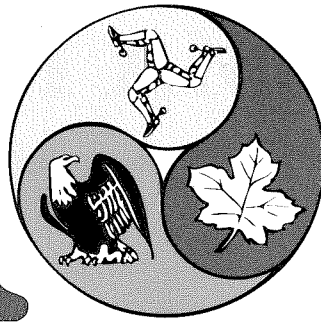


N A M A



NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

Vol. 63, No.3

To Preserve "Whate'er is left to us of ancient heritage." *T.E.Brown*

March 1991

Mormon Homecoming on the Isle of Man

Celebrations to mark 150 years of the Mormon church in the Isle of Man took place the week of September 21, 1990.

Over 100 visiting American Mormons gathered around the gateposts of the home of one of the earliest Manx converts to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints - John Cannon.

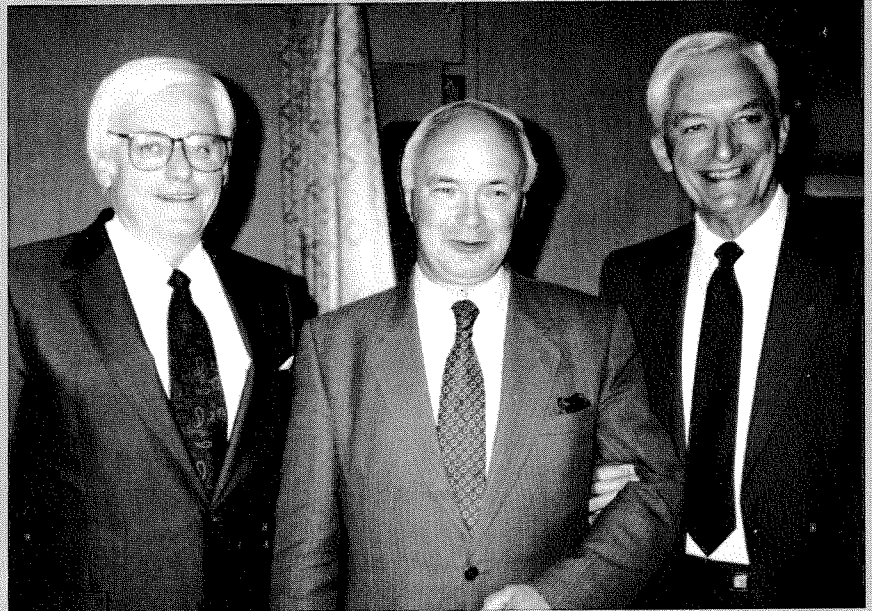
His house, acquired in 1689 - Coolshellagh Farm - is still to be found just outside Kirk Michael.

His great-great-grandson, George I. Cannon, from Utah, led the service of dedication in front of a plaque the visitors installed on the gatepost.

It reads: 'This plaque commemorates the 150th anniversary of the introduction of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ to the Isle of Man by John Taylor on September 16, 1840, and John Cannon, who acquired Coolshellagh in 1689, which was his and his descendants' home, and his descendant George Cannon, who, with his wife Ann Quayle and family, as new members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, emigrated to the United States in 1842.'

The plaque was dedicated by the Cannon Family Association - George and John Cannon descendants - who number more than 20,000.

Amongst visitors at the ceremony was Michael MHK David Cannan who is a Manx-born descendant of



This photograph was taken as part of the Sesquicentennial celebration of the arrival of the first Mormon missionaries on the Isle of Man on September 17, 1840. This was a gathering at the Palace Hotel on the evening of September 19, 1990, where a Manx Tay dinner and program was held for the 103-member group of a tour together with members of the LDS church on the Isle of Man. David Cannon addressed the group.

The members in the photograph are Russell A. Cannon (left), President of the George Cannon Family Association, together with his kinsman David Cannan (center), who is a member of the House of Keys on the Isle of Man, and on the right is George I. Cannon, who is a General Authority for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, being a member of the Second Quorum of the Seventy for the Church.

Bishop Ron Clarke, local leader of the Mormons, said: 'It is exciting for us to have our American friends over to join in our celebrations.'

'The church has had a long connection with the Island and many Manx people have had a major impact on the church.'

'We hope that this weekend will enable all Manx people to see that the Mormon church and the Isle of Man are inseparably intertwined and that both have much to offer the other.'

Bishop Clarke's quote is from the article "Mormons will retrace their family roots.." in the Isle of Man Examiner, Tuesday, September 11, 1990, page 7.

the family, many of whom emigrated for America after converting to the Mormon faith. The name spelling was altered by the American branch of the family in early years.

Some 107 visiting Mormons - Quayles, Cannons, Cowleys and Quines - from all parts of the United States, first looked at their ancestors' graves in the neighbouring Michael Parish Church before the ceremony.

They joined in the open-air service with prayers and hymns... before touring the building.

At the beginning of the service - Russ Cannon, president of the US branch of the Cannon family, said: 'This is a momentous occasion unlikely to be repeated for at least 150 years.' He mentioned the sacrifices made by early converts and emigrants who later became 'stalwart members' of the church.

'This plaque is living testimony of the sacrifice those people made,' he added.

The service continued a programme of events arranged to give the visitors a flavour of the Manx heritage their ancestors left. They went sight-seeing to Laxey, Snaefell and Ramsey and included the Island's main museums in the tours.

They enjoyed a Manx poetry recital and folk music and dancing was performed by the Manx Folk Dance Society at the weekend as well as period fashion shows and singing. (The Americans also attended a delightful welcome dinner at the Palace Hotel.)

The first Mormon Missionary to the Island was Elder John Taylor who arrived on September 16, 1840.

Since then many Manx people have played an important part in Mormon church history by taking active roles in the general leadership of the church on both sides of the Atlantic. The Cannon and Cowley family names recur through the years as stalwarts of the faith.

Excerpts from "Mormons gather at home of early convert" in the Isle of Man Courier on September 21, 1990, page 27.



**Manx Saying:
Same name,
no relation!**

NAMA Repository Program

Norman W. Standish of Solon, Ohio, provides us with an update on the proposal to make the New England Historic and Genealogical Society (NEHGS) a repository for Manx genealogical and historical materials. Director George F. Sanborn, Jr. is certainly in favor of adding Manx data to their collection.

"We would be very glad to have copies of any and all parish registers from the Isle of Man (either printed books or microfiche copies, which, I understand, have recently been done). We also would be very interested in having micro-film or microfiche copies of any collections of estate papers and records which

may exist on the island, or in local or national repositories. Additionally, microform copies of probate records would be highly desirable. There may, as well, be older, printed works which we do not already have in our collection dealing with Manx history, heraldry and landed families. These are quite relevant to our collection here."

Mr. Standish has indicated that it would take time to obtain final approval of this project from NAMA. We look forward to his future updates and congratulate Norman on his great effort to preserve our Manx heritage.



Remember the Skating

Oh, my achin' feet!

That complaint was frequently heard exactly (90) years ago...as Clarence Douglas Skillicorn and George Edward Skillicorn Jr. battled each other in an excruciating 12-hour roller skating race at the Casino rink in Santa Cruz.

Their race would put modern day roller derby performers to shame.

Under rules for the famed Santa Cruz race on Dec. 11, 1910, no contestant could rest longer than an hour and he couldn't rest more than 30 minutes at any time.

At the half-way point in the chase, George, representing Gilroy, was miles ahead. His fans thought they were doing him a big favor when they suggested he put cotton in his shoes to save his feet. The strategy backfired. The cotton wadded with perspiration, and his feet began blistering and the skin tore.

During the last two hours, George barely walked around the rink, but Clarence kept encouraging him to

continue. George later confided that he would have quit if Clarence hadn't made him afraid to do so.

George had to remain in bed four days following the race, and Clarence wasn't too active for a couple of days.

A surviving brother, Arthur E. Skillicorn, 4610 Marion Court, Sacramento, writes as follows:

"One of the most indelible things on my mind is the memory of seeing George's feet when they carried him in the house and cut his shoes and socks off. My dear old Irish grandmother Flynn washed the blood off and applied medication. It really was a sight."

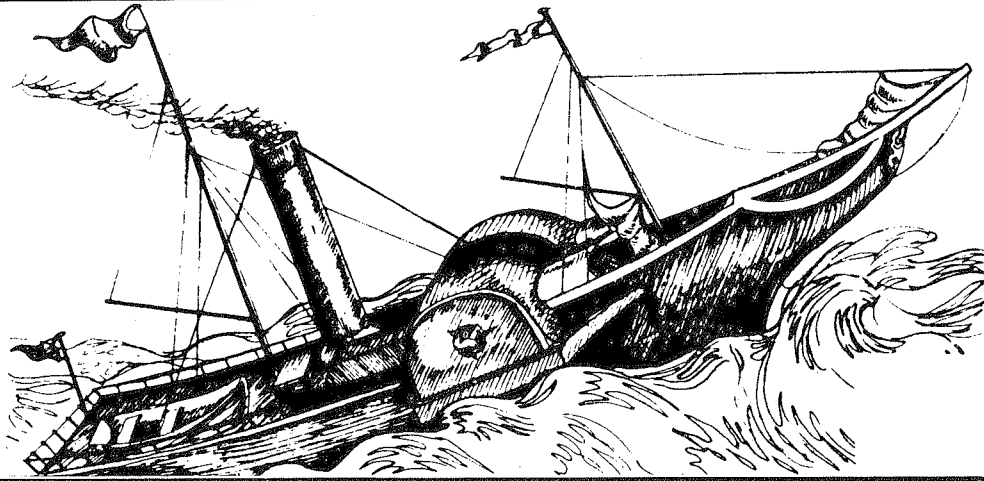
Due to George's plight, Clarence came through to win the race, covering 112 miles and 11 laps and resting only 17 minutes. This was a world record for a 12-hour endurance race and Arthur Skillicorn challenges anyone to prove it has ever been surpassed.

George covered 107 miles and 15 laps in hanging on to take second place. He rested 52 minutes.

Excerpts from an article by Wes Mathis in the San Jose Mercury-News on December 11, 1960.

Thanks to Dale Skillicorn for sending this article to the Bulletin.





The following is a song composed in commemoration of the sesquicentennial of the first Mormon missionaries on the Isle of Man.

'Cross the seas to Ellan Vannin, Home of Homes the Isle of Man

*I will tell you now a story of the family, Cannon
Hail to the sea! Ellan Vannin, the Isle of Man
Of our heritage rich upon the seas and to the shores
Come with me now! Ellan Vannin, the Isle of Man*

*In the parish of Kirk Michael lies a farm, Coolshellagh
Where John Cannon came from his home in Eary ny Gowin
To work this quarter-land a 'willow-nook' upon the hill
And leave to his sons, Coolshellagh, bequeathed by will*

*Well now as the custom goes, the eldest beld the farm in name
So stout Hugh left for Peel his livelihood to gain
There he wooed and won Nell Addy for his wife to be
As a fisherman of herring fleet he took out to sea*

*Have you heard of Captain George, a bolder man was
never known*

*How he sailed tempest seas seeking precious goods of gold
And hoisted on the main top his flag of free trade
Sailed straight past the revenue collectors unpaid*

*Down the coast of Africa his good ship, Iris, did blow
'Cross the seas to the West Indies, a slave cargo stowed
Then home again he'd come for in his cellar to store
A bale of goods for his children and his wife, Leonor'*

*Back in the town of Harbor Peel she anxiously would wait
'Til one day Captain George met upon his fate
The strongmen of his crew had risen up in mutiny
And sent Captain George to his death on the seas.*

*Now before I tell the rest of this ol' tale, sing with me!
Hail to the sea! Ellan Vannin, the Isle of Man
Of our heritage rich upon the seas and to the shores
Come with me now! Ellan Vannin, the Isle of Man*

*Young George, known as the Immigrant, was 16 years of age
When they heard the tragic news of the fatal voyage
These circumstances led young George away to Liverpool
Where he mastered carpentry, though in books he was
schooled!*

*Home again to Isle of Man he came a 'courtin' Ann Quayle
Though, if in bearing children their union did fail
She'd release him for another to carry on the name
But to their good fortune were born eight little ones to claim*

*There's the beauty, Leonora, younger sister to George
Who by friends from Castle Rusben, a passageway did board
To Canada where she did meet a English preacher man
Who sought out her affections and did ask for her hand*

*At first she did decline, until a dream turned her heart
Toward John Taylor's love, a new life they would start
And when there came a missionary from America
Into their home, their lives would be changed forevermore*

*John Taylor sailed to England for a new faith to bring
To his brother-in-law's family-- Zion's songs he did sing
They felt the message glad in their hearts and in their souls
And they knew the hand of God would lead them e'er they
would go*

*So we tell the story brave, and we sing it strong and proud
Hail to the sea! Ellan Vannin, the Isle of Man
Of our heritage rich upon the seas and to the shores
Come with me now! Ellan Vannin, the Isle of Man*

*Well they saved all their earnings for America's new land
By the thrift-minded talents of Ann's steady hand
Though in her heart she feared her life would never see the day
By her courage for her family they embarked on their way*

*Across the seas and mighty waters their ship sailed by the winds
On a journey long and hard afar from Ellan Vannin
Though George's heart was lost when Ann was buried deep at
sea
'Tis the story of how the Cannons did arrive safe and free*

*Though here the story ends, it will continue ever on
Hail to the sea! Ellan Vannin, the Isle of Man
Of our heritage rich upon the seas and to the shores
Come with me now! Ellan Vannin, the Isle of Man*

*Oh oh oh oh, 'cross the seas to Ellan Vannin
Oh oh oh oh, home of homes, the Isle of Man*

*Lyrics and music by Lisa Marie Cannon
Copyright 1990 Cannon Music. All rights reserved.
To order a cassette copy of the recorded song, please send \$5.00
in check or money order payable to "L.M. Cannon" to 10880*

Genealogy Update

I promised to send you some information on ways and means to reach a large number of potential Manx descendants by way of the "GENEALOGICAL HELPER MAGAZINE" which is published six times a year. This magazine has the largest circulation of magazines that trace family history and genealogy. It "provides a way for you to let others know of your genealogical services or products and of your desire to receive or give help in ancestor research." The magazine "has been successfully serving genealogists for 43 years."

"Any size of display ad will be accepted: 1-column ads, 2-column ads, or 3-column ads in any vertical dimensions from 1 inch to 9 1/2 inches.

Samples of ads are as follows:

BOOKS WANTED

AMUNSON, Mary 44660 Mayberry Ave., Hemet, Ca 92343. Want to buy a copy of The CHAFFEE Genealogy 1535-1909 by William H. **CHAFFEE**, Grafton Press, NY. (Cost is \$7.80, figuring 26 words at 30 cents per word)

MISSING FOLK FINDER

KASEBERG, Sherry, Star Rt., Wasco, OR 97565. Wish to locate cousin, Ronald **WOODS** born ca 1931 in Oreg, lived Clark Co Wisc with mother Barris **ROBINSON** when young. (Cost is \$8.40, figuring 28 words at 30 cents per word.)

Please send your ad to: The Everton Publishers, Inc., P. O. Box 368, Logan UT 84321."

There are also eleven branches of the National Archives that would probably post any information about NAMA in their branch. These addresses are:

National Archives-Atlanta Branch
1557 St Joseph Avenue
East Point, GA 30344

National Archives-Boston Branch
380 Trapelo Road
Waltham, MA 02154

National Archives-Chicago Branch
7358 South Pulaski Road

Chicago, IL 60629

National Archives-Denver Branch
Building 48, Denver Federal
Center
Denver, CO 80225

National Archives-Ft Worth
Branch
501 West Felix Street,
P O Box 6216
Ft Worth, TX 76115

National Archives-Kansas City
Branch
2312 East Bannister Road
Kansas City, MO 64131

National Archives-Los Angeles
Branch
24000 Avila Road
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

National Archives-New York
Branch
Building 22-Military Ocean
Terminal
Bayonne, NJ 07002-5388

National Archives-Philadelphia
Branch
9th and Market Street, Room 1350
Philadelphia, PA 19107

National Archives-San Francisco
Branch
1000 Commodore Drive
San Bruno, CA 94066

National Archives-Seattle Branch
6125 Sand Point Way NE
Seattle, WA 98115

I also believe that information should be sent to the main library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (also called Mormons) which has the largest depository of family records in the world. They would also display your information. They can be reached at:

Family History Department
50 East Borth Temple Street
Salt lake City, UT 84150

Hope this is of use. Have a GREAT year!

Jan and Lee Widner
1906 Ashland Way
San Jose, CA 95130
408-374-5700

Ursus Americanus Kermodei

A mysterious white bear, found only in the wilds of British Columbia, has a Manx name.

Ursus Americanus Kermodei was first identified as a new species in 1905, by Dr. Francis Kermode, director of British Columbia Provincial Museum.

It took over 20 years before Dr. Kermode was able to obtain a live yearling cub to observe and study, and, in 1928 he finally concluded that the Kermodei was not an albino, but an extremely rare sub-species of the North American Black Bear. The bear was named after him in honour of his work.

Kermodei bears range in colour from light chestnut blond to a shade of steel-blue grey and weigh on average 250 to 350 pounds, although an occasional male may exceed 500 pounds.

Probably because of its rarity and startling appearance, Kermodei has been the stuff of legends...Stories collected by historical writers show the bear enjoyed considerable prestige in the past.

One such legend says that the white bears were either supernatural beings, or servants of supernatural beings. These beings represented themselves in the form of Kermodei on earth, with the power to take human form where necessary. They helped humans in distress, rescued them in perilous situations, helped overcome evil spirits and showed them where food could be found in times of shortage.

Another legend depicts the bear as having supernatural qualities with power to act as a messenger to entice a person to follow it and meet the bear's master, a spirit which manifests itself in one form or another.

The Kermodei has been adopted as a corporate symbol by the city of Terrace, which uses its picture and symbol on numerous signs, brochures and vehicles around the municipality; and local residents have shown an increasing concern for the Kermodei's well-being and preservation.

Dr. Larch Garrad, of the Manx

Museum and National Trust, confirmed that Dr. Francis Kermodé was from a Manx family. The bear that was named after him is not now regarded as a separate species, but is thought to have developed its distinctive features because of geographical isolation.

Excerpts from an article called "Legendary bear's unusual link with the Isle of Man" in the Isle of Man Examiner, July 24, 1990.

Thanks to Edna Cowin for sending the article to the Bulletin.



Co-Editors Corner

After putting the first issue "to bed" and heaving a sigh of relief, we realized it was now time to start on number two. The second time around is less scary. Hopefully we have learned from our mistakes.

First of all, a sincere apology the Rev. Kelly and all our members for omitting his column. It was an oversight on our part.

Secondly, we realize there were some errors, even after numerous proofreadings. However, the more we read material from other sources, the more we realize that this is a universal problem. But particularly glaring was the missing ending to LaJean Anderson's book review. It should have continued "...Trust of England. This book is truly a treasure of Manx history, not just of the museum." Also, in Mary Kelly's article the last supply address should read: "20th Century Plastics, (Polyester Protectors) P.O. Box 30022 Los Angeles, CA 90030-0022; 800-421-4662."

We love hearing from you. Your contributions make the Bulletin more interesting. Keep that Manx information coming! As we hear from you each quarter, it's like getting letters from old and dear friends.

Where in the New World are the Manx?

by Mary F. Kelly

Whenever people with Manx ancestry gather together, they soon begin to discover their many common interests and concerns. It is a real pleasure to talk with someone that has both a knowledge of where the Isle of Man is located and just why it holds such a special place in the hearts of generations of people who share a Manx name. Occasionally, you may chance to meet someone who even knows of the exact church parish where your family has its roots. (In my case, it is where the records of my family surname were kept and where some of my ancestors were laid to rest.) Better yet, you may actually find long lost family members!

If you know of others who have Manx ancestry who haven't yet experienced this kind of comradeship or felt the rapport that exists at a Manx gathering, I want you to act now. You should extend our warmest Manx welcome to them and then take advantage of our new coupon offer to have a complimentary sample of the new NAMA Bulletin sent directly to the prospective new members. We'd like to introduce them to the many advantages of membership. Please help us find our missing Manx!

Complimentary NAMA Bulletin Request Form

Name of Non-member _____

Street _____

City _____ State/Prov. _____ Zip/PC _____

Name of NAMA Sponsor _____

Send this coupon or a facsimile to: Norman Gill, 10215 38th Court North, Plymouth, MN 55441

This offer expires May 31, 1991

Your Opinion



President's Message

George Curphey was essentially my mentor in NAMA. We extend our sincerest sympathy in the loss of Irene in December. (Please see article in this issue.)

Goals!! We have them! We need them! Besides our desire and effort (mostly Ron Quayle's so far) to have a great convention on the Isle of Man next year, we have goals in communication and membership. The communication phase is off to a great start with that dynamite first edition of the new Bulletin team. Thanks Norm, Sally, and Joan!!!

The membership goal is ongoing for an organization like ours. We have many older members, and, perhaps, that is when people are most interested in genealogy and their roots. We need to get a total membership of 1000 by the Isle of Man convention. The convention itself and its publicity will provide a recruiting opportunity. But, we need more. The responsibility for membership in NAMA is the job of the 3rd Vice President, Mary Kelly. She cannot do it alone!! We all must make recruiting a responsibility both of the chapters/societies and individually. Dr. Kelly will provide some recruiting ideas for us during the next two years. We all need to help. We have excellent prospects in our brother and sisters, cousins, aunts and uncles, and grown children. If we can do ten or twelve new members per month, we can increase our service to the Manx in North America and to each other. Why not send your Manx relatives a copy of the membership form from the Bulletin?? In real estate we have an expression "location, location, location!" as the three principal indicators of value. In our organization the three word secret of success is, "recruit. recruit, recruit!"

God bless our military in "Desert Storm" and the people of the region. God bless us, too!!

Lawrence L. Fargher
President

"Let me congratulate (Norm), Joan and Sally on your first issue of NAMA paper. A great job done in a most readable way. Keep up the good work."

William Shimmin
Virginia, Minnesota



"Just a very quick note to tell you how great I think the NAMA Newsletter looks.

"As Norm knows, I do several newsletters and know what you went through to get the results you did in redesign, content and production quality. But it was well worth the effort."

Dale F. Skillicorn
Watsonville, California



"Congratulations to the three of you for an excellent December NAMA Bulletin. It turned out very well. I believe you are making a mistake by not sending out Bulletin article deadline reminders for each Bulletin because "mailing costs become prohibitive". Since the Bulletin is the only thing many of our members see, I think we owe them the most complete Bulletin possible. I'm sure some of the Societies and others would forget if not reminded. I understand the postage concern but I think we must pay it. The treasury has plenty of money for this good use. Please reconsider."

Ronald J. Quayle
Alexandria, Virginia



"I love the new format! The Bulletin was super. Tell LaJean the book review was great—added a lot to the Bulletin."

Edna Cowin
Westlake, Ohio



BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

Manxmouse

"The Mouse Who Knew No Fear"

Written by Paul Gallico, 1968

Book Review by Lajean Anderson

Joan Gill of the Minnesota Manx is an enthusiastic elementary teacher who is always excited when she discovers anything new of things Manx. She gave this delightful little book to me, and I enjoyed reading it as much as she did. I'm sure NAMA members and their friends of all ages would find it a joy to read.

Manxmouse was "not gray, but an utterly mad blue. It had a fat little body like an o'possum, hind feet like those of a kangaroo, the front paws of a monkey, and instead of delicate and transparent ears, these were long and much like those of a rabbit. And what is more they were blue, too, and violently orange-colored on the inside. But the worst of all was it had no tail." The adventures of this sweet and gentle little mouse, with no tail, begins as he travels from Buntingdowndale in England to

his final meeting on the Isle of Man with the Ominous Manx Cat.

Even the names of the animals and birds Manxmouse meets are clever and funny: Clutterbump, the owl; a Billibird who "carries a tail light, can fly backward as well as forward and sideways, and knows a great deal about a lot of things but not everything"; and the Terrified Tiger, and Nelly, the Nellyphant. All the people and animals he meets warn Manxmouse against cats (he had never seen one!), and especially the Manx Cat. As the little mouse travels on a series of escapades, he goes through tiny British villages, a particularly strangely-named one, called Nasty! (It really exists on the English map).

When the dear little mouse finally rides on a train to Liverpool, he boards the steamer, The Manx Belle, and it docks in Douglas on the Isle of Man. Manxmouse reads the following on a tourist pamphlet, "Welcome to the Isle of Man....The island, known to the Romans as 'Mona', is about 33 miles long and 12 miles broad, containing much beautiful scenery, often of a rugged type, as well as a fine seaboard. There are no snakes, or toads, no badgers, foxes, moles, voles or squirrels on the island. The pigmy shrew is abundant, as is the long-tailed field mouse, and the house mouse is well-established." The latter group, not enemies, pleased him.

Next he reads, "The Manx Cat without a tail, or a greatly reduced tail, is common as a domestic pet on the island. Whether the tailless cat reached the Isle of Man from elsewhere or whether it developed there is not known. The fur is usually longer and more lax than in ordinary cats. They may be of any color and the cat has what is termed as a double coat, namely soft and open, with a thick undercoat. Its rump is as round as an orange and its hindquarters high, which is what gives it a rabbitty or hopping gait, and in some places they are even known as Rabbit Cats.

The Manx Cat, or 'Rumpy,' is one of the feline race and at the same time one of the most interesting and unusual of all the cats. Lively, extremely brave, a patient and skillful hunter, it is an affectionate companion with a cry different from

that of the other members of the species. They are very intelligent. No two accounts agree on their origin. There are various stories of the first one having arrived on a trading vessel from the Far East, where tailless cats are more common. Another tells of how one of the ships of the Spanish Armada was wrecked on Spanish Rock, close to the island, and that some tailless cats swam ashore. The third possibility is that they began right on the Isle of Man."

Manxmouse finally meets Manx Cat. I thought their conversations were realistically Manx.

"Thomas R. Manx Cat is the name," he said. "But just call me Tom."

"I'm Manxmouse - Harrison G."

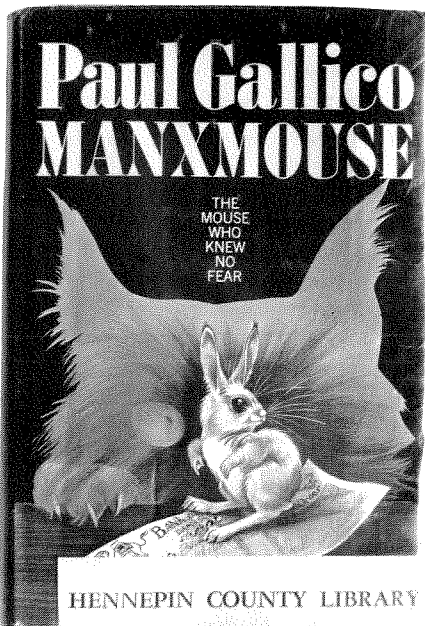
"Delighted to see you Harrison, old boy."

"How do you do?" said Manxmouse. They shook hands.

"You'll be wanting something to eat," said Manx Cat. "Come in and meet the wife."

Manxmouse greeted the sweet-faced Manx Tabby with a white blaze on her throat. And she said, "Do come in," and pointed to the corner. There were three excited kittens in a basket. One had no tail at all, the second just a trace of a stumpy one and the third quite a normal appendage. The mother cat said, "We are a little upset about the one with a tail. He's going to feel it dreadfully later on in life. But that's one of our problems, we never know what we're going to produce. In my last litter all of them were tailless. I can tell you we were very proud."

Tradition, of course, always has the cat and the mouse enemies. Ancient Manx records called "The Doom", according to the author, had a regulation that if a Manxmouse returned to the Isle he should be swallowed up by a Manx Cat in front of witnesses and spectators in a huge stadium-like area that made me think of Tynwald Hill. Fortunately, a notice was found in The Doom, section two, paragraph one, regulating the conduct of the Doom. It said "If aforesaid Manxmouse instead of yielding and being swallowed shall take a firm stand in his defense and bravely and gallantly show that he means to fight for his



Continued Page 8

life, then the Doom shall be inoperative, null and void and cancelled. Manxmouse and Manx Cat shall live in peace forever after."

And so Manxmouse remained on the Isle of Man living near Manx Cat and his family. He married a little gray long-tailed field mouse. In their first litter "two of the mice had no tails at all and were blue-gray; three had stumps and were pinkish; and four had long tails and were rather orange-colored and had slightly rabbit ears. For that was the way things sometimes went on the Isle of Man".

Note about the author: Paul Gallico was born in the United States in 1897 and died in Monaco in 1978. He is well-known for his adult and juvenile books, The Snow Goose and the Mrs. Arris series in particular. I remember him as an excellent columnist for the New York Daily News. He reviewed movies, and was a well-known sports writer. He was the founder of the popular boxing competition "The Golden Gloves".



OBITUARIES

Florence Mary (Pitman)

Hodgson died on December 22, after a long illness. Mary (Pitsie) was born in Farley, Iowa, on July 11, 1907. In 1913, her family moved to Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and she graduated from high school there. She attended the University of Minnesota and graduated, with honors, with a degree in Child Development. In 1932, she married Dr. Corrin H. Hodgson. Mary loved children and taught at the University of Minnesota Nursery School and Vassar College. The Hodgsons returned to Fergus Falls in 1934, where Mary co-founded the Claire Ann Shover Nursery School. The family moved to Rochester in 1937 and Mary taught at the school which eventually became Aldrich Memorial Nursery School. In recent years she taught dyslexic children in St. Charles, St. Paul and her home.

Pitsie and Corrin have been supportive members of NAMA and the Manx Society of Minnesota. Many a snowy evening they drove to Minneapolis from Rochester to attend

our meetings. We will miss Pitsie's cheery attitude and enthusiasm towards our Manx heritage.

Mary is survived by her husband, three sons, seven grandchildren, and a stepsister.

Irene Eleanor Curphey (nee **Quirk**) R.N. was born in Dalby, Patrick, near Peel, Isle of Man, the eldest daughter of the late William Hutchins Quirk and Mildred (Cashin) Quirk. She passed away suddenly on December 8, 1990.

Irene was a former Assistant Matron of Nobles Hospital, Douglas, Isle of Man, and later was in charge of nursing for the Department of Education, IOM.

She lived in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 1946 to 1951, then returned to Halifax, Canada, in 1952. Later she moved to Liverpool, Nova Scotia.

She was active in community affairs, a member of Zion United Church, Liverpool Chapter IODE, Nova Scotia Registered Nurses Association, Queens County Craft Council, and Queens Historical Society.

Irene was truly Manx. She was a past president of the Ladies Auxiliary to NAMA.

She is survived by her husband, George; two sons, Michael of Bridgewater and John of Kentville, Nova Scotia; two sisters, Anne Moughtin, Peel, IOM and Iris Adshead, Liverpool, England; a brother William Cashin M.L.C., IOM; and five grandchildren. She was predeceased by a grandson. Interment was in Zion United Church cemetery, Liverpool, Nova Scotia, on December 11, 1990.

She will be greatly missed.

Edith C. Gurney, nee Cowell, the widow of Cyril S. Gurney, passed away on January 19, 1991, in Avon Lake, Ohio. She was born in Cleveland, Ohio, on August 3, 1893, the youngest child of Henry C. and Marianne Kermod Cowell, who arrived in Cleveland from Peel, Isle of Man, in 1888. She was preceded in death by her sister Isabelle Christian (Mrs. John E.), and brothers John, Philip, and George Cowell. She is survived by her daughter Mona Gurney Haldeman (Mrs. Ray F.), of Avon Lake, Ohio; by grandchildren Douglas Haldeman of Beavercreek, Ohio, Gail Haldeman of Boise, Idaho, and Candace Hansing (Mrs.

Robert A.) of Twin Falls, Idaho; and seven great-grandchildren, Kelley, Kerri, and Ryan Haldeman, Jared and Voni Shewfelt, and Danielle and Holly Hansing.

Edith was a life-long member of the Cleveland Manx Society and a member of NAMA from the beginning of the organization in 1928. She made several trips to the Isle of Man, the first on being in 1899 when she was six and the last in 1983 when she was ninety. Her last time to attend a Convention was in 1988 in Toronto.

She will be missed by her family, friends, and NAMA members.



KNOW YOUR ANCESTORS

I truly appreciate the kind comments via the mail and telephone on the fact that I am resuming this column. As promised, this material is from correspondence and contacts made at the convention. I hope that some worthwhile contacts can be made for these folks; in each instance I have included their address so you can write direct.

"FROM THE MAIL BAG"

EDWARD FRED KERMOTT, 955 Geneoa Ct., Punta Gorda, Florida 33950-6521

Has a history of the Kermott/Payson family of Kirk Michael dating back to 1793.

DAVID PRIMM, 6018 No. Cloverly Ave., Temple City, CA 91780

Has information on his De La Pryme ancestry ca 1725.

JOANNE WILLIAMS, 5140 Buena Vista Ave., Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Has information on Faragher from Braddan Parish ca 1800.

JACK G. CHRISTIAN Ph D, 7814 Rebel Drive, Annandale, VA 22003

Has information on his family that came from the Isle of Man to Virginia in the early 17th century.

GRANDFATHER: Jesse Vandiver Christian; GREAT GRANDFATHER: Ira Jackson Harry Christian; AUNT: Lou Charles Christian.

SHIRLEY WULF, PO Box 694,

Pine Bluffs, WY 82082

Willing to share information on Costain Family.

MRS. JOSEPH PARTRIDGE
(widow of the late Rev. Joseph Partridge), 2305 7th Street, East Moline, Illinois 61244

Is looking for information for her granddaughter on the Partridge family.

DALE SKILLICORN, 729 Palm Avenue, Watsonville, Ca 95076

Has extensive information on the Skillicorn family and is willing to share.

GEORGE C. CLUCAS, 1727 Corralitos Ave., San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

He is anxious to hear from anyone researching Clucas; his family tree is quite extensive. Robert Clucas 1828-1908,, Foxdale, Isle of Man, married Margaret Lace. He has information from the Isle of Man, the United States and New Zealand.

All of these people are "searching" and are willing to share the information they have in exchange for any information or helpful hints that you might have. Basically, that is the "fun" of genealogy—the many friendships you can make and the "bits and pieces" you can exchange.

Mrs. Robert S. Cowin
1223 West Melrose Drive
Westlake, OH 44145-2837



A BIT OF HISTORY

The Keys' self-sacrifice in 1798.

'The House of Keys of the Isle of Man have ordered their Agents in London to pay into Bank of England their Voluntary Contribution of 175 pounds, which is entered in the Book of the Bank in the following terms: House of Keys, 13 March, 1798. The Keys of the Isle of Man, the Constitutional Representatives of the People, warmly attached to their Sovereign & the Condition of Great Britain, offer this their mite in aid of the common cause, & they feelingly regret that in tendering so small a sum, there is so great a

disproportion between their wishes & their abilities, having no public funds at their disposal, & being prevented from raising any, in consequence of an influence equally unjust & impolitic, which unfortunately for their country they are unable to remove.' —From the London Chronicle of 29 March, 1798.

The last sentence is a reference to the political influence of the Duke of Atholl and his party.

The Oath of the Governor in 1595

Sir Thomas Gerard was the Governor of Man in 1595. He had been appointed Deputy-Governor by Earl Ferdinando, the Fifth Earl of Derby, in 1593, and continued under Queen Elizabeth, which explains the reference to the Queen in his oath, which was as follows:—

'You shall not reveale the secrets of his Isle nor of thees Houses to any forreyner or stranger.

'You shall deale truly and uprightly betweene the Queen and her People and as indifferently betwixt party and party as the Staff now standeth, as far as in you lyeth.'

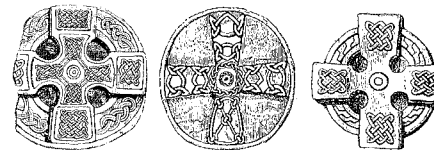
It is interesting to note how Queen Elizabeth's name comes in. On the death of Earl Ferdinando his widow, Alice, was left with three daughters. Between these and William the Sixth Earl and second son of Henry the Fourth Earl as heir male, a question arose about the right to the Island.

Pending the settlement of this, Queen Elizabeth (to quote Camden), well knowing that the 'English and Spanish refugees cast a longing eye 'on the island, took possession of it, and 'appointed Sir Thomas Gerard governor.'

Thanks to Marshall Cannell for sending these items to the Bulletin. He found them in The Journal of the Manx Museum, Vol. IV, # 56.



Poet
T.E. Brown
was born on
May 5, 1830



Chaplin's Corner

Hardly do we change the calendar to a new year, when there arrive—yes, tax forms, of course—but also seed catalogs, those symbols of optimism always holding promise of what you can grow if you try. (And many do try, and some even achieve the promised results in fruits and flowers.)

Even more to the point for a Christian, this is the season when we look toward Lent, from an Anglo-Saxon word meaning "spring". For the Church, Lent always means penitence, a time for repenting of our sins and renewed efforts in renouncing and remedying them. This particular Lent bears a special somberness for most of us, however, as we think of our armed forces engaged in deadly battles, the tragic loss of lives and the hardships borne by anxious families. The suffering of so many draws us to contemplate anew the suffering of Jesus on the cross.

But our faith also reminds us that we are to live in hope. As the apostle Paul wrote the church at Rome—"we are saved by hope". I have always appreciated that old myth of Pandora's box. In the story, Pandora, as first woman, was endowed with all human graces, but was given a box by the sly Prometheus which confined all the troubles of mankind. The gods adjured her not to open the box; but mortal curiosity prevailed and she opened the box and released the evils and miseries. But—one trait remained, and did not escape: Hope.

Perhaps we can take this as a parable of our present condition. Our world is caught in the terrible tragedies of this war, with its enormous costs in lives and material assets, and no-one can foresee when it will end. But let us hope that out of it will come a new sense of human relationships, especially among nations, that will lead us toward peace, and justice. In the resurrected Christ is our hope!

Herbert G. Kelly, Chaplain

Society News

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Taking the opportunity for one last gathering before year end, members met for a "laid back" California brunch on November 18, 1990, at Charley Brown's Restaurant in Sunnyvale. President Larry Fargher, just back from New Orleans, was delighted to greet four first time guests.

In keeping with our tradition, tables were available to display items members wished to share with the group, such as family heirlooms and pictures. There were Manx books, articles, literature and videos, many of which were available for loan. The official 1990 Convention photo was put on display by photographer(s), Bill and Elaine Stephenson. Between trips to the fruit and juice bar, members were able to socialize and peruse the displayed items.

Then it was down to the serious business—from selecting the ingredients for customized omelettes to building masterpiece sundaes at the dessert bar. Cleverly designed commemorative placemats were provided by Polly Ernst, to the delight of the members. She attributes the inspiration to Carol Harless, who presented the workshop session on Family History

and Genealogy at the 1990 NAMA convention.

As the meeting opened, Manx descendants performed the customary self introduction and shared entertaining sketches of their family background. Then the newly installed NAMA President, Larry Fargher, took the opportunity to share his badges of office with the group. This was the first time many of the members had seen the Sword and Amulet.

As members shared stories and comments about the 1990 NAMA convention, it was evident they viewed hosting the event as a delightful opportunity, filled with hard work and a sense of accomplishment. Enthusiasm of "convention past" carried forward to "convention future" as discussion turned to 1992 in the Isle of Man. The possibility of a Northern California group trip is to be explored.

Those attending the brunch were: Lee and Jennie Corkill (Fremont), John and Eileen Corlett (Salinas), John Cormode (Mountain View), Ed and Polly Ernst (Los Altos), Larry and Camey Fargher (Santa Clara), Eleannor Nightingale (San Jose), Marlene Sahr (Alameda), Bill and Elaine Stephenson (Concord), Glen Stephenson (San Jose), Herb and Marlene Storey (San Ramon), and Lee and Jan Widner (San Jose).

Bill and Elaine Stephenson have volunteered to organize the next Northern California Manx Association meeting in March/April 1991.

Jan and Lee Widner
1906 Ashland Way
San Jose, CA 95130

VANCOUVER B.C.

Our Christmas pot luck supper was held on December 7, 1990, at St. David's Church Hall. President TERRY McCAFFREY greeted everyone and led in the singing of the Manx National Anthem. The hall and tables were beautifully decorated; the food, as always, bountiful. After supper tables were cleared to make way for children's games and a raffle. FRANK KEWLEY was "Mr. Music Man" and played the piano for the games and a sing-along of Christmas carols and Manx songs. Of course the hit of the evening was Santa himself (DOUG JAMES). The children received gifts after telling Santa what it was they secretly desired on Christmas Day. Thanks go to COLLEEN McCAFFREY for baking and decorating gingerbread men as a special treat. These were given to the children at the end of the evening. President TERRY McCAFFREY closed the evening by inviting guests to join in the singing of "Ellan Vannin".

Poinsettia plants were delivered to our shut-ins and not-so-wells. This tradition lets these special people know we are thinking about them.

Because of the unusual weather - snow, ice, power failures, etc. during the Christmas season everyone is staying rather close to home trying to keep warm. Our executive will meet soon to plan the events for '91. We know the year will be a good one.

It is with sorrow we announce the passing of Mr. GEORGE GREGGOR - long time member of the Vancouver Manx. GEORGE was born in Peel, IOM in 1928 to the late MABEL (FLACK) and JOHN WILLIAM GREGGOR. GEORGE was a marine Engineer. He served his



Northern California Manx at November Brunch.

apprenticeship in the IOM and later worked on the Empress Line of ships. He came to Canada in 1951 and worked on the Coastal Ferries. He retired in 1987 and at that time was an instructor at the new Pacific Marine Training Institute. GEORGE was an avid reader and after retirement joined a stimulating discussion group at Brock House. This group met two or three times a week and GEORGE thoroughly enjoyed the give and take on different topics plus the fellowship of the other members. GEORGE is survived by his wife MILDRED, daughter SUZANNE and son PAUL, all of Vancouver and his brother JACK of Peel, IOM. To all his family and friends we extend our sympathy. We will miss him.

Vera Henry, Secretary
3142 W. 32nd Avenue
Vancouver, BC V6L-2C1

WASHINGTON D.C.

"On the twelfth day of Christmas..." the Greater Washington, D.C. Area Manx Society threw a party! This year, instead of trying to fit our annual Yuletide feast into a million other pre-holiday activities, we decided to celebrate the end of the season instead of the beginning.

On Saturday, January 5th we began our festivities with a visit to the National Capital Area Trolley Museum, located in a park-like setting near Silver Spring, MD. After a 50-minute ride on Washington's last operating trolley, we shared with other museum visitors in viewing a comprehensive video on the unique history of rail travel on the IOM.

The best was yet to come, though, as we then caravanned to a nearby Methodist church to join nearly 100 other members and guest in the beautifully decorated parish hall for an afternoon of feasting and dancing. Following greetings by Society President Dirk Ramsey-Spencer and the traditional Manx custom of bringing in the new year and "letting out" the old, we enjoyed a hearty meal of roast pork and turkey with all the trimmings.

Several Irish and Celtic dance groups provided lively entertainment (especially a family ensemble of three brothers and sisters led by the East Coast's champion Celtic dancer.)

A large number of us were drawn onto the dance floor as well for a rousing finale.

All of this was interspersed with traditional children's games (ie, "flip the kipper" and "pin the tail on the Manx cat"), as well as prize raffles and a wristwatch giveaway.

In observance of Epiphany, we had for dessert several "Three Kings cakes" containing hidden symbols corresponding to the gifts of the Magi.

Our next event will be our Annual Meeting and Dinner in April. The guest speaker will be Voirrey Stockdale, a youth worker from Douglas. Currently working for 18 months in Washington D.C. as a counselor and social worker with "children at risk", Voirrey has discovered how different the economic and social conditions of inner city Washington are from those in Douglas. We look forward to hearing the new insights she's gaining from her unusual cross-cultural experience.

Russell Woodgates, Vice President
Apartment 306
2325 42nd Street N.W.
Washington, DC 20007

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Firstly - I hope all our members had a Very Merry Christmas and my very best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

The turnout for the picnic on Sunday 25th November at the Mundaring Weir Hotel was fantastic, considering that the temperature was 37 degrees C!! About 60 people formed animated groups to catch up with the latest Manx news - wherever they could find some shade - and the younger ones particularly were glad of the swimming pool.

Visitors from the IOM included Stephen Dedman and Sara Redshaw, Nancy and Lewin Cain, Betty Downard, all from Douglas, and Mrs. Martin from Ramsey. Mona and John Rankin, fresh back from their outback travels, were there, and Bill and Jean Mottershead who were chomping at the bit to go off around the world again. Jackie Clague's mum, Mrs. Lomas, was ill and couldn't attend. "Get well soon." A

long and newsy letter from Bill and Sylvia Jones telling all about their eventful trip around the British Isles was circulated.

AUSTRALIA DAY COUNCIL MEDAL OF ACHIEVEMENT:

As supporters of the above group and its ideals, this society has requested a medal of achievement for a stalwart and long serving member. The award will be presented at a social get-together and afternoon tea at 119 Herbert St Doubleview, the home of Mrs. Evelyn Shackles (nee Corlett) on Sunday 10th February between 3 pm and 6 pm.

By the time you get this newsletter, Kath and Dennis will be wandering around in the snow, either in Denmark or the Isle of Man - but will hopefully be back fighting fit to meet you all at our next event.

New arrivals in January were David and Nicola Babb from Douglas, who will be staying with Judith and Andrew Kneale in Kewdale.

Thanks must go to John and Ingrid Brighton for producing this newsletter, which was put together in haste just before my departure.

Mrs. Kathleen Crains, Secretary
8 McGill Street
Kewdale, Australia 6105

MINNESOTA

The Manx Society of Minnesota held its fall meeting on November 8, 1990, at the Westbrooke Condominiums in Hopkins, Minnesota, for an evening of history, folklore, and sociability. About thirty members and friends made it through the maze of the complex, thanks to the signs made by Eric Dahlquist. Delicious desserts were provided by several members and enjoyed by all.

The business meeting began at 7:40. The minutes of the summer meeting were read. Sally Dahlquist presented the membership cards. Membership renewal forms for both our society and NAMA were available. Introduction of those present included their connection with the Isle of Man and some interesting tales of their Manx heritage. For example, the story of the time when there was only one

Continued Page 12



Norman Gill addressing the November Manx Society of Minnesota meeting.

road and two cars on the Island and they had a head on collision! LaJean Anderson shared her plans to take four of her grandchildren to the Isle of Man next summer. They will represent our society at the World Manx Association's 80th anniversary.

The guest speaker of the evening was Barbara Ramondino, a Minnesota Manx member and psycho-therapist. She has taught a class called "Ghosts and Hauntings" at the Open University. Barbara has been trained in healing by laying on of hands and is a light-trance medium. In her work with people from dysfunctional families she works with the soul and the spirit as well.

Barbara's grandmother was known as an herb woman at Cregneash. She had learned healing skills by oral tradition and had the second sight. Her twin sister died (but didn't leave) at an early age. Barbara's mother tells of hearing her mother talking daily with her twin sister.

As a child, Barbara had the ability to "find things" which was especially helpful to other family members. She also had visions of events before they happened. It was not until she was eleven that she realized not everyone could do these things.

The video "History of Mann" was shown. This wonderful video is narrated by Sir Anthony Quayle and was a highlight at the grand opening of the new wing of the Manx Museum. This treasure was given to our society by Stephen Harrison, director of the Manx Museum and National Trust, through efforts made possible by our past president, T. R. Anderson.

There were several drawings for door prizes. These included Manx books, coins, medals, and even a bust of a Manx fisherman.

Vice President Bill Shimmin reported an increase of 10% in membership. Members from states

without local societies have been recruited. Bill gave Manx items as awards for the three members signing up the most new members. A special thanks to Bill for his enthusiastic campaign.

The Minnesota Manx are planning an evening of dining and entertainment this spring in Minneapolis. The occasion proposes to celebrate the birthday of T. E. Brown on an early Saturday evening to accommodate all of our members across the state. Details will be released as soon as they become available. We hope to see you there!

Joan Gill, Secretary
10215 38th Court North
Plymouth, Minnesota 55441

CHICAGO

The Chicago Manx Society was saddened to lose a life-long member when Edith Ristow passed away in early January. Her father, William Kneen, was a founding member of the Chicago Manx Society and Edie was always an active member. She will be missed very much. Our condolences to her family and friends.

In November, the Chicago Manx held its annual fall meeting at the home of Dorothy Gawne and we elected new officers for the next year. Robert Kelly was elected President and Florence Abbinanti (Kneale) was elected Secretary-Treasurer. We had lovely refreshments and then we saw a movie on the IOM.

We are planning our next meeting for the spring when the weather will be warmer. Will be looking forward to seeing quite a few of you in April.

Florence Abbinanti, Secretary-Treasurer
9330 South Richmond Avenue
Evergreen Park, Illinois 60642

SAN DIEGO CO.

Where has the year gone! It's time to wish you all a healthy and prosperous 1991.

We have a new president as of our December meeting. We welcome Marge Frederick back again to serve another term. Marge has been president in the past and has done a terrific job.

Our out-going president is Rev. Devore Craine Smith who has served us for two years. Yours truly is secretary/treasurer for another year, and Virginia Mellon is our historian.

Our December meeting was held at the home of John and Pat Latham. John had major surgery January 2, but is recovering well. Many of you know Malcolm Kinley and what a treat it is to hear him recite his Manx poems, which he is always so willing to entertain us with. He did just that at our Christmas party. Many of our members attended the convention in August and brought back a full report.

Brian Harrison's mother passed away in November. Some of you will remember her from Regaby, Isle of Man. Her name was Lennie and she was married to Frank who died five years ago.

We all send our greetings to each one of you from sunny southern California.

Hilary Harrison
Secretary/Treasurer
2353 Geranium St.
San Diego, CA 92109

CLEVELAND

For the past several years, we have not planned any meeting in January and February for Cleveland's weather during those months can be unpredictable and necessitates cancellations.

On March 3rd, we will be attending a band concert by the Bay Village Community Band at the Bay Village High School. We will go to a nearby restaurant afterwards.

April's activity may be enjoying food and entertainment at a dinner theatre. Liz and Bill Duncan have again graciously invited us to their home for an informal get-together in May.

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

FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

The dust has long since settled on our A.G.M. in September last with the committee status quo being maintained but for the welcome return of Mr. Ron Shimmin from Kirk Michael. However, since then we have sadly lost the services of two stalwart committee members and we are actively seeking a new editor for our Quarterly Journal. Perhaps we could arrange a lend-lease agreement with your Norman Gill.

The Isle of Man Heritage Foundation exhibitions, "Handing It On", in October was an outstanding success and very well supported by all the Island societies. We exhibited "Footsteps", a step by step guide to tracing your family tree using a Corlett family tree with illustrations, photographs, artifacts and documents at every step back in time. Our stand was well attended and received high praise from the Foundation for its efforts. Many thanks were extended to the devoted small band of workers, especially Mrs. Mylchreest, Mrs. Lewthwaite, Mr. and Mrs. Crowe and Mr. Cleator.

Our 1990 session was rounded off in style with two excellent speakers, Mr. Stuart Slack and Mrs. Betty Hanson. Stuart gave us an insight into his research into the old Douglas street names and their possible derivation using land and will records. He kindly donated one of his research notebooks to our library. Stuart is to be congratulated on being recently appointed Director of Postal Services. Mrs. Betty Hanson, World Manx Association, provided a potted lifestory of both Henri Baume and Henry Bloom Nobles using letters, diaries, and records to give a fascinating inside view of the lifestyles of two of the Island's best known benefactors.

Christmas was celebrated in festive fashion with our dinner at the Tudor Inn, Port Jack, Onchan, attended by our patron Sir Charles Kerruish, President of Tynwald. Everyone enjoyed the evening, good food, good wine and most of all good company.

Our 1991 programme has been arranged with talks covering a wide range of interesting subjects which should appeal to all tastes and

something for everyone to enjoy. If January's standard is maintained, an in depth talk and slide show on "A Manx Mansion, Kirby and its Families" by Mr. Stowell Kenyon, then we can look forward to more excellent evenings. Our outing this year in June is around the old part of Onchan Village, and we are holding our annual exhibition in July. We meet on the third Friday of every month, so if any NAMA members happen to be on the Island on these dates, then we would extend to you a very warm welcome and an open invitation to join us at any of our meetings.

E.W.Q. Cleator
Secretary--IOM FHS
5 Selborne Drive
Douglas, IOM

WORLD MANX ASSOCIATION

On 15th December we had our Christmas Luncheon and the usual successful raffle. We celebrated at the Rutland Hotel but again we found that this venue is not large enough to cater for all those who wish to attend and so in future we must try to find somewhere larger to accommodate our numbers. One of our guests was Mrs. Pallister from Australia.

Our entertainer was Mr. H. Galbraith, who is the Headmaster of the Queen Elizabeth II High School in Peel. He delighted us with a varied programme of songs including "The Little Road to Bethlehem" and the ever popular "White Christmas".

Father Christmas favoured us with a visit and distributed the raffle prizes.

Now we are busy making plans for our 80th Birthday Celebrations and Miss Cottier is preparing the third issue of our News Letter which we hope will be available shortly.

A programme for 1991 is being planned from the 3rd to 10th July in order to include the Garden Party at Government House and the Tynwald Ceremony. However, those of you who can come to the Island at a later date or can stay longer will be able to celebrate with us the actual Birthday on 17th July. On that day, we are planning an outing, visiting the places closely associated with the formation of the W.M.A.--namely

Rushen Abbey, Great Meadow, Ballaquane and the Nunnery. Also on the 17th we are arranging to have a First Day Cover. Unfortunately, we cannot have a special postage stamp but we can have a special envelope featuring if possible a photograph of T.E. Brown and the stamps in current use will be hand-franked with an appropriate cancellation mark.

We hope to welcome many of our overseas friends this summer and also next year when the convention will be held in Douglas.

With warm wishes from all W.M.A. members to all our friends in Canada and the U.S.A.

Winifred Musgrove
Hon. Correspondence Secretary
11 Terence Avenue
Douglas, Isle of Man

OUR OWN PEOPLE

A recent visitor to the Isle of Man, Dr. Carole Watterson Troxler of Elon College, North Carolina, visited the Island last year for just a few days, and this time stayed for a week in January. Carole's 'Watterson' ancestor was in the United States in the 18th century, so it is more difficult to identify her particular Watterson who left the Island to settle in America, but she was working on it at the Manx Museum Library and also became a member of the IOM Family History Society.

In October 1990, Jack and Kay McCandless of Denver, Colorado, spent a few days on the Island and were hoping to return for a longer stay. Kay's father was Thomas Christian, born in Peel in 1879, and came to Cleveland with his widowed mother, three brothers and a sister about 1906. They took an active part in the Cleveland Manx Society. By meeting with Noreen in Peel, Kay was able to hear recent news of her first cousin, Tom Christian of Oregon, who was at the convention in Santa Clara and visited with Noreen.

Another Christian family visited the Island earlier in 1990, and following a suggestion made to them

Continued Page 14

OUR OWN *Continued*

by Doris Brideson, got in touch with Noreen for help with their Christian ancestry. Dan and Donna Christian with their two sons, Steve and Tom, are from Port Washington, Wisconsin. This was their first visit to the Isle of Man and they hope to come again. The youngest son, Tom, would like to spend a month of his summer holidays on the Island, according to a letter sent to Noreen after they returned. Dan's grandfather, who was 21 when he came to the States in 1902, was Stephen Arthur Christian of a Glen Rushen family. Genealogy is going to be an absorbing hobby for them in the future.



CATS' CORNER

I noticed in the Bulletin you're interested in hearing about Manx cats, and I thought you might be interested to hear about our treasure, Dhooley Clucas Duncan. How we obtained her is rather interesting.

She was born in Alaska five years ago and brought to an animal sanctuary there to be put to sleep. The lady who works there contacted her mother in Cleveland, who happens to be Manx, and asked if she knew anyone who wanted a Manx kitten. Bill and I were on a coach ride organized by the Cleveland Manx Society one day and Mrs. Glunt announced that her daughter had a Manx kitten looking for a home. We were not married at that time but we decided we wanted her, so we arranged for her to be flown from Alaska to Cleveland, where she lived with Bill for two months before we got married.

She is an absolute treasure and we would be lost without her. Bill always says that if ever it comes he must choose between Dhooley and



Dhooley Clucas- Duncan

me, to just remember that she has been in the house longer than I have!

I am sending you a recent photo of her. Pity the background didn't come out because it is all Manx pictures I stuck on a board which we have in front of the fireplace, but it does show off her lovely non-tailed end! (Dhooley, as I am sure you know, is Manx for Black.)

Elizabeth Duncan

Tales of a Manx Tail (or lack of)

Though my ancestral origins are from the same part of the world, wisely my ancestors refrained from removing **their** tails as the cats from the Isle of Man. There are far too many **good** uses for a tail particularly one of sizable proportions such as mine.

For I am a Manxman's Golden Retriever with a long silky tail, a glory to behold. I have found many uses for it besides the standard breeze producing, fly chasing variety.

It serves as a wonderful attention getter, particularly at Manx meetings. A good tail can knock the contents of a coffee table helter skelter with one wag. Then everyone knows I am there. Now, they may be a few words of reprimand but they are always followed by a delightful pat on the head. My Manx owner always feels guilty after disciplining old "sad eyes".

With the proper positioning of the body between the bed and the wall at 6:30 A.M., the tail can sound the perfect wake-up call for **my** breakfast. A dog can get scolded for barking for breakfast or for jumping on the bed as the morning alarm. But with the tap-tap-tap of the tail to the wall, a Manx hand stretches from the covers and scratches between the ears for 10 minutes of shut-eye.

On the other hand, the old word tattle-**tale** (or is it tail?) describes the emotional giveaway a tail can be. Is not always used to my best advantage, such as when I am trying to look repentant for having sat in the middle of the genealogy tree tracing some Manxman's heritage. But when "dog tired" and a response to my "Manx Master" is necessary, my tail can tap-tap-tap agreement or

praise without ever having to move another muscle of my body.

Yes, by far the most important function of a dog's tail is the emotional tale it has to tell. For how could anyone ever know if a Manx cat is happy.



Laxey Cemetery is Studied

By Mary F. Kelly, 3rd Vice President

Periodic visits to cemeteries are not unusual. For most of us they are a way we pay tribute to our beloved departed family and friends. It is often an emotional experience, one that evokes the most intimate feelings. Seldom, however, do we take time to ponder the implied meaning our practice of burial traditions leaves behind for others to interpret.

Last October, 1990, Al Divine, an iconatrophic analyst, was just such an active observer during his first expedition to Laxey Cemetery, located in the southwest corner of Wisconsin. (The cemetery is now known to the larger Manx community as the site of the only Manx-built church in America and the reestablished Laxey Picnics.) Divine will be making a progress report, of his findings during that initial visit, to the Wisconsin Manx Society at their April 28th noon meeting at Heritage House in Madison. He will include comments about the gravestone art which is exhibited at Laxey as well as provide an outsider's critique on the present over all relative condition of the cemetery. He will also give helpful suggestions for techniques which may be employed to stave off the damaging effects of the natural elements.

Divine has much more than a transitory fascination with tombstones. For nearly thirty years he has actively sought small and remote cemeteries to explore before he began to evaluate them as part of his Ph. D. studies at the University of Wisconsin. Divine already holds two degrees from the College of St. Rose, Albany, NY and he has held a variety of positions associated with historic preservation, educational research, and visual design. His report promises to be interesting and

informative.

Some of the field procedures which Divine uses while gathering information about a cemetery is to take photographs, do a preliminary cleaning of dirty tombstones, do rubbings, and probe the soil for buried stones. He then develops notes and sketches of each grave, maps the position of all the tombstones in relationship to other stones and to the over all layout of the cemetery. Back at his computer, as part of an extensive visual data base, Divine creates a visual map of the entire cemetery using numerous icons representing the various styles of tombstones and markers in the cemetery. The types of icons also present a record of the condition the gravestones were in at the time of his survey. Along with the visual information, Divine records the individual names, inscriptions, and other distinguishing marks like the initials of stone cutters, and more.

Divine's archival record of each cemetery goes beyond the visual inventory of graves and gravestones and inscriptions. He is developing a visual tool which will become a model for the examination of gravestone art everywhere. Divine has studied many different cemeteries, situated along the eastern coast, in the western states, and those of Wisconsin which were created by people from a variety of cultural and ethnic backgrounds. He believes that his studies provide comparisons which will enable him to make some conclusions about the aesthetic taste of the various ethnic groups as well as identify many of the other values held by those of people as part of their culture.



UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

HERBERT G. KELLY

Herbert was born and raised on a farm in southwestern Wisconsin. His Grandfather Kelly was a native of Laxey, IOM, and emigrated to Wisconsin where he farmed and was a lay preacher.

Herbert was educated at the

University of Wisconsin in Madison. Then he attended the Chicago Theological Seminary and was ordained in the Christian ministry in the Congregational Church of Britt, Iowa, in 1944.

In 1940 Herbert married Mary Joyce Meating at Shiocton, Wisconsin. They had four children: Victoria (Mrs. Miles Knudsen) of Sioux City, Iowa; Philip and Gordon (Jim) of Lincoln, Nebraska; and Gregory of Santa Cruz, California. Their grandchildren, Taurea, Tavia, and Andrew, all live in Sioux City.

Reverent Kelly is presently semi-retired, but is active as an associate pastor in the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Fremont, Nebraska. He serves as chaplain to the North American Manx Association and assists as preacher at the biennial Laxey picnic in southern Wisconsin. He enjoys fishing, reading, and doing crossword puzzles.

ELIZABETH DUNCAN

Elizabeth has been the secretary of the North American Manx Association for about twenty years. She says the job is not hectic until Convention time and Executive Committee Meeting bi-annually. Then she is kept busy.

Her other life is being married to a Scotsman, Bill, and taking care of him and their Manx cat Dhooey. She works full time in a busy doctor's office. During the winter months she enjoys singing in the church choir and other activities in that group. She and Bill are great fans of the local indoor soccer team which keeps them busy most of the winter attending all the games. In the summer they both love lawn bowling and any outdoor activities, especially taking care of their fairly large garden.

Elizabeth is also secretary of the Cleveland Manx Society and often has the pleasure of taking the Cleveland Medal home (she was born in Peel) at Christmas for the Guild, the Manx Music Festival, the following year.



**Manx Saying:
No herring,
No wedding!**

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F.Y.I.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES

Some of our NAMA members have used Ruesch International to obtain Foreign Bank Drafts and Foreign Check conversions. They would like to inform us that the company's address has changed to:

1350 Eye Street NW
10th Floor
Washington, C.D. 20005

The toll free number remains the same: 1-800-424-2923.

DEADLINES

To NAMA Bulletin reporters and members:

We plan to issue four NAMA Bulletins in 1991. Of course, as always, we welcome and need your contributions to the Bulletin at any time. However, listed below are the deadlines by which we must receive your materials in order to make a given issue.

<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Bulletin Issue</u>
February 10	March
May 10	June
August 10	September
November 10	December

Please keep these dates in your reference files. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

ADVERTISEMENTS

We have been asked if the Bulletin accepts advertisements. We would be willing to take Manx related ads at no cost. Of course, a donation to the North American Manx Association would be appreciated.

STAMPS

The Isle of Man will be issuing five stamps on February 13 for the 100th anniversary of the Life Boats Association. On January 9 five stamps were issued showing the development of Manx photography. Five stamps with new definitive values will appear this spring.

1992 CONVENTION

We have received word from Terry Toohey, Tourist Board Director, who has the support of Alan Bell, Minister of IOM Tourism, indicating their interest and support for our 1992 convention. We have convention planning material describing conference and banquet facilities and other possible activities for our group. A tentative reservation has been made at the Manx Museum Auditorium for the Friday evening before Tynwald.

Margaret and I will be on the IOM for the 1991 Tynwald ceremony. At that time we will be contacting local officials and visiting possible convention sites so that we can make more specific plans.

We are excited and enthusiastic about starting our end of the

planning. We encourage you to start your planning. Get the family — children, brothers and sister, aunts and uncles, cousins — involved. Make arrangements not only to go, perhaps visiting the Island for the first time, but also for family get togethers while you are there.

Ronald J. Quayle

VIDEO

An excellent video, The Story of Mann, was produced by the Manx Museum when they opened their new wing. This historical view of the IOM is narrated by Sir Anthony Quayle. If your society would like to borrow a copy of this video contact Ronald Quayle or Norman Gill. Their addresses are listed on page 15.

Recipe: Manx Bonnag

Ingredients:

1 lb. plain flour
2 oz. fat
1 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. cream of tartar
1/2 pt. sour milk or butter milk
pinch of salt



Mix dry ingredients and rub fat into flour. Add milk to form stiff dough. Place in greased round baking tin and bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour or until done. Serve sliced with butter. For Fruit Bonnag, make as plain recipe adding 6 oz. raisins and 2 tbs. sugar.

This recipe appeared in the 1989 Manx Fact Calendar researched and compiled by Sally Black and Carol Jones.

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