming and are making plans. While the deadline for reservations will be pasted by the time you receive this bulletin, it may still be possible to get accommodations, although perhaps not at the hotel of your choice, and it may still be possible to sign up for the Manx Holiday Passport. Why not contact Elizabeth Clucas immediately!

There should be a good crowd at the Homecoming, possibly over 20 from the Cleveland area alone, so I sincerely hope many of you will go. While I had decided not to go and even indicated such to some of the executive before Christmas, my mother and I are now planning to attend, so I hope to see lots of familiar faces.

Those responsible for planning the Homecoming on the Isle of Man have put together quite a program for us, and the Manx Holiday Passport should give us quite a variety of things to do and see. Perhaps many of you, like me, are reluctant to try driving over there, so the free transportation on the buses will be a big boon.

Remember, too, if you're entertaining any idea of travelling to the Isle of Man in the near future, this is the year to go. The British pound is low in price, giving us much more for our money. With the special events and the lower-priced accommodations offered us this year, it may well be the best year for the trip in a decade. Let's have a big group there! Barring unforeseen complications, I'll be there. Will you?

Mona Haldeman  
President.

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## SMILE

"Man does not live by bread alone, he needs buttering up once in a while".

## THE FIRST GREAT HOMECOMING

It would seem appropriate at this time to print an article about the "First Great Manx Homecoming" taken from the Manx Star written by Syd Boulton, well known member of the N.A.M.A. This covers the Manx contingent from the North American Continent. The 1983 Homecoming encompasses the Manx Worldwide.

**I am grateful to Mr. Tom Kelly of Castletown, who loaned some literature of special interest.**

One was a special booklet of the "First Great Manx Homecoming" from Saturday, June 4th, to Tuesday, July 5th, 1927. The booklet gave full details of the extensive programme beginning with the arrival in Douglas Bay of the White Star liner 'Albertic'.

The "Peel Castle" acted as a tender and when the Homecomers were about to step ashore on to the Victoria Pier they were greeted by massed Manx choirs conducted by **Mr. Noah Moore**.

Before sailing from Montreal the party attended a public dinner and the Mayor of Montreal was one of the principal guests.

The "Albertic" sailed via Quebec on Friday, June 3rd. On board were two prominent Manxmen - Alderman **A. B. Crookall**, Mayor of Douglas, and Mr. Hugo Teare, M. H. K., of Ramsey. On Sunday, June 5th, Mr. Teare conducted a service.

The great liner arrived in Douglas on Saturday, June 11th, and there followed a busy round of receptions and excursions for 20 days. Only two "free days" were allowed and the finale was attendance at Tynwald on Tuesday, July 5th, followed by the World Manx Association garden party in the grounds of the Nunnery in the afternoon.

The World Manx Association also issued a souvenir programme with photographs and illustrations by **Richard Wane**.

The White Star printed list of passengers issued for the voyage showed that **Mr. T. R. Radcliffe**, owner-editor of the "Isle of Man Examiner", and **Mr. George Brown**, owner and editor of the "Isle of Man Times", were also among the Manx passengers, also **Mr. Ramsey Johnson**, and that **Mr. W. L. Clague** gave selections from T. E. Brown and that

**Mrs. E. Craine** recited Brown's "The Pazons" at a concert aboard the "Albertic".

Mr. Tom Kelly writes: "As a young schoolboy I remember being down at the Victoria Pier to meet our 1927 Homecomers."

There were three relatives from Bute, Montana, on the liner and the lady who gave the T. E. Brown piece, **Mrs. Edith Craine**, was Mr. Kelly's aunt; another aunt, **Miss May Kelly**, was returning from Montana, to live in the Island permanently and the third traveller was Miss Betty Caine (a cousin of Tom).

Betty, now **Mrs. Elizabeth Duykers**, last year presented a trophy called the Edith Anne Craine Cup to the Music Guild committee for award in a Manx dialect poetry class, in memory of her mother.

Following the arrival at Douglas on the "Albertic", the three Manx ladies attended a large family gathering in Wilson's restaurant in Victoria Street.

Tom recalls that he was there with his mother, **Mrs. Jessie Kelly**, and step grandmother, **Mrs. Emily Kelly**, all from Castletown; **Mrs. M. Costain** and her family were there from Ballabeg, Arbory. The Corkill's from Rock Ferry and Parkgate were present with the late **Mr. Jack Corkill**, a well known antique dealer who originated from Cronky-Voddy. Party host for the occasion was **Mrs. Callin**, of Foxdale.

There were about 350 passengers bound for Douglas. The programme for the Manx Homecoming showed that the Homecomers were entertained in various parts of the Island.

As a very young reporter I attended the reception held in the Mooragh Park on Thursday, June 30th.

The Homecomers travelled to Ramsey by Manx Electric Railway from Derby Castle and were welcomed with music from the Northern Massed Choirs and the Ramsey Town Band.

Certainly the whole programme was ambitiously planned and well carried out.

Footnote —

I was a young schoolgirl at Albert Road School, I remember practicing for weeks the "Star Spangled Banner" and "The Maple Leaf", the school choir entertained the North American Manx in the Mooragh Park.

The Editor,  
Hilda (Bridson) Penrice.

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### Life Membership Fees in NAMA:

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## OLD MANX CUSTOMS HOP-TU-NAA

Probably all the old festivals have complicated origins, but none more so than the Manx Hop Tu Naa.

In ancient Celtic times the Quarter Days were regarded as being of special significance. For those not familiar with this term I will explain a Quarter Day relates to the movement of the sun, falling half-way between Solstice and Equinox. As the name implies there are four Quarter Days in the year, called today Candlemas in February, Beltane in May, Lammus in August and Hop Tu Naa in October. The actual calendar date corresponding to the astronomical alignment varies a little from year to year with minute changes in the movements of the sun and to allow for Leap Year, but they all fall between the 5th and 9th of the months mentioned, except Hop Tu Naa which is properly at the beginning of November.

In pre-Christian times these festivals were celebrated in their agricultural significance, and what we now call Hop Tu Naa was their New Year. All the hullabaloo that we practice today for the celebration of New Year's Eve, the seeing out the old year and the bad old ways and the preparation for starting afresh with a new life in a new year, was connected in ancient times history, that the picture of Hop Tu Naa is a bit muddled today. The lanterns are definitely still with us, made from turnips hollowed out and carried by string in most parts of the Island, but in Peel, so I am told, the turnips are turned roots to the top with the stalks to act as handles. In Peel shops, if you ask for a Hop Tu Naa turnip, they will sell you one without the stalk cut off.

Many of the old songs are still sung house to house by groups of lantern-carrying children. In the old days they were always given nuts and fruit, in keeping with the newly-gathered harvest, but today they mostly demand firework money for November 5th. One group on my door-step last year even forgot themselves so far as to chant "Penny for the Guy, Penny for the Guy!"

However in the Douglas / Onchan district they can nearly all say some version of "Jinny the Witch-- which in full goes like this:—

Jinny the Witch went over the house  
To get a stick to lather the mouse  
Hop Tu Naa, Tro la laa.

Jinny the Squinney went up the  
Claddagh

To get her apron-full of barragh  
Hop Tu Naa, Tro la laa.

Jinney the Squinney went through the  
hole

To get a rod to beat the foal  
Hop Tu Naa, Tro la laa.

From Manx Calendar Customs, C. I.  
Paton.

"Squinney" means one with a squint, and "barragh" is the refuse from linen-making.

The following version of a Hop Tu Naa chant was given to me by Mr. Les Quilliam, of St. John's School. This is still widely used.

Hop Tu Naa (repeat after every line)  
Put in the pot,  
Scald mi throt.  
I met an old woman,  
She was baking bonnag,  
She was making sconnag,  
She gave me a bit as big as mi big toe.  
She dipped it in milk,  
She wrapped it in silk.  
Tra la laa

If you don't give me a penny I will run  
away by the light of the moon.

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## TO ALL YOUNG PEOPLE OF MANX DESCENT WORLD WIDE

The Isle of Man is special. WHY? Many people have never heard of the Isle of Man - and if they have it is just another Island of the British Isles.

To all Manxmen - and women and young people - the Isle of Man is special. If you meet someone who asked why it is special - what would you tell them? Please write and tell us what you would say. We would like to hear anything you know about the Isle of Man.

We would like your accounts in by MAY 30TH, 1983. Then entries will be judged and results and prizes announced on Tynwald Day, July 5th, 1983.

If you are unable to write an account perhaps you would rather send in your own picture of some place or event which is special to the Isle of Man.

The age groups will fall into three classes:—  
8 years and under - 9 to 12 years - 13 to 16 years.

Whatever you decide to do please send your name, address and age with your entry to:

Mrs. I. N. DIXON  
39 BALLAMADDRELL, PORT  
ERIN, ISLE OF MAN,  
BRITISH ISLES.

## PASSPORTS

If N.A.M.A. members and friends plan to travel to Europe and especially to the Isle of Man this summer, they would be well advised to apply for their passports right away, from information received there could be delays if applications are filed after March, so DO IT NOW.

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## LETTER FROM ELLESMERE PORT

Greetings My friends.

Happy New Year and Best Wishes for 1983. As I write, it is early January and so far, it has been a very wet and windy but mild winter season.

In the garden, the Snowdrops are open, the daffodils and crocuses are surging upward and in the winter twilight the 'assassins of the garden' - the blackbirds swoop and dive, preparing to nest in February, all perhaps harbingers of an early and salubrious spring.

1982 in this great country will be known as the year when there was a resurgence of national pride and confidence as a result of our brilliant military victory in the Falkland Islands.

Always, like most of my generation, I have regarded all wars and conflicts with total abhorrence. However, faced by a flagrant breach of international law and the invasion of a small self-governing British community by a military dictatorship notorious for its inhuman treatment of dissidents, our government had no choice.

The conclusion is best summed up by our greatest living historian, Sir Arthur Bryant his latest book: "The Spirit of England" written during the Falklands crisis has just been published. All politicians should be forced to write out 100 times Sir Arthur's universal truth: "History teaches that there are times when only brave deeds can restrain evil acts. This, unpopular truth today, is one which in every generation, men have to learn."

Last year, I visited the Isle of Man in springtime; I had forgotten its splendour. Enhanced by glorious weather, the Island was a vast garden. Seen from the air, its beauty was incredible - like a large emerald - shimmering in haze of multitudinous greens all encased, as it were, in a fine filigree of gold - miles of luxurious yellow gorse. The fields, gardens and parks were full of flowers in infinite variety. One could almost feel the urgent pulsation of life and growth.

Nature's annual renewal - the miracle of spring.

John Keats, from his celestial mansion, must surely nod approval at my temerity in slightly amending his felicitous verse, if only in the interests of Anglo-Manx relations.

*"Much have I travelled in the realms of Gold  
and many goodly states and kingdoms seen;  
but none of these so enchant my soul,*

*as Ellan Vannin clothed in vernal green."*

Suddenly, do you know, I have an errant thought. If the ancient Isle (we all love) has a springtime anything like last year's period of sunshine and flowering splendour, then I for one may surreptitiously embark on the 'Lady of Mann' and 'slip' over for a 'lil' sight at Easter. I shall cherish and nurture this errant thought and, apart from my dear wife (who becomes even more nostalgic than I) I shall keep it secret from my innumerable family for the present, or else, I may find myself not for the first time leading a tribal exodus, like the children of Israel, crossing and laughing into a land flowing with milk and honey.

Kindest regards,  
Arthur Bridson.

## GLEN HELEN

It was fitting that we should visit Glen Helen on the last day of our stay on the Isle of Man in April. The evening was warm, sea-scented and tranquil. Filled with that strange magic which belongs to no other place except perhaps Wonderland or the Isle of Nod.

My family has a special affinity with the glen. In the last century, my paternal grandfather, Edward Bridson was the landscape gardener for Glen Helen chiefly concerned, as I recall, with its unique arboreal design. All indigenous species of trees grow here but dominating everything are the mighty sequoia trees - young by the redwoods age gauge but yet composed into an exciting miniature of the great redwood forests of Canada and North America.

The head of the glen starts with the confluence of the rivers Neb and Blaber. From the mouth of the glen, the river Neb flows on to the sea at the city of Peel.

Presently, I am sitting near to the 'Swiss cottage' - a most unusual and attractive restaurant of Alpine design. Just now it is in process of restoration to its original charm and prior to the coming summer season.

My friends have walked further up the glen and in my solitude, my thoughts drift back through the years to my esteemed grandfather. He was a tall handsome man with great charm of manner. Sartorially correct, with his large pearl grey 'homburg' style hat, his flowing beard and his erect figure, he presented an appearance of elegant authority. He was a very religious man, a lay preacher on what is known in Manxland as the 'Plan Beg' (The little plan).

I can remember him preaching but once, in the Seamens' Bethel on Ramsey Quay when, in a thunderous

voice he denounced the imbibers, the impious, and the impenitent with equal fervour and all the passion of a dedicated Christian. In 1938 he acceded to the heavenly command at the age of 88 and lies buried in Peel churchyard.

Time moves on and as I sit here in a reverie - dwarfed by these mighty trees, I can almost feel his presence moving mysteriously in the dark and silent woods. His austere yet happy spirit perhaps watching and waiting. For whom?

Ah now, I shy away from that strange dramatic question. Look, I see my friends returning from the upper glen, they are laughing and singing. Otherwise, all is quiet!!

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P.S. Sad to relate, the Swiss Cottage was recently destroyed completely by fire. An enquiry is taking place with the object of re-building the premises entirely to the original design.

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## MOVIE

The 16mm sound movie "Traa-Dy--Liooar" is still available, and as of now is not scheduled beyond March. If you would like to have it to show to your society, or to show to any group of which you are a member, just let us know. Please specify a second choice of time. Write to Mona Haldeman (Mrs. R. F.), 191 Glenview Drive, Avon Lake, Ohio 44012. You will be notified regarding the date you will receive the film, and then it will be your duty to send it on to the next place. It is an excellent film, and all who've seen it have enjoyed it. Don't miss the opportunity of viewing it. Get your requests in as soon as possible.

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## MEMORIALS

Remember the N.A.M.A. when making a MEMORIAL in honor of a friend or loved one. Be sure to let us know to whom the acknowledgement should be sent. The funds are used for special projects only. Remit to: C. E. Creer, Treas., 14228 Union Ave., Orland Park, IL 60462.

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## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please don't forget to notify the Secretary-Treasurer and the Bulletin Editor when you change your address.

# NEWS OF THE MANX SOCIETIES

## SAN DIEGO MANX SOCIETY

The December meeting was held at the home of Brian and Hilary Harrison. President Marge Weber presided over the business portion of the meeting. New officers were elected to serve throughout the 1983 year, they are as follows: President, Marge Frederick; Secretary, Hilary Harrison; Treasurer, Ed Wittenkeller.

It was good to see Arlene Archer back in the swing of things after undergoing heart surgery just a few weeks before. Arlene is one of the original members when we first formed the San Diego chapter just 4 short years ago. My, how time flies!

Several of our members are anticipating going to the Isle of Man this summer for the Homecoming, in June. Our President is busily making enquiries about charter flights for the trip over.

Alice Zettel gave us a very interesting talk about the Manx Museum.

After the business meeting we exchanged gifts and enjoyed refreshments which included shortbread, mince pies, christmas cake, and a "good cup a tay".

Our next meeting is scheduled for March 6, at the home of Ed and Aline Wittenkeller in Coronada.

From all of us to each of you we send our greetings and best wishes.

Hilary Harrison  
2353 Geranium St.  
San Diego, Ca. 92109

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## ISLE OF MAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

At our Annual General Meeting on January 21st, our Treasurer reported that our membership had reached 225 in 1982. The previous officers were re-elected to serve in 1983, with the exception of Mrs. M. Cregeen our Minutes Secy. who resigned because of other commitments. Two additional members were elected to serve on the Executive Committee; Miss D. Manning and Miss P. Killip. Applications for membership should be sent to the Treasurer, Mr. J. Moore, Middle Begoade Farm, Onchan, Isle of Man. Overseas membership is six Pounds-Sterling.

We extend a hearty welcome to all visitors interested in Family History and during the Homecoming period will be having our Annual Open day and Exhibition at the Loch Promenade Church in Douglas on Thursday, July 7th. We also plan to conduct two evening sessions to help visitors with the Genealogy research on the Island.

Anyone wishing to enter their Family History, pedigree chart or other original Genealogy record in Yn Chruinnaght competition may contact our Secretary, Mrs. Mona Christian, 5 Willow Terrace, Douglas for the entry form. The closing date for entries to be received is June 7, 1983.

Mrs. Mona Christian, Secy.  
5 Willow Terrace  
Douglas, Isle of Man

## CLEVELAND MANX SOCIETY

Cleveland's severe winter weather in the past made it necessary to cancel January and February meetings of our society. This year, we did not schedule meetings for these months. Mother Nature crossed us up! So far, we've had a record mild winter.

After our March meeting, Robb Kneen, travel agent - and grandson of a Manxman - will speak to our members about overseas travel. Several from our area plan to go to the N.A.M.A. Homecoming trip.

As of this writing, the program for May is not definite. Our fund-raising annual card party is on the calendar for May.

Marge Kennish Krach  
319 Ridgeview Drive  
Seven Hills, Ohio 44131

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## LONDON MANX SOCIETY

Should any member of N.A.M.A. be in need of assistance or a contact in the Greater London Area they are invited to phone the following members of the London Manx Society: Paul Garbutt - 01-998-4958 or Malcolm Bridson - 01-500-6051.

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## WORLD MANX ASSOCIATION

It was most gratifying to see such a good attendance at The Empress Hotel on October 29th, to honour the Memory of our National Poet, T. E. Brown, M.A. An excellent dinner was served.

Miss May Teare, of Douglas, in proposing The Immortal Memory, gave a most skilfull and factual address. This was most enthusiastically received.

Special Guests, Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Boulton, were heartily welcomed, and as W.M.A. Representative at The San Diego Convention, Syd Boulton gave a resume of his time spent there, and named various friends, old and new, he had met.

Mr. Boulton, told of other interesting places he had visited also, and this proved of much interest.

Mr. Eddie Lowey, M.H.K. was present at our Dinner, this being the first time he had attended a W.M.A. Function, and a sincere welcome and introduction was accorded him by the W.M.A. President.

Plans are going ahead for some enjoyable Events in 1983.

June 23rd	6:30 p.m. Evening Outing
July 5th	Annual Gathering and
	Reunion, 2:45 p.m. for 3 p.m.
	Palace Hotel, Douglas

July 10th	2:30 p.m. Outing
July 13th or 14th	To Be Arranged

All teas and suppers are arranged at attractive venues. News of further Functions and Outings will be announced later. It is hoped that many ever welcome "Manxies" will return to Ellan Vannin to "put a sight on us" in W.M.A.

Please phone Miss Doris Clague, Douglas, 6741 or Mrs. Mary Weller 88/453.

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To those members sending in Obituaries, please include the name and address of next of kin.

## MINNESOTA MANX SOCIETY

At the present time, we are busy contacting our members for the Homecoming trip to the Isle of Man next July. We now have 18 indications of interest.

In the course of our correspondence with booksellers on the Isle of Man, we have suggested that a book fair be held some time during Homecoming so that members will have a chance to see what Manx books might be available. So far we have had a favorable response.

It is our hope that we will have the pleasure of seeing many of you from the other Societies at the Homecoming celebration.

T. R. Anderson, President  
1914 First Bank Place,  
Minnesota Minneapolis,  
MINN. 55402.

## OUR OWN PEOPLE

Those N.A.M.A. members who attended the 1982 Convention held in San Diego, Cal., will be interested to learn that Mr. Bill Cleator who brought greetings from the San Diego Council, has decided to announce his candidacy for Mayor, this he did in front of the sailing ship the "Star of India" not as he remarked for aesthetic reasons but unabashed sentimentality. His father's father helped build the "Star of India" in Ramsey, Isle of Man. Mr. Cleator is very proud of his Manx heritage.

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Our members will be sorry to learn that Mrs. Hilda Collinson, former long time Secretary of the Galva Manx Society, is presently confined to hospital with a broken hip, our good wishes go out to her for a complete recovery.

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Mrs. Lena Watterson, cousin of Mrs. Henry Christian, Largo, Florida, spent a most interesting vacation in Australia visiting with relatives.

Miss Watterson lives in Peel, Isle of Man, is a member of N.A.M.A. and has attended several of our Conventions. She visited with the family of her mother's brother, Mr. William Shimmin, who emigrated from Peel, I.O.M., in 1907, he married an Australian lady and they had six children, Lena had met two of her cousins. While in Sydney there was a big family party complete with a cake decorated with a Three Legs of Man and the message - "Welcome Lena". Lena visited many places of interest while in Australia including the

famous Sydney Opera House. For Lena it was the trip of a lifetime. Miss Watterson has recently moved from Patrick Street and now resides at 97 Westlands, Peel, Isle of Man.

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## CONGRATULATIONS

Many happy returns of the Day go to Mrs. Lillian Marriion Tipper of Panorama City, Calif., who celebrated her 95th birthday on December 11th, 1982, her daughters gave her a surprise party which she enjoyed very much. Mrs. Tipper is a remarkable lady, she has all her faculties and at the present time she is busy compiling her essays and poetic efforts, one is titled "Childhood Memories" and the other "Latter Day Memories", she is also tape-recording the story of her girlhood days on the Isle of Man, she started this at the age of 90. She is not now able to type due to failing eyesight but she is helped by her daughter, Mrs. Peggie Palmer. Mrs. Tipper was one of the founding members of the Los Angeles Manx Society, this Society is now known as the Southern California Manx. For many years Mrs. Tipper contributed many articles to the Bulletin, poems, memories of her growing up years on her beloved Isle of Man. Mrs. Tipper resides at - 7825 Clearfield Ave., Panorama City, California 91402.

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## VISIT TO THE ISLE OF MAN

Mr. Bob Callin and his wife recently spent four days on the Isle of Man, through his business acumen Bob won a trip to London, he is presently President of the newly formed Wisconsin Manx Society. Bob Callin farms 160 acres in Mineral Point, Wis., he keeps 50 dairy cows and raises pigs.

His business activities include agencies for seed corn, fertilizer and feed supplements. Bob's father, Mr. Sandy Callin was born in Laxey, I.O.M.

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## MANX SUPERSTITIONS THE MANX STAR

It is considered unlucky for a fishing boat to be third to leave the harbour, so to prevent misfortune the second and third boats would leave tied together. This type of superstition runs through every facet of Manx life.

Most outsiders rarely catch a glimpse of primitive under-currents, even in people they know well. For few Manx people will ever make mention of their belief in charms, the herb, the power, the evil eye, ghostly happenings, or the lil' people.

All the Celtic peoples seem to have a strong inborn genetic belief in superstitions and the unseen powers; these primitive

rituals and beliefs in the power of nature go back far beyond the dawn of Christianity.

Some people say that such beliefs are incompatible with the Christian faith, but it is in the more remote areas of the Isle of Man where these customs are strongest, that the numbers of church-going people are at their highest. It is difficult to get a Manxman to talk about his experiences, but if you are in sympathy with his reasoning and beliefs, then perhaps on a dark winter's evening, before a blazing fire "true" stories of strange phenomena, unearthly happenings, come tumbling out.

These feelings of the Manx race stretch across the centuries from our ancient druidism ancestry through the Celtic ages down to today, and invisible genetic chain binding the misty past to the present and on to infinity.

Today old and new Manx alike wear St. John's wort, carry the "bol lon charm", accept the vervine (the herb), scatter primroses and tie cross cuirn on the eve of May day. To some, these things are interesting old customs that should be kept alive, to others it is the "real thing".

In his book "a Portrait of the Isle of Man" Canon E. H. Stenning wrote: "Generations that have never been within a thousand miles of the Isle of Man are steeped in Manx lore, brought up on Manx proverbs, eat Manx dishes, and know full well where lies their spiritual home.

And W. W. Gill, writing in his "Second Manx Scrap Book" puts it more forcefully — "As life was then lived, how could the folk of the land help clinging to the spot in which they had been born and reared? It was the instinctive physical clinging of the young child to its mother, for they and the land were made up of the same elements. Their food was drawn by their own efforts out of the soil beneath their feet, save what they drew out of the neighbouring sea and over fires of peat, ling and gorse grown on their soil, they cooked it. Their clothing was made of wool from its sheep, dyed with its plants and woven with their own hands; the carrances which protected their feet were made of the hides of their own goats and calves.

"They dwelt within the soil as well as upon it, for their houses were walled with sods and floored with beaten clay. They mended their nets and tools by the light of candles and pith from its rushes caked with the tallow of its animals, and they slept on beds of ling and straw. Like the nets which caught their fish and the linen which covered their living bodies, the shrouds in which they were buried were woven of flax grown in their own fields, soaked in their own wells and pools, and prepared in their own houses; and their dead bodies helped to nourish the soil which had nourished them in life." — (Frank Quayle)

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## ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

## KNOW YOUR ANCESTORS

by Mrs. Robert S. Cowin  
1223 W. Melrose Drive  
Westlake, Ohio 44145

Anyone interested in researching the surname CAIN might wish to contact Mrs. Duane L. McNeill, N. 4015 Marguerite Road, Spokane, Washington 99206. Mrs. McNeill is President of the Eastern Washington Genealogical Society and compiles and publishes surname booklets.

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The following interesting article appeared in the CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER:

"DID YOU KNOW THAT THE ISLE OF MAN HAS A MOST DISTINCTIVE COINAGE?"

Many are probably familiar with the three-legged device of booted and spurred human legs, bent at the knees as though running, and joined at the hip. This design is referred to as the "Triquertra".

It was used on the silver staters of Pamphylia in Asia Minor about 500 B.C. Thereafter, from time to time, this unusual device appeared most often on coins from Sicily and Naples.

When Joachim Murat, brother-in-law of Napoleon Bonaparte became king of Naples (1808-1815) he made it part of his heraldic shield.

It is believed that this device was introduced into the Isle of Man between 1266 and 1286 by King Alfred III of Scotland when he conquered the island and also took the title of King of Man. He is said to have used the triquertra because his wife's sister was queen of Sicily.

The coins of Man, issued from 1721 to 1839, all have the three-legged reverse."

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## MANX PIONEERS IN NEVADA

An old newspaper article recently was sent to me and I thought I would share it with our readers:

"There is an old tombstone in Nevada which recalls the days when many Manx mining families emigrated to the New World as work in the Island became less plentiful. The tombstone belongs to a family named COWIN and the inscription reads: 'In loving memory of Eunice Cowin a native of Douglas, Isle of Man; Died February 10, 1872 age 33 years. Also her children Thomas C. Cowin aged 12 days; Mona E. Cowin Aged 11 months and 15 days; and Mary E. Cowin aged 5 months. May they rest in peace.'

The churchyard is near the Chollar Silver Mines, dug out of the Washoe

Hills, Nevada in 1861, and it is thought that perhaps the head of the Cowin family now buried there must have gone to work in the mines when they opened. A few years later the Chollar Mine became the source of the greatest silver deposit the world has ever known."

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Periodically I receive enquiries about the CLAGUE HOUSE MUSEUM in Westlake, Ohio. As many of you know the Museum houses many Manx artifacts and many items from the original Clague Family. The Westlake Historical Society is in charge of the Museum and, as a member of this group, I can attest that they are proud of all the Manx items, including books, donated by N.A.M.A. members.

The Clague Memorial Library, located in one of the upstairs bedrooms, is a repository for local and Manx history. The latest Manx acquisition to the library is a beautifully well preserved Manx Bible dated 1819 which was donated by Mrs. Margaret Adamson (nee Looney). This was presented at the San Diego Convention by Mr. John Coates of Quebec, Canada.

The Museum is open on Sunday afternoons on a regular basis and at other times by appointment. In July of each year they have a fund-raising activity to raise money to restore and preserve the house.

The Ohio Historical Site Preservation Committee recommended in July, 1975 that the Clague House be included in the National Register of Historic Places, under the direction of the National Parks Division of the United States Department of the Interior, and the house is so marked.

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## MORE CONVENTION 1982 NEWS

Several items relating to the recent Convention were held over due to lack of space, they are included in this March/83 edition.

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## THANKS

We wish to thank all those who gave financial support and contributions of prizes to the San Diego Convention. Your encouragement helped the N.A.M.A. to have a very successful convention and we look forward to another get-together in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1984.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

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As Past President of the Ladies Aux. to N.A.M.A., I would like to say Thank You to all members and friends who so kindly sent articles and crafts to our Craft Table at the Convention in San Diego, we had a wonderful 50th Anniversary and look forward to many more meetings together. To all those who helped in any way a big "Thank You".

## MONETARY DONATIONS TO THE 1982 CONVENTION

N.A.M.A. Ladies Auxiliary  
Mrs. John MacDougall  
Emil Lembke  
Robert Geyer  
Anges Litzel  
Mrs. A. E. Brandt  
Mrs. Mona E. Wright  
Miss Margaret Kelly  
E. M. Belford  
Ivy Dillon, Sec., Bisbee Manx  
Rochester Manx  
Alice Garrett  
Iris Foster  
Alice Cuthbertson  
Mrs. Byron Daugherty  
Nan Christian  
Mr. & Mrs. E. G. Kashishian  
Fay Park  
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Quine  
Robert Camaish  
Nebraska Manx  
Margaret Daugherty  
Helen Kewley  
Dorothy Kitson  
Mona's Relief Society  
Marge Krach  
Phil Bridson  
Mr. & Mrs. James Robison  
Ewan Clague  
Fred Kelly  
James Phillips  
Ruth Wilson  
Mary Perrone  
Carol Shaffer  
Phillis Crozier  
Frank Shimmin  
Mrs. Harold Cain  
Mrs. Charles Wycoff  
Toronto Manx Society  
Mona Frank  
Elizabeth Clucas  
Betty McClure  
Polly Ayers  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Cowin  
Edith MacWilliams  
Mr. & Mrs. George Curphey  
Muriel Kai  
T. R. Anderson  
Mr. & Mrs. William Roseman  
Mr. & Mrs. William Hinrichs  
Edith Emery

## DONORS OF PRIZES

Ivy Dillon  
Fay Park  
Larry Fargher  
May Heath  
Eileen Fabel  
Ruth Thorman  
Wisconsin Manx Society

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continued on page 7

## "THE GOOD OLD DAYS" ON THE ISLE OF MAN!

### BRIDE'S RESOLUTIONS -

Mary Christian of Milntown - 1722-1762, married the Rev. Edmund Law, afterwards Bishop of Carlisle and on the day of her marriage made these resolutions -

"Some rules I resolve to observe through the assistance of the Almighty, when I am wife -

1. I resolve never to contradict my dear husband without it be necessary and then with the greatest good nature I am mistress.

2. To serve God more sincerely than I have done in the state I am about to leave and to lead a life suitable to the calling of my husband.

3. Never to fret or fall into a passion, but to have a cheerful heart, knowing my blessings must exceed any trouble that can possibly befall me and in all dangers to commit myself and my family to an all-wise Providence and then to be easy about the event.

4. I likewise resolve to lay aside all fondness for dress, but to be always neat and clean.

5. I resolve to be very frugal and never put my husband to any needless expense.

6. I resolve to be very active and never for the sake of saving myself a walk, neglect anything, though it be never so great a trifle.

7. I resolve to be very kind to my servants, as well as to their souls, as to their bodies and always to give exact orders and never to be in a passion if they are not executed.

8. I resolve to treat my friends kindly and to be full of gladness to see his relations as my own.

"Thus would I live

Thus would I die.

And when this world I leave

To Heaven I'd fly.

Mary Christian

28th April 1740

Submitted by Chas Southward  
New Zealand.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Recipe For A Friend

Two cups of understanding  
One tablespoon of wit  
A dash of real compassion  
A pinch or two of grit  
A jigger full of loyalty on which  
you can depend

Mix them all together and  
you have a friend

Author Unknown

## PRIZE LIST

(Some of the following prizes were purchased with donations. The person sending the donation is listed as the prize donor. The name of the donor also appeared in the Christmas Bulletin as a monetary donor.)

### PRIZES

Stainless Steel Flatware:  
4 place setting, 4 place settings  
4 fruit spoons, 4 demi-tasse spoons  
4 seafood forks

2 Cookbooks (Betty Crocker  
and International)

Necklace

3 Manx Tea Towels

Manx Tie

Silver Plate

4 - piece Snack Set

Desk Memo Pad & Pen

Address Book

Laxey Tweed Skirt Length

Air Canada Flight Bag

Necklace

Photo Album

Portable Radio

2 lb. Box Sees Candy

Mineral Rocks

Coasters

Book - "Eternal City"

Bookmark

Manx Violet Perfume

Money Sock

other prizes were purchased.

Wallet

Purse - cosmetic

Bookmark

Manx Apron

Chicago Ethnic Heritage Cookbook

Manx Scarf

Manx Soaps

Book - "History of the Isle of Man"

Book - "Laxey in the New World"

6 Calendar Books (3-way)

Book - "Peel Hill and Shore"

5 Sticks Rock Candy

Bing Cherry Tea

Portable Tool Kit

Lady's Pendant

Hand-made Indian Doll

Ladies Handbag

Coqler

Cookbook

Book Ends

Necklace

Binoculars

"Little Fella"

Isle of Man Calendar

Sand Painting

Manx Necklace

Door Knocker

Desert Ironwood (Quail)

Picture

Isle of Man Briefcase

Glass Case

Manx Knobs

Camera

Key Chain

Copper Mold Set

Candlestick (Brass)

Tote Bag with Umbrella

Portable Clock Radio

### DONOR

Mrs. Harold Cain (purchased with  
Betty Crocker coupons and  
monetary donation)

(Same as above)

Polly Ayers

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kelly

Marge Krach

Ethel Christian

Mr. & Mrs. L. Bobnar

Frank Shimmie

Muriel Kai

Mr. & Mrs. Sydney Boulton

San Diego Manx Society

Cleveland Manx Society

Mona Frank

Mr. & Mrs. Wycoff

San Diego Manx Society

Ivy Dillon

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kelly

May Heath

Polly Ayers

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kelly

Purchased with money remaining after

Edna Cowin

Polly Ayers

Polly Ayers

Edna Cowin

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kelly

Marge Krach

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kelly

Edward Lowey, M.H.K.

Clarice Caley (on behalf of Rev. Caley)

Ruth Wilson

Fred Palmer

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kelly

Ruth Wilson

Ruth Wilson

Ruth Wilson

Mr. & Mrs. John Hughes

Mrs. & Mrs. C. J. Quine

San Diego Manx Society

Polly Ayers

Mrs. Cain

Mr. & Mrs. Floyd McClure

Elizabeth Clucas

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kelly

Mr. & Mrs. Sydney Boulton

Ivy Dillon

Edith MacWilliams

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Fargher

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Dobbel

Mr. & Mrs. A. P. Fisher

Edwards Lowey, M.H.K.

Mr. & Mrs. Floyd McClure

Mr. & Mrs. Lew Quilliam

Mr. & Mrs. T. R. Anderson

Dorothy Kinrade

Mr. & Mrs. William Roseman

Mr. & Mrs. George Curphey

Eileen Fabel

San Diego Manx Society

continued on page 8



Manx Stole  
 Rose Pin  
 2 Bottles Wine & 4 Glasses  
 2 Plastic Tankards  
 Cross Pen  
 Travel Clock  
 Digital Clock  
 Hand Painted Picture  
 Chafing Dish  
 Lantern  
 Carving Set  
 Almond Aplets & Cotlets  
 Man's Belt Buckle  
 Three-Legs Charm  
 Silver Tray  
 Camera  
 Afghan  
 Ladies Shawl  
 2 T.W.A. Flight Bags  
 Indian Basket  
 Air Canada Garment Bag  
 Shower Massage  
 Pen & Pencil Set

Hopefully, we haven't missed any of the prizes. If you sent a prize and don't find it listed here, please write to Mona Haldeman (Mrs. R. F.), 191 Glenview Drive, Avon Lake, Ohio 44012.

## OBITUARIES

CUBBON, Mr. Claude H., age 77, of 3390 Keene Park Dr., Largo, Florida, died July 30th, 1982. Born in Jacksonburg, W. Va., he came to Florida 14 years ago from South Charleston, W. Va., where he was employed by Union Carbide Corp. Public Relations Dept., for 28 years and was also editor of the Carbine News. He was a member of Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church, Clearwater, Fairmont State College Class of 1933 and member of its Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity, accumulated 1,500 volunteer hours at Morton F. Plant Hospital of Clearwater and was a three-time recipient of the Freedom Foundation Award in Valley Forge, Pa. Survivors include his wife Sarah K; a daughter Mrs. Don (Janey) Ball, Clearwater; three brothers, Kenneth, W. Va.; Harry, Clarksburg, W. Va.; and Max, New York City, and three grandchildren; The late Mr. Cubbon's grandfather was born in Lonan, Isle of Man, Claude and his wife Sarah made their first visit to the Isle of Man four years ago, in company with Mrs. Henry Christian, Largo, Florida, he was a member of N.A.M.A. as is his wife Sarah.

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MOORE, Percy John, formerly of "Karrin" Mountain View, Peel, Isle of Man died on November 12th, 1982, age 83. While not a member of N.A.M.A. he was a well respected Manxman in Peel, he ran the family business started by his father first having a fish store in Castle Street then moving to Michael Street, he eventually gave up

Alice Garrett  
 Muriel Kai  
 San Diego Federal Savings  
 San Diego Manx Society  
 Betty Dunn  
 Home Federal Savings & Loan  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ray Haldeman  
 Ivy Dillon  
 Ruth Donnelly (friend of Ethel Christian)  
 Mr. & Mrs. Larry Fargher  
 Edith Gurney  
 Mary Pemberthy  
 Ruth Wilson  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kelly  
 Margaret Everiss  
 Polly Ayers  
 Mr. & Mrs. George Gell  
 Mr. & Mrs. C. J. Quine  
 San Diego Manx Society  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Hughes  
 San Diego Manx Society  
 Toronto Manx Society  
 Mr. & Mrs. George Curphey

the retail business, concentrating on the wholesale side - kipper curing. Mr. Moore was one of 12 children, several of whom emigrated to Seattle, Wa. One sister survives, Mrs. Margery Cringle of Douglas, I.O.M. He served in the Royal Navy in the First World War and was a Founder member of the Returned Ex-Servicemen's Benevolent Fund which later became the Manx Legion, the latter preceded the British Legion. He was a keen and well informed naturalist, a great walker and knew the Island "like the back of his hand".

His wife predeceased him a few years ago and he is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Joan Lace, Peel, I.O.M.; and Mrs. Peter (Alice) Foster, of Oakville, Ont. Canada; several grandchildren and one great grand child.

His daughter, Alice is well known to members of N.A.M.A., she is Past President of the Toronto Manx Society.

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## BOOK REVIEW

Laxey, Tynwald - these names are to be found not only on the Isle of Man but also in the fertile area of south-western Wisconsin's Iowa County. Manxmen, far from their native land no doubt hoping to ease pangs of lonesomeness, gave familiar names to their new-found home, calling their church and community Laxey, their cheese factory Tynwald. They prospered in their new land and welcomed their Cornish neighbors into their church and daily work.

Descendants of these Manxmen and members of the Laxey community,

hoping to preserve some of the past that was rapidly being forgotten, sent out a call for recollections and collaborated on a book, "LAXEY IN THE NEW WORLD", (Manxmen and their Cornish Neighbors). With a foreward by Herbert Kelly, Chaplain of the North American Manx Association, who was born and grew up in the Laxey community, the attractively bound and illustrated book consists of a wealth of recollections, early Manx history, photographs, family histories, and stories of pioneer life. The story of the building of the Rock Manx Church and the account of the thriving Sunday School reveal a devotion to their religion and a drive that was true to their Manx heritage.

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

As I recall, our last "letter" to you was mainly reflections on a walk by the sea. It so happens that we are again on the California coast, having decided to spend most of the winter away from Nebraska's frigid climate. We enjoyed a week of exceptionally sunny warmth - which brought out the flowers, including the premature advent of plum blossoms here.

However, last week the rains came, plus high winds, plus very high tides, and the three together were too much for the California shoreline. We were not near the beaches, but the TV pictures made it plain enough. People who had lived here for years said they had never seen anything so severe. Living on the coast brings its own unique risks, as these people surely know. It was noted that after people fought to save their property, sand-bagging, boarding windows, etc., they finally said "There was nothing more we could do."

All of us, at some point in our lives, reach that level. Our man-made, pre-fabricated society tends to shield us from many environmental dangers (and creates others) but we still cannot control the weather, and a blizzard in Nebraska or a hurricane in Florida can equally halt our plans.

Whatever happens to us, we can learn from it, and, as people of ancient times often did, we can remember that this is God's world, "the sea is his, and he made it". Man does not create power, he merely uses what he is given. We pause, to reflect on this, even as we enjoy the marvellous - God - given - California winter.

Herbert G. Kelly

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

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