### NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

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

December 1991

# The Stevenson Manx Duo

By Sally Dahlquist

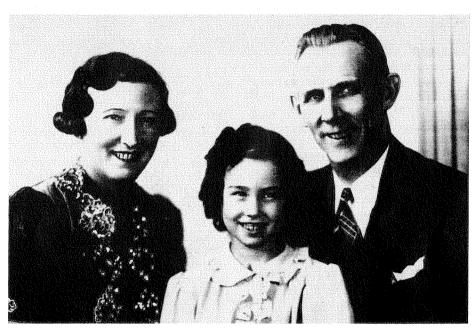
I met Myrra Johnson from Scottsdale, Arizona, at the 1990 Santa Clara NAMA Convention. As we discussed our Manx Heritage, Myrra produced a large glass slide from her purse. It was a picture of Ramsey in the 1930s. Her parents had lectured on the subject of the Isle of Man using a collection of glass colored slides and an antique projector.

Our co-editors Norm and Joan Gill traveled to Arizona last month and picked up these invaluable items. Myrra has donated them to NAMA. Her story of her parents' love for the Isle of Man and their effort to promote its interest is worth telling.

Walter John Stevenson was born in 1888 in Kerrowmoar, Lezayre, near Sulby, on the Isle of Man. He was the thirteenth child of Manx parents, John Robert and Jane Cowley Stevenson. Walter attended school in Ramsey and loved music.

In 1907, he moved to Vancouver, Canada, and lived with his brother, Alfred, who was in the construction business. He served in the Canadian army during World War I and was stationed in Vancouver. Walter also studied music and sang in concerts and churches. He was regarded as the "possessor of the best basso voice" on the Pacific coast. Walter never lost sight of his Manx heritage and became a charter member of the Vancouver Manx Society.

In 1920, Walter traveled to Chicago to perform in a concert. He met Reverend J. S. Thomas, pastor of the Austin Methodist Church, who was so inspired by Walter's voice, he invited him to sing at his church. Walter returned, sang and transplanted himself to Chicago, living



Pictured from left to right: Doris, Myrra, and Walter Stevenson in the 1930s.

there for the next 45 years.

Walter Stevenson was deeply interested in genealogy and loved his Isle of Man. He joined NAMA and organized the first Manx Homecoming to the Island in 1927. A copy of his itinerary is among Myrra's possessions.

While planning the various events on the Island, Walter realized that he needed an accompanist for his solo at the evening banquet entertainment. He inquired and was told that Doris Sale was a well-known accompanist on the Island. Walter contacted Doris; they got together, rehearsed and hit it off so well that they were engaged before Walter left the Island. Walter had to go back to the United States with the Homecomers, but planned to return in one year to marry Doris.

Doris Sale Stevenson was born in Castletown in 1900. Her Manx parents, Thomas Alfred and Miriam (Minnie)

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#### An Old Manx Greeting

Ollick ghennal erriu as blein feer vie, Seihll as slaynt da'n slane lught thie; Bea as gennallys eu bio ry-cheilley, Shee as graih eddyr mraane as deiney; Cooid as cowryn, stock as stoyr, Palchey puddase, as skaddan dy-liooar.

A merry Christmas on ye, and a very good year,

Long life and health to the whole household;

Your life and mirth living together, Peace and love between women and men,

Goods and wealth, stock and store, Plenty potatoes, and herring enough.

From the NAMA Bulletin, December, 1935

#### STEVENSON Continued

Kennaugh Sale, had a dry goods and clothing store on Arbory Street. She attended the Royal Academy of Music in London and received the prestigious Licentiate (L.R.A.M.) degree. Doris returned to the Isle of Man to continue her musical career as an organist for the Rosemount Methodist Church in Douglas. She was also a piano teacher and the major accompanist for many choirs all over the Island when Walter discovered her.

Early on the morning of May 30, 1928, Walter and Doris were married in the Arbory Street Methodist Church. After a honeymoon in the Lake District in England, the Stevensons returned to Walter's home in Chicago.

When Myrra was one year old, Walter entered a singing contest on the radio. He won first prize and was the first bass soloist on network hook-up. His picture was in the *Chicago Daily News*. His musical career was launched.

Doris became a music instructor at the Austin Academy of Fine Arts and was organist at several of the Austin churches in the Chicago area.

In the 1930s, the Chicago Art Institute was looking to sponsor lectures and talks by citizens in the community. Walter applied and presented his lecture on the Isle of Man. Mrs. Charles R. Walgreen, of the drug store family, was so intrigued with the Isle of Man she decided to sponsor Walter.

The Stevensons produced professional brochures and traveled the Chicago and outlying areas, entertaining clubs and organizations. The Isle of Man lecture became a show with the Stevenson's musical touch.

Myrra's parents had quite a system. Walter talked as Doris would operate the large projector or "lantern" dated circa 1925. The lantern stood five feet high on three legs. A wooden slide carrier would move back and forth in front of the projector. It contained four by four colored glass slides which would get hot from the the lamp. Doris wore gloves to remove the slides so as not to burn her hands. Walter rigged up a small light bulb hidden in a box with a long cord and a button on the other end. He would press the button. The light was Doris' cue to change slides.

At six, Myrra would display their Manx cat during intermission. Just before the second half of the show, Doris would play the piano and accompany Walter while he sang the Manx national anthem, "Ramseytown" and other well known Manx tunes.

The Stevensons lectured and entertained for fifteen years until the 35mm camera came into regular use. Myrra has a copy of Walter's original lecture. The original slides were sent to Walter by the IOM Tourist Office, Blanche Young, and others living on the IOM at the time.

Walter continued his connection with the Manx despite Doris' death in 1955. His desire to know and support the Manx around him led him to become the President of the Chicago Manx Society. In 1958, he became third Vice President of NAMA. He was a great contributor and a staunch NAMA supporter. He wrote many articles for the NAMA Bulletin, such as "Manx Aboard the Mayflower," "Our Manx Heritage," "101 Things of Interest About the Isle of Man and Its People," "Celtic and Scandinavian Runic Crosses of the Isle of Man," and "The Star of India in San Diego."

When Walter moved to Arizona in 1971 with Myrra (Miriam Louise) and son-in-law, Randy (Randall), he looked up in the phone directory all the Manx names he could find. He called them up one by one and invited them all to his home. About eight to ten people arrived and became his friends.

In 1975, Walter died. In an article in the <u>Isle of Man Examiner</u>, Sydney Boulton referred to Walter as an "outstanding Manx American". His contributions were countless and his legacy is one of fond memories and rich history. His lecture, lantern and slides will live on in the hands of NAMA survivors prepared to preserve our Manx heritage.

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## NAMA92 Convention Update

Strong and enthusiastic interest has been shown in attending the 1992 North American Manx Association Convention on the Isle of Man from 3 to 7 July 1992. Ron Quayle, 1992 Convention Chairperson, has received completed convention attendance survey forms from many individuals and families. Current convention attendance estimates based on the returned forms range from 187 to 212. If you are planning to attend or are just considering attending the convention and have not yet sent in your completed form found in the September Bulletin,

please send it to Ron as soon as possible. THANKS to all who have responded! The information is most helpful in convention planning.

A detailed proposed convention itinerary has been received from the Manx Tourist Board and has been reviewed by the NAMA Executive Board and by the Convention Planning Committee drawn from the Washington Manx Society membership. The itinerary is very similar to that described in the last Bulletin. As this is being written, Don Quayle of the committee is scheduled to be on the Island from November 14th to the 17th to discuss details with the Tourist Board and others.

Some of the details are falling into place. Sir Charles Kerruish, President of Tynwald, has agreed to be the banquet speaker. The Fourth of July Saturday afternoon tour will be a trip on the steam railway to visit the newly restored Castle Rushen. According to the Manx Museum, Colonel Robert Overton's Regiment of Foote (a British Civil War group) will be there during our convention to provide costumed soldiers and weapons along with other personnel to lend an air of period authenticity to the castle. A Sunday bus tour to the west of the Island is planned. This will likely include the Cregneash Village Folk Museum, Peel Castle, Tynwald Hill at St. Johns along with other points of interest.

As described in earlier Bulletins, the Everymann Holidays travel group within the Manx Tourist Board is developing a tour package for our convention. This will include reduced cost travel on Manx Airlines to and from the Island for Heathrow in London, Manchester, and possible other points in the United Kingdom. Also included will be special hotel accommodation rates at the Palace Hotel (the convention hotel) and possibly others. All 130 rooms at the Palace are currently being held for our attendees.

The Planning Committee is also working with airlines and travel agencies specializing in convention travel to arrange reduced rate air travel from the United States and Canada to the United Kingdom. We hope we can save you some money!

No tours off the Island will be arranged by the Planning Committee. The information on the survey shows a large variety of off Island touring interests before or after the convention. Thus, the Planning Committee has decided to simply identify tour companies specializing in tours of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland.

Please don't make any airline or hotel

commitments you can't cancel without penalty until you receive convention registration and travel plans. The current plan is to mail registration and travel materials in January. It will include details of how to arrange and pay for the tour package, agencies specializing in convention travel and travel in the UK. All members of NAMA will receive this mailing.

If you have questions which have not been answered here, feel free to call Ron Quayle of Alexandria, VA at 703-370-8975. His address is shown elsewhere in the Bulletin.

An exciting and memorable NAMA Convention is planned. This is your opportunity to visit the Isle of Man for the first time or to return for another visit. It is an opportunity to explore the Island, research your family background, visit Island family and friends, and renew and initiate NAMA friendships. Share NAMA92 Convention information with any Manx friends you may see this holiday season and encourage them to attend. We look forward to greeting you on the Isle of Man in July.



## NAMA Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee Meeting of the North American Manx Association was held at the Holiday Inn in Westlake, Ohio, on Saturday, September 21, 1991. Members in attendance: Mesdames Helen Drom, Edna Cowin, Mona Haldeman, Mary Kelly, Mary Hayslett, Margaret Quayle, Joan Gill, Elizabeth Duncan; Messrs. Norman Clucas, Larry Fargher, Marshall Cannell, Ronald Quayle, Norman Gill, Norman Standish, William Brideson, Robert Kelly.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Larry Fargher, and the roll call of officers was read. Apologies for absence were received from Rev. Herbert Kelly and Stan Shimmin.

The Secretary read two letters received from Winifred Musgrove, of the Family History Society, and Rev. Herbert Kelly. A motion was made that the minutes of the Executive Meeting of September 1989 and the minutes of the Convention 1990 be accepted as read, after corrections.

Mr. Fargher then addressed the meeting with some concerns which he hoped



The September NAMA meeting: from left to right Marshall Cannell, Helen Drom (Treasurer), Lawrence Fargher (President), Elizabeth Duncan (Secreatary), and Edna Cowin.

would be addressed in the meeting: Dues Collection, Bulletin Expenses, Life Memberships, Dues, Recruitment, and Assets.

Treasurer's report from Mrs. Helen Drom stated the books had not been audited and there was no balance in the cheque book, therefore her statement was from 9.1.91 to 9.31.91 and showed a balance of \$23,331.16. The Memorial Fund was \$798.70 and the Miles Standish Fund was \$6,657.13.

Membership discussion followed on the numbers of Life and Honorary memberships and it was agreed Mrs. Haldeman would sent Mrs. Drom an upto-date list of these memberships. Members paid in 1990-91 = 625, 1991-92 paid: Independent 76, Family 15, Societies 2, totaling 718 paid. New members, Life and Regular = 85. There are 17 Societies but only two paid up so far. A motion was carried that on a designated date the Treasurer should send a dues bill to each Society. A long discussion followed on how to encourage members to pay delinquent dues. The pink slip had not been inserted in the Bulletin and after discussion it was agreed that if a member did not respond to the first request for dues, a second letter would be sent by the Treasurer. If the 1990-91 delinquents do not pay after the second letter, they will be dropped from memberships. Mary Kelly requested a copy of the membership list and she will work with the requests from the USA and Canada to the Family History Society. If they are not members of NAMA, she will write and suggest they join.

Bulletin Co-Editors reported that

Norman Gill is the business manager, Sally Dahlquist is the editor, writer, and proofreader, and Joan Gill is the writer and keyboarder. The cost of printing the Bulletin has been considerably increased (approximately \$2.50 each for 100 printed). The dues do not cover the expenses of printing and mailing the Bulletin and the question was raised of increasing the dues. It was suggested we wait another year before making any decision on increases. It was proposed the subject be brought up at the next Executive meeting. It was agreed the high quality of the Bulletin should continue, but expenses must be carefully watched.

The President wished to go on record that the congratulations of the Executive Committee be extended to Mr. and Mrs. Gill and Mrs. Dahlquist for producing the excellent Bulletin.

Margaret Quayle did not have a report from the Ladies Auxiliary, but announced she was working on convention arrangements on behalf of the Ladies Auxiliary.

In the Trustees report, Norman Standish presented the inventory of property owned by NAMA. A few mysteries were solved as to the homes of some of the items. Mary Hayslett was welcomed as a new Trustee.

Larry Fargher gave his 1990 Convention report and stated the convention had essentially broken even.

After discussion, it was proposed and carried that current Society dues remain at \$5.00 but to increase to \$20.00 in 1992.

Mrs. Cowin announced she had added 95 names to her Genealogy file and

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encouraged all Executive members to send her their genealogy form.

For the library report Norman Standish re-iterated his research into the most appropriate repository for our books and his correspondence with the New England Historical Society. They are not interested in the books we might select. Norman agreed to table this discussion for the time being. He will correspond with Russ Cannon of the the Mormons and Marshall Cannell to see what is available, the cost and best place to house the information. He will correspond with Mary Kelly regarding Wisconsin needs, and ask Noreen Cottier to send us a list of Family History Society publications available and costs. It was suggested that a list of available books be printed in the Bulletin. Mary Kelly was thanked for the time and effort she put in on the book plates, but it was decided not to have any printed at this time because the minimum quantity was much greater than those we could use at this time.

Rev. Kelly's letter was again read by the secretary and it was agreed the Nominating Committee approach him and offer to find someone to help him with the chaplain duties.

The Secretary announced she is now working part-time and does not have the availability of a typewriter. She offered to resign as secretary of NAMA (after 20 years) so a new secretary could be appointed. A motion was approved that the secretary be given permission to buy a second-hand typewriter, value up to \$500.

Ron Quayle discussed insurance coverage for NAMA possible through Seabury and Smith. After discussion it was agreed he pursue further the coverage we need and what they can offer.

Ron Quayle outlined his plans for the convention on the Isle of Man in July 1992. Several suggestions were offered and these will be studied by Mr. Quayle and his committee. (For details see additional article in the Bulletin.)

President Fargher announced the following members will be appointed: Nominating Committee: Marshall Cannell and Clarence Creer; Constitution and Bylaws: Bill Brideson, Norman Standish and Edna Cowin.

The time and place of the next meeting was set at the Palace Hotel, Douglas, July 1992.

Excerpted from minutes submitted by NAMA Secretary Elizabeth Duncan

# My Visit to the Isle of Man

by Hilda (Bridson) Penrice

I left Toronto, Canada on June 2nd/91 for my two months visit to England and the Isle of Man. From June 3rd, I stayed with my sister-in-law in Ellesmere Port. The weather was something else when I first arrived. It was the wettest and coldest June for many years. I had left behind a temp of about 90°, but over there, fires, hot water bottles, and flannelette sheets were the order of the day. There is a saying - "no one goes to England for the weather". I had a great time with my family, nephews and nieces, most of them grown up and married. The English countryside was lush and beautiful, magnificent gardens filled with roses.

I had planned my vacation to be on the Isle of Man as a "homecomer" from July 3rd, to July 10th. I flew from Manchester on June 17th. A friend met me at the Airport and we made our way to Douglas where I would spend one week with my sister-in-law. This went over all too quickly. I got in touch with Mrs Betty Hanson, president of the World Manx Association. She put me in touch the Mr and Mrs Hall who were looking after the various events and outings which had been arranged to welcome Homecomers. It was a special year as the W.M.A. was celebrating its 80th Anniversary. Everyone was so kind, especially Miss Doris Lawson, Treasurer. She looked after me so well, coming around to the house with the tickets for the interesting programmes which had been arranged for us. It was impossible for me to take in all the events. Being Manx born (Ramsey), I had lots of friends to visit in various parts of the Isle and lots of things to do and see.

On July 3rd we were invited to the Mayor's Parlour in Douglas. We were entertained very nicely and had a Tour of Town Hall. Not too many homecomers were present. There were myself, Phyllis Linsley, President of the Ontario Manx Society, Ron Quayle, 1st Vice President of NAMA, and his wife from Virginia, a couple from Australia, and a few members from Manx Societies in England.

On July 4th, the Annual Gathering Dinner was held at the Masonic Hall in Douglas. There was a capacity crowd. We were introduced and asked to say a few words of greeting. The entertainment was provided by Graham Crowe, this year's winner of the Cleveland Medal, a most beautiful baritone. I believe this is the second time Graham has won this

July 5th was Tynwald Day. We had tickets for the Grandstand but we were unable to attend. The weather was sunny and fairly warm. In the afternoon, two Manx friends and I attended the Garden Party at Government. Crowds of people there were served a lovely afternoon tea.

July 7th, a beautiful warm day, was a coach trip with the W.M.A. We had afternoon tea at Ballacallin Hotel, Dalby. It was very well attended. I met LaJean Anderson, her son Jim and family from Minnesota. It was great meeting some our North American Manx members. We travelled on then to Peel to attend Evensong at the Cathedral. It was a beautiful service with some fine singing. This was followed by refreshments in the Church Hall. Peel is a special place for me. Sam and I spent the first three years of our marriage in Peel, living on Derby Road. It was lovely to meet many longtime friends.

On Monday, July 8th, the W.M.A. had arranged a Heritage tour to Ramsey, Bishopscourt and Peel. We travelled on the Electric Tram, unfortunately it rained, but we carried on. During our visit to Peel we were received by the Mayor and Council members, all were pleasant and hospitable. It cleared up by the time we reached Bishopscourt. However, we were only allowed to view the house from the outside, being a private residence, but we did go into the Church. While in Ramsey, we were welcomed by the Mayoress, Miss Beryl Ouine.

The highlight of my visit was being asked to present the NAMA medallion to an outstanding student at Ramsey Grammar School. Mrs Hanson asked me if I would participate as I was Ramsey born. I felt honoured to be asked. It was the first time I had seen the medal, but I remember being at the Executive meetings when the decision was made to establish these awards. The winner was Clare Brew, an outstanding student in music, composing, and directing the school choir. It was a pleasant sight to see all the students in the Assembly Room, the girls so neat in navy skirts and white blouses, the boys in grey pants, blazers, collar and ties. We were entertained to refreshments in the Headmaster's office later. Mrs Hanson accompanied me.

Later that afternoon Mrs Hanson and I attended a service at Cregneash Parish Church with other members of W.M.A.

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# President's Message

### Holiday greetings from California!

We had a productive directors meeting in Cleveland in September. I want to thank Mona and Ray Haldeman, Elizabeth and Bill Duncan, and Edna Cowin for their efforts and coordination. We appreciate all the detail work that must be done so that everything is all arranged as we come in from all over the U.S.A. and Canada. THANKS!!!! One of the topics we discussed was the cost of the Bulletin vis-a-vis dues. We all appreciate the super job being done on the Bulletin by Joan and Norm Gill and Sally Dahlquist. It does have a higher cost, however, and that means about \$2.50 per copy. Hence, the four Bulletin copies you receive return 100% of the normal \$10 annual dues. In Canada, since the postage is higher and the \$10 Canadian is less, you receive an even bigger bargain. (We need more Canadian representation at our leadership meetings.) We are looking at the income/expense projections and will keep you apprised. First Vice President Ron Quayle reported on the plans for Homecoming on the IOM next year. (See article this Bulletin.) It looks like a great trip!! A new contributor to NAMA, Russell Cannon from Utah, had many contributions to make, having managed a Cannon-Family Reunion on the IOM in September, 1990. He plans another group trip as a part of us and our doings next year. Plan on coming yourself!!

I saw a "Manx" personalized plate - Wisconsin - on Dr. Mary Kelly's car. So I thought I'd get a California one like it. In my dreams!!! There was a whole slew of different Manx combinations already out there. Finally, I settled for "Manx 92" in honor of our Homecoming next year. I think some cat lovers have tied up many of our Manx plate possibilities.

Reverend Kelly, our chaplain, was unable to come to our Cleveland meeting. He is rightfully tending to his wife's health and care. For the balance of my term, I have appointed Reverend Devore Smith of San Diego to assist Reverend Kelly with chaplain duties.

We hope you will be blessed with a holy and happy Christmas!!!
And, special love to George Curphey who lost Irene one year ago.

Your Manx leader,

Lawrence L. Fargher President

On Wednesday, July 17th, a most important event took place, the 80th Anniversary Celebration of the W.M.A. We journeyed to Rushen Abbey by coach. full crowd. We had afternoon tea in the restaurant. Sir Charles and Lady Kerruish, Victor Kneale and is wife Thelma and other politicans were seated at the head table. It was a very happy affair. Fitting tributes were made to the World Manx Association and its influence with all the Manx Societies throughout the world. We were entertained by the pupils of Ballasalla School performing Manx dances. It was great to meet with Joyce and Malcolm Kinley from Costa Mesa, California. Joyce's mother, Mrs Crowe, was with them. It was a wonderful party. So nice to meet with longtime friends all striving "to preserve our Ancient Heritage".

On my return to England before leaving for Canada on July 31st, I visited with two of my late husband's brothers. Harry and his wife Nancy live in Derby, a beautiful part of England; Bob and his wife Eileen live in Whitney. We spent a lovely day together, hadn't seen them since 1983.

Another homecomer I met on the Island was Carol Christian of Willowdale, Ontario. She was among the crowd at the W. M.A. Anniversary Celebration. Carol is a member of the Ontario Manx Society.

In between times I spent a nostalgic week in Ramsey, my home town. What happy memories came back to me, I was born there, married there, two of our children were also born there. I stayed at "Eskdale", a private guest Hotel on Queen's Drive. I still keep in touch with friends, so I did a lot of visiting.

After two months away, my family were glad to welcome me home to Canada. I understand the next NAMA Convention will be held on the Isle. So in the meantime I will enjoy the memories of my trip home in 1991.

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All best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Manx and England based members of the NAMA. Noreen will be spending the holidays 'down under' with relatives and friends in Australia this year, and is looking forward to meeting many of you at the 1992 Convention in July. Noreen S. Cottier Regional Representative Peel, Isle of Man

### NAMA Awards

Grade eight pianist Clare Brew won the North American Manx Association's award for outstanding contribution to music. It was presented to her at Ramsey Grammar School by NAMA member and former Bulletin editor Hilda Penrice, of Ontario, Canada. Clare's parents, Kathleen and Philip Brew, of Ballaugh, were at the school for the ceremony. Clare, who is a good all-rounder in piano and choral work, ran the school's choirs over Christmas when music teacher Elizabeth Green was absent on maternity leave

Debbie Franks received the North American Manx Association award, for outstanding service to the community, from Phyllis Linsley, President of the Ontario Manx Society, at Castle Rushen High School. Debbie, 18, has worked tirelessly for the school's special unit, raising enough money to buy a microwave and a television, helping out with the unit's recent trip to Atlantic College, in Wales, as well as travelling to Romania to help the children there.



Pictured above is: Clare Brew, second from left, accepted the North American Manx Association award for music from Hilda Penrice. They are flanked by Clare's parents, Kathleen and Philip Brew of Ballaough.

# An Unfortunate Brevity of Rope

About 100 years ago some divers descended in a bell into the sea off the east of the Isle of Man to search for treasure. A venturous spirit, probably the greatest liar in the Island, descends alone and kept pulling for more rope till so much line was exhausted that it was calculated that he had attached to him a rope longer than twice the distance of the moon from earth. When he came up, he had a pretty story to tell.

The bell had gone down below the fish country into a pure region paved with coral and shining pebbles. There were huge streets there and squares ornamented with pyramids of crystal, while the buildings were of mother-of-pearl, embossed with patterns of shells. Going through a passage, dragging the bell after him, he found himself in a large room in which were amber chairs and tables. The floor was of rough diamonds, topaz, rubies and pearls. Why not bring up some of them?

Very true, a few of these would have been worth a thousand wrecks; but, unfortunately, they were too closely wedged in and cemented. On the jasper walls hung, attached by rush string, chairs, carcanets and rings of finely cut precious stones, the waifs and strays of earth. He had just edged himself within a foot of these, when unfortunately, he was drawn back from want of line.

This story came from page 49 of Mrs. Anna Augusta (Gawne) Abel's scrapbook of unmarked newspaper clippings. This book was started in 1865-66, before her marriage to John Henry Abel on 7 January 1869. Before her marriage, she lived with her parents on a farm near Oxford, Ohio. After marriage, she lived with her husband in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Mrs. Abel's father, Thomas Gawne, came to New York with his family from the Isle of Man in the 1820s.

Thanks to H.T. Stock of Grosse Point Farms, Michigan, for sending us this article. His mother was the daughter of Anna Augusta Gawne Abel. Mr. Stock, 93, hand copied the article to share with Bulletin readers.

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### **OUR OWN PEOPLE**

#### Australian Visitor

Shellie Maree Gawne, a vivacious sixteen year old girl whose home is in Shepparton, Victoria, Australia, is visiting her third cousin, once removed, Mrs. Jack Gills, in Wayne, Michigan. She is attending the tenth grade in the Wayne Memorial High School there. The great grandfathers of Mrs. Gills and Shellie's father (David), William and Thomas, were brothers born on the Isle of Man. William went to Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A. Thomas went to Australia, 1849-50.

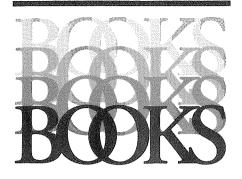
Shellie arrived in the Detroit area 28 July 1991 and will leave 25 January 1992. She enjoys traveling. Trips to see the locks at Sault Ste Marie, Michigan, Niagara Falls, Disney World, Florida, and other places are planned. She is on the high school swim team and is active in the youth group at the Gills' church. Her hobby is stamp collecting. She loves being here. The Gills enjoy her visiting them.

#### Speaker

Alison Harkin, a freelance editor in Decatur, Georgia, addressed the 1991 national conference of the American Medical Writers Association, October 23-26 in Toronto, Canada. The topic of Ms. Harkin's presentation was "The Editor in the Middle."

Ms. Harkin is a member of the Council of Biology Editors and the North American Manx Association.

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# MANX FAIRY TALES

by Sophia Morrison reviewed by LaJean Anderson

1st Edition published 1911. 2nd Edition in 1929 with illustrations by Manx artist, Archibald Knox. Reprinted in 1971 and again in 1991 by Manx Museum & National Trust.

This collection of fairy stories is a joy to read. There are fifty or more tales and each one has its own imaginative, often very funny episode of Manx tradition and folk-lore.

Writing in Peel, in October 1911, Sophia Morrison said, "There is at least one spot in the world where Fairies are still believed in, and where, if you look in the right places, they may still be found, and that is the little island from which these stories come - Ellan Vannin, the Isle of Mann. They are never called Fairies by the Manx, but Themselves, or the Little People." Besides these Little People, "There is the Fynoderee, who is large, ugly, hairy and enormously strong, but not so bad as he looks, for often he helps on the farm during the night by thrashing corn. Then, far uglier than Fynoderee, are the Bugganes, who are horrible and cruel creatures. They can appear in any shape they please - as ogres with huge heads and great fiery eyes, or without any heads at all. Each Buggane has his own particular dwelling place - a dark seacave, a lonely hill, or a ruined Keeill."

One of my favorite little tales was How the Manx Cat Lost Her Tail. When Noah called the animals to the Ark, one cat was too busy mousing. It was pouring rain and Noah called once more and then he closed the door. The cat ran up, soaking wet, half drowned - the story claims "that's why cats hate the water." Noah slammed the door and cut off her tail and that is why Manx cats have no tails to this day.

Another quotation from the story, The

Making of Mann, should give all you Manx people a chuckle. It ended as follows: "It was a place where there was always sunshine, and the singing of birds, the scent of sweet flowers, and apple-trees blossoming the whole year round. There was always enough there to eat and drink, and the horses of that place were fine and the women beautiful."

I was surprised and impressed by so many allusions to Scottish and Irish legends. If the NAMA Bulletin wants me to continue to review Manx books, I hope the editors and my Manx reading public will allow me some personal comments. My ancestry is Irish, and I enjoyed the references and similarities of the Manx and Irish in this volume. My Irish sonin-law, John Terence Lavelle, has told me many tales of the Ol' Sod. So when I read Joe Moore's Story of Finn Mac-cooill and the Buggane, I remembered that Irish giant, Finn Mac-cooill, as an old friend from John's stories. Even my late husband, T.R. Anderson, teased me about my loyalty and interest in all things Irish. Secretly he enjoyed my enthusiasm, and taught me to love and admire his Manx heritage.

Each tale in the book has excellent illustrations on its title page by Archibald Knox. Mr. Knox was born on the Isle of Man, and died in Douglas in 1933. His fame, as an artist, has spread in recent years with the return in the art world of the popularity of Art Nouveau. His design work for the famous Liberty's of London won him international renown. He has been established as one of the major designers in the "Art Nouveau" style with outstanding achievements in the design of silver, pewter and jewelry. He also worked in ceramics, textiles, book illustrations, stonework, and did magnificent illuminated lettering.

I would recommend this book as entertaining reading for our children and grandchildren - what a fine substitute for Brothers Grimm or Hans Christian Andersen. What a perfect way to share and carry on our Manx heritage.

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President
Terry Mc Caffrey,
on behalf of the Vancouver
Manx Society,
extends Seasons Greetings
and best wishes
for
the New Year.

#### Co-Editors'Corner

It hardly seems possible that a year has passed since my co-editors and I have taken over the reins of the NAMA Bulletin. As none of us had really done anything like this before, of course, it was quite a learning experience. Our utmost thanks to the retiring editor, Doris Brideson (also her helper Bill), for getting us started and answering lots of questions. Thanks also go to Mona and Ray Haldemen who send us updated address labels for each issue and Helen Drom, treasurer, who keeps us solvent.

It wasn't too long after we got into the nuts and bolts of the Bulletin, that we decided a computer was needed, along with a printer and a work station. It certainly makes life easier, and Joanie needed it for school anyway.

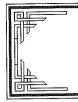
One of the most gratifying aspects of doing the Bulletin is the great response from you, the members. We're continually receiving contributions for publication. We encourage all your input, as it will make the Bulletin of great interest to all our members.

I'm sure you all noticed this last year that we offered free Bulletins to your friends, family members, etc. in an effort to increase our membership. NAMA 3rd Vice President Mary Kelly, in charge of membership, had this idea and it has been a great success. We've sent out several hundred Bulletins thus far, and still have more copies. So keep those requests coming.

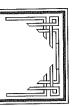
As a sidelight to this, we had some problem with our membership renewal because of our format change. However, dues renewals for members and Societies will always appear in the June issue in the future. If your dues are not up to date, we regret to say, this is the final copy of the Bulletin you will receive.

Winter came early to Minnesota this year with two and a half feet of snow and below freezing temperatures in early November, so your coeditors are in the holiday mood early. We would like to wish all our members and their families a Very Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

See you on the Isle of Man in July.



# SOCIETY NEWS



#### **NEBRASKA**

The Nebraska Manx Association held their annual meeting October 13, 1991, at the Table Rock Cafe in Table Rock, Nebraska. A buffet dinner preceded the business meeting. Election of officers was held with Elizabeth Robison retaining the office of President and Vicky Gobber retaining the office of Secretary-Treasurer. A Manx trivia game was played after the business meeting adjourned.

Those in attendance at our meeting were: Lester and Miriam Kaighin, Phil and Millie Corkhill, Lee and Delphine Sanks, Annie Robison, Thomas and Ida Robison, Elizabeth Robison, Douglas Robison, Debbie Krienhop, Vicky Gobber, and Rodney Robison.

The next annual meeting will be held the 2nd Sunday of October, 1992, in Table Rock, Nebraska. If anyone is interested in joining our association, please call Elizabeth Robison at 402-393-8854.

Vicky Gobber 214 Barrington Dr. Gretna, NE 68028

#### **CHICAGO**

The Chicago Manx Society held its meeting and pot luck dinner on Sunday, November 10th, at the home of Barbara and Edgar Brown in St. Charles, IL. We had a delicious dinner followed by a brief business meeting. We then showed the new Manx Museum videotape "The Story of Mann" giving a historical view of the Isle of Man narrated by the late Sir Anthony Quayle. We are trying to have our meetings in various locations in the Chicagoland area and our next meeting will be in the Spring.

From the information we received from the NAMA Executive Committee Meeting at Westlake, Ohio, we are looking forward to a wonderful convention on the IOM next July and hope to see many friends over there.

The Chicago Manx Society would like to wish all of our NAMA friends a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Robert Kelly, President 6858 N Osceola Ave Chicago, IL 60631

#### SAN DIEGO

Here we are at the end of another year. Where does the time go. Here in Southern California we are enjoying some lovely cooler autumn weather, although it hasn't been very warm this summer.

Our Chapter has continued to meet this year even though you haven't heard from us.

As many of you know, our long standing member Marge Weber does not experience good health, so earlier this year we "took" the meeting to Marge's house, and this gave everyone the opportunity to greet Marge. She was delighted, to say the least.

In July we held an Open House at the International Center at Balboa Park in The Cottage of England. We always hope to recruit new members by doing this. Lots of curious people who have never even heard of the Isle of Man!

One of our members, Ruth Craine Smith, took it upon herself to go through the local telephone directory and contact all the Manx surname people. She sent out 90 notices and as a result we had about eight new families present at our most recent meeting, and others had responded that they would be interested in learning more.

We close in wishing each of you a Very Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Peaceful 1992.

Hilary Harrison 2353 Geranium St. San Diego, CA 92109

# WORLD MANX ASSOCIATION

1991 has been a busy and exciting year in the life of the World Manx Association. The July events to celebrate our 80th Birthday were very enjoyable and memorable.

Since then we have had two outings. On 15th August we travelled to the North having a beautiful drive by the coastal route to Ramsey to have tea at the Grand Island Hotel. We returned over the Mountain Road to complete a most enjoyable trip. Then on Saturday, 21st September, we travelled to Silverdale where we enjoyed an excellent tea.

Unfortunately the weather on that last outing was not so kind to us; the rain was very heavy at times but in the coach we were not too concerned, although it did spoil the view of the scenery.

On Saturday, 26th October, we had our T.E. Brown Luncheon at the Castle Mona Hotel. As this is a larger venue, we were able to accommodate over 140 members and guests. Mr. John Kennaugh gave a very thoughtful and interesting address to the Immortal Memory of T.E. Brown. Our special guests were our patrons H.E. Sir Laurence Jones and Lady Jones. We also had with us Mr. G. Curphey from Nova Scotia and a representative from the Barrow Manx Society.

Our next function will be our Christmas Luncheon on 14th December at the Masonic Hall, Douglas, when Mr. David North will be our special guest and entertainer.

In connection with our inclusion in the official Isle of Man Year Book, I ask representatives of our Societies to inform me of any changes in names and addresses of their representatives so that the information in the Year Book is as accurate as possible.

I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Winifred Musgrove 11 Terrence Avenue Douglas, Isle of Man British Isles

#### **WISCONSIN**

The Fall meeting of the Wisconsin Manx Society was held October 20th at Madison with twenty-seven present. After a Smorgasbord Dinner, our new president Dann Willett conducted the meeting. Each attending introduced themselves and gave their Isle of Man connection. Judy Morey, one of the new Board members, told how her young son is learning Manx words from the book "First Thousand Words in Manx" brought from the Isle by her sister. Russell and Shirley Kelly from the Galva, Illinois Society, reported on their purchase of copies of records for marriages, births, deaths, etc. dating back to the 1600s from the Isle of Man. Shirley stated they would be glad to assist anyone interested in locating their Manx roots for a reasonable fee. Our President also reminded members of the outstanding genealogy records that can be found in the Wisconsin State Historical Library in Madison.

Roselyn Callin thanked the Society for the generous contribution toward the shelter erected in memory of her husband, Robert, at the Laxey Cemetery. The shelter was dedicated at the Laxey Picnic, July 7. (A report appeared in September issue of NAMA Bulletin.) Russell and Shirley Kelly were visitors to the Picnic and related their RV trailer experience in the storm that ripped through the area that date! We are glad it could be repaired and that all is well!

Mary Kelly gave us some of the highlights of the NAMA Board meeting she attended in Cleveland this fall. She reminded us that Wisconsin is slated to host the National meeting in 1996. She also reported NAMA has reached the half-way mark in their goal for increasing membership. Our Historian Doris Alff requested news articles, pictures and other items to be added to our History Record.

President Dann Willett arranged an outstanding program for us. He used the introductory cassette of Truly Manx Tales, a series of tapes about the Isle of Man produced and directed at Manx Radio. Dann gathered together some of his own and other members colored slides of the Isle, to match the narration. The tape concludes with a beautiful rendition of the Manx National Anthem. Our group followed with our own, assisted by Jean Willett. It was a wonderful way to learn about and visualize the history and culture of our beloved "Isle" that makes it so unique.

Our next meeting is scheduled for April 5, 1992, 12:00 noon, at the Heritage House in Madison.

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

#### **ONTARIO**

It is quite awhile since the Ontario Manx Society contributed to the Bulletin. Unfortunately, while I was in the Isle of Man, my previous letters were not forwarded.

During the Homecoming week on the Island, I met Ron and Mrs. Quayle at the Mayor's Reception. Since then I have heard that the Mayor's mother, Mrs Marian Christain, has died. As she was my cousin I am very upset and have sent



A restored room at Castle Rushen

our condolences.

I believe that Mr. Quayle, on his visit, was making arrangements and booking accommodations for the 1992 Convention. As the Canadians were not consulted, I cannot give any information

or pass an opinion.

The weather on the Island this summer was quite cool and we had several storms, which resulted in the postponement of some events. One was the trawler race at Port St. Mary. This event included trawlers from Ireland, Scotland and the Manx ones. It was really a colourful sight. The ships were festooned with flags and banners and the "locals", especially the children, made good use of the invitation to sail on them.

A fair which nobody should miss, is "Laa Columb Killy" (the fair of St. Columbus) held at Balla Beg. This year, it was a glorious day, bright sunshine on the horse drawn wagon carrying the "Queen" and her entourage. The local band led the way, followed by the young children in their homemade fancy costumes. There were the usual country stalls and games, also races for the "young Ums", but the highlight was the Manx Tay. We sat on forms in a huge tent, the tables were laden with home cooked goodies. Plates were filled as soon as they emptied. We could eat until we dropped, which some of the govigs did.

I had the honour of presenting Miss Debbie Franks with a NAMA award for outstanding service to the community, at the Castle Rushen High School.

Talking about Rushen Castle, this year the castle was restored and refurnished as it would have been, when functioning as a medieval military establishment. There were wall hangings, log fires, banquet tables, etc. inside, while in the moat area and court yards were animals to be slaughtered, a miller, cooks, blacksmith, soldiers and various tradesmen. The per-

sonnel dressed in the medieval costumes were actors from the English historical societies. Some of the mannequins are to be permanently left there. The present Earl of Derby opened the restoration and was delighted to see the previous home of his ancestors.

May I mention that the Ontario Manx Society has now quite a large member-

I hope that many of the NAMA will be over on the Island for the 1992 Convention as I shall be looking forward to meeting them.

Phyllis Qualtrough Linsley 87 Galloway Road West Hill, Ontario, Canada MIE IW8

#### **MINNESOTA**

The Manx Society of Minnesota held its fall meeting at the Park Inn in Duluth, Minnesota, on Saturday, October 5, 1991. Twenty-five members from the Twin Cities area and northern Minnesota were in attendance. Several of our founding members were there: Mrs. Frank Getchell, Margaret Gill, LaJean Anderson, Merle and Rosamond Simpson, Bill and Fran Shimmin, Jim Anderson, and Sally Anderson Dahlquist. There was time for socializing prior to a buffet lunch.

The business meeting began by acknowledging Jerry and Charlene Shimmin for their help in arranging this outing. With the Manx heritage introductions, some new connections were made.

The minutes of the summer meeting were read and approved. Jim Anderson reported on the progress of changing our status from a private foundation to a charitable corporation. Norm Gill reported on the NAMA Executive meeting held in Cleveland this September.

About eight members indicated they were considering attending the 1992 Convention on the IOM.

LaJean Anderson shared some highlights of her trip to the Island with her four grandchildren this past summer. They traveled about the Island in a big red van that resembled a bread truck. Its main advantage was that its height made it possible to see over the hedges. The grandchildren especially enjoyed the renovated Castle Rushen, Odin's Raven, and Peel Castle. They rode every railroad, both ways. They made two trips to Corrin's Tower, built by one of their ancestors. The first was by a four-wheel drive vehicle and the second climb on foot. The new addition to the Manx Museum was excellent. A four hour trip to the Calf of Man was great but too short. They recommend the wildlife refuge in the northwestern part of the Island. Jim Anderson tried the golf course and found them great, especially the Castletown one.

Sally Dahlquist and Fran Shimmin are going to work on creating a Minnesota Manx pin. It was suggested that a T-shirt be designed for those going to the 1992 Convention.

Joan Gill closed the meeting with a telling of the Manx folktale, *The Changeling*.

Our spring meeting will be on a Saturday in March in Faribault, Minnesota.

Joan Gill 10215 38th Court North Plymouth, MN 55441

#### **CLEVELAND**

As this is written, our area is having its first snowfall of the season. A reminder that the holiday season will soon be here...and time to send season's greetings to all who read this, from the Cleveland Manx Society's officers and members.

Sunday afternoon, November 3rd, we met at Di Mitri's restaurant for dinner. December 8th is the date for our Christmas dinner/meeting at E. Wellingtons' restaurant in Highland Heights, Ohio. Our annual December get together seems to "set the tone" for the holidays with singing of carols, small gift exchange and just being with our Manx folks.

To each and everyone of you...Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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

# FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

August is usually a quiet month as many members are on vacation, but this year proved the exception when we held our Members Memorabilia evening. All the members present contributed either a talk or a family heirloom which all made for a very enjoyable evening. At our September AGM we welcomed our incoming chairman Mr. Nigel Crowe and the return of Mrs. Sylvia Mylchreest as genealogist to a new streamlined committee system. We soon had the new chairman hard at work in October when he gave an excellent slide illustrated talk on the farm histories of the Baldwin Valleys.

At the time of writing we are looking forward to a return visit from Mr. Tom Cashen of Kirk Michael for a talk on the history of the Glen Wyllin area at our November meeting. Christmas is almost on us again and we will be going to Laxey for our Christmas dinner when our guest of honour will be our patron Sir Charles Kerruish, OBE. CP., President of Tynwald. The IOM FHS extends their warmest greeting to all NAMA members for the coming festive season and wishes nollick ghennal erriu, a merry Christmas to you.

Our programme for next year has already been mapped out and some excellent speakers engaged. We are of course looking forward to the NAMA Convention in July and have arranged our Open Day Exhibition to coincide with your visit. Its theme will be Manx family names so all of you should find something of interest and a very warm welcome is extended to you all to visit us. Our recent census survey revealed that the Manx are now an ethnic minority in their own land, so if you all make the trip next July, then for a short time at least we can perhaps try to redress the balance.

E.W.Q. Cleator 5 Selborn Drive Douglas, Isle of Man

#### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Marlene Fargher Story, Norcal Manx treasurer, arranged the group's November 17 meeting in the East Bay Pleasanton Holiday Inn, attended by twenty-two members, friends and visitors.

Following an enormous and delicious brunch, NAMA President Lawrence Fargher, local chapter president, called the meeting to order. He then presented each lady with a beautiful longstemmed white rose.

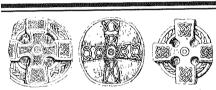
Members, who came from a threehundred mile radius, introduced themselves. Included was first-time attendant Manxborn Paul Gregson, currently residing in the Motherload community of Placerville.

The president then outlined possible travel arrangements for those who were interested in attending the 1992 IOM Convention and Homecoming. A survey indicated that of those present, plus children and others, twenty intended to make reservations for the trip. Specific plans including plane fares, lodging rates, and extras such as prices of side trips, will be available soon.

Member Dale Skillicorn reported on his proposed plans to publish a Directory of Manx Heritage in the U.S. and Canada. Any NAMA members interested in being included, as well as those desiring to reserve bulk space for listing their families, may contact Dale at 729 Palm Street, Watsonville, CA 95076.

Francis Wayne Crew 1920 Stroud Avenue Kingsburg, CA 93631





## Chaplain's Corner

The season of Advent is celebrated in the Church on the four Sundays preceding Christmas. The word "advent" is from the Latin verb, "advenio" — "to come," and in the Christian year refers to the coming of Jesus Christ. And the coming of Christ signifies God's love shining forth on the earth, never to fade away. If there is one word that best summarizes the meaning of Advent, it might be the word "Hope." Indeed, as the Apostle Paul wrote, "We are saved by hope." (Romans 8:24) And if there is anything this present world needs, it is hope. Hope, that the opposing nationalities in the Mid-East discussions will finally resolve their differences and devise terms by which they can live in peace. Hope, that there will be no more war, in this nuclear age. Hope, that we can solve our economic problems in America and the western world, and moreover, can

really work at eliminating the evils of our social order: poverty, injustice and prejudice. A large order? Yes, very large. But the spirit of Hope that comes to us in Christ insists that it can be accomplished — and the spirit of Christmas suggests how it can come — and must come: through generous self-giving — not once a year, but all through the year. May the Joy of Christmas be yours, in Christ, the Hope of the world.

Herbert G. Kelly, Chaplain

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### UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL

#### **Edna Cowin**

Edna Cowin, one of the Honorary Trustees since 1984, is Manx-by-marriage; and is delighted and proud to be Manx. She was born in Cleveland, Ohio, and married the late Robert Stanley Cowin (Bert), son of the late Stanley and Lenorah Cowin. Bert died in 1982. His grandparents were Cowin (Sulby) and Clucas (The Strang of Union Mills). She has studied the Island and has made six trips over to further her knowledge.

Prior to her retirement, Edna spent twenty-five years as a secretary with a large manufacturing company in Cleveland and had risen to the office of Secretary to the President.

She served as President of the North American Manx Association from 1978-1980 and was Chairperson of the successful NAMA GOLDEN JUBILEE CON-VENTION.

She also was active in the Cleveland Manx Society, serving as President for ten years; prior to that had been Treasurer for eight years, and is currently a Trustee. She did the research work on the Manx Postage Stamps issued to honor early Manx Pioneers to the Cleveland Area. In 1965 she presented the Cleveland Gold Medal at the Manx Music Festival and is currently responsible for sending the Cleveland Medal to the Isle of Man each year.

The Clague House Museum is another of her Manx activities, and one of her special interests is recruiting old Manx heirlooms and books for the Museum. She was instrumental in having the

Museum listed in the National Register of Historical Places as it is the only Manx Museum in the U.S.A.

As a direct result of having worked on the Cowin-Clucas Family Tree she became interested in Manx families and originated and has written the KNOW YOUR ANCESTORS column in the Bulletin since 1968. She has many old Manx books for reference and has ready access to the Library at Clague House Museum. In addition, she has compiled and kept active information submitted by NAMA members on membership and certificate applications.

Edna is a member of the Westlake Historical Society, Friends of Rocky River Library and Westlake Porter Library, Westlake Garden Club, and the Ohio Order of Eastern Star. She spends many hours consulting for the American Association of Retired Persons and volunteers on the Women's Board of the local Hospital.

#### Mary F. Kelly

Mary F. Kelly, the new 3rd Vice President of the North American Manx Association, is presently a self-employed businesswoman in Wisconsin. She lives with her husband, Dr. Francis B. Evans, and her two tail-less Manx cats in a rural area near Cottage Grove, Wisconsin. As a graduate of the University of Wisconsin Mary holds a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction, majoring in art education and minoring in art. She has five years experience teaching design at the University of Wisconsin at Madison and 16 years experience teaching art in Wisconsin public schools.

Mary enjoys photography and travel. She has visited with relatives on the Isle of Man twice. She is now making plans to attend the North American Manx Association Convention on the Isle of Man in the summer of 1992.

Manx ancestry, for Mary was passed from a grandfather, David Thomas Kelly, who was born in Lonan Parish on the Isle of Man in 1862 to a shoemaker and his wife. At the age of twelve, he arrived in this country with his older brother, John. As an adult David became a shoe merchant in Dodgeville, Wisconsin. He married G. Abbey Hocking and they had one child, a son, Maynard Kelly. Maynard married Frances D. Browning of Platteville, Wisconsin and Mary was their only child. Even though Mary's Manx ancestors are now deceased, she enjoys sharing her heritage with her daughter and grandson.

j.

#### North American Manx Association Officers 1990/1992

Hon. President: Norman Clucas Webster Grove, MO

Hon. Vice Presidents: Edna Cowin

Westlake, OH Betty Hanson

Douglas, Isle of Man

Past President:

Marshall Cannell 25 Sheridan Road Wellesley Hills, MA 02181

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2nd Vice President:

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3rd Vice President: Mary F. Kelly

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Rep. Ladies Aux. to NAMA:

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Chaplain:

Rev. Herbert G. Kelly 828 North "1" Street Fremont, NE 68025

Trustees:

William Roseman
Broadview Heights, OH
Norman Standish
Solon, OH
Mary Hayslett
Alexandria, VA



#### LACE FAMILY

This summer Ioan van Nuvs of Sharon, Pennsylvania, sent us copies of two documents about the Lace family of the Isle of Man. One relates to her family's history in Pennsylvania and the other she received from an unknown relative in Man when she was delving into her roots. Both have been shared with members of the Lace family in Minnesota, who found them very interesting and thought there might be a connection to their family. We have these documents on the computer, but have not printed them in the Bulletin yet because of space limitations. If any member would like copies of them, please send a request to the Bulletin editors.

#### **DUES NOTICE**

If you have not yet paid your 1991-92 dues, we regret to say that this is your final copy of the Bulletin. See the September Bulletin for complete information about dues. Then mail your dues in today!

#### **GENEALOGY**

The Allen County Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana, has the second largest collection of genealogical records in the United States. They have books, microfilm, microfiche, and other records for all countries of the world as well as the U.S. Bob Kelly found that they have a complete set of the Family History Society journals as well as several other books on IOM genealogy.

#### **DERBY**

The Chicago Tribune, Friday, October 18, 1991, quoted from "Toposaurus" by John Jacobson (Wiley, 1990) that the Derby hat was named for Edward Stanley, the 12th Earl of Derby. Bob Kelly added that he knew that the Derby Race was first held on the IOM at Derbyhaven, but did not know after which Earl of Derby it was named.

Editor's note: In the year 1789 the first Derby Race was run on English turf. But in 1628 — more than 150 years earlier — it had its ACTUAL beginning in the Isle of Man. It was started by James, Lord of Man and 7th Earl of Derby

(hence the name) to encourage the breeding of good horses in the Island, and was run at Langness near Castletown. This information was found in the May 1938 issue of the NAMA Bulletin.

#### **ETHNIC MINORITY**

Detailed Census results, issued by the Treasury, confirmed nationalists' worst fears: the Manx have become an ethnic minority in the Isle of Man!

Figures show that Manx-born people living on the Island now number 34,608, or 49.6% of the total. The other 50.4% of the population are from England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Channel Islands, EC nationals and other parts of the world.

The decline in numbers of Manx residents follows the trend which started in the middle of the century. The last three full censuses have seen the percentages plummet.

Excerpt from an article by Tony Faragher in the Manx Independent, November 1, 1991.

# SEARCH FOR SCHOOL PALS

George Curphey, formerly of Dhown, near Smeale, Andreas, wants to hear from is old school friends.

Mr. Curphey, who emigrated to Nova Scotia, Canada, about 40 years ago, is a past president of the NAMA. He was a pupil at Andreas School in the early 1920s

Excerpted from an article in the <u>Isle of Man Courier</u>, November 1. 1991.

#### **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 Issu</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, <u>Story of Mann</u>, 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 11.



To all our Manx friends,
Wishing you happiness during
the holidays and throughout
the New Year.
Sincerely,
The Chicago Manx

NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION 10215 38TH CT N PLYMOUTH MN 55441-1669

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