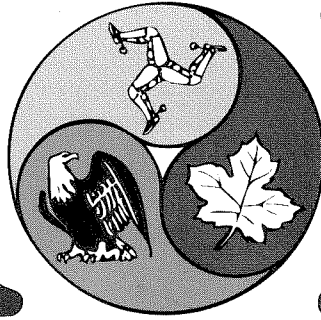


NAMA



NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

Vol. 63, No. 4

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

June 1991

1992 NAMA Convention on the Isle of Man

Most of us have made our plans for this year's vacations. Some have completed their travel and others are looking forward to their travels with eager anticipation. However, now is also the time to start thinking about 1992 vacation plans. We propose that you start planning a special vacation to the Isle of Man to attend the 1992 NAMA Convention which will be centered around the Tynwald Ceremony on Monday, July 6th. For that special vacation, plan to combine travel to England, Ireland, Scotland and/or Wales. Plan to arrive on the Isle several days before the convention and plan to spend some time after the convention as your time allows.

The Washington Manx Society will host and plan for the convention. Recall that they hosted the very successful 1986 NAMA Convention in Williamsburg, Virginia. The first planning meeting was held in the home of Ron and Margaret Quayle in mid May. Committee assignments and chairpersons were designated in the areas of publicity, registration, travel, hotel accommodations, convention program, souvenir program, and non-convention Island tours and activities. Convention activities will be planned for Friday, 3 July, through Sunday, 5 July and will begin with a reception at the Manx Museum. We will see the movie/video "Story of Mann" and be able to visit the museum. We plan to minimize convention activities in recognition of everyone's interest in exploring the Island and visiting friends and relatives. Ron and Margaret Quayle will be meeting this

July with the Manx Tourist Board who will be assisting in planning all activities and events. You will be kept informed of convention plans in future issues of the Bulletin.

Some members of the George Q. Cannon Family Association (see last Bulletin for description of their trip to the Isle in 1990) plan to visit the Isle during Tynwald in 1992. Plans are currently being explored to coordinate their visit with our convention.

Callin Memorial in Laxey Cemetery

On July 7, Manx and Cornish descendants from all over the country will show for an old-fashioned Sunday School type picnic that will be held in the Laxey Cemetery in rural Dodgeville.

Where once there was a rock church on the cemetery grounds, by July, plans call for a memorial shelter to be constructed in memory of the late Robert Callin whose father had come from the Isle of Man at age 17. "I want it to be built in the area of the original Manx church," said his widow, Roselyn Callin (organizer of the project), at a Wisconsin Manx Society meeting April 28.

President of the society, Mike Cannell, reminded the group that it was Callin who had spearheaded the Wisconsin group into organization in 1981. Callin had served as the society's first president and was an active member both in the

Now is the time to start planning your trip to the Isle of Man in 1992. Invite other members of your family to go with you and plan a family reunion on the Isle. Plan to research your family roots, plan to visit places important to your family on the Isle, and most of all plan to have a good time on that magical and wonderful Isle of Man. This is a great opportunity for first time visitors to discover the Isle of your ancestry as well as for those of us who have made previous visits to reacquaint ourselves with its many charms. Anyone having ideas about how to make this convention the best ever is invited to send suggestions to Ron Quayle, 3934 Ft. Worth Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304.

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society and a staunch member of the Laxey Picnic committee, along with Roselyn and neighbors in the area. "We revived this tradition of a picnic in late spring, because I think Bob missed the type of gathering. He remembered how in his youth all the members of the church got together for a Sunday School picnic. Everyone brought something to eat, and the public was invited. It was also a fund raising event, and the money was used for Sunday School material," Roselyn said, recalling the modern-day picnic first held several years ago. From that first picnic the WMS was formed as many of the people who came were of Manx ancestry.

The Wisconsin Manx Society members voted to donate \$475 to the Robert Callin Memorial Shelter. Members were encouraged to give as individuals as well.

Excerpts from an article in The Dodgeville Chronicle written by Jeanie Lewis.

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Laxey Picnic

The Laxey Committee and the Wisconsin Manx Society, together, will again sponsor a picnic in the "turn of the century" tradition on Sunday, July 7, 1991, at the Laxey Cemetery grounds in Iowa County, Wisconsin. The grounds are located about five miles southwest of Dodgeville on County Highway B. (See map) It is the site of Laxey Primitive Methodist Church, believed to be the first Manx church built in America.

Plans for the day:

- 11:00 A. M. - Herbert Kelly, NAMA Chaplain and native of the community, will conduct church services at the new Robert Callin Memorial Shelter.
- 12:00 noon - A Pot-luck Dinner will follow. Please bring your own plates and tableware and a dish to pass. Pasties and pop will be available for donations.
- The afternoon program will also take

place at the Laxey Cemetery. Some seating will be available. Members are requested to bring folding chairs if convenient. Al Divine will give a progress report on his iconatrophic reconstructions of gravestones in Laxey cemetery - plus more. Artifacts for display are welcome! There will be a table provided.

We extend a special invitation to all of you to join us! Come and enjoy the beauty of southwestern Wisconsin's uplands and hidden valleys, located in the "Land that the Glaciers Forgot", a place that reminded those early Manx pioneers from Laxey of their beloved "Isle".

For additional information about the picnic or lodging arrangements contact Mary Kelly, P. O. Box 146, Cottage Grove, WI 53527 or call 608-839-4709 or Roselyn Callin, Rt. 3, Box 128, Mineral Point, WI 53565.

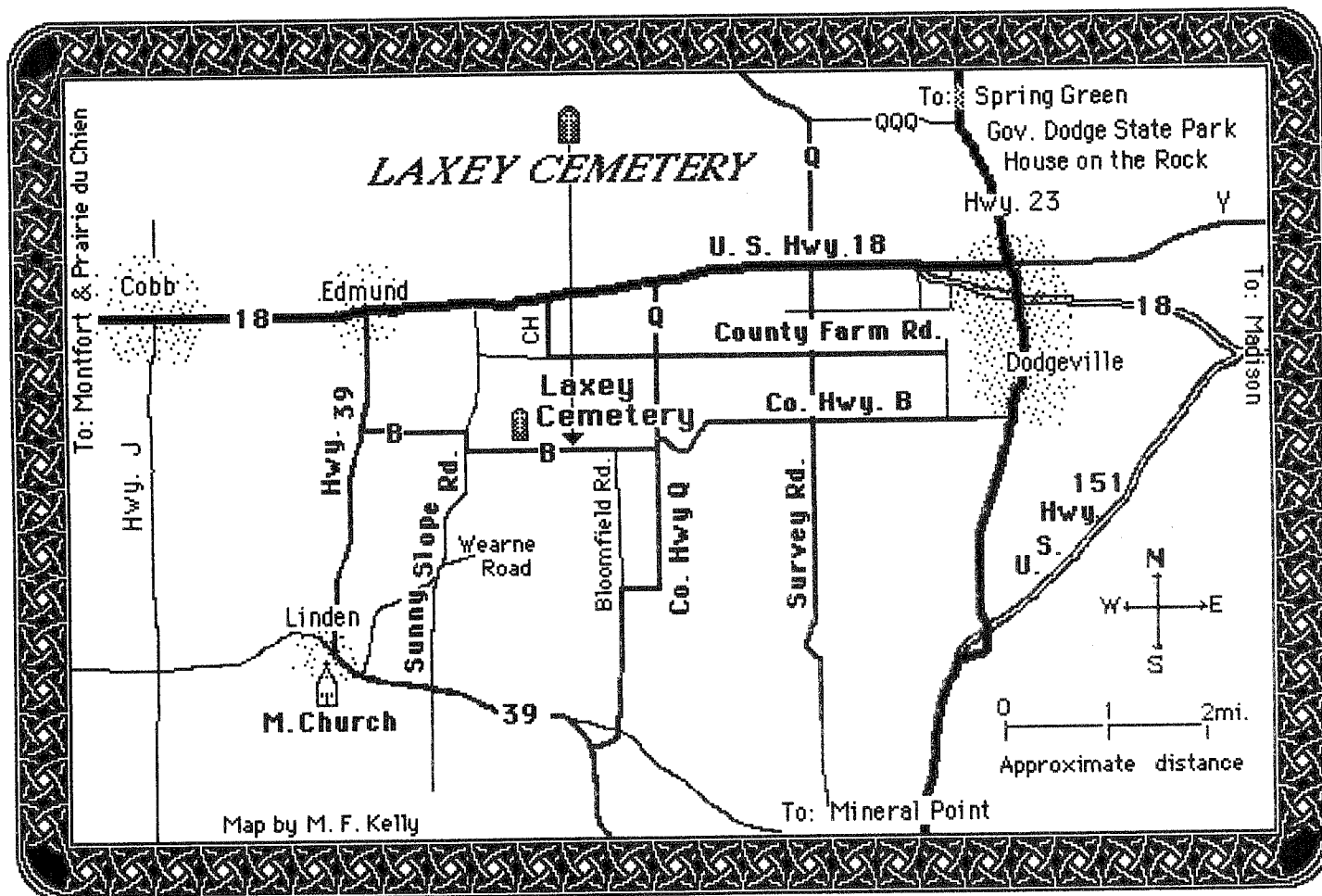
Donkeys Retire

The donkey work is over for six new residents of the Home of Rest for Old Horses in Braddan.

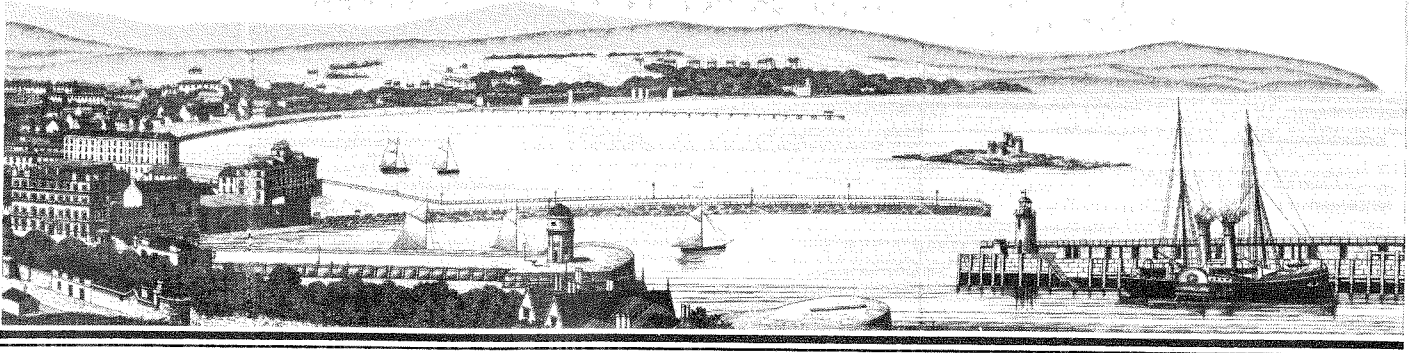
For donkey years they have ferried holidaymakers up and down Douglas beach. But the decline of the 'bucket and spade brigade' has allowed the donkeys to retire to the countryside, where they will live out the remainder of their lives disturbed only by the occasional group of visitors.

Part of the Island's history, they were due to be packed off to a donkey sanctuary in Devon. But a series of anonymous donations, coupled with a highly-successful coffee morning at the Sefton Hotel...raised enough cash to house them at the horse's home.

Excerpts from an article by Jo Overy in the Isle of Man Examiner, May 7, 1991.



See you at Laxey Cemetery on July 7th



JOURNAL kept by JOHN GELL, A. D. 1789, Son of the Rev. Samuel Gell (who was for many years Vicar of Lonan and was one of the translators of the Bible into Manx.)

I being his only son, he sent me, when seven years of age to school in the town of Douglas, under the tuition of the Rev. Mr. Moore of that town, with whom I continued till I was fourteen years of age. My father having a large family, and his income being small, he could not afford to send me to any respectable business. I was then sent to school to Captain Fannan, in the town of Douglas, by whom I was perfectly instructed in navigation, and at sixteen years of age I was bound an apprentice to Mr. J. Joseph Bacon, a merchant in Douglas, to serve five years in the seafaring line.

Shortly after, upon Monday evening, we sailed in a ship called the "Six Sister," bound to Barbadoes; on the Sunday following we fell in with a French privateer about two leagues off Cork, and after two hours' desperate engagement our ship was obliged to surrender, our ammunition being exhausted, and she was made a prize of by the enemy, and was ransomed for 1500 pounds, and one month allowed us to proceed on our voyage. Owing to severe weather and contrary winds, and our ship being much damaged, the month allowed us was expired before we arrived at our intended port, and we unfortunately fell in with a large Spanish fleet homeward bound from Buenos Ayres, and were again taken by them prisoners, and landed in Cadiz, in Spain, and then imprisoned during nineteen weeks and upwards, upon very short allowance.

There happened at that time to be an exchange of prisoners, and we were marched, 240 in number, to Port Saint Lucas, a distance of many miles, and put on board of a Cartel (a cartel was a ship employed in time of war to convey

John Gell's Journal

prisoners for exchange, and was looked upon as a neutral vessel, and as such was considered safe from molestation by all parties) bound to Portsmouth. When we arrived near to Cape Clear, in Ireland, we took by force possession of the Cartel (for which there is no law), and brought her into Douglas harbour, in the Isle of Man, where her captain and several of the exchanged prisoners died in a putrid fever.

Some few weeks afterwards I again sailed from Douglas in a large cutter, the property of the said merchant, Mr. Bacon, and bound to South Carolina, and with in three leagues of that place we met with three American ships well armed, bound to France, and were by them taken prisoners and landed in Lorion, in France, and from thence marched to Donan prison, a distance of scores of miles, and there closely confined with hundreds of prisoners of different nations, nearly in a way of starvation, having very little to eat, and no beds but merely a trifle of straw, without any covering but our own clothes, some of the prisoners dying daily, from eight to twelve in number.

Nine weeks we remained in this deplorable situation, till to our great joy 200 of us were marched to a harbour called Saint Maloes and put on board a Cartel bound to Plymouth, and when we arrived there, near the king's ships lying at anchor, the night being uncommonly

dark, four of us took the Cartel's small boat, and got on shore unnoticed, and being young and able, we made the best of our way towards Liverpool, travelling by night, through fear of being seen and impressed, and keeping in hidlands (a very expressive term, commonly used by the Manx people, meaning keeping out of sight, hiding) the most part of the day.

Passing through Bath, Bristol, Kingswood, Accon, Salisbury, Monmouth, Shrewsbury, Nantwich, Northwich, Chester, and Runcorn, and owing to our taking such roundabout roads to avoid pressgangs and soldiers, we traveled 414 miles from Plymouth to Runcorn, nearly exhausted with fatigue and hunger, having no more than two shillings during the whole of our travels, which I procured for a black silk handkerchief which I sold off my neck.

When we were about an hour in a public-house in Runcorn, invited by a boatman to take some refreshment, we were seized by a pressgang from Liverpool, consisting only of six men, with whom we crossed Runcorn river, patiently pretending to be perfectly satisfied to enter into His Majesty's service, but when we had walked with them more than a mile, and no others being in sight, as we were well provided with good sticks, we made a sudden stop, resolved to conquer or die on the spot, and forthwith a desperate engagement took place. Two of them had cutlasses, and four of them bludgeons, and we with our sticks, until one of them had his arm broken, and another desperately wounded in the head, and the rest sadly bruised by blows and falls. None of us were very much hurt excepting me, who received a cut in my head with a cutlass, which caused the blood to flow over my eyes and down my cheeks, that with difficulty I could see to hit my mark as I wished. Well battered and bruised,

Continued Page 4

they at last made off, and our bloody engagement ended, leaving us the glory of the field.

We then with all speed set out quite a contrary road, and concealed ourselves in a farmer's barn, by the farmer's liberty, until night, when he gave us a good supper, the only sufficient meal we had made use of during three weeks and more. The next morning he sent a man and horse with a letter from me to Mr. Leece, merchant in Liverpool, who sent for us to Liverpool in the night, and were put on board a Manx trader commanded by Edward Kegg of Castletown, and landed the day after in Derby Haven, when we were treated with great hospitality by Mr. Afflick and family, and he lent me his horse to ride to my father's in Kirk Lonon, as my head was so severely cut and bruised.

After I had been about a month at home Mr. Bacon sent for me, and

informed me that he had employed Captain Barnes in Whitehaven to purchase a ship for him, and although I had two years yet to serve, that I should go mate of her, and as I was well instructed in navigation I consented to his proposals; but on my return home, having made these proposals known to my parents, they very much disapproved of them, as I had been so unfortunate in the seafaring line, and they advised me to return to the grammar-school in Douglas where I had formerly been, to which I consented; and Mr. Bacon generously giving up my indenture, I repaired forthwith to school, and my former master, the Rev. Mr. Moore, being dead I was then under the tuition of the Rev. Mr. Quayle, where I continued until I was twenty years of age.

The bishopric of the Island being at that time vacant by the death of Bishop Mason, and no minister at St. Mark's Chapel, I was appointed there by the governor and archdeacon as a reader.

About two years afterwards Bishop Crigan was appointed Bishop of Sodor and Man, and shortly after his arrival I was ordained, being the first that he ever ordained, and was licensed chaplain of said chapel, where I resided several years.

Thus far is ended the sufferings of John Gell in his youthful days—having by the powerful hand of Providence escaped many dangers by sea and land, and being a serious warning to all youths not to run headlong into any business or employment contrary to the advice of their friends, who are much more experienced in the affairs of the world than youth can be.

Excerpted from Manx Miscellanies Vol. II, by William Harrison, Esq. J. P. and printed by The Manx Society, Douglas, Isle of Man, MDCCCLXXX. This is one of thirty volumes printed by The Manx Society that was discovered at the University of Minnesota's Wilson Library.



1991 Homecoming Celebrations

This year, 1991, sees the 80th anniversary of the formation of the World Manx Association. An invitation has been given to all Manx Societies and their members to join us in our celebrations later this year.

Although the actual date of the 80th birthday is the 17th July, a week centred on the 3rd to 10th of July forms the nucleus of the package so that our visitors will have a chance of attending the Tynwald Ceremony on the 5th of July. This year visitors will have a chance to view some of the buildings that have been associated with past World Manx gatherings and also guided tours will be given by local historians as well as the opportunity of learning something of your family roots courtesy of the Isle of Man Family History Society.

You will also have the chance of seeing how your forefathers lived and worked, through visits to Manx farms which have not changed during the past century and to a corn mill, as well as the Cregneash Folk Museum.

You will join members of the World Manx Association from the Isle of Man

and across the world in our annual gathering to be held in the Masonic Hall, Douglas, and also a special 80th Anniversary Service is to be held in the Cathedral at Peel. There are several options to be taken during the week, leaving you free to follow up your own search of relations or to meet old friends.

If you have never been to the Isle of Man then this is your ideal opportunity to experience a little bit of heaven, and if you have been before then I am sure you do not need any encouragement to come back and join us.

Information is to be distributed via the Department of Tourism, Leisure and Transport's Everymann Holidays. If you would like to be included on the mailing list please drop a line to Peter Kelly, World Manx Association, Marjon House, Alberta Drive, Onchan, Isle of Man, British Isles.

Excerpts from the W. M. A. Newsletter No. 3, January, 1991.



On Tynwald Day, dating back to the ninth century, the Tynwald Court and other dignitaries meet in the open air for the reading aloud of all the new laws in Manx and English in the presence of the people.

OUR OWN PEOPLE

Dr. Mona J. C. Horrocks, Halifax, Nova Scotia, visited the Island in February and attended the Family History Society meeting on the 15th. Later she discovered a distant relationship with Eleanor Gawne of Framingham, Massachusetts, and was looking forward to getting in touch with Eleanor when she returned home.

Russell Cannon of Salt Lake City, Utah, was on the Island in March in connection with planning another trip for the Manx-American Mormons in 1992, as many of those who came in 1990 want to see the Island at Tynwald time in July. Russell was hoping to contact Ron Quayle to discuss joining the two groups for the special activities on the Isle of Man at that time of year.

Mrs. Nancy Weaver (Cain-Kermode ancestry) and her husband Jim from Missouri visited the Island for a week at the end of April. Their first visit to the Island was in September, 1989, and this time they were delighted to attend a workshop of the Manx Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers, as they are both interested in that aspect of Manx life. Some of their time on the Island was spent at the Manx Museum Library researching Nancy's ancestry.



President's Message

We hope you have had a beautiful spring and Easter!

The second issue of our newsletter was another tribute to fine synergism between Joan, Norm, and Sally. Congratulations, Bulletin team!

Please take advantage of the coupon in the March Bulletin to have an introductory copy sent to a Manx friend or relative. You do not need to clip it out; reproduce it on a copy machine. Recruiting is our #1 goal! I just received a long list of names of people who had not renewed their dues. We will send them a follow-up letter, but we all need to be like St. Paul and spread the word about NAMA. Recently I chaired a Legislative meeting in Sacramento and one of our speakers, a state senator, was of Scot descent. I told him (over the P. A.) that we were kindred souls because I was Manx. Afterwards two realtors from opposite ends of the state came up and told me they were Manx. One named Cannell—that's a familiar name—was from the Manx who settled the Owens Valley of California, south of Yosemite. We need to tie into that big group of descendants. Cannell may be the conduit.

I met with Ron and Margaret Quayle in Washington, D. C. the end of April. We discussed plans and ideas for the NAMA Convention in 1992. Start talking it up with your family and friends. We will have a good time. The new connection to the Cannon family may even give us enough travelers to do a charter flight from Chicago or ??? Hopefully we can add an England-Scotland-Wales tour before or after the Convention. Here again, tell your relatives. Let's make it a memory of a lifetime, shall we?

As Tiny Tim said, "God Bless Us, Everyone!"

Lawrence L. Fargher
President

A BIT OF HISTORY

The Isle of Man was not always an island. After the last glaciation when the ice sheets retreated, the British Isles were part of the continent. The land mass relieved of the ice, rose gradually. Most of the actual Irish Sea was dry land and the Isle of Man was a high point on the continuous land from Scotland to Wales and England. The high beaches, 20 to 40 feet above present sea level, were formed at that time.

Climate conditions improved during the Boreal Period (7600 BC to 5000 BC), the ice melted and the sea level rose and gradually inundated the low lands. The Irish Sea was formed first, and by 5500 BC, the British Isles were separated from the continent. By late mesolithic, the seaway passages were open.

The Isle of Man, 32 miles long by 11 miles wide, is ideally situated almost equidistant between the coasts of Ireland and Cumberland. It is only 16 miles from the northern tip of the Island to the coast of southwestern Scotland. Indeed on a clear day, from the summit of Snaefell, the highest point on the Island, one can see clearly the shores of Ireland, England, Scotland, and Wales. The same way, the Island is visible from high points on those shores and no doubt used as a beacon point by early navigators.

The action of the sea and the rivers cut valleys and trenches on the coast offering shelter and possibility of settlement. The interior mountains remained almost uninhabited throughout prehistoric time. From the very beginning, the Islanders looked to the sea for basic subsistence. All around the Irish Sea Basin it was easier to use the sea route than move through the marshes and bogs or cross the high mountainous lands.

Excerpted from a paper written by
Annette Thunnissen.



*Did you know that Manx women
gained the right to vote in 1881--a
world first? Mrs. Emmeline
Pankhurst the famous suffragette was
the daughter of a Manx wowan--
Sofia Jane Craine born at Lonan in
1835.*

BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

MANX TALES

by Joan Gill

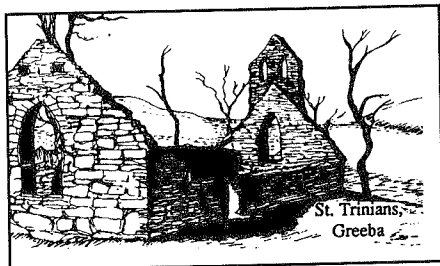
At most Manx meetings—from local societies to NAMA conventions—some of the concerns frequently expressed are “How can we get the younger generation interested in their heritage and the Isle of Man?” or “How can we get younger members involved in our organization?” It seems to me that the answer may be relatively easy and simple. Children need to be introduced to the charm and mystique of the Island at an early age through folk tales and stories.

Remember all Manxmen/women are natural born story tellers.

Tell about the misty fog that often surrounds the Island. It is lowered by Mannanan, the god and long time protector of the Island. For thousands of years Mannanan has been covering the Island with his cloak of mist. He does it whenever it's needed to keep enemies away and to protect the inhabitants.

They need to hear about the well-known Irish giant Finn MacCoul who was so furious at an English giant one night that he threw a handful of stone and mud after him. In the darkness, it fell short of its mark and landed midway between the giants in the sea—thus the Isle of Man sits in the center of the Irish Sea.

They need to know about the li'l people and the bugganes. Tell them about the buggane who made a habit of tearing off the roof of the little Church of St. Trinian. You can still see the roofless



church at the foot of Greeba Mountain on the Douglas to Peel road. Tell them about the Fairy Bridge where you must always greet “themselves”.

Tell them about Slieu Lhean, near Tynwald, where in the 1700s they put witches to “the trial”. If a woman was suspected of being a witch, she was put in a barrel with spikes inside it and rolled down the hill. When the barrel came to a stop at the bottom, a judgment was made. If she didn't die, that proved she was a witch and she was executed. If she did die on the roll down the hill, well, that was too bad.

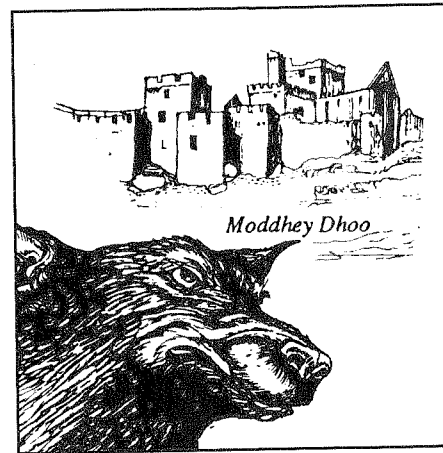
Retell the family stories you have heard from your parents or grandparents. For example, on his death bed my grandfather confided that he had always wanted to return to the Isle of Man because he knew where there was a cache of gold hidden. Fantasy—probably; intriguing—to a teenager, you bet!

Keep your eyes open for things Manx. On Wednesday, March 27, 1991, in “Hagar the Horrible” in the background of the second frame was a battle shield with a design very much similar to the three legs. Dale Skillicorn spotted a television listing in the San Francisco area for a 90 minutes cartoon of Manxmouse on the Nickelodeon cable station.

What is more natural than reading to youngsters? So why not read stories from or about the Isle of Man? One quick and easy resource is your public library—the folklore section, for both adults and children. In most collections from the British Isles you can find some tales identified as originating from the Isle of Man. Generally, you need to check the notes in the back of the book to ascertain the source of the tale.

Let it be known that you are seeking Manx folk tales. It is surprising where people will find them. I have a collection of several that people have copied, but have failed to list the source. So don't make that same mistake. Look for anything by Dora Broome. They are delightful!

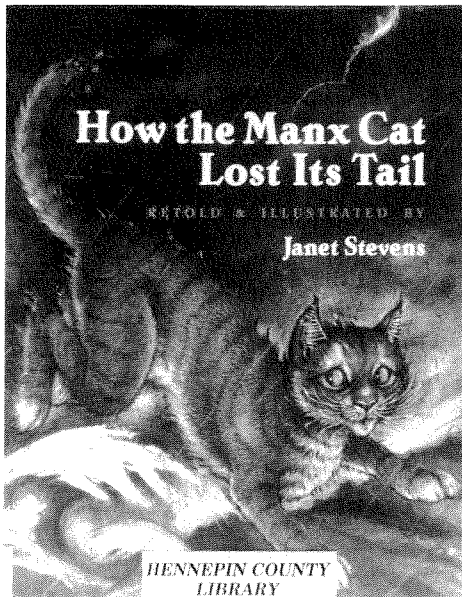
An excellent resource is An Encyclopedia of Fairies by Katherine Briggs. It is an anthology that examines the folk tales and lists names of tales that are examples of the genera. It describes the appearance and customs of the varied inhabitants of the fairy worlds. Of particular interest to the Manx are these entries:



- **Themselves** on page 393 explains the Manx euphemism for fairies;
- **Fairy crafts** on pages 137 to 139 quotes a story by W. W. Gill in A Manx Scrapbook;
- **Fenodree** on pages 170 to 171 tells of the large, hairy, and ugly Manx brownie;
- **Ferrishyn** on page 173 describes the hunting fairie tribe of Man and compares them to those of Ireland and Wales;
- **Moddhey Dhoo** on page 301 outlines two tales of the famous black dogs of the Isle of Man. This is the Mauthe Dog of Peel Castle made famous by Walter Scott;
- **Bugganes** on page 51 tells of a particularly noxious type of goblin adept at shape changing;
- **Cabyll-Ushtey** on page 57 and **Taroo-Ushtey** on pages 389 to 390, both of which were water-bulls on the Isle of Man, and
- **Dooiney Oie** on pages 105 to 106 who was the night man, a kindly spirit who gave warnings of storms.

Abbey, Lubbers, Banshees and Boggarts, also by Katherine Briggs, is a shorter and simpler version of her encyclopedia text. Although it is easier reading, it has less information about Manx folklore except for the entry about Each Uisge. Both books refer to changeling stories as Manx.

For those of us who have been to the Island, we can relate what we have seen to the stories we read and share with our children and grandchildren. For example, I found a delightful tale about “The Grateful Goat”. It was not identified as Manx, but the description of the setting matched exactly a glen I had seen on the Island. So to me it became a Manx experience. Another tale I enjoy telling because it seems to have a Manx dialect is “The Hedley Kew” from More English Fairy Tales. With additional



is a tale of two Vikings and a friendly dragon who rescue Mann from the spell of the wicked Frosta who has built his castle stronghold on Snaefell. The story is well told and moves along quickly. Particularly enjoyable are the drawings with many Manx cats, the repeated use of the three legs symbol, and even a fishing boat named Kelly.

For the preteens or accelerated reader there is The Secret of Black Dog Cave by Eve Jennings. This is an exciting smuggling adventure set in the vicinity of Peel. It combines the legend of Peel Castle and the history of the Hartapp family with present day gun running.

These books are all published by Mansk-Svenska Publishing Company, Limited and are relatively inexpensive in paperback, about \$5.00. Put them on your shopping list for the 1992 convention! Or many of these books can be ordered from the Lexicon Book Shop, 63 Strand Street, Douglas, IOM, and can be charged to your Visa card.

I recently read reviews of two new children's books. The first, Rhymes of Mann, was written by Pam Crowe and illustrated by Julia Ashby. This book contains some of the Island's most mystical legends such as Mannanan and The Moddey Dhoo. The review stated, "Children especially will appreciate the eye-catching pictures which will help them to understand the old Manx Legends." This book, which can be dedicated and signed by the author, is available from Fannag Press, P. O. Box 100, Port Erin, IOM. The cost is \$10.00, "dollar cheques accepted, P & P free". Also available are limited edition prints of the book's illustrations, one of only 250, for \$20.00.

The second book is Forgotten Magic of an Enchanted Isle written by Angie Greenhaigh and illustrated by Mary Cousins. The story begins when Sven, the Stone Troll, awakens and meets a

group of Onchan children. They go on a series of magical adventures around the Island on the back of the Glashtin, a horse who can gallop through waves and over land. They meet many creatures from Manx folklore. The review said, "It is a story which will enthrall children of all ages—and a good many grown-ups, too—and it is sure to inspire many searches through Manx caves, looking for Sea Trolls and treasure. The dedication at the beginning of the book runs thus, "This book is dedicated to the rich folklore and the mystical beauty of the Isle of Man and to children of all ages who are afraid of the dark." This book, which can be dedicated and signed by the author, and limited edition prints are available from Shearwater Press Limited, 4 Auckland Terrace, Ramsey, IOM. The cost is £10.50 plus £ 1 postage and packing.

Don't get caught up in that old Manx saying, "Traa dy liooar", meaning time enough. Get started today! You'll be surprised how much the young ones will enjoy it—and how much you will enjoy doing it!

Scenic Manx Cookbook

A new title recently published on the Isle of Man is the Scenic Manx Cookbook. This book contains traditional Manx recipes and is illustrated with delightful colour photographs of the Island. After viewing a sample page, the quality of paper and beauty of the photographs is apparent. The book, which can be dedicated and signed by the author, is available from the Fannag Press (see address in previous article). The book is \$18.00 (dollar cheques accepted, P & P free). Pamela Crowe says, "We have in stock most Manx books. We are a small Manx company, trying hard."



research I've discovered that this tale relates closely to the Manx bugganes known for their shape shifting.

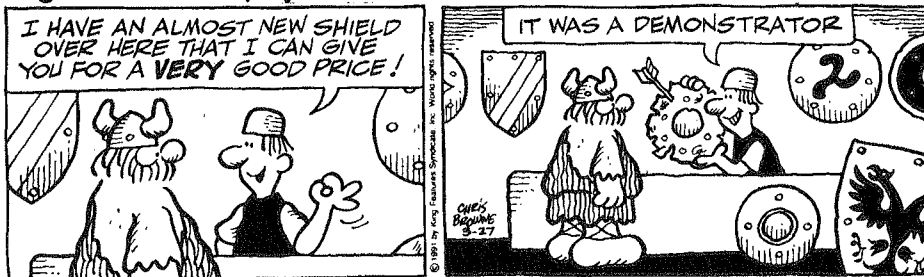
As well as reading and telling Manx tales, why not give Manx books as gifts for birthdays and holidays? How the Manx Cat Lost its Tail by Janet Stevens from Harcourt Brace Jovanovich is a recent publication. It tells about the Manx cat being late getting on Noah's Ark and getting its tail caught in the door. It has colorful, detailed illustrations with a pleasant read aloud text. It sells for about \$15.00.

Also available are several children's books published on the Isle of Man. For the younger children, ages three to eight, a good choice is The Manx Rabbit Family by Frank Quayle. It has twelve short stories about the rabbit children Jo, Mo and Bob outwitting Willie Wolf. Within the stories are Manx terms such as tholtan, glen, cheeky; examples of Manx culture from Sports Day to afternoon tea; place names like Glenfabba, Creggans, Patrick Village; and of course, a visit with the li'l people.

Also, for this age group is the Manxie series by Pam Way. These books feature the adventures of a little Manx cat. In each story he is lucky and is saved by his nine lives because he has no tail. The first of the series, I, Manxie, is actually a good introduction to the Isle of Man. Again these books have a flavor of the customs and traditions of the Island. Other titles are Manxie Goes Sailing, Manxie Visits London, Manxie Gets Married, Manxie Down Under, and Manxie Goes West.

For slightly older children there is Harold and Olaf by Pamela Hand. This

Hägar the Horrible / By Dik Browne



SOCIETY NEWS

VANCOUVER

The society will hold its first get-together of the year on May 25, 1991, at the home of DR. and MRS. GORDON GELL. Our "SPRING TEA", as it is called, is a popular event and is well attended. The society is extremely grateful to DR. and MRS. GELL for opening their home to us for this occasion. Also at the tea there will be an election of officers. As funds are low we are busy selling raffle tickets, prizes to be drawn on Tynwald Day, July 5, 1991. Several of our folk have been under the weather. Two recovering from surgery are MONA WITSTEN and GLEN MCGEE. We hope to see everyone up and about soon.

JIM and MIDGE PHILLIPS are currently traveling in England, visiting MIDGE'S mother at Folkstone. They are hoping to spend a few days in the Isle of Man. Happy Holidays to them. CATHY CANNELL has returned from a Manx holiday and, even though it rained a great deal, thoroughly enjoyed her stay.

Our picnic is on July 27, 1991, at Site #2 in Stanley Park. We welcome one and all—especially visitors. If you are in the area at this time please be our guests.

Vera Henry, Secretary
Vancouver Manx Society
3124 West 32nd Avenue
Vancouver, BC V6L 2C1

WASHINGTON D. C.

We are still mourning the death of Society President Dirk Ramsey-Spencer, 55, who took his own life on March 11th. Dirk had been increasingly troubled by complications arising from progressive diabetes and financial difficulties related to his inability to continue working.

A memorial service for Dirk was held on April 6th in the Little Sanctuary Chapel of St. Alban's School for Boys at Washington's National Cathedral. It was a time of both laughter and tears as many society members and some of Dirk's co-workers gathered to pray for him and recount examples of his infectious enthusiasm and humor. (See the

"Tribute" by Arvil Shipman in the Obituaries.)

If you attended the NAMA Convention at Williamsburg, Virginia, in 1986, you may remember Dirk as the jocular program chairman who brought so much pageantry and excitement to the event. Expressions of sympathy would be much appreciated at this time by his daughters Michele and Nicola. They should be mailed to:

Mrs. Michele Turner
1 Pullins Green
Thornbury,
Avon BS12 2AX
England

Our Annual Meeting and Dinner was held April 13th, at which time a new Board of Governors was constituted:

President	Russell Woodgates
Vice President	Avril Shipman
Secretary	Don Quayle
Treasurer	Elizabeth McGlohn
Past President	Ron Quayle (NAMA 1st VP)
Governors	Honora Finkelstein Earl Watterson Jack Christian

The featured speaker was a youth worker from Douglas named Voirrey Stockdale. For the past year, she has been living in Washington, D. C. on an exchange program with Sasha Bruce Youthwork, Inc. counseling inner-city families and "youths at risk". Voirrey shocked many of us with her accounts of daily dealings with dropouts and pregnant mothers as young as 12. Easily contrasting the perils of the nation's capital with the comparatively benign temptations challenging Manx youth, Voirrey nevertheless reminded us that children and teenagers share common anxieties and require similar support structures. A collection totally more than \$125 was taken up and donated to Sasha Bruce and the Island's Government Youth Service on behalf of the society in recognition of Voirrey Stockdale's dedication to youth as well as the volunteer work with children done by Dirk Ramsey-Spencer.

Now we've turned our attentions (and talents) to organizing the NAMA '92 Convention on the Island. The society

voted last year to assist NAMA '92 program chairperson Ron Quayle in devising and promoting the event. A steering committee was convened May 19th and committee leaders and volunteers are now being recruited. We've already reached one conclusion, however; without Dirk's imaginative involvement, next year's convention won't be nearly as much fun.

Russell Woodgates, President
Apartment 306
2325 42nd Street N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20007

CHICAGO

The Chicago Manx Society held a meeting and pot luck dinner on Sunday, April 28th, at the home of Candy and Lee Gawne in Sugar Grove, Illinois. There were 15 people in attendance and an enjoyable time was had learning Manx songs and watching two video tapes of the Isle of Man. This was the third meeting we have held since the convention and the reactivation of the society. We gained two new members. Several of us had hoped to attend the Wisconsin Manx dinner but both meetings fell on the same day. We are hoping to hold our next meeting Sunday, July 28th, at the home of Brad Prendergast which is located on the north side of Chicago. For information about the Chicago Manx Society contact:

Robert Kelly, President
6858 North Osceola Avenue
Chicago, IL 60631

CLEVELAND

Since publication of the last Bulletin, our members have enjoyed dinner and the performance of "Oklahoma" at a dinner theater. All appreciated the warm hospitality of Liz and Bill Duncan who shared their home for our May 11th meeting.

Sunday afternoon, June 9th, our group will meet at the Lake Shore United Methodist Church in Avon Lake, Ohio. Program of slides will follow the meeting, and facilities there at the church make it possible to have a very nice "tea". Like all

Manx folks, we enjoy having time to socialize.

September 14th is the date for an indoor picnic in the recreation building of MacIntosh Farms. Florence and Bill Roseman have a lovely home in this community which is in Broadview Heights, a suburb south of Cleveland.

We hope all NAMA members enjoy the summer!

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

MINNESOTA

The Manx Society of Minnesota held its spring meeting on May 4, 1991, at the Becketwood Condominiums, Minneapolis, Minnesota. The evening began with an hour of socializing at 6:00 p.m. It was followed by a delicious sit down dinner for 25 members and friends. We were happy to welcome Doris and William Brideson from the Washington, D. C. Society and Mary Kelly and Frank Evans from the Wisconsin Society.

An additional ten members joined us for the program beginning at 8:00. Our first speaker was Betsy Fennema, granddaughter of T. R. and LaJean Anderson. Betsy, a seventh grader, began by passing out bookmarks printed with the poem "My Garden" by T. E. Brown. She then gave a detailed biographical account of T. E. Brown's life and accomplishments. She told of his studies in England, his humor and storytelling abilities. After reading several of his poems, Betsy concluded by reading a tribute written to him on the 100th anniversary of his birthday.

Our guest speaker of the evening was Annette Thunnissen, a chemical technician who works with Norm Gill. Annette wrote a paper, in connection with an ancient studies course she was taking from the University of Minnesota, on the subject of the relationship between the Isle of Man, Ireland, and England from the first known appearance of man on the Isle until the arrival of the Vikings. This was the basis of her talk. Annette pointed out the strategic location of the Isle of Man geographically in the early history of this region. Through a series of maps identifying the types of flint tools used, burial customs, bronze items, and pottery styles, she showed the trading and exchange of ideas particularly between Ireland, Wales, Scotland, parts of England, and the European continent.

Many of the artifacts found on the Isle of Man were common along the Atlantic coast of this area. They also preceded some similar ideas and customs found in the Mediterranean area. In fact, Tim Swales, recently moved to Minnesota from the Isle of Man, said he had to travel four thousand miles to learn about his homeland. (A portion of Annette's paper is printed in A Bit of History in this issue of the Bulletin.)

Several door prizes were given out during the program. There was time for socializing following the formal meeting, a time to renew friendships and meet new people, and to purchase another Manx book from Sally Dahlquist.

A special thanks to Minnesota Manx member Elizabeth Bjornaraa for arranging such a wonderful dinner and evening at Becketwood.

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

WISCONSIN

The spring meeting of the Wisconsin Manx Society was held April 28th, at Madison with 50 present. After the Smorgasbord Dinner, President Mike Cannell conducted the business meeting.

A special tribute was given our society's founder, Robert Callin, who passed away March 13th, of a heart attack. Mary Kelly told of Bob's visit with her father over ten years ago. Bob was getting information on Mr. Kelly's Manx background and was interested in contacting people to help organize a Manx group. Mary said her father impressed upon her to do anything she could to help this group in preserving their Manx cultural heritage. She has done it well. Mary plans to purchase the official "Year Book of the Isle of Man" to be placed in libraries of Iowa County in Bob's memory.

A petition to change the name of Peddlers Creek, now shown on maps, to Laxey Creek, was circulated. Laxey was the name given to the Creek by Manx pioneers of the community. The creek flows a few yards west of Laxey Cemetery.

It was announced the Laxey Picnic will be held July 7th, at Laxey Cemetery grounds. Four members from the society volunteered to work with the local Laxey committee to help plan the program. The society voted to add money to a memorial fund already established for Bob Callin—to build a permanent shelter on the cemetery grounds. It is hoped this can be completed by July.

Continued Page 10



Newly elected officers of the Wisconsin Manx Society are seated left to right: Barbara Posekany, Jody Morey, and Pamela Kelly. Back row : Joan Ogden, Dann Willett and Dorrie Alff .

Mary Kelly made a plea for increasing membership in NAMA. Presently there are about 20 Wisconsin society members in NAMA.

The following officers were elected for the 1991-93 term:

President: Dann Willett, Madison
Vice-President and Historian: Doris Alff, Janesville
Secretary/Treasurer: Joan Ogden, Janesville
Past President: Mike Cannell, Cazenovia
Board of Governors: Barbara Posekany, Madison; Pamela Kelly Madison; and Jody Morey, Mt. Horeb
Librarian: Norma Bircher
Newsletter Editors and Liaison with NAMA and other Manx organizations: E. Mae Reese, West Allis and Jean Lewis, Dodgeville

A round of applause was given to our outgoing officers with a special tribute to our disarming outgoing President Mike Cannell. We will miss his wonderful sense of humor and quick repartee.

A fascinating program followed with Al Divine giving a report on his findings at the Laxey Cemetery. Mr. Divine is an iconatrophic analyst and is presently working on his PhD at UW-Madison. For many years he has actively sought small and remote cemeteries to study their grave markers. He discussed what he has thus far found at Laxey. He is very impressed with its condition. He said the stones in the Laxey Cemetery tell us that within the Laxey community itself, its membership was highly individualistic and eclectic in comparison with other ethnic neighboring communities. He said the determination and will of the present community to maintain this cultural heritage is reflected in the excellent maintenance and continued use of this historical site. Mr. Divine will continue his research in taking pictures and rubbings of gravestones and transferring these to drawings to be composited into a complete map of each stone by computer. The entire cemetery will be completely archived.

E. Mae Reese
9102 W. Cleveland Avenue
West Allis, WI 53227

WORLD MANX ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, 16th March, we held our Annual General Meeting at the Red

Cross Hall in Derby Road, Douglas. Over 100 members were present. A few minor changes were made to our Constitution at an Extra-ordinary General Meeting before the actual Annual General Meeting was started. These changes were approved with only one member objecting.

Total membership now stands at 510 and 134 are over-seas members. We hope that many of these overseas members will join us in July when we celebrate the 80th Birthday. Members stood in silence as we remembered those who had died during the year.

The Election of Officers came next:
President - Mrs. B. Q. Hanson
Chairman - Mr. P. Kelly
Vice-President - Mrs. I. Christian
Minuting-Secretary - Mrs. A. Pugh
Treasurer - Miss D. Lawson
Correspondence-Secretary - Mrs. W. Musgrove
Outing leaders - Mr. and Mrs. R. Hall
Catering - Mrs. Creer
Area Representatives - Mrs. R. Speed, Mrs. N. Taggart, Mrs. J. Dennis, Mr. H. Casement, Mr. Caley, Mr. Oliver, Mrs. Quiggin, Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Sargent, Mrs. C. Quirk and Mrs. M. Corlett.

We are very pleased to have a few males on our new Committee.

Our third Newsletter has now been produced and we hope it has been received by all our members.

For our 'At Home' Dinner on Saturday, 13th April, we chose a new venue because on previous occasions many of our members were unable to obtain tickets as numbers were limited. This time a larger venue - at the Garden Room of the Villa Marina - was chosen but only 87 members came, so either the venue or the cost was not popular. Mrs. Jessie Russell showed us her 'slides' of Douglas as it was and as it is now so many nostalgic memories were aroused as we saw some of the old familiar places which are no longer with us.

On Sunday, 5th May, at 3:00 p.m. we marked T. E. Brown's birthday when we placed a garland on the Memorial Plaque in Glen Falcon Gardens. On 16th May we had our outing to the South, taking tea at the Viking Hotel, Castletown. On 20th June, we go North for an evening outing, having a meal at Laxey Glen Gardens. On Sunday, 7th July, we shall have tea at Ballacallin Hotel, Dalby and afterwards attend Church Service at the Cathedral, Peel.

From 3rd to 10th July, a special programme is being arranged as a Birthday Celebration and on the actual birthday, 17th July, we are to have a coach outing with tea and entertainment at Rushen Abbey, Ballasalla.

15th August, an outing to the North with tea at the Grand Island Hotel, Ramsey, is planned. For our final outing on 21st September, we go South for tea at Silverdale, Ballasalla.

The Annual Gathering will be on July 4th, at the Masonic Hall, Douglas. Tickets for this function must be obtained in advance.

The T. E. Brown Luncheon will be on Saturday, 26th October, at the Castle Mona Hotel and we hope that this larger venue will mean that all our members will be able to obtain tickets this year.

Saturday, 14th December, we shall have our Christmas luncheon at the Masonic Hall, Douglas. Again with a larger venue, everyone who wishes to come should be able to secure a ticket.

We look forward to welcoming many of our members from overseas and particularly from the NAMA. Please let me, or any other member of our Committee, know if you intend to be with us in July.

With best wishes to you all.

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

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Linda Newell was presented with the Australia Day Council medal of Achievement by her friends and peers in the Manx Society of WA on February 10th. She helped to develop the Society in 1962 and her constant support is appreciated. She is also a member of the North Suburban Historical Society where the Mt. Flora Museum has a marvelous pioneer display.

Kath Craine and Margaret Fairbairn represented the Society at the May 1st presentation of a video documentary, "The Making of the Oz Concert," at Government House. It was presented by Sir Francis Burt, Governor of WA, and Lou Holm, Chairman of the Australia Day Council. These ladies also did the honours at the official opening of Balljura Primary School by Kay Hallahan,

Minister for Education, on May 16th. The assistance given to the school by the Manx Society and families of the first settlers Bennett, Creer, Eaton and Kerruish was mentioned by each of the speakers and the event ended with the whole assembly singing the school song written to the tune of "Ramsey Town".

The Shire of Swan recently commissioned artist John Tarry to create a bronze sculpture for the Ballajura Public Library depicting the character of the district. His statue of a young girl on stilts is most attractive and the word MANX and some recognisable symbols are included in the work.

The function room at the Sandringham Hotel overlooking the Swan River has been booked for our 1991 Tynwald Dinner on July 5th. Consideration was given to cost, quality, parking and accessibility in making this decision. We are hoping to provide live entertainment. This is the one special night of the year that we remember "Ellan Vannin".

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



KNOW YOUR ANCESTORS

Many of our members are interested in MANX SURNAMENES, so from time to time we will research names submitted to me. This month I have requests for the following:

QUAYLE We find this first listed Mac Falle in 1408; Mac Fale in 1417; Mac Faile in 1429; Mac Fayle in 1511; Mac Quayle in 1540; Quaille in 1575; Quale in 1580; Quayle and Quail in 1601; Quail in 1611; and as Quaille in 1659 in the Castle Rushen Papers.

The various branches of this family gave their name to Ballaquale in Kirk Malew, Kirk Onchan and Kirk Patrick; and as Thaloo Quayle in Kirk German.

"Manx Worthies" by A. W. Moore list a Basil Quayle of the Creggans farm near Castletown (b1765 d1816) as an excellent and scientific farmer; and a Thomas Quayle in 1812 was the first to make a survey of farming conditions over the Island and to write a book on the subject.

We also find references in the history books of a Richard MacFaile of Ballaugh who was in the House of Keys in 1502, and a Robert Quayle who was Constable of Douglas in 1664. A Mark Hildeslay Quayle opened the Isle of Man Bank in Castletown in 1777 and in 1784 he became a member of the House of Keys; he was Clerk of the Rolls from 1797 to 1804. His great-grandfather and grandfather had held the same office before him.

CORTEEN This surname is first listed in J. J. Kneen's "Manx Personal Names" as MacCosten and MacCostein in 1511; Quartin in 1603; Cortin in 1652; Corteen in 1659; and Corteene in 1676.

Robert Corteen (b1791 d1853), born in Maughold, was the first in the Isle of Man to use gas as an illuminant. While in the employment of Gelling's, he erected a small gas plant and supplied St. Matthew's Church and several business establishments. He was also the first to start an iron foundry. In later years he surveyed Douglas for the purpose of laying down gas and water in its streets, and he was the engineer who constructed the earliest gas works in that town.

Keep your requests coming. A full mail bag makes this job much more interesting!

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

The first student at Harvard to have a middle name was AMMI RUHAMAN CORLET, Harvard College Class 1670. This is in a letter to me from Suzanne Halland, Harvard Magazine dated April 16, 1987. I had previously seen it published in a magazine put out by the Duke County (Martha Vineyard), Massachusetts, Historical Society.

H. Thompson Stock
196 Cloverly Road
Detroit, MI 48236-3315

The largest portion of my Family History, Can You Trace Your Line to Adam?, is set in the Isle of Man. Other areas include England, Scotland, Ireland, Denmark and Australia.

The old historical information I have found will be of great interest to readers.

In **Part I.** of my book, histories of the following families are listed:
CHRISTIAN of Milntown, IOM
CHRISTIAN of Beemaughiag, IOM
CHRISTIAN of Ballakilmartin, IOM

CHRISTIAN of Cleps, IOM
CURGHEY of Ballakillingan, IOM
LOWCAY of IOM, Ireland, and England
STEVENSON of Balladoole, IOM
STEVENSON of Lhergydhoo, IOM
MOORE of Baldromma, Lonan, IOM
MOORE of The Hills, IOM
MOORE of Ballamore, IOM
MOORE of The Abbey, IOM
MOORE of Pulrose, IOM
STEVENSON MOORE of Lhergydhoo, IOM
BANCKS (BANKS) of Balnahow, IOM
OATES of Bibaloe and Glenchrutchery, IOM
MOORE of Scotland/Australia (extension of Baldromma Branch)
CHRISTIANSEN of Denmark/Australia
MORTENSEN of Denmark/Australia
O'KEEFFE of Co. Cork, Ireland/Australia
CROWLEY of Co. Cork, Ireland/Australia

Part II. covers families, which have no proof of being connected with some above, but from information researched, have a good possibility. They are as follows:

CURWEN of Workington Hall, Cumberland, England
MURE of Rowallan, Scotland
MURE of Caldwell, Scotland
Lineage of the Ancient O'MORES of Ireland
Lineage of the Ancient O'KEEFFES of Ireland
Lineage of the Ancient O'CROWLEYS of Ireland
Lineage of the Ancient CHRISTIANS of Milntown, IOM
Descent of the Royal Family of Adam

The book contains 324 pages of typewritten material, as well as approximately 50 charts, a number of maps and photos. The cost is \$30.00 Australian, plus postage and packaging. Overseas charges (sea mail) for individual books will add another extra \$10.00 Australian to the cost, whereas when ordered by carton of 22 books, the cost will be reduced by \$5.00 per book, making it \$35.00 Australian. The book can be ordered from:

Ruth M. O'Keeffe
142 Boundary Road
CAMP HILL, 4152
Queensland, Australia



UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

Clarence Creer

Like a bolt out of the blue, word reached me that I had been elected treasurer of the NAMA in 1968. After the initial shock subsided, and Mona and I had become familiar with the records received from Marge Krock, time passed quickly, and my two year term turned into 22 years. It was a great experience.

Mona and I both have Manx ancestry. My father was born in Union Mills and her mother, Elsie (Joughin) Broadbent, in Ramsey. While working for Quaker Oats Company in Chicago, Edith A. (Comish) Malek inquired about my Manx ancestry because of my name and this led to my joining both the Chicago Manx Society and the NAMA. While at a convention in Windsor, Ontario, Mona and I became acquainted and marriage followed.

Most of my working years were spent with the University of Chicago at Argonne National Laboratory in Lemont, Illinois. We have two daughters, one living in Rockford, Illinois, and the other in Tacoma, Washington.

I retired in 1985, and a whole new world opened up after I had surgery on both hips. Bringing together the records for an old but still active cemetery and looking after a historic home keeps me on the go. We've been to the IOM several times and relived the visit whenever people wrote us about their visit to the Island. We know the NAMA will be in good hands with Helen Drom as your new treasurer.

Ronald J. Quayle

Ron was born and raised on a farm in northern Iowa. His Grandfather Thomas A Quayle emigrated to Ishpeming, Michigan, in 1901 where he was an iron ore miner. Ron's education in the fields of electrical and industrial engineering was obtained at Iowa State University, the Air Force Institute of Technology, and Stanford University. He is retired from the Air Force where he served for 23 years as an engineer and a professor and finally as analyst and program director in the fields of military personnel and compensation. His assignments were in

Utah, Ohio, Alabama, California and at the Pentagon in Washington.

Ron married Margaret Lindsley in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in 1958. They have two children: Robert of Tucson, Arizona, and Jill (Mrs. Michael Spohn) of Reston, Virginia, and a grandson Mitchell James Quayle. Ron and Margaret have lived in Alexandria, Virginia, for the last 18 years where Margaret is a coordinator for special education programs with Fairfax County Public Schools.

Ron joined the Washington Manx Society in 1978 soon after it was formed. He served as President of the society from 1985 to 1989 when he was actively involved with the planning and support for the very successful 1986 NAMA Convention in Williamsburg, Virginia. During the convention Ron was elected as the NAMA Third Vice President. He is currently the NAMA First Vice President and the Chairperson for the 1992 NAMA Convention to be held on the Isle of Man. Ron encourages everyone to start planning a trip to attend the convention and rediscover that wonderful and beautifully scenic island of our ancestry.

Ron is semi-retired and has several areas of interest. Ron has produced extensive genealogy reports for both his and Margaret's families, using the family computer. His Quayle grandparents have 144 known descendants. He enjoys home do-it-yourself projects, antiques restoration, woodworking, reading, other computer applications, and travel. Ron and Margaret have enjoyed summer vacations in Maine and Canada and this year will be on the Isle of Man for Tynwald and to begin 1992 NAMA Convention planning.



OBITUARIES

Robert M. Callin, 67, of Route 3, Mineral Point, Wisconsin, died Wednesday, March 13, 1991, at Memorial Hospital of Iowa County following an apparent heart attack. He was born on October 30, 1923, to A. C. (Sandy) and Genevieve (nee Kelly) Callin. His father was a native of the Isle of Man, coming to the USA about 1920.

On June 5, 1948, he married the former Roselyn Prochaska of Montfort. The couple farmed in the Bloomfield area their entire married life.

Robert was past president of the Manx Society of Wisconsin and a member of the Iowa County Manx Committee. He was the organizer of the Laxey Picnic of this area of Wisconsin.

Robert is survived by his wife, Roselyn; two sons, Larry and James; two daughter, Linda Ubersox and Julie DeVoss; nine grandchildren, Adrienne, Alexa, James, Jr., Jason and Joseph Callin, Lisa, Linda and Shawn Ubersox and Rory Erickson; a brother, Glen; a sister, Norma Bircher; and an aunt, Frances Nason, also nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held March 16 in St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Dodgeville with burial in the Laxey Cemetery. A memorial service is planned for Robert at the July 7 Laxey Picnic.

Frances Margaret (Anderson) Hawthorne died 28 November 1990 in Westland, Michigan, from a massive heart attack. She was born 30 January 1909 in Grove City, Pennsylvania.

She cherished her Gawne ancestry and cousins and things Manx. Her known Gawne ancestry goes back to Dallin Gawn, born 1590 in the Isle of Man. Great-grandfather William Gawne (1839 - 1900) came to America about 1867. His main places of residence were Cleveland, Ohio, and Grove City, Pennsylvania. His brother John resided in Buffalo, New York; Mansfield, Ohio; and Cleveland, Ohio. Allied lines are Boyde, Corlett, Kelly, Mylrea and Quayle.

She was cousin and friend of the late Eleanor May (Karran) Gawne. Mrs. Hawthorne is survived by her daughter Patricia, a granddaughter and a great-grandson.

Kenneth Elliott Slocum, beloved husband of Florence, nee Cannell; loving father of Paul B. (Sharon), Mary, (Glen) Mayhorn, Samuel (Sharon), Daniel (Marlys), David and Grace (Dennis) Disselkoen; fond grandfather of 20, great-grandfather of 3, died in November, 1990. The Slocums have been members of the Chicago Manx Society for a number of years.

Edith Katherine Ristow, nee Kneen, a 60-year resident of Edison Park, Chicago, Illinois, died December 18, 1990. She was the widow of Percival Ristow, the mother of Muriel Connelly, the grandmother of Scott (Ruth) and the late David (Mary); and the great-

grandmother of Michael, Ryan, and Kevin. She is also survived by her nephew Norman Clucas.

In March of 1873, her father, William Kneen, and her mother, Margaret Corrin Kneen, along with their Manx friends, founded the Sons of Mona which was later called the Chicago Manx Society. Edith was an enthusiastic, life-long member of the society. A talented musician, she often played the piano for church, school, Manx meetings, and various entertainments. She was dearly loved and will be greatly missed by her family and many friends.

A Tribute to my fellow Manxman,
Trevor Dirk Ramsey-Spencer.

When Dirk joined the Washington Manx Society in 1985 we soon became friends. We discovered we had both been born in Douglas and that our families had attended Rosemount Methodist Church, since re-named Trinity, and that he had grown up living next door to our good friends the Hamptons of Cronkbourne Road. On conferring with older sisters I learned he had been pushed around in his pram' by my sister Jean and her friend Anne Hampton and our oldest sister Ruth had taught him in Sunday School. In general we were well "seeped in Manx Experience" having received all our education there and thrived on the wonderful sea and mountain air.

We did not know each other when we lived in the Island but found a lot in common when we were teamed up to work on the special events for the 1986 Convention held in Williamsburg, Virginia. All who enjoyed that convention realize how much we owe to Dirk who despite ill health worked ceaselessly to make it a happy and memorable event.

The local society has benefited greatly from Dirk's leadership and I think the Island has also, even if they are unaware of this. He loved his Island and brought a new dimension with his fervour to promote the unique, beautiful experience of exploring our treasured Isle, Eilan Vannin.

Even at our last Christmas party celebrating 12th Night on January 5th, 1991, few people knew or realized how desperately ill he was because despite it all he maintained a boisterous, irrepressible sense of humour and his forceful drive.

Dirk was a loving friend not only to me and my family but to the society as a whole and to people he hardly knew both

old and young. He just wanted everyone to enjoy themselves. He was a courageous very good Samaritan.

May Dirk's fun loving spirit remain with us forever! "Here's to Dirk, God bless him!"

Avril Quiggin Shipman
Vice President of GWAMA
(Gaelic for Greater Washington
Area Manx Association)

TT STAMPS

The Isle of Man Post Office Authority has issued a superb set of eminently collectable postage stamps to coincide with this year's 80th anniversary of the TT mountain course. The stamps portray what every motorbiker knows already, these roads were made for racing.

The 17 pence stamp shows Oliver Godfrey on an Indian 500 at Bray Hill at the starting point of the Senior TT, which he won in 1911.

The 21 pence stamp shows Freddie Dixon on his Douglas 'banking' sidecar at Ballacraigne in 1923. This was the first sidecar TT. Dixon's was indeed the most interesting entry, as he had fitted the sidecar with a lever, which allowed it to 'bank' over for cornering.

The 26 pence stamp depicts Bill Ivy on a Yamaha 125 in 1968 at the Waterworks. He made history that year by being the first rider to lap at more than 100 miles an hour on a 125 machine.

The 31 pence stamp show Giacomo Agostini on a MV Agusta 500 at Cregny-Baa in 1972. This was to be Agostini's final year of racing in the TT, after winning 10 TT races since 1966.

The 37 pence stamp shows Joey Dunlop on a RVF 750 Honda at Ballaugh Bridge in 1985. In this Senior TT he completed a start to finish victory, a feat accomplished by only one other. Dunlop has done more racing laps at more than 110 miles an hour than any other rider and has won 13 TT races.

The five stamps are available in various collectors presentation packs, as well as stampcards, miniature sheets and first day covers.

Excerpts from an article in the Isle of Man Examiner, June 4, 1991.

CATS' CORNER



The Manx cat originated centuries ago on the Isle of Man where the first records describing the "tailless" cats were found. It is believed to be a mutation of the Island's domestic cats. The insularity of the Island provides a limited space for the inbreeding of tailless cats. This has reinforced the predominance of the tailless factor gene among its cats.

The Manx cat has other unique features. It has a jowly appearance due to full rounded cheeks. Its neck is short and thick, its shoulders arch back to a high rounded rump, and its hind legs are longer than the forelegs. The paws have five toes in front and four behind. The compact body is covered by a heavy, double coat of short, dense fur.

"Rumpies" are completely tailless and have an indentation at the base of the spine where a tail would normally begin. "Stumpies" have a small stump of a tail. A "riser" falls between the other two with a small piece of bone or cartilage at the end of the spine. Of course, there are Manx cats with complete tails. A pair of Manx parents can produce a litter of kittens with any combination or lack of tails.

Manx cats, like Manx people, tend to be quiet but active, shy but friendly, witty but reserved, clever but trusting. Like all cats, they are affectionate in their own way.

The government-operated Manx Breeding Cattery in Noble Park, Douglas, was designed by Dr. Douglas Kerruish. He hoped to provide an indoor breeding establishment and safe permanent housing for Manx cats. At that time visitors to the Island were stealing them because they were considered to be "lucky" cats. He also hoped to create a tourist attraction for displaying Manx cats at their best.

There are a number of legends that attempt to explain the origin of the Manx cat. One fable tells of a tailless cat that arrived in 1588 with the Spanish Armada.

Continued Page 14

However, there is no record of this, nor of tailless cats in Spain. Then there is the rumor that the Manx came from the Far East on board ship. There are Japanese Bobtails in Japan, but these cats have a twisted, bobbed tail that is genetically different from that of the Manx.

A commonly told story of the origin of this breed involves Noah and the Ark. It seems Noah had two tailed (normal) cats that were playing outside the Ark. When he called them to come on board, the two cats just ignored him saying, "Oh, Traae dy Liooar," (time enough) and kept right on playing. Finally, when they did come aboard, Noah was just slamming the door shut and he chopped off their tails by mistake.

Another myth comes from the period of Manx history when the Scandinavians invaded the Island. As these intruders tried to slice off the native cats' tails so that they could adorn their helmets, all of the mother cats panicked and promptly bit off their kittens' tails so they would be safe from these warriors. There is also a tale about Samson, who swam the Irish Sea just for exercise. When he swam past the Isle of Man, a Manx cat caught him and nearly drowned him with its tail. Samson quickly chopped off the cat's tail in defense, and it has never had one since.

Most of the information for this article came from the book The Manx Cat by Marjan Swantek.



YOUR OPINION

"The new format for the Bulletin is most refreshing and is 'the way to go'. My Bulletin arrived the day after Earl Watterson had told me he'd watched Manxmouse on Channel 29. He said it was good, done by the Japanese! I loved the cat and dog stories. This Manx woman has a Golden Retriever also and when I get around to it I'll send in some more 'Golden Tails', all true and very much in character.

"Maybe we should get out bumper stickers: Ask not what the Manx Society can do for you but what you can do for the Manx Society. It probably would get in the Guinness Book of Records for the longest bumper sticker!"

Avril Shipman
Washington, D. C.



Co-editors Norman and Joan Gill and Sally Dahlquist are still smiling after working on three issues of the Bulletin. One of the things that makes this job so rewarding is the response from the membership. Not only the encouragement, but the number of articles and bits of information sent to the editors help to keep the Bulletin going. Another benefit is learning about so many interesting Manx activities and projects that are taking place all over the world. But it is hard work. The present editors are amazed that Hilda Penrice and Doris Brideson took on this job solo. They certainly are to be commended for their stellar accomplishments. You know what a tremendous job they did when it took three people to replace them.

The main emphasis this year has been, and will continue to be, an effort to increase NAMA membership. So far, at least a several hundred complimentary copies of the Bulletin have been mailed to non-members on behalf of membership requests.

Ganseys in the Isle of Man

The Island appears never to have had the richness of design found in other parts of the British Isles, though the ganseys are recorded as having some pattern.

For everyday, fishermen wore plain ganseys, with roll collars. There were welts of double rib, with stocking stitch on the main part of the body, and a patterned yoke. Eight needles were used so that there would be no seams, and the garments were extremely heavy — they had to be, to keep out the wind and rain. What patterning there was reflected the lives of the fishermen; diamonds represented the mesh of the nets, cabling, the ropes, and a double moss stitch (blackberry stitch) reflected "a country touch", as many of the men were both fishers and crofters.

At one time, all the ganseys would be hand-knitted at home, using homespun wool, or perhaps yarn from one of the

several mills scattered about the Island. But later garments might be shop-bought, and so the characteristic patterns were lost to the benefit of mass-production. Ganseys were working garments, and by their nature, worn hard. Few survive, but the one in the Manx Museum is typical of its kind.

The patterns also identified the wearer — often by the device of knitting the initials into the hem. This was particularly important in the event of drowning, as it was sometimes the only way of identifying a body. Similar methods were used in Scotland and Ireland.

Reference: The Manx Museum Folk Life Survey, September, 1972

If you wish the knitting directions for either the Manx Gansey or ladies' mittens of a design inspired by the Calf of Man carved cross-slab, they can be found in the booklet The Manx Sheep; the breed that refused to die published by the Manx Loaghtan Sheep Breed Society. This informative booklet also gives an interesting history of the Loaghtan sheep.

NAMA Membership Drive

The somewhat dwindling membership of the North American Manx Association should be of concern for every member of NAMA. If this organization is to continue to be strong and vital, serving its stated purposes, it needs a wide base of members who bring with them both resources and talents. This has been an ongoing concern of the entire Board of Directors and recently President Lawrence Fargher has set a goal of having 1000 members enrolled by the 1992 convention on the Isle of Man. This would imply that *we need to add approximately 200 new NAMA members in an 18 month period.* It is an ominous goal but not impossible. Our own Mary Kelly, as 3rd Vice President and NAMA Membership Chairperson, has been presented with this worthy task and she needs your help!

The Washington Manx Society has requested that a copy of the Bulletin be mailed to their members who are not currently members of NAMA. A member of the Wisconsin Manx Society has requested a number of copies of the Bulletin to distribute to his relatives at a family reunion. If your society would like to make a similar request, they will be honored according to the number of Bulletins available.

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

Annual	\$10.00
Life Under 50 Years Old	75.00
Life Over 50 Years Old	50.00
Junior (ages 1 - 18, no Bulletin)	2.00

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP

Annual	\$15.00
Life (2 adults based on age of the youngest)	
Under 50 Years Old	120.00
Over 50 Years Old	80.00

Mail your name and address along with a check made payable to NAMA to: NAMA c/o Helen M. Drom, 4960 Cherry Avenue, Santa Maria, CA 93455

TRADITIONAL MANX RABBIT PIE

(from the *Scenic Manx Cookbook*)

- 1 1/2 lb or 675 g boned Rabbit pieces
- 2 oz or 50 g Seasoned Flour
- 2 oz or 50 g Dripping
- 10 oz or 300 ml Chicken Stock
- 4 oz or 115 g finely chopped Bacon
- 2 Carrots, chopped
- 2 Onions, chopped
- 1 tsp Thyme
- Salt and Pepper
- 8 oz or 225 g Shortcrust Pastry
- 1 tblsp Milk

Roll the rabbit pieces in the seasoned flour. Heat the dripping in a saucepan. Add the rabbit pieces and brown on all sides. Add the stock,

bacon, carrots, onions, thyme and salt and pepper, and stir to mix. Bring to the boil. Simmer until the rabbit is cooked through. Transfer to a large pie dish and leave until cold. Roll out the pastry dough until it is as large as the pie dish. Cover the pie dish with the dough, trimming off the ends to fit. Brush the pastry with the milk. Put into a preheated oven Gas Mark 5/190° C or 375° F and bake for 30 - 35 minutes, or until the pastry is a deep golden brown.

Called Calf pie in our house, I did not know I was eating rabbit for years, presumably the name came because of the amount of rabbits on the Calf of Man.



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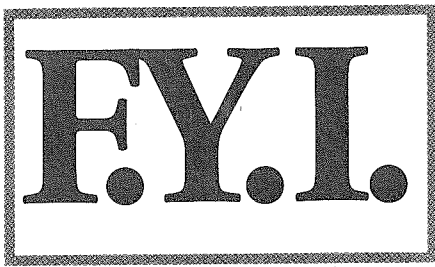
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TRULY MANX TALES

A set of six cassette tapes about the Isle of Man has recently been brought to our attention. The tapes are designed primarily as easy and entertaining listening, but they contain much information which both inhabitants and ex-patriots should know! They have been professionally produced at Manx Radio by Mike Reynolds, with the well known voice of Geoffrey Crellin, as narrator. These tapes provide a way to learn about the Island's history and culture and what makes it 'unique'. They are a source of ideas on where to go and what to see when you visit the Island.

One is a general introduction tape and there is one each about Douglas, Ramsey, Castletown, Peel, and the South-West area. Early in the summer of 1991 four more tapes should be available on Onchan and Laxey; early ancestors; the Stanleys, the Christians and the 'Running Trade'; and Mann after the 1765 Take-over.

The tapes may be purchased individually at £4.99 or a set of the first six at £21.49. For further information and to place an order, contact Henley/Betty Crowe on 0624 624963 or write enclosing a cheque/postal order to P. H. Crowe, 17 Inner Circle, Douglas, Isle of Man.

DEADLINES

We plan to issue four NAMA Bulletins each year. 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. Photos, preferable black and white, are greatly appreciated with your articles.

VIDEO

An excellent video, 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 Ron Quayle or Norman Gill. Their addresses are listed on page 15.

In a March issue of the Isle of Man Examiner, the Manx Museum received high praise for this video from the judges of the 1990 'Gateway Interpret Britain' awards. They said, 'Using brilliant aerial photography and dramatic sequences the film introduces the origins of the Island, its chequered history, its language and culture, its settlement, industry and development through the centuries to the present day.

'It captures the spirit of the Island and is a superb introduction for the first time visitors and local people alike, encouraging them to go out and explore the beauty and heritage for themselves.'

Willie Brideson

About a month ago I received a letter from my cousin, Jean Hallum. She told me a very good friend of my mother's family from Port St. Mary, Willie Brideson, was still very active and also the oldest person on the Isle of Man and in the U. K. He was 105 years old on his last birthday. I remember him as a very good baker of bread and rolls, which he still bakes every week.

Thanks to Florence Abbinanti, Chicago Manx Society, for this information.

Ellan Vannin

The words and music to the beloved Manx song "Ellan Vannin" are once again available in sheet music form with the issue of reproduction copies of the M. A. Wood harmonised arrangement originally published by Blakemore and Sons.

Jennifer Leece (nee Blakemore), of Peel — the only direct descendant of the 'musical side of the family still alive — gave permission to Peter Norris of the Villa Marina Arcade, to reproduce the work.

He came across the piece when he was sorting through the contents of an old music stool. 'I had often been asked for the music but had to inform people it was no longer available,' he said.

'The front cover depicts an early view of Douglas Bay, taken from Douglas Head, with the harbour crowded with passenger vessels. The original layout has been preserved — even down to the original price of one shilling!'

Today's reproduction, however, retails at the slightly higher price of £2.50 and can be obtained from Peter Morris Music, Villa Marina Arcade, Douglas, Isle of Man.

Excerpted from an article in the Isle of Man Examiner, March 26, 1991.



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