

BULLETIN of the North American Manx Association



VOL. 55 NO. 4

"To preserve whatever is left us of ancient heritage"

JUNE 1983

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June, the month when spring turns into summer, the month of graduations and weddings, and the month when many of us will be preparing to leave for the Homecoming in the Isle of Man. I sincerely hope many of you are planning to attend, and I'm looking forward to seeing many familiar faces over there. So many wonderful things have been planned for us that it should be a memorable experience. Will I see you there?

In April, Ray and I drove down to Washington, D.C. to attend the Greater Washington Manx Society annual dinner. We had a delightful time, and it was so nice to see people that we had met in 1974 at the Washington Convention, as well as those who regularly attend the N.A.M.A. Conventions. Our only regret was that our stay had to be a very short one.

Plans are getting under way for the 1984 Convention in Minneapolis. It will probably be August 10-13, so give it some serious thought and start making arrangements to attend. Much of the enjoyment of a Convention is meeting fellow Manx folk, so let's have a really large crowd there next year. You'll hear much more about the Convention in the coming months.

In the past several years, the N.A.M.A. has been growing. However, the total membership is still a very small percentage of the number of Manx and their descendants in North America. There are thousands upon thousands of Manx all around us, yet we only number about 1000 members. If the organization is to endure, we need new blood, and particularly young blood. Thus, I would like to challenge every member to bring in at least one new member in the coming year. Look around at your friends, your relatives, and most especially your children who have reached the age of majority. Perhaps they are only a small percentage Manx, but even one drop of Manx blood qualifies them. Talk to them, try to whet their

appetites for knowledge about the Manx people and culture. Let's try to double our membership in the next year, in order to truly preserve 'whatever is left of our ancient heritage'.

Mona Haldeman
President

DUES TIME

THE ENCLOSED PINK MEMBER-SHIP SLIP IS A REMINDER TO YOU THAT A NEW YEAR IS ABOUT TO START AND THAT DUES ARE PAYABLE NOW.

PLEASE PAY PROMPTLY, FORWARD YOUR CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER TO THE TREASURER, - MR. CLARENCE CREER, 14228 UNION, ORLAND PARK, ILL. 60462. U.S.A.

MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE \$6.00 FOR REGULAR MEMBERS, THIS INCLUDES THE N.A.M.A. BULLETIN FOUR TIMES A YEAR AND \$2.00 FOR ASSOCIATES.

IF YOU ARE A LIFE MEMBER OR HAVE PAID IN ADVANCE, PLEASE PASS THE MEMBERSHIP TO A FRIEND OR RELATIVE.

PLEASE FORWARD YOUR PAYMENT BY JULY 31ST, 1983.

THANK YOU

WELL WORTH READING!

Horace Dobb's "Follow the Wild Dolphins" (St. Martins Press - New York) includes a vivid account of his - and others' - experiences in building a friendship with "Donald", a wild dolphin, who spent much time around Port St. Mary and Port Erin in the Isle of Man.

Perhaps some of our N.A.M.A. members will remember media coverage about this amazing mammal. Donald was not the kind of dolphin one sees at marine shows. He was a free spirit who came and went at his own will.

Anyone interested in man's relationship with other living creatures on our planet will find this book entertaining and informative.

Marge Kennish Krach

U.S. HOMECOMING PLAN

A Homecoming from America is planned for this summer with up to 300 people with Manx connections coming to the Island for three weeks in July.

This has arisen from the visit by Tourist Board chairman Mr. Eddie Lowey MLC to last year's North American Manx Association Convention in San Diego, California, as the representative of Tynwald.

He said yesterday: "It struck me that we hadn't had any Homecomers for a few years, on an organised basis at least, and when I suggested it the idea went down very well."

"Since then it has grown tremendously - we had 42 bookings last week alone. We also have a party from Australia who have decided to join in, so to make things go with more swing we are asking the Manx Societies in Britain if they are interested in coming as well."

A large part of the organisation in America is being carried out by Elizabeth Clucas, formerly of Peel, who is secretary of the N.A.M.A. The visit will be from July 1st, with the first two weeks being considered the "official section of the trip, and a week for the Homecomers to enjoy more informal pursuits. The Tourist Board also have the help of the World Manx Association.

Said Mr. Lowey: "I'm absolutely delighted by the way it's going and the response we are getting from Manx expatriates. It shows how deep their feeling is for the Island."

THE INTER-CELTIC JOURNAL

I had the pleasure of receiving in the mail the "Keltica" the inter-celtic Journal the other day. The N.A.M.A. is associated with this organization and particularly so that Mr. Ed Sayle, Arlington, Va., Trustee of N.A.M.A. is a Contributing Editor of the Journal, in the Number 2 issue is an excellent article by Ed entitled - The Manx in North America - mention is made of Rose & Barbara Standish, cousins of Myles Standish, the military leader of the "Mayflower".

A famous Manx American is also depicted on the American Revolution Bicentennial 1776-1976 stamps on the Isle of Man, William Christian, son of Gilbert Christian. William Christian

continued on page 2

North American Manx Association Officers 1982/84

Hon. Vice-President:

Miss Doris Clague,
Douglas, Isle of Man.
Mr. Norman Clucas,
Webster Groves, Mo.

Past President:

Mr. George Curphey,
3 William St., Box 716,
Liverpool, N.S. Canada B0T 1K0

President:

Mrs. Mona Haldeman
191 Glenview Dr.,
Avon Lake, Ohio, 44012

1st Vice-President:

Mr. T. R. Anderson,
1914 First Bank Place W.,
Minneapolis, Minn. 55402.

2nd Vice-President:

Mr. William E. Bridson,
6821 Duke Drive,
Alexandria, Va. 22307.

3rd Vice-President:

Mr. Malcolm Kinley,
2816 Shantar Dr.,
Costa Mesa, Cal. 92626.

Secretary:

Miss Elizabeth Clucas
1541 East, 191st., Apt. K605,
Euclid, Ohio 44117.

Treasurer

Mr. Clarence Creeer
14228 Union,
Orland Park, Ill. 60462

Bulletin Editor:

Mrs. Hilda Penrice,
60 Park Ave., Apt. 502,
Georgetown, Ont. Canada L7G 4Y9

Sec. Treas. Ladies Aux. to NAMA:

Mrs. Amo Fisher
R.R. 3, Tottenham,
Ontario Canada L0G 1W0

President Ladies Aux. to NAMA:

Mrs. Joyce Kinley
2816 Shantar Dr.,
Costa Mesa, Cal. 92626.

Rep. Ladies Aux. to NAMA:

Mrs. Irene Curphey
3 William St., Box 716,
Liverpool, N.S. Canada

Chaplain:

Rev. Herbert G. Kelly
828 North "1" Street,
Freemont, Nebraska. 68025.

Trustees:

Mr. Ed Sayle
Arlington, Va.
Mr. Robert Camaish
Vienna, Va.
Mr. Russell Gawne
Niles, Ill.

NAMA Membership Fee \$6.00 per year
(from Aug. 1st, 1982) this includes sub-
scription to Bulletin published four times
annually. Membership without Bulletin
\$2.00

Life Membership Fees in NAMA:

Members over 50 years of age \$40.00
Members under 50 years of age \$50.00

first entered law, he was then elected to the Virginia Legislature in 1773. He was the Military leader of the First Virginia Liberty or Death Regiment, shortly after the publication of the Declaration of Independence, Christian accepted a commission as Colonel of the Virginia Militia, during the winter of 1785/86, Christian with a small company of men persued one band of Indian rebels and engaged them in battle near present-day Jefferson, Indiana. In the fighting, both Christian and one of his men, another Manx-American, named Kelly, were mortally wounded. A grateful Kentucky Assembly later named Christian County in his memory.

Other articles in this interesting publication include - Manx Crosses (with illustrations) by A. M. Cubbon, Director of the Manx Museum, also Manx Gaelic Recordings by J. B. Moffat, and Manx Music Today by C.W.P. Jerry.

BIG HUNT FOR VIKING PALACE

An exhaustive archeological dig alongside the Cathedral ruins in Peel Castle is to commence at Easter following the discovery of 41 coins, since deemed to be treasure, in an exploratory excavation last summer. Peel is now considered potentially one of the most important archeological sites in the British Isles, and possibly the home of the Viking Royal Palace where King Godred II and King Olaf II died.

BURIED TREASURE

Tynwald members, with the sole exception of Mr. Walter Gilbert who stuck stoically to the prior claims of road repairs, were ecstatically unanimous in their approval on Tuesday of a £25,000 grant to enable the continuation of the Liverpool University archeological excavation at Peel Castle.

It is a modest amount by any standards, and designed only to "prime the pump" for a much larger international funding to follow - the dig will take many years and should produce many benefits for the Island.

Not least of these as Tynwald members recognised, could be a massive increase in tourist interest in Peel and the Island as a whole. Archeology is one of those subjects which, handled skillfully, can be made to have immense popular appeal - witness the crowds who have flocked to the Coppergate excavations in York and Wood Quay in Dublin, and the millions who followed the raising of the Mary Rose from the Solent on television.

What we hope can be avoided is a spurious over-glamourising of the site, of which there are already hints in the constant use of the words 'palace' and 'treasure' in connection with it. Very few of us would have wanted to live in a Viking 'palace', so lacking in even rudimentary comforts would it have been, and its highly unlikely that some enthusiastic youngster will put his spade into a spectacular hoard of gold coins or jewellery this summer.

Modern archeology and "treasure hunting" as practised by the amateurs with their metal detectors (although admittedly early archeologists in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries were often searching for treasure, and did irreparable damage to many sites for that reason) are worlds apart, and it must be remembered that the archeologist is looking above all for information. This is why his procedures are so delicate and meticulous, every inch of excavated soil being sifted, the position of every stone and sliver of wood or bone recorded by photography, drawings and measurements. It is the confirmation of a long-held theory, or the opening up of some new avenue of information which will excite him above all, just as much or more than a "find" in popular terms.

For this reason our law protects all the sites for which the Manx Museum & National Trust is responsible, for the slightest disturbance of an area of archeological importance could destroy vital evidence for ever.

The real treasure from Peel will be the picture which emerges from the ground of a buried past stretching back well over a thousand years. Presented in the right way it will catch the public imagination and, as Tynwald members hoped, reap dividends in far more than the obvious ways.

PITCAIRN ISLAND

Many stories have been written, in addition films have been made on the "Mutiny of the Bounty", and it is worthy of note that a Manxman was one of the leading characters in this historic event, namely Fletcher Christian, whose family came from the North of the Isle of Man, the parish of Lezayre. In fact nearly all the leading characters had connections with the I.O.M., and even today, Captain Bligh's feat of skillful navigation is classed as marvellous and never equaled. Fletcher Christian of course being the ringleader in the mutiny could never return to the I.O.M. and sought refuge on Pitcairn where he was to remain until he died, however, he married a Polynesian girl and raised a large family, and today most

continued on page 7

LETTER FROM ELLESMERE PORT

Greetings my friends,

We are near to April and weekly, the garden growth races ahead. Daffodils, Narcissi and Crocuses abound and, it would seem, 'the darling buds of May' are already with us in miniature.

Nature quickens dramatically in springtime and daily, when shining, that lovely old sun rises higher and higher in the heavens. What do I do? Why, I arise a little earlier to greet the new roseate dawn and see the 'Mighty Warrior of the East' scale with brilliance the dark ramparts of night. Poetical? Why not, to lovers of nature quite true and one of the small, insignificant but priceless pleasures of life.

Let me tell you, last Sunday, after our traditional Dinner of Roast Lamb, New Cheshire Potatoes, etc., etc., we sat befuddled and replete as all good eaters should. When suddenly, on Manx Radio, the Glasgow Orpheus Choir started to sing "Ellan Vannin" naturally, the silence was complete and respectful. But when the descent traced the tune around those words: "When memories sweet and tender come like music's plaintive flow of the hearts in Ellan Vannin that loved me long ago." I must confess, my old eyes misted over. My wife leaned over the table and said: "Qu'avez vous, old boy, - a little bitty tear." "Oh no." I said, "just smoke in my eyes, love." (I stopped smoking years ago).

Who, being true Manx could listen to that hauntingly beautiful melody, and not be imbued with an intense desire to return to their native land. Timely, perhaps to mention this, which I hope will add to the anticipation and eager excitement of all your Manx Canadians and U.S.A. Manx. Homecoming to the Isle of Man this summer.

At this point, may I respectfully draw your attention (as Bank Managers say) to my next item which 'highlights' the necessity of that unsubstantial commodity - money. The design and detail of Manx Currency and indeed, the beauty thereof

MONEY TALKS

"Money is honey my little sonny and a rich man's joke is always funny." I do not subscribe to the cynicism which must have inspired this gem of half-truth. Nevertheless, I would like to discard a few important thoughts regarding this mundane commodity. I refer of course to money, sterling, currency, dough, lolly, brass, bread, pelf (incredulously) or my favourite term, filthy lucre. Call it what you will. You can be sure that if you are

lucky enough to have any it flows outward at a greater rate than it flows inward to pocket, purse or coffer. (If you have such a thing).

The bible says that "The love of money is the root of all evil." The bible is truth - so we should not like money nor indeed revere it - just give it a little hug and kiss now and again with the hope that it sticks to the fingers long enough to enable us to keep body and soul together.

As one inclined to some improvidence in these matters, I write with some authority on the subject of impecuniosity. Indeed, I have just been speculating as to whether or not I can afford my usual holiday in the Isle of Man this year. Thankfully, the answer is yes. Although between now and the summer I will have to start pouring many more precious pennies into my porcelain pig.

I think that my personal attitude to money can be neatly summed up by the following couplet:

"Money talks, I'll not deny.

I heard it once, it said goodbye."

Just as neatly, I hope, this brings me to the gist of this article, namely Manx money. For the edification of those who are interested, the facts are as follows:-

COINAGE:

£5.00d. Three Legs of Man superimposed on an outline map of the Island. Milled edge.
(Collector's piece)

£1.00d. As above, but smaller.

50p. Viking Longship.

20p. Montage of Armour. (highly decorative)

10p. Peregrine Falcon (traditional tribute of the Isle of Man to the sovereign at Coronation)

5p. Loaghtyn Ram.

2p. Chough (pronounced chuf) bird of the crow family. Indigenous to Cornwall and the I.O.M.

1p. Manx tail-less Cat.

½p. Herring.

All the above with a portrait of HM. the Queen on one side. Also from time to time there are issues of commemorative coins which are legal tender.

NOTES:

£20.00 The great water wheel at Laxey.

£10.00 Ruins of Peel Castle.

£ 5.00 View of Castle Rushen.

£ 1.00 Drawing of Tynwald Hill.

50p. Drawing of Viking Ship.

English coins and notes freely circulate in the Isle of Man together with Manx currency. Coins and notes of Eire however are not generally acceptable because of the unequal exchange rate.

So there you are my friends. Good luck with Manx Currency. Forward the Numismatists

GRAVE THOUGHTS

One day recently at our local market, I bought an old book for tenpence. It was Volume 2 of "The White Prophet" by Hall Caine, published in 1909. When young, I had read most of his novels. "The Deemster," "The Prodigal Son." "The Christian," "The Woman thou gavest me" (Publishing sensation in 1913) and best of all perhaps, "Barbed Wire" or its other name, "The Woman of Knockaloe," - this is the location near Peel where the German prisoners of war were interned.

Admirers of Hall Caine's novels will recollect that many of the chapter headings were prefaced by inspired biblical quotations, demonstrating the strong moral motivation beneath the intense romanticism of his stories.

In "Barbed Wire" the leading quotation was:- "Love is strong as death. Jealousy cruel as the grave, many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it." From the book, I remember in particular the scene where the German prisoner of war and his Manx girl - who loved each other with a consuming passion - stood, roped together at the top of Cronk-ny-arrey-Laa (The hill of the Rising Sun). Realising the futility of their love, they had chosen to plunge to the cruel rocks below, seeking that deathless lover's paradise which they felt was denied to them in this cold uncaring world. As they recited the Lords prayer, each in their own language, around the headland in the near distance appeared the Manx Steam Packet, coming home, bedecked with flags, the passengers singing and laughing and proclaiming the glorious news that the world was at peace. The Hell of war was over. But now, the headland was bare, peace had come too late, too late for those two young lovers. Ah! what bitter irony . . . (A LOVELY SAD BOOK)

Strange, that last summer whilst in the Isle of Man, I should be strolling one day in the precincts of Maughold churchyard. Many would say that there could be nothing more profitless than perambulating around a graveyard. Maybe so, but though there is a little sadness when one reads the names of old friends and acquaintances there is too, I think a little gladness to have the privilege of remembering with happiness those we knew in the joyous congress of life and perhaps, now and again, it is right to reflect on what is after all the inevitable destiny of us all.

continued on page 6

NEWS OF THE MANX SOCIETIES

TORONTO MANX SOCIETY

The Toronto Manx Society send their best wishes to all the N.A.M.A. members.

On Saturday 9th April, we had our general meeting, which was well attended and a most enjoyable evening. Miss Sue Ellis who has recently returned from her tour of Australia, New Zealand and some of the South Sea Islands, gave a showing of her slides, together with an excellent commentary. It certainly was the high light of the evening.

Toronto has had an exceptionally mild winter, at times almost like the I.O.M. only not as damp. However our spring flowers are only now showing through, whilst in Douglas the gardens were in full spring bloom at Easter.

Mr. & Mrs. Fred Daubney and myself will be in the I.O.M. for our Homecoming, and we are looking forward to meeting many of the North American Manx, whom, as yet, we know only by name.

Phyllis Linsley
President.

SAN DIEGO MANX SOCIETY

Our March meeting was held in the home of Ed & Aline Wittenkeller. There was great excitement among the members who will be going to the island for the Homecoming.

Our president, Marge Frederick, has spent many hours making plans for the travel arrangement, to which we are most appreciative.

Brian & Hilary Harrison have had visitors from the Isle of Man this spring. Brian's brother Ian and his family who live at Andreas, were here for four weeks.

Some of us were able to see the Queen when she came to San Diego, but we were not responsible for the shocking weather conditions during Her Majesty's stay.

Our next meeting will be held in the home of John & May Best, on June 5th.

To all of you who will be going to the island in June may we say Happy Homecoming.

Hilary Harrison
2353 Geranium Street
San Diego, Ca. 92109

BISBEE MANX SOCIETY

The Bisbee Manx have taken on a new lease of life, we had meetings every month since Christmas with a good turnout of members, those who had been on vacation were back and everything was in full swing again.

We had an election of officers at the January meeting, Mrs. Ida Corrin was elected President, Christine Rothery, Treasurer, and Mrs. Ivy Dillon, Secretary. The John Hughes continue to drive down from Tucson each month to attend the meetings, the Bill Franks are doing a lot of travelling these days, they have been to Alaska and recently to New Orleans. At the last meeting the I.O.M. Tourist Board film - "Traa-Di-Liooar" was shown and was much enjoyed by all present.

My sister-in-law, Mrs. Ida Corrin and her daughter, Margaret Ann Robertson, my daughter, Peggy Shue and myself have finally got our plans finalized for the "Homecoming" trip to the Isle of Man this summer. We hope to see you all there.

Ivy Dillon, Sec.,
207 Hazzard St.,
Warren, Ariz. 85642.

WASHINGTON MANX SOCIETY

The sixth annual dinner meeting was held on Saturday, April 9, 1983, at the Fort Lesley J. McNair Officers Club with an attendance of fifty-one members and guests. Guests were the Honorable Dan Quayle, United States Senator from Indiana, and his wife, Mona Haldeman, President of the North American Manx Association and her husband; and Shirley Wilcox, President of Prince George's County Genealogy Society.

We had a short business meeting primarily for the purpose of electing officers for the coming two years. The membership accepted the report of the Nominating Committee and elected — President: William E. Brideson, 6821 Duke Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22307.

Vice President: Gary N. Skillicorn, 6804 40th Avenue, Hyattsville, Maryland, 20782.

Secretary: Mary E. Hayslett, Apt. 302, 2121 Columbia Pike, Arlington, Virginia, 22204.

Treasurer: Mary Elizabeth Lightowler
4300 Old Dominion Drive, Apt. 316,
Arlington, Virginia, 22207.

Timothy Cullen and Anna Brennan were elected to the Board of Governors for a two-year term.

The very interesting and informative program was opened by Mrs. Avril (Quiggin) Shipman reading the Lord's Prayer in the Manx language, translated by Mrs. Pat Skillicorn. Mona Haldeman reported on the North American Manx Association; Shirley Wilcox spoke on how to find our roots; the film "Traa-dy-Liooar" was shown, courtesy of the Isle of Man Tourist Board and Jim Kennedy, Marketing Manager, and Mary Hayslett talked about the 1983 Isle of Man Homecoming. We concluded with a sing-along under the direction of Pat Skillicorn, singing Ellan Vannin and the Manx National Anthem.

Garry Lightowler and his officers have had an outstanding two years. We now look forward to the leadership of William Brideson and his elected officers.

Mary E. Hayslett
2121 Columbia Pike, Apt. 302
Arlington, Va. 22204

CLEVELAND MANX SOCIETY

Our annual card party was held May 10th at our usual east side meeting place, Hope Congregational Church on East 260th Street. This event is a fund raiser and is well supported by our membership.

June ends our fiscal year and election of officers will be held then. Our annual basket picnic is scheduled for August.

Several Cleveland Manx folks are attending the Homecoming in the Isle of Man. We will want firsthand accounts about their trips upon their return.

Marge Kennish Krach
319 Ridgeview Drive
Seven Hills, OH 44131

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

WISCONSIN MANX SOCIETY

Fifty-two enthused members attended the March Smorgasbord Dinner and meeting of the Wisconsin Manx Society at Madison. New officers for the 1983-85 term beginning August 1, were elected.

President: Willard Reese, Madison
Vice President: Henry Turville, Stoughton

Secretary/Treasurer: Ruth Craine
Lembke, Sussex
Past President: Robert Callin,
Mineral Point.

Board of Governors

Mike Cannell, Cazenovia - 1 yr.
Mary Kelly, Cottage Grove - 2 yr.
Vesta Hendricks, Tomah - 3 yr.

Mae Reese will serve as Newsletter editor and liaison officer with N.A.M.A. and other Isle of Man organizations. Several Wisconsin members are planning to attend the Manx Homecoming in July and will be reporting at our July 31st meeting in Madison.

Two new families were introduced, Dr. and Mrs. Paul Kewin, Tomah; and Mr. and Mrs. J. Stephen Murray, rural Arena.

Mary Kelly showed the January 7th issue of the Isle of Man Examiner newspaper which carried an interesting review of the book "Laxey In The New World" published last summer by the Laxey Committee for the Laxey Picnic held in Southwestern Wisconsin. Mary received the newspaper copy from her relatives in Baldrine, I.O.M.

The meeting concluded with a "show and tell" of beautiful slides taken on recent trips to I.O.M. by Mike Cannell, Henry Turville and Dan Willett.

E. Mae Reese, Sec./Treas.
9102 W. Cleveland Ave.
West Allis, WIS. 53227.

LADIES AUXILIARY TO THE N.A.M.A.

No doubt many of our Ladies' Auxiliary members will be attending the Homecoming this summer. We hope you will have a most enjoyable visit.

There is not much to report between conventions but if anyone has any news please send it to me and I will be glad to include it in our report in the Bulletin.

Many of our ladies joined the Auxiliary at the Convention and several have sent fees to me since then. In case you have forgotten, the term of membership is from convention to convention and the fee is \$3.00.

Amo C. Fisher
Secretary-Treasurer
R. R. 3, Tottenham, Ont.
Canada L0G 1W0

NEBRASKA MANX SOCIETY

The Nebraska Manx Society held their Spring meeting April 17, 1983 with Mrs. Gladys Watts as our hostess, with Phil and Millie Corkill assisting.

The weather was beautiful and members from both Nebraska and Kansas attended. Combined with our covered dish luncheon was the cutting and serving of a Birthday cake to celebrate Mrs. Watts' 94th birthday, she was presented with a corsage of silk American roses, happy birthday was sung by all present, Mrs. Watts is the only native Manx member of the Society and is beloved by all.

The business meeting followed the lunch and was called to order by the President, James C. Robison, the Secretary, Annie Robison read the minutes and gave a report of the Society's activities, she then read the correspondence from absentee members. Before the meeting was adjourned the members discussed the approaching "Manx Homecoming" and the time and place of the next meeting, if all goes to plan, Mr. & Mrs. Dave Corkill will represent the Society on the Isle of Man this summer. An invitation to hold the next meeting at the home of Thomas and Ida Robison was accepted, this will be on October 9th, 1983. Following the business part of the meeting, Phil Corkill showed some of his lovely slides of the Isle of Man a silent Auction Sale was conducted to raise funds. The hostess was thanked for a lovely evening of fun & fellowship.

To all those going to the "Homecoming" our Society sends its best wishes for a good time, good weather and a safe journey.

Mrs. Annie Robison, Sec.,
Rt. 1, Box 137,
Elk Creek, Neb. 68348.

WORLD MANX ASSOCIATION

Following on our Annual T. E. Brown Dinner on October 29th, 1982, the Association Annual General Meeting was held on March 9th, when a very well attended meeting discussed the various interesting items which arose. The following Officials were re-elected with two vacancies on the Committee being filled.

President: Miss D. M. Clague
Chairman: Mr. J. J. Quilliam
Vice Chairman: Mrs. N. V. Quiggin
Corres. Sec.: Mrs. M. A. Weller
Treasurer: Mr. W. P. Waid
Minuting Sec.: Mrs. W. Livingstone
Ticket Sec.: Miss G. Coole

The Annual At Home, was held on March 30th, 1983, at the Empress

Hotel, when the Special Guests, Deemster J. Corrin and Mrs. Corrin, were heartily welcomed and introduced Miss D. M. Clague, who spoke of the splendid service both rendered to the Manx Community, each in their different way.

In replying, the Deemster spoke of his past links with the Manx Societies in England, whilst he was in the British Army, and told how on one occasion he had been asked to sing at a Liverpool Concert.

Entertainment for the evening was given by Mr. Frank Quayle of Peel, who showed many excellent old style slides of the Island, these being projected from what was once known as a "Magic Lantern". Mr. John Quilliam contributed to the programme by reading some of his own compositions, in the form of Manx Gaelic Poems, which were well received.

An excellent Dinner was expertly served, and yet another happy function closed with the singing of Ellan Vannin and The Queen.

FUTURE EVENTS 1983

June 23rd - Outing to North of Island.
Supper at Grand Island Hotel.

July 5th - Annual Gathering and Reunion 2:45 p.m. The Palace Hotel Douglas.

The Mayor and Mayoress of Douglas will be present to meet all Homecomers. Afternoon Tea will be served.

July 10th - Outing to South of Island 2:30 p.m. Tea at the Golf Links Hotel, 4:00 p.m. Service in Peel Methodist Church, 6:30 p.m.

The Rev. Eddie Cubbon will conduct the Service.

July 14th - Manx Supper and Traditional Entertainment.
St. George's Hall, Douglas 7:00 p.m.

August 18th - Outing to South West of Island 2:30 p.m. Tea at Niarbyl Cafe.

September 10th - Outing to Port Erin 2:30 p.m.

October 29th - Annual T. E. Brown Dinner

TRAVELOGUE ISLE OF MAN

A travelogue on the Isle of Man that was presented to an arthritis society meeting by Clarence and Mona Creer, Orland Park, IL. netted the N.A.M.A. two new members. The arthritis society publicized the program and two person with Manx heritage (but no arthritis) and another with a Manx cat attended to hear about the Isle of Man.

As I strolled, I thought of the lines from Gray's Elegy: "Some village Hampden, that with dauntless breast the little tyrant of his fields withstood; some mute inglorious Milton here may rest, Some Cromwell guiltless of his country's blood." And again: "Full many a gem of purest ray serene the dark unfathom'd caves of ocean bear: Full many a flower is born to blush unseen, and waste its sweetness on the desert air."

Then, at the top of the churchyard, I came to HIS grave: Sir Thomas Henry Hall Caine. Companion of Honour. Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire. (Born 1853 - died 1931)

A beautiful dignified grave. His eternal home on a bleak and lonely hillside in Maughold. Forever to be lashed by the gales of winter sweeping in from the wild seas; forever to be warmed here by the suns of innumerable summers . . . A Great Manxman.

Hall Caine was the son of a blacksmith. He never had more than eight years of schooling in his life, yet when he died, he was the richest literary man the world had ever known.

He loved poetry, sonnets and ballads and eventually went to London to be the secretary of the famous poet Dante Gabriel Rossetti. Inevitably, he met all the literary giants of the day and profiting by their advice and inspiration, he started writing with such success that his name became emblazoned across the sky.

In the fullness of time, he lived at his home Greeba Castle in the Isle of Man which became a mecca for tourists from the far corners of the earth. When he died, his estate was reputed to be worth two million five hundred thousand dollars.

I saw him but once. He was standing outside the courthouse in Ramsey. A smallish slight figure wearing a dark cape. An alert face with a small neat beard. On his head a large artist style hat. He was then an old man and I was a youngster in the crowd. And did I tell you my friends, he was a great Manxman . . .

Kindest regards,
ARTHUR BRIDSON

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.

KNOW YOUR ANCESTORS

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

Since many of you are planning to go to the Isle of Man this year for the N.A.M.A. Homecoming, I have had several requests for geographical data and also some historical data.

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Latitude: 54°3' - 54°25' N
Longitude: 4°18' - 4°47' W
Area: 227 sq. miles
Length from Point Ayre to Chicken Rock: 32½ miles
Width from Contrary Head to Clay Head: 13½ miles
Perimeter: Approx. 100 miles
Distance from Douglas by sea (nautical miles): Liverpool 71, Fleetwood 55, Ardrrossan 110, Dublin 83, Belfast 78 and Heysham 58.
Distance by air from Ronaldsway (nautical miles): Belfast 62, Birmingham 145, Blackpool 60, London 220, Liverpool 77, and Manchester 95.
Highest peaks: Snaefell, 2,036 ft.
North Barrule 1,860 ft.
Longest river: Sulby 10½ miles
There are 357 miles of roads

The Calf of Man off the south-west coast is about 1½ miles by 1 mile in area and is the property of the Manx National Trust which retains it as a bird sanctuary.

HISTORICAL DATA

The original inhabitants were the Neolithic and Mesolithic tribes, followed by the people of the Bronze Age and the Celts whose civilization is the basis of Manx culture.

Christianity was introduced during the fifth and sixth centuries. The Scandinavian Vikings arrived over 1,000 years ago and from 979 to 1266 Norse rule prevailed in the establishment of the Kingdom of Man and the Isles. The Vikings founded the Tynwald Parliament which has a continuous unbroken tradition and celebrated its Millennium in 1979. After a brief period of Scottish rule, the Kingdom of Man passed to the English Crown, eventually being given in 1403 to Sir John Stanley, whose descendants were Lords of Man for 362 years before the Lordship reverted to the Crown by purchase. The Lieutenant Governor is appointed by the Crown.

The chambers in which Tynwald (the Parliament of the Isle of Man) and its branches meet are situated in the Legislative Buildings.

Prospect Hill, Douglas. During the summer conducted tours commence at 2:30 p.m. each Wednesday and Friday. Those interested should congregate in the reception area of the Central Government Office.

OUR OWN PEOPLE

New first time members attending the Wisconsin Manx Society were Stephen and Elizabeth Murray. Stephen Murray was born in Douglas, Isle of Man, both his parents were Manx, his grandfather was a fisherman from Leith, Scotland, his small fishing boat was smashed against the rocks at Douglas Head, he was rescued and the kindness of the Manx people, decided him to stay on the Island and he married a Manx girl.

Stephen's mother was Mae Ellison, the family moved to England when he was a small boy, but they returned every summer to spend their holidays on the Isle of Man.

When working in Scotland he met his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John and Lady Burns of Perthshire, Scotland, after spending their honeymoon on the Island, they bought a cottage at Greeba and settled there for ten years, they still have over one hundred living relatives on the Island. They still consider the Isle of Man to be their home and have a large house in Douglas. They came to the United States in June 1982 and settled in Wisconsin, due to their involvement with the House on the Rock in the Dodgeville-Spring Green area. At first they were very home-sick, but some months ago they had a phone call from Henry Turville of the Wisconsin Manx Society, he welcomed them to the U.S.A. and they are now among friends within the Society.

During the recent visit of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip to the U.S.A. the Deputy Mayor of San Diego, Bill Cleator, had the honour of guiding the Royal couple on a Harbour Tour, as the Queen thanked him graciously, Prince Phillip noting Cleator's Manx tie, asked, "Are you a Manxman?" No, Cleator explained, but my ancestors were.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Congratulations to Mrs. Edith Curney, Avon Lake, Ohio who celebrates her 90th birthday on August 3rd. Mrs. Gurney who is well known in the N.A.M.A. and a longtime member of the Cleveland Manx is the mother of Mrs. Mona Haldeman, President of N.A.M.A. There are several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Mona is planning an "Open House" for her mother on August 7th, 1983, all Mrs. Gurney's friends in the N.A.M.A. wish her many happy returns of the day.

of the population of Pitcairn are direct descendants of Fletcher Christian. It is interesting to note that the population of Pitcairn is about 229, and of these no fewer than 98 bear the Manx surname of Christian, while the given names are after the days of the week, i.e. Monday Christian, Tuesday Christian, Wednesday Christian, etc.

George Curphey,
N.S. Canada

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

August 20 & 21, 1983 VONDY REUNION AT BRIGHTON, COLORADO

A Vondy Family Reunion is being held August 20 and 21, 1983. The two-day get-together will be hosted by Bob and Rachel Vondy LaRue, 10083 East 157th Place, Brighton, Colorado 80601 - Telephone (303) 659-4139. Indications are the majority of Vondys (Vandee, Vandy, Vaundy, Vendy, Vondey, Vonday and Vandy) originated on the Isle of Man.

Everyone is encouraged to bring photographs, family trees and of course stories of their ancestors. Lunches on Saturday and Sunday will be Pot Luck. Saturday Evening Dinner will be furnished by host family.

Information on the Vondy Family Reunion and those we have failed to contact are encouraged to write or telephone the LaRue's at the above address.

HAVE YOUR DUES BEEN PAID?

THE ANSWER IS PROBABLY YES, BUT THERE ARE A NUMBER STILL UNPAID. PERHAPS THE BLAME IS ON US FOR CONTINUING TO SEND THE BULLETIN TO SOME WHOSE DUES ARE DELINQUENT. PLEASE LET US KNOW AND WE WILL STOP THE BULLETIN AND DUES REMINDERS. YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS CHERISHED AND WE THINK YOU WILL AGREE THAT \$6.00 A YEAR IS NOT TOO MUCH TO KEEP INFORMED ON YOUR MANX HERITAGE.

FILL IN THE ENCLOSED PINK MEMBERSHIP FORM AND SEND WITH YOUR CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER TO THE TREASURER —

Mr. Clarence Creer
14228 Union, Orland Park
Illinois. 60462. U.S.A.

CLEAR SAILING AHEAD FOR THE BLUENOSE II

NOVA SCOTIA FEARED ITS FAMOUS OLD SCHOONER WAS FINISHED BUT NOW A \$500,000 REPAIR JOB WILL LEAVE HER 'LIKE NEW'

By David Miller - Toronto Star

The Bluenose II, the pride of Lunenburg and the seagoing symbol of Nova Scotia, will sail again.

Federal inspectors gave the famous 20 year-old schooner a clean bill of health last week and Peter Brown, manager of operations for the province, says "she's in better shape now than the day she was built."

It's a happy ending to what could have been a tragic story. A year ago, the Bluenose was full of dry rot, her port side weakened and her starboard planking threatened.

Her skipper, Don Barr, couldn't put her under full sail because of the strain on the sides of the hull. She still worked a full shift, ferrying tourists around Halifax Harbour 11 hours a day, but the province was under fire to replace her.

When winter closed in, the Bluenose was sailed into her Lunenburg home where the master shipbuilders who constructed her back in 1963 began an inspection to find out whether she could be repaired.

'LIKE NEW'

"At first we thought she was hogging, and that the keel might be twisted," Brown said in a telephone interview from Lunenburg. "But then we found she was like new below decks, kind of like your grandfather's attic. The keel was fine, the ballast was fine and there was no sign of rot."

The contractors, Nova Scotia Trawlers and Equipment Ltd., decided the famous old schooner could be rebuilt "like new" for \$500,000. Replacement cost would be a minimum of \$3 million and would mean Nova Scotia would be without her symbol for at least a year.

"The province formed a foundation and told the company to go ahead," says Brown. "Ironically, Nova Scotia Trawlers is the firm that bought out Smith and Rhuland, the original builders of the Bluenose. And many of the men working on her today, worked on the original."

Brown says 60 per cent of the port planking has been replaced and 40 per cent of the starboard side will be redone this week. This time, however, she's being planked with solid oak instead of the Nova Scotia pine used the first time around.

"Her whole inner skin is also being redone. She'll have a new body, but she'll be the same old girl. We hope to have her in the water in a month. You should see her, she's better than ever."

If Brown sounds enthusiastic, he deserves to be. He's been manager of the Bluenose since the province took over the ship for the Olands family in 1971 and has protected her through good times and bad.

The Bluenose II was originally built by the Olands as a symbol for their Schooner beer, but they ran into troubles almost from her launching. She was caught in a 100-mile-an-hour gale with her sails up on her maiden voyage and then, after surviving

that easily, spent her first winter in southern waters.

"Remember, she was a cold water ship," says Brown. "Keeping her in the warmth was almost inviting rot."

To make matters worse, the ship was air-conditioned and sealed inside. "She never had a chance to take a breath."

The province gave her a refit in 1972, but Brown says all the problems weren't solved. Then, for 10 years, she sailed up and down the eastern seaboard on good will missions and carried 300 people a day on tours around the harbour.

Last year, everything caved in and the province did a quick patch-up to get her through the season. Only one long-distance tour was scheduled - to Boston - and the rest of the time she stayed in the harbour and worked mostly under engine.

"That was not a good time," Brown said. "No one wanted her to end like that. But we didn't know the extent of her problems. Now we do and she's being fixed."

Everything from the replacement of wood nails to new beams. She'll be better than ever and probably faster."

Speed. That's what the Bluenose is all about.

Look at a dime and you'll see the original Bluenose, the fastest racing schooner in the world. She was built in 1921 at the Rhuland yards in Lunenburg and under her famous captain, Angus Walters, won the International Fisherman's Trophy for 18 years, defeating the best the States had to offer.

FOUNDERED ON REEF

The original foundered on a reef off Haiti in 1946 after she was sadly sold to a West Indian freight company, an ignoble end to a great ship.

"That's the legend we want to keep alive in the Bluenose II. Remember, she's an exact copy and almost as fast as the original."

Brown says this year the rebuilt ship - "she won't need any more work for at least 10 years" - will stick to the East Coast circuit but work under full sail, something she hasn't been able to do for years.

Next year, 1984, she'll sail up the St. Lawrence again to Toronto where she drew a million people in 1980.

"It will be good to show you a real sailing ship again. We don't ever want her to be tied up in a museum. This is a working ship. She needs the sea and the people."

How long will she last.

"Maybe forever. The Bluenose II is better than she's ever been."

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

LADIES AUX. TO N.A.M.A.

Past President, Mrs. Irene Curphey, would like to wish all the members a happy "Homecoming" on the Isle of Man this summer, she would also like to remind the ladies to pick up a few Manx Tokens etc., for the Craft Table for the 1984 Convention which will be held sometime in August 1984 in Minneapolis, Minn.

OBITUARIES

BOULTON, - On Sunday, February 20th, 1983, suddenly at 18 Westbourne Road, Ramsey, Sydney, aged 73, beloved husband of Edna, dear father of Michael, Mary and Paul, father-in-law of Ted and grandfather of Catherine, Breesha and Andy. Hon. Member of N.A.M.A. Deeply regretted.

CLUCAS, Mrs. Helen, died April 1983, beloved wife of Norman D. Clucas, Webster Groves, Mo., dear mother of Doug, Jim, mother-in-law of Lynda, grandmother of Kristin. No further Member of N.A.M.A. Deeply regretted

CORKILL, Mr. Richard, passed away on Thursday, May 5th, 1983, in Detroit Michigan. Dick was well known throughout the North American Continent and particularly in the N.A.M.A., in which he had been a long time member. He was President of the Association in 1938 and continued to serve as Past. Pres. and Honorary President and on numerous committees since that time.

He attended many Conventions and was well known for his wit and generosity, he will be remembered for his generous donations of valuable Royal Doulton Figurines to raise funds for the Association.

Dick was born on the Isle of Man and in his younger days took part in cycle sports on the North of the Island, he was very proud of his Manx heritage.

He is survived by his niece, Mrs. Mildred Gough, 24695, Donald Ave., Detroit, Mich. 48239, also several relatives on the Isle of Man.

JOHNSON, Mrs. Arthur R., (Hilda), of Galva, died April 4th, 1983, at Cottage Hospital, Galesburg, Ill.

She was born in 1901, at Port Erin on the Isle of Man, she was the daughter of John and Jessie Dunstrom Clucas, she came to Galva in 1920.

Mrs. Johnson is survived by her husband, Arthur R. Johnson, whom she married in 1924, also a daughter, Mrs. Edward (Verna) Connall, Chicago, two grandchildren and one great granddaughter. She was preceded in death by her parents, a brother and two sisters.

The late Mrs. Johnson was a member of the First United Methodist Church, also the Order of Eastern Star, Galva Woman's Club, and a member of the Church choir.

Funeral services were conducted by The Rev. Fred Norman, interment in Galva Cemetery.

KELLY, Maynard, age 83, passed away on Saturday, June 19th, 1982, at University of Wisconsin Hospital in Madison, after a long illness. He was born May 2nd, 1899, in Dodgeville, he was the son of David T. Kelly and G. Abbie Hocking. He was a lifelong resident and managed a real estate in the city, he was a bee keeper and he was an early day pioneer in amateur radio. Mr. Kelly's father was born on the Isle of Man and in 1874 when he was 12 years old left his homeland and settled in Wisconsin, he never returned to his homeland.

In 1974, Mr. Maynard Kelly, accompanied by his daughter and granddaughter visited the Isle of Man for the first time, it was a memorable occasion when he met his Manx cousins in Baldrine, Lonan.

Mr. Kelly was a member of the N.A.M.A. for a number of years, he is survived by his daughter, Mary F. Kelly of Cottage Grove; a son-in-law, Frank B. Evans of Cottage Grove; and a granddaughter, Pamela K. Kelly of Cottage Grove. He was preceded in death in 1973 by his former wife, Frances D. Browning.

Death of Mrs. Norman (Helen) Clucas

It is with deep sorrow we announce the death in April, 1983 of Mrs. Norman (Helen) Clucas, Webster Groves, Mo., formerly of Itasca Ill.

Helen was a gracious lady and a dedicated "Manxman", she was a great worker in the Chicago Manx Society and the N.A.M.A.

Over the years she had held many positions on the N.A.M.A., Executive, when her husband, Norman was President of N.A.M.A., she was Secretary, she did an excellent job as President of the Ladies' Auxiliary and later as Rep. Ladies' Aux. to N.A.M.A.

Helen was a friend to everyone with whom she came in contact, she and Norm attended every Convention, she was usually on the Registration desk, her smiling face and friendly manner endeared her to all the delegates, she was a great letter writer and her friends were not only on the North American Continent but were also in Canada, England and the Isle of Man, she will be greatly missed by all who knew her and counted on her as a friend.

Our sympathy and love go out to Norman her husband, son Doug, son Jim, daughter-in-law Lynda, little granddaughter Kristin and her brother.

IN MEMORIAM MR. SYDNEY BOULTON

It is with deep regret we announce the sudden death of Mr. Sydney Boulton, on February 20th, 1983 at his home, 18 Westbourne Road, Ramsey, Isle of Man. Sydney was an Hon. member of the N.A.M.A., and was well known throughout the North American Continent, he attended many N.A.M.A. Conventions over the years and reported on all the activities and events.

He and his wife Edna, attended the last Convention held in San Diego, California, Syd enjoyed travelling and especially in Canada where he had many relatives.

Many tributes have been paid to Sydney, but none more sincere than from the Executive, members and friends of the North American Manx Association, we have lost a good friend.

CHAPLAIN' CORNER

When this issue of the Bulletin appears, some of our members will be either on the Isle or will be eagerly anticipating a trip there as "Home-Comers." Assuredly, they will be warmly welcomed - and others among us will wish that we could join them.

"Home-Coming"! What a joyful sound that is. It says, "This is where I belong! Here is my rootage!" This feeling of belonging, of being related to a larger whole, is as old as civilization itself. Without it, there would be no sense of family ties, no national unity, yes, and no church. Without a deeply ingrained covenantal relationship - man to man and man to God - Moses' leadership of Israel from slavery to nationhood would have been impossible. Always, Israel was reminded of her origins and her relationship with God.

In Jesus Christ, man found a new covenant with God, and the Church was born: "This commandment I give you, that you love one another as I have loved you." (John 13:34). And the Apostle Paul added: "You were bought with a price . . . for you are Christ's, and Christ is God's." (I Cor. 6:20; 3:23). Perhaps, then, it is not too much to say that we are at our best when we are most aware of our "roots of belonging" - to something (and Someone) greater than ourselves - whether it be ethnic, or fraternal or religious. Be glad of your heritage! This blessed Isle, by God's grace, has helped make you who and what you are!

Herbert G. Kelly, Chaplain

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