

Christmas Greetings

BULLETIN of the

North American Manx Association



VOL. 58 NO. 2

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

DEC. 1985

THE ORIGINAL CHRISTMAS

And it came to pass in those days: that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria).

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem: (because he was of the house and lineage of David):

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger: because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to god in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known to us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

IRISH YULE MUSIC BRINGS OUT SPIRITS

Christmas time in Ireland is symbolized by music - music that goes far beyond the traditional Christmas carol as we know it.

Musical historians can trace the evolution of Irish holiday music back several centuries. For example, in the 17th century, itinerant harpists traveled around the country, composing songs for the great families of the day in return for their hospitality.

At Christmas and other occasions such as weddings and funerals, the harpists would be rewarded with an even greater abundance of whiskey and good cheer.

One of the most celebrated harpists was the blind musician and composer Turlough Carolan, who was born in County Meath in 1670. Carolan, according to his biographers, excelled in joyful music.

On his harp, he would compose songs that reflect the merriment of the holiday season: Ham, jam, planxty, merriment. Sing, dance, drink his health about.

Carolan's favorite subject was drinking, and it was one he researched personally whenever he could. So, it's very appropriate that a new Irish cream liqueur - a delicious combination of double cream, Irish whiskey and honey - has been named after him.

A traditional holiday ballad celebrates the day after Christmas, St. Stephen's Day. Boys and girls dress up in costumes and masks and go from house to house singing a traditional song: The wren, the wren, the king of all birds. St Stephen's Day was caught in the furze...

YULE TREES PROVIDE JOBS

At Christmas, most Canadians still prefer to decorate their homes with the traditional, natural tree. Today, however, with increasing concern about conservation of our forest resources, many people believe they are depleting our forests by buying natural young conifers at Christmas.

The fact is that most Christmas trees sold by dealers are not grown in productive forests, but on special plantations using the land that might otherwise be unproductive. Others are cut from natural forests, but are obtained by thinning dense stands, thereby allowing better growth for commercial species.

Christmas tree cutting creates jobs and extra income for farmers and other rural people in winter, and the plantations often provide scenic green belts, prevents land erosion, give sanctuary to wildlife and help reduce air pollution.

Fire Safety Hints

By using care and common sense, a natural tree can be as safe as any other. Here are some important points to remember when buying and installing your tree:

- Buy a tree that is fresh, since it will contain more moisture. The twigs should be flexible, and the needles should not fall off when the butt is knocked on the ground.

- Before you bring it indoors, the tree can be safely stored outdoors, sheltered as much as possible from wind and sun.

- When you are ready to bring your tree indoors, saw about an inch off the butt to increase water absorption. Put the tree in a stand with a good water container, and make sure it is kept filled. Plain water is best, and the use of any additives claimed to be "fire retardant" should be avoided. These could actually **reduce** water absorption by the tree. Fire-retardant sprays should also be avoided.

- Depending on the species, and on temperature and humidity of the room, trees will consume varying amounts of water indoors. A tree about 2m high

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14228 Union,
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Mrs. Hilda Penrice
60 Park Ave., Apt. 502
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NAMA Membership Fee \$6.00 per year (from Aug. 1st, 1984) this includes subscription to Bulletin published four times annually. Membership without Bulletin \$2.00

Life Membership Fees in N.A.M.A.:

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

could absorb up to a litre in 24 hours.
• Keep your Christmas tree away from fireplaces, radiators and other sources of heat, and be sure it doesn't block an exit from the room.

• Never use wax candles on or near the tree. Before using electric tree lights, check them carefully for frayed cords or other defects. Be sure to turn off the lights before going to bed or leaving the house.

MANX HERITAGE FOUNDATION

P.O.Box 1986, Government Offices
Douglas, Isle of Man
Telephone: 0624 21733

16th September 1985

Dear Mr. Anderson,

The Manx Heritage Foundation was set up by Tynwald in 1982 as a body to promote interest in all aspects of our Island Heritage. I have the honour to be the Chairman of the Foundation and it is in that capacity that I write to you.

Next year, 1986, has been declared as 'Manx Heritage Year' and obviously the Foundation is keen to enlighten as many people, both resident and visitor, as to the heritage of the Island. This may be by simple exhibitions, maritime pageants, living folk life displays, guided tours of historic areas, the list is endless. Very shortly the Foundation will be producing its first list of Heritage Events for 1986 and this will be followed by periodic updates.

Each year the Island is pleased to welcome home Manx people or descendants who now live across the globe. Next year we would like to welcome even more people than usual as we will have so much more to offer. We are also prepared to offer each homecomer 'the Freedom of Man', which would provide free admission to the Castles, Museums and even transport on our Victorian Railways.

I would be most grateful if you would advise all the members of your Society as to the contents of this letter and I shall arrange for further information to be forwarded to you in the near future.

Your sincerely
Sir Charles Kerruish,
Chairman,

HURRY! HURRY!

If you hurry, there is still time to get your cookbook "Culinary Capers" in time for Christmas. Just think how delicious a piece of Bonnag would be on Christmas morning! Date sticks would be a fine addition to your plate of cookies! If you're really ambitious, you might like to try making "Manx Knobs", using the family recipe! The cookbook also makes a great present

for that person who loves to cook and is always looking for something new. Just send \$5.75 (\$4.50 plus \$1.25 postage) to Mrs. R. F. Haldeman, 191 Glenview Drive, Avon Lake, Ohio 44012. There are over 250 recipes in the book, many suitable for the holiday season. But send soon, so that you will receive your book in time for Christmas.

OUR OWN PEOPLE

Miss Lena Watterson of Westland Peel left in September for a seven week holiday in North America. She has visited with Mrs. Frost, a cousin in Toronto, and met several other friends while there. Lena is now staying several weeks with her cousin Mrs. Ethel Christian of Largo, Florida before returning to the Island in November. Mrs. Christian has recently arranged to have a public seat placed in the Westland grounds in memory of her parents, Mr. John and Mrs. Jane (Quayle) Shimmin. Ethel was born in Peel, and has made many visits to the Island.

* * *

While on a tour of the South Pacific, Mrs. Hilda Penrice, Bulletin Editor, got in touch with Capt. Gordon Walker who resides in Sidney, Australia. Gordon was born in Ramsey, Isle of Man, his sister is married to Hilda's brother, Arthur Bridson who contributes to the Bulletin with "Letter from Ellesmere Port". Flying on to Canberra and Melbourne, Hilda phoned Tom Corlett, Sec. of the Melbourne Manx Society there was no time to arrange a meeting, the Manx Society there is a busy one, Hilda learned that more Manx folk had settled in Perth, actually the phone book contained many Manx surnames, had time permitted, Hilda would have surprised them with a phone call.

While in Melbourne, the Canadian party stayed at the Hilton Hotel, it was a privilege to once again meet the Duke of Edinburgh, he was on a private visit to Melbourne, as he passed through the hotel lobby he immediately noticed the Canadian Maple Leaf lapel pins, he stopped to ask Hilda and her friend what they were doing in Australia, just a matter of "being in the right place at the right time".

After leaving Australia the tour continued to the South and North Islands of New Zealand, all beautiful countries, the whole trip was a wonderful experience, on the outward journey the group visited Tahiti for two days, truly a garden paradise, lush flowers and foliage, coming into summer the weather was sunny and warm, it was always hard to remember that we had left Canada during October, the Fall season.

* * *

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The year of 1985 is fast coming to a close. It was a very eventful year Homecoming for many of us to the Island; the Manx Choir came to Washington D.C. and was very well received. In addition, the Executive Committee meeting was held in Cleveland and began preparations for an exciting year including the Convention to be held in Williamsburg, VA. I, also, had the pleasure of attending the annual meetings of the Washington and Wisconsin Manx Societies and found lots of enthusiasm among the members. I visited our Editor, Mrs. Hilda Penrice in Georgetown, Ontario as well. I found out first hand what a tremendous amount of work she has done for us over these many years. It is so nice of her to carry on through the Convention.

Now we need to turn our attention to 1986 which has been designated by Tynwald as the "Manx Heritage Year". The Manx Heritage Foundation has been established for this purpose with the appointment of Sir Charles Kerruish, Speaker of the House of Keys, as Chairman. He has planned many events which will take place throughout the year in celebration of this special occasion. A letter from Sir Charles explaining the purpose of the Foundation is published separately in this issue of our Bulletin. You will note that further details will be conveyed to you as they are received from him.

It seems appropriate to urge all of our members to participate in the coming Heritage Year. In this regard, your Executive Committee has provided an important way to do this. As many of you know, a great deal of research has been done to prove that "Ellanbane" is the birthplace of Myles Standish. Tynwald has now accepted the result of this research and is ready to move forward with a program to establish Ellanbane as an important Historical Landmark.

Tynwald is expecting us to help raise funds in North America and I am pleased to report that the Executive Committee has agreed that N.A.M.A. will assist in this fund raising campaign. Our goal will be to raise \$50,000. N.A.M.A. will collect these funds and send them directly to the Myles Standish effort. N.A.M.A. will start by contributing \$1,000 to the Fund and the undersigned will contribute \$500. We will be preparing a brochure to be widely distributed for the purpose of soliciting funds.

This will be an exciting program since we will be part of establishing one of the very important Landmarks for the future of the Island. We hope

all of you will consider making a personal gift to this fund. Checks can be made out to "N.A.M.A. - Myles Standish Fund". All gifts will be acknowledged by letter and will also be published in the N.A.M.A. Bulletin and IOM newspapers. In addition, your name will be permanently printed in the records of the Standish Landmark Center. This is a wonderful way to participate in the Manx Heritage Year and to let everyone know how deeply you cherish your Manx heritage.

Before the Holidays pass us by, LaJean and I, our daughter Sally, and our granddaughters, Kate, Christy, and Annie, and all of our family and members of the Manx Society of Minnesota wish you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

T. R. Anderson, President

LETTER FROM ELLESMERE PORT:

Greetings my friends,

The hopes which I expressed in my last letter regarding our then impending holiday in Manxland, were shattered by the worse summer weather we have ever experienced.

Let me draw a veil over the memories of gales, rain, sunless days and moonless nights. To be sure, our ardour for the old Island was not diminished and our pleasure was ultimately complete just with being 'at home' in the bosom of the family. The wild days and stormy nights were soon forgotten. We loved it all as usual, not withstanding the long and onerous trip from Ellesmere Port to the Isle of Man by Car and steamer, via Heysham. Frankly, so much is being argued and discussed regarding the present idiocy of Manx sea travel, that it would idle speculation to dwell on the subject. However, I cannot resist airing my opinion that the ancient down-trodden harbour of Heysham, set amidst acres of dereliction, reminded me of a small port from which the ragged remnants of a badly defeated army had just been evacuated.

Shall we contemplate Christmas, my friends? That time of strange enchantment. Sometimes, nostalgically, we remember our childhood when, in those far off days, our Christmas stocking would be filled with one orange, one sixpence, one toy and sundry small items. Total value perhaps Two shillings. What a difference the present day with its expensive toys, its tinsel and glitter and its atmosphere of opulence and commercialism.

Nevertheless, Christmas is still the time for friends, for families and for children. The season of loving and

giving and above all, a time for re-affirming our faith and re-inforcing our courage to face cheerfully the challenges and uncertain future of the bright New Year. With this noble sentiment in mind may I extend the best of good wishes from myself and family and all friends on this side of the world, finishing with our usual Yuletide greeting:

"OLLOCK GHENNAL AS BLEIN VIE
NOA"

Yours sincerely,
ARTHUR BRIDSON

NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT

August 1, 1984 - December 31, 1984

On Hand 8 1 84 \$24,933.96

Receipts

Dues	\$1,213.63
Membership	
Certificates	18.00
Interest	866.59
Cookbook	564.75
Gifts	2.00
	2,664.97

Disbursements

Bulletin - Printing	621.76
Editor's Expense	293.76
Treasurer's Expense	100.00
Cookbook	1,185.62
Insurance	200.00
Pins	331.55
Miscellaneous	39.23
	2,771.92

Balance on Hand 12/31/84 \$24,827.01

Memorial Fund Balance
included in above total \$481.50

Account Balances at 12/31/84

Orland State Bank	
- Checking Account	\$222.67
Orland State Bank	
- Money Market Account	22,647.12
National Trust Canada	1,957.22

NOTE:

Financial reports are now required to be prepared on a calendar year basis in place of the fiscal year - August 1 to July 31 - formerly followed. To accommodate the change, this report covers the period from the fiscal year ending July 31, 1984 to the end of calendar year 1984 - a period of five months.

The change in the period of the financial report will have no effect on the payment of dues or the time dues are due - the dues year will remain August 1 to July 31.

C. E. Creer, Treasurer

MEMORIAL FUND NOTICE

An announcement will appear in future Bulletins of those who are remembered through a donation to the Memorial Fund. There were no donations since the last issue.

News and Christmas Greetings from the Manx Societies

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

The President and Executive Officers of the North American Manx Association would like to wish all members and friends of the N.A.M.A. and to Manx people throughout the world —

"A joyous Christmas filled with warmth and love and a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year".

WISCONSIN MANX SOCIETY

Thirty-six members attended our Fall Meeting at Madison, October 13. After a Smorgasbord dinner, President Henry Turville conducted the meeting. Jayne Watkins led the group in singing "Ellan Vannin". The President introduced the new officers. Vice President Mary Kelly asked members to send suggestions as to what they'd like to see done to improve our organization.

Treasurer Mike Cannell announced that Evelyn Cannell had contributed an additional \$50.00 to our Society in memory of her husband, William.

Discussion was held and a motion made that we put in a formal bid for holding the North American Manx Association Convention in Madison, Wisconsin in the near future.

Suggestions were discussed for expanding our membership. The President asked each of us to look through our local phone books and bring possible Manx names list to our next meeting. Publicity about the organization should also be sent to the Madison newspaper. Our President will look into this.

Roselyn Callin suggested that we start building a library of books and periodicals pertaining to the Isle of Man. Members could check them out on loan. The books purchased could be given in memory of our deceased members. Members could also donate to the library. The membership voted to set aside \$200.00 for this purpose, with the Past President in charge.

A tour is being planned by our President to the Isle of Man during its 1986 "Heritage Year". Plans for other possible destinations will be finalized in early 1986. Several members have expressed interest.

Our next meeting is scheduled to be held at the Heritage House, Madison, April 13, 1986.

Wisconsin members wish to send our best wishes to all of you for a very happy holiday season!

E. Mae Keese
9102 W. Cleveland Ave.
West Allis, WI 53227

VANCOUVER MANX SOCIETY

At this the loveliest of seasons, President Chris Stirling, on behalf of the Vancouver Manx Society, wishes to extend Seasons Greetings. May Peace and Happiness be with you all.

The weatherman was good to us this past summer. In August, our picnic was a great success. Good Turnout. Lots of fun and games. The tug of war was an event on its own. Young and not so young participated. Of course the usual cries of "foul" were heard on both sides. Later the Society treated all to a ride on the miniature train. We enjoy this annual treat and look forward to it from year to year.

Congratulations to Alice Killey (nee Kinvig) on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Alice, the eldest of nine children was born on a farm in Bradda on Oct. 21, 1885. She crossed the Atlantic in April 1912 and was on the ocean when the Titanic sank. News of the sinking was broken to them on their arrival in Halifax. Alice settled in Winnipeg and trained as a nurse at Grace Hospital. She joined the Winnipeg Manx and was an active member. Later she married Robert Killey and on many occasions both acted in Manx plays and skits. Mr. Killey passed away in 1934 and in 1937 Alice and her daughter Mona came to Vancouver. Many messages from friends, family and dignitaries have been received. Among those sending congratulations were the Prime Minister of Canada, Mayor of Vancouver and His Excellency Major General A. W. News, O.B.E. Govt. House, I.O.M. Alice's daughter Mona grandchildren George and Jo-Anne Witsten held open house at the Witsten home. In attendance were several friends and family from outside the Vancouver area. A staunch member, friends to all - Happy Birthday Alice.

Members on the "go" this summer were Jean Stirling who visited family and friends in England. Nancy and Pat Rooney who had a leisurely Alaskan cruise.

Our pre-Christmas Pot Luck Supper is being held on November 30th at St Davids Church Hall. An excellent programme is planned... Happy New Year!

Vera Henry, Sec.,
4503 Prince Albert St.,
Vancouver, B. C. V5V 4J8

WASHINGTON MANX SOCIETY

At the invitation of Ann and George Haller the annual picnic was held at Henlopen State Park, Delaware on October 6. The weatherman cooperated and everyone enjoyed the beautiful warm sunny day. One brave member went for a dip in the Atlantic, and said it was invigorating. The previous week she had been swimming in the Pacific. An afternoon walk on the beach was enjoyed by everyone.

At the Board of Governors' meeting on November 7, plans were made for the Christmas Party on December 7; and the annual meeting and dinner to be held April 12, 1986 at Fort McNair Officers Club.

Bill Brideson and his committee have been busy with responsibilities for the 1986 North American Manx Association Convention in Williamsburg, Virginia, September 12 - 15, 1986. Williamsburg is one of our nation's historic areas and has much to offer visitors.

We continue to use the local telephone directories to recruit new members. Each year we gain a few members, and lose a few for various reasons. Some interest has been generated by a notice of our annual meeting in the monthly Genealogy Column of the Washington Post.

Mary E. Hayslett
2121 Columbia Pike, #302
Arlington, Virginia 22204

The Washington Manx Society sends their good wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Ronald J. Quayle
President

CHANGE OF NAME AND ADDRESS

Miss Elizabeth Clucas is being married on December 6th, 1985. Her name and address will be as follows —
Mrs. Elizabeth Duncan (William)
436 Audrey Drive,
Richmond Heights, OHIO 44143.

BISBEE MANX SOCIETY

Greetings from Arizona.

Sorry to report that we have not been able to have any Manx meetings for some time. There was quite a bit of sickness among our members so we felt it was hardly worth trying to hold one until things look better.

I have been gone most of the year to be with my daughter while she had extensive surgery on her feet. Thankful to say she is doing much better and was able to attend her school reunion here this month.

Maude and Bill Franks had a wonderful trip to Canada so we are looking forward to hear all about it at our next meeting. Hopefully this month if I can get enough of them together.

I was disappointed that we were unable to attend the Homecoming. We had our cousins Paul and Michelle Taggart visiting for 10 days this summer and they went on to New Zealand where Paul got a job as editor of a small newspaper there so they stayed until the end of August when they were due back in the Isle of Man.

They had taken a year off to travel and visited an Aunt in the Chicago area, friends in Canada, Los Angeles.

Suppose it is time to include Christmas greetings. The year has gone by so fast it doesn't seem possible. We do send our love and best wishes to all.

Sincerely,
Ivy Dillon
207 Hazzard St.
Bisbee, Arizona 85603

WORLD MANX ASSOCIATION

The last of our series of Outings in 1985 took place on September 7th. The coach party arrived at Port Erin where tea was taken at the Allandale Cafe and greatly enjoyed. Following the meal, Miss May Teare entertained with a delightful recitation in Manx Dialect and this was a fitting conclusion to our Excursions and much appreciated.

The date of our honouring the National Poet, Thomas Edward Brown, M. A. was given as October 26th when Mrs. Gina Mercer would kindly present the Immortal Memory of Brown. Mrs. Mercer is a W.M.A. member and so will be doubly welcome.

To Manx people throughout the world from all members of the World Manx Association -
"May the blessings and joy of Christmas, lead on to a New Year of good health and happiness."

Doris M. Clague, President
Mary A. Weller, Secretary

SAN DIEGO MANX SOCIETY

The San Diego Manx Society met at Rev. Devoe and Ruth Smith's home in October. Their daughter, Kimberly, a professional harpist played Manx songs and the members sang along. Rev. Smith and his wife had gathered pictures and lots of detail on his family history while on the Island, and related his findings to the group.

December 8th we will hold our Christmas party at the home of Karen Rege, and hope for a big turnout.

When George and I were on the Island we met Wm. Kneale, President of the Booth Kelly Lt'd. Ship Building Co., and he showed us where the Euterpe was built, and how different the country side was at that time. Also that in digging for a new building they came across some of the slip which was used when the Euterpe was launched. Then we met David Freke, head of the excavation at Peel Castle, who showed us around and explained what their work this year had uncovered.

All of us from sunny California wish one and all a Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with perfect health and happiness.

Marjorie Frederick
3870 Chippewa Ct.
San Diego, Calif. 92117

CLEVELAND MANX SOCIETY

On Sunday, October 13th, during the peak of the Fall coloring of the trees - a busload of our members enjoyed a trip into the countryside. Stops were made at author Louis Bromfield's Malabar Farm and Kingwood Gardens in Mansfield, Ohio. Our last stop was The San-Dar Smorgasbord for dinner. This restaurant in Belleville, Ohio is well known for its food. We sang all the way back on our return to Cleveland. All in all, a lovely day.

A "Sale of Work" followed our November meeting. Our annual Christmas dinner/party is to be held at the Rocky River Sheraton Inn on Sunday, December 8th.

As you read this, the Christmas season will be near. All officers and members of our society wish for you and yours happy holidays, and a healthy, good year ahead. May you know and appreciate the true spirit of Christmas.

Marge Kennish Krach
319 Ridgeview Drive
Seven Hills, OH 44131-5617

ISLE OF MAN FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Here on the Isle of Man we are all looking forward now in anticipation to 1986 as there are many plans being made by different Societies, Organizations, and Individuals to celebrate and make Heritage Year a really special and memorable year. I hope we shall see many of you making the return journey to your roots next summer.

By the time you read this my term as Secretary of the Family History Society will be completed and someone else will have taken over. I should therefore like to conclude by saying "Christmas Greetings and a Good New Year to Everyone from the Isle of Man Family History Society."

P. Killip
9. Sandringham Dr.,
Onchan, Isle of Man, U.K.

LADIES' AUXILIARY TO N.A.M.A.

The Ladies' Auxiliary extends a wish for Peace, Joy, and Happiness to be with all our Manx friends and their families at this Holiday Season.

We are mindful also of all the places in the world where people are suffering for one reason or another and would hope that in the coming year they may be given some compassion and relief.



CALLING ALL LADIES!

Remember all the lovely articles our Manx ladies made for the Craft Sales that we had in Halifax and San Diego? The Ladies' Auxiliary will be having a Craft Sale again at the Convention in Williamsburg, so get out your crochet hooks, knitting needles, or other "tools" and let's see if we can have another successful sale! We surely can if you will all help.

And ladies, will you please check your membership cards for the Ladies' Auxiliary. Where have all our members gone? We have only 23 paid members compared with 48 after the San Diego Convention. Dues are only \$3.00 for 2 years (less than \$.13 a month!) and may be paid at any time in either U.S. or Canadian funds to the secretary-treasurer.

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



MANX 'SNIPPETS'

The following items of Manx News have appeared recently in various English Papers:

£30m. Airship Plant for I.O.M.

The Isle of Man Government is to build a £30 million airfield, it was announced today.

Wren Skyships, led by Maj. Malcolm Wren, an airship specialist, says it is ready to start work on a £10 million 400-foot-long helium filled aircraft and hopes eventually to turn out one a month at the plant. The aircraft will be sold as passenger, freight and car ferries as well as for use in the construction and military industries.

N.B.

Since reading above, we have learned that the announcement is a little premature, because conditional feature of the project is the introduction of about £10 million of capital by the Manx Government. I am afraid that there will be one or two more 'flights of fancy' in this matter before any decisions are made.

Bunny Bounty

The Isle of Man's Department of Agriculture has been swamped by calls from would-be hunters after offering a 35p-a-tail bounty to cut down the Island's rabbit population. (As 'Bugs Bunny' would say, "What's up Doc.")

Islanders who have waited 334 years to declare peace.

Two groups of peace-loving islanders woke this morning to find themselves still at war. The Isle of Man is still squaring up to Germany after 67 years. And the Isles of Scilly and Holland are daggers drawn after 334 years in which not a shot has been fired. According to some Manxmen, the island's government never signed the Armistice in 1918. Peace may not be far away for the Isle of Man as a tourist board spokesman said yesterday: "We are making a serious attempt to attract tourists, including Germans from the continent. If they'll forget the war, we will."

However, that still leaves a little problem with the Scots. A Manx Law dated 1417 says Scotsmen can be shot on sight, a relic of the days when raiding parties used to invade the island. But the board spokesman said: "We've had probably several million visitors from Scotland in this century, and we haven't shot one yet."

Pressure on the Isle of Man to break with Britain

Pressure on the Isle of Man to break away from Britain and join the Common Market in its own right is growing among the island's 65,000 community.

While the island is linked to the EEC through its ties with Britain, critics of the arrangement say it gets all the disadvantages of EEC membership with none of the benefits.

NB.

This was a very long article and it is suffice to say that it is probably one of the most important issues facing the Manx Government at present. A decision must come on Abrogation soon. Unhappily, as with so many other important matters, 'Traa-dy-liaoar' reigns'....

Redress of Grievance

That loquacious and indefatigable fighter in the interests of the preservation of the I.O.M. Steam Packet Co. and its many minor shareholders, Mr. B. Powell Hendry, has presented to Tynwald a petition for Redress of Grievance calling for investigation into the possible nationalization of the Steam Packet Co. Tynwald have submitted the matter to a Committee of Enquiry drawn from members of the Harbour Board.

NB.

A strange decision, one might think, especially ironic when it was learned that Tynwald had just voted against the concept of a nationalization policy generally, by 31 votes to one. Never mind, we have not heard the last of the sagacious B. Powell Hendry, who well may be echoing what thousands of Manxmen are now saying: "They'll have to go."

MRS. HILDA PENRICE TO RETIRE AS "BULLETIN" EDITOR

In looking back over the past years of editing the Bulletin I found that in spite of my fears and misgivings I have enjoyed the challenge of publishing our Bulletin four times a year. When the 1972 Convention was over at Niagara Falls, I began to wonder how I had the nerve to take on such a responsible job, but Stan Shimmin was a good persuader, I was following in the footsteps of the late Margaret Joughin, she had held the office for 10 years, it was not going to be easy to fill her shoes.

With the help of my late husband, Sam, he encouraged me when I sometimes felt the job was too much. There were so many things I was unsure or even ignorant of. Where would all the material come from to fill eight pages of print four times a year? How many words? lines? typed pages? There was the problem of getting the news to me before each deadline date,

some of our correspondents were tardy, they still are, sometimes I had to be firm in not including their articles if later than the deadline date, but all the technical problems were solved by experience, but the problem of what to put in the Bulletin is one which arises with each issue, it was always better to have too much material than too little, members of N.A.M.A. were invited many times to send along items and articles to make the Bulletin more interesting, so please keep up the good work send along your news and ideas, this would make the new Editor's job as easy as possible.

I have agreed to continue in office until the 1986 Convention, this will give the Executive time to appoint my successor, in this Edition of the Bulletin, Mrs. Mona Haldeman is asking for anyone interested in this position to get in touch with her, her address is contained in the article.

I would be remiss if I did not thank all the faithful members and correspondents who have kept me supplied with news, articles and items throughout the past years, also a thank you here to our printers Reg, and Eric, they have been very good, keeping costs as reasonable as possible, picking up and delivering the material to me especially during the worse time of winter - the March edition.

By the time the Convention rolls around I will have been Editor for 14 years, during that time I made many friends and was in touch with Manx people in many parts of North America and overseas, I shall miss hearing from them all, after next September, my mailbox will be pretty empty.

Whoever succeeds me either Editor (Editors) I will be only to glad to help them in any way, with involvement, mailing lists etc., all the duties pertaining to the job as Bulletin Editor.

(Mrs.) Hilda Penrice
60 Park Ave., Apt. 502,
Georgetown, Ontario,
Canada L7G 4Y9

UNPAID 85/86 DUES

This is the last Bulletin that will be sent to those who have not paid dues for the 85/86 year. We encourage you to forward your check so you will continue to receive information regarding the N.M.A.M. and your Manx heritage. The dues are just \$6 (US or Canadian) for a Regular membership or \$50 (under 50 years of age) and \$40 (over 50 years of age) for a Life membership.

C. E. Creer, Treas.
14228 Union Ave.
Orland Park, IL 60462

BULLETIN EDITOR NEEDED!

For the past several years, Mrs. Hilda Penrice has served faithfully and extremely well as our Bulletin editor. Now she would like to retire from that post. Thus, we are seeking a person or persons who would like to handle this, one of if not the most important job in our organization. The Bulletin is the connecting link between all of the Manx people in North America, keeping us abreast of what is happening not only at home but throughout the Manx world.

If you would like to take on the editorship, or know of someone who might like to be considered, please contact Mona Haldeman (Mrs. R. F.), 191 Glenview Drive, Avon Lake, Ohio 44012. If you have any questions about the amount of involvement, or anything about the job, please contact Mrs. Hilda Penrice, 60 Park Avenue, Apt. 502, Georgetown, Ontario, Canada L7G 4Y9.

The Bulletin is published quarterly except in a Convention year, when the December issue serves for both September and December. There is a small stipend that goes with the post, but it is only a token amount. Of course, all printing and mailing costs are paid by the organization.

We hope to find someone (or several persons working together) who will assume the job for at least two years, and preferably much longer. Please send your suggestions soon, so that the nominating committee has time to contact the people before the Convention.

WILLIAMSBURG SEPTEMBER 12 - 15, 1986

We were delighted by the friendly interest expressed at the Isle of Man Homecoming this summer in our N.A.M.A. Convention to be held at Williamsburg, Virginia, September 12-15, 1986. And the fact that Ron Richmond is building a trip to America around our Convention exceeds our wildest expectations. So now those of you in the United States and Canada who have relatives and friends in the Isle of Man, by all means plan a reunion with them in Williamsburg, and ask them to rush down to the Richmond Travel Agency at 22 Nelson Street in Douglas to sign on. Meanwhile, we will be getting blanks and forms to you so you can be there.

Richmond Airport and Norfolk International Airport are about a fifty minute limo ride from the Patrick Henry Inn in Williamsburg. If Dulles or National Airports in Washington are more convenient to your airline route, Amtrak runs a train to

Williamsburg about 5:00 each afternoon, and the bus lines also serve. Fare is about \$50 and it takes about three hours either way. There are many excellent camp grounds around Williamsburg, on Interstate 64, we would like to hear from you now while we have time to research your problem, and while there is still time to publish information of wider interest.

Patrick Henry is much more to Manx people than just the name of an Inn where we will stay and hold our Convention. Patrick Henry took William Christian into his office for schooling in law, introduced him to his favorite sister Anne, and just before their marriage Patrick Henry's father wrote to William Christian's father as follows: "Your son has for some time been making his addresses to one of my daughters. I find the match as good as concluded. It depends chiefly on you -- for as I can at present do nothing worth mentioning, and he has not much in possession . . . I should be pleased to know what you can do for him. At my wife's death and mine, there will be some considerable estate to be divided among my daughters; but it is of such a nature that it must be kept together for our support . . ." Who is William Christian?

His life was intertwined with the early history of Virginia and Kentucky. He was born in 1743 at Staunton, Virginia. His parents emigrated from the Isle of Man three years earlier and established a general store. His father prospered and served in the Virginia House of Burgesses, and is credited as the founder of the towns of Fincastle and Christiansburg.

By the age of twenty William had risen to the rank of Captain in Colonel William Byrd's regiment. About four years later he entered the law office of Patrick Henry. Aided by the dowry from his father, William and Anne resided in Botetourt and Fincastle, and William represented them both in the Virginia legislature. In 1769 William Christian joined with Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson in petitioning for 50,000 acres in Ohio, but constant Indian troubles on the frontier, and eventually the American Revolution, disrupted their efforts.

William Christian proclaimed the "Fincastle Resolutions", which concluded, "These are our real, though unpublished sentiments of liberty and loyalty, and in them we are resolved to live and die," a phrase which some believe inspired Patrick Henry.

On March 20, 1775, Christian, dressed in his rugged frontiersman

garb amongst the silk and finery of the Tidewater and Piedmont gentlemen, supported his brother-in-law in the resolution which ended with Henry's immortal oratory, "I know not what course others may take, but as for me, Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death!" Henry's plea swung the convention, and he was appointed to prepare plans for arming the colony.

On February 13, 1776, Patrick Henry was appointed Colonel of the 1st Virginia "Liberty or Death" Regiment, with William Christian as his lieutenant colonel. George Washington is known to have been disappointed in Henry accepting a military role, and when the Virginia Regiment was absorbed into the Continental Line, Henry declined commission and Christian was elected colonel in his stead.

July brought the Declaration of Independence, and Patrick Henry was elected first governor of Virginia. He prevailed on Christian to accept commission as Colonel of the First Militia with orders to organize and lead an expedition against the Cherokee Indians.

Christian served in the Virginia Senate, and his wife was official hostess to her brother. The Legislature was forced to flee Charlottesville by a force of British Dragoons. One group making the escape consisted of Patrick Henry, William Christian, Benjamin Harrison, and John Tyler. Harrison was the father and grandfather of future presidents, and Tyler was the father of a future president and a kinsman of the Virginia Christian through his marriage to Laetitia Christian.

Following the war, William Christian and his family settled on his landgrant near Louisville, Kentucky. In Oxmoor, the family home, his descendants reside to this day. He was mentioned frequently for governor of Kentucky. In 1876 he raised a small company of men to pursue Indians, and in a battle near Jeffersonville, Indiana, Christian and one of his men, another Manx descendant named Kelly, were mortally wounded. He was only 43 when he died. Christian County, Kentucky, was named in his memory. His family name was not perpetuated after his death, although his five daughters continued the line.

The above material is from an article Ed Sayle prepared for the Daughters of the American Revolution incident to the issuance of four commemorative stamps by the Isle of Man honoring another "Son of Mann" during the American Revolution Bicentennial.

William E. Brideson

MANX WEDDIN'

Our congratulations to Miss Elizabeth Clucas, Secretary of N.A.M.A., who is to be married to Mr. Bill Duncan on December 6th, 1985, the happy couple will then leave for the Isle of Man, there is to be a Service of Blessing to be held at Elizabeth's Chapel in Peel, I.O.M.

For many years Elizabeth has spent Christmas with her mother and other members of her family in Peel, I.O.M., this will be a particularly happy time for all of them.

All our good wishes go out to Elizabeth and Bill for much happiness in their married life.

THE LIL' PEOPLE

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Evans of Lakeside, California, announce the birth of a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, October 14, 1985. She is a descendant of Henry and Margaret (Gill) Quilliam, and is the second grandchild of Don and Marge Weber of San Diego, California.

She joins her sister, Marjorie Jean, in the nursery.

ADVENTURING INTO OLD BOOKS

Some people read to get away from life, others read to get into life, to experience it more abundantly.

There are virtues in both purposes. For escape from the vexation of events, we may immerse ourselves in books of our choice; we may read for information, to stimulate thought, to help our personal development, or because we enjoy reading.

We profit most when we read with enjoyment, just as we look at the soft beauty of a flower without putting it under a microscope. Reading is one of the true pleasures of life. In our age of mass culture, when so much that we encounter is abridged, adapted, adulterated shredded and boiled down, and commercialisms loud speakers are incessantly braying, it is mind easing and mind-inspiring to sit down privately with a congenial book.

I always find myself attracted by Old Books, and especially at church Bazaars, old book stores, antique stores, etc. Last week while attending a Fund Raising Sale for the local Hospital and perusing the old book stall I found to my surprise, and of course delight, one of Sir Hall Cain's remarkable novels "The White Prophet". It is worthy of note that Sir Hall Cain was a great Manxman who gained and achieved international fame with his classic novels, this gave him a place among the great masters of English fiction.

While over with the Homecomers this year we visited Maughold Churchyard where Sir Hall Cain lies, here a marvellous view of the Manx Countryside is possible, as was Sir Hall Cain's request that he be buried on a hill overlooking the country he so loved.

George Curphey

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

I'm sure that most of you have heard of Bishop William Quayle, beloved leader of the Methodist Church, and well-known far beyond the domain of his church for his speaking and writing... and he was MANX!

Among the stories about him, my favorite is about the time when he was traveling by train, and sat beside a salesman. They began to talk. The salesman told of the company he represented, and held forth at length on the qualities of his product. Finally, not yet knowing the status of his seat-mate, he asked, "And what's your line?" The Bishop replied, "Horizons".

Bishop Quayle saw it as his mission in life to lead people into enlarging their lives, pushing out the narrow confines of their selfish concerns, even as did Jesus in his time on earth. As we think of the bigotry, superstition, the racial and social prejudices that Jesus encountered, it seems right that we should celebrate his birth with joy and thanksgiving, in our awareness that because Jesus came, life for countless millions since has been forever changed, fulfilling his promise: "I have come that you might have life, and have it more abundantly." Still, on more sober reflection, we feel sorrowful and penitent that this world has not changed more than it has; that bigotry, malice and other evils still confine and bedim all too many lives among us. The mission of Christ -- and of William Quayle -- is still before us. It is ours, if we will accept it. May we resolve, as the New Year comes, to seek broader horizons, for ourselves and others.

Rev. Herbert G. Kelly

P.S.

May the blessed peace and joys of the Christmas Season bring you light and hope to lead you through the New Year.

The Kellys,
from Fremont

OBITUARIES

BOWMAN, Mr. Milton, of Long Boat Key, Florida, died in October he is survived by his wife and family, Mrs. Ena (Kermode) Bowman, who is a member of the N.A.M.A. Last June Mr. Bowman's son and his wife visited the Isle of Man they visited the cottage his great-great grandmother lived in which now belongs to him to cherish and pass on to his son.

CROZIER, John. Friends of Phyllis Crozier (nee Costain) are greatly saddened by the tragic death of her husband. John (a Canadian) was run

down by a motorcyclist, and died of injuries on the Isle of Man this past summer. We wish to express loving sympathy to Phyllis, her son Stephen, and daughter Deborah. The Crozier family attended the 1974 North American Manx Association Convention in Arlington, Virginia.

Mrs. Phyllis Crozier's address, 199 Golf Course Road, Pembroke, Ontario Canada.

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

ADD COLOUR WITH A BIRD FEEDER

Many home gardens look drab during the winter months. A bird feeder in the yard near a convenient window, can add a touch of brightness as well as being interesting and educational.

During the early winter months, birds feed on the weed seeds in fields and back gardens. But as the snow piles up, these sources of food are buried. A feeder will attract many different birds such as blue jays, chickadees, cardinals, juncos, and possibly some that you haven't seen before.

A mixture of feeds helps the birds through the winter. Suet, raisins, and of the cereal grains, corn or sunflower seeds are bound to attract a wide variety of birds. There are also several mixtures of wild bird seeds available.

If you plan to set the feeder on a steel or wooden pole, make sure the feeder is about 6 feet off the ground. Squirrels also like the feeds and will "take over" your feeder. Steel poles are excellent to prevent this, since they cannot get a grip.

DUES AND EXCHANGE RATES

The fluctuating cost to Canadian's to pay dues in U.S. dollars was discussed by the N.A.M.A. Executive Committee at their meeting in September. In keeping with the basis on which the N.A.M.A. was founded, it was determined that it is not necessary for dues to be paid in U.S. dollars.

Accordingly, Canadian members may pay their dues at the rates stated on the pink dues slip. Similarly, members from other U.K. countries may base their payment with the value of the Canadian dollar. All dues payments should be payable on either a Canadian or U.S. bank including payments by members of other U.K. countries.

The above statement pertains to dues payments only and does not include convention registrations, book purchases, etc.