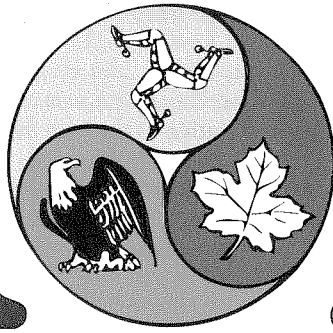


# N A M A



## NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

Vol. 65, No. 2

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

December 1992

### Cleveland Medalist in Cleveland

Winner of the 1992 Cleveland Medal, Christine Kinvig, has fulfilled a personal dream of singing to the society whose name the prize bears. Having won the Manx Music Festival's most covered award, Christine set her heart on performing to the Cleveland Manx Society in Ohio, in recognition and appreciation of their award.

The visit was arranged through Edna Cowin, of Cleveland, who presented her with the medal at the centenary Guild in May, and Christine and her fiance Mark Bregazzi were able to combine the trans-Atlantic trip with a well-earned holiday.

They were welcomed in Cleveland by Ray and Mona Haldeman and stayed the weekend with them at their home in Avon Lake County.

"Mona was to accompany me on piano, so we spent time rehearsing, but



Christine Kinvig.

there was time for a 'short' car drive into Amish Country. Actually the journey was two hours long, but distances have a different meaning over there," said Christine.

On Sunday she sang at morning service in Avon Lake Methodist Church, and in the afternoon she gave a recital to around 60 members of the Cleveland Manx Society. The concert lasted about an hour and a half, and Christine chatted in between each piece. She began with a selection of traditional Manx, Irish, Scottish and Welsh songs, some in Gaelic. She followed with Rossini's flamboyant aria *Cruda Sorte*, which was her 'own choice' Cleveland test piece.

Then she sang a selection of well-known show melodies, and followed with songs of the 20th century American composer Aaron Copeland. For the finale, Christine chose a song beloved by Manxmen and women the world over—*Ellan Vannin*.

The get-together ended in the time-honoured way with a pot-luck supper and there was a small party afterwards at the Haldemans' home.

Christine and Mark spent some of their time in Canada, staying in Toronto with friends of Mark's family. While there she performed for some 40 members of the Ontario Manx Association, and included a special request for *How Great Thou Art*, the hymn sung by the current Cleveland medal holder each Tynwald Day in the Chapel of St. John's.

The evening included a raffle and a good supper. Bob Watterson, social secretary, led a sing-along of Manx songs, and Christine finished off the evening with several rousing music hall and show tunes which showed off her versatility and talent.

Back in Britain, she is preparing for a performance of Handel's *Messiah* in Bolton next month, and has a number of auditions coming up soon.

Excerpted from an article in the *Isle of Man Examiner*, October 27, 1992.



### Manxie on TV

Manxie, the Manx cat cartoon character created by Peel resident Pam Way, is to be on national television in October.

*Introducing Manxie*, the first of six children's books chronicling the worldwide adventures of the Peel-based cat, will be shown over four weeks on the BBC's mid-morning *Playdays* programme for young children.

During August a team from the BBC were in a Sulby cattery researching Manx cats. They learned of Mrs. Way's books after they remarked it was a pity that there were no children's stories about the breed. Mrs. Way received a phone call and then a visit the same night from the team who took photographs of her books — and within a week the contract was signed.

Although the books were very popular and sold more than 19,000 copies, they went out of print in 1987 and were forgotten. Mrs. Way said of the character who travels to the USA, Australia, and Europe, "I thought that like Paddington Bear, he could go round the world, not always stay here. He always returns to Peel." Mrs. Way also illustrated the books.

"I am hoping that the television programmes might start the whole book thing off again. It would be a shame to let the

*Continued Page 2*

## MANXIE *Continued*

stories die after they are going to be given such a good boost of publicity," she said.

Excerpted from an article in the *Isle of Man Examiner*, September 15, 1992.

**Editor's note:** In a later issue of the Examiner, it was announced that Pam Way is publishing once again the first book of the series, *Introducing Manxie*, in October, 1992. This is an excellent book to introduce young children not only to the Manx cat, but also to the Isle of Man. I suggest that you purchase it for your children or grandchildren.

## Manx Sooty

Sooty, a real live Manx cat superstar of the four *Playdays* programmes of Manxie the cat, lives at Ballavolley Lodge, Ballaugh with his owners Sheila and Brian Waiting.

He's Manx through and through, with the distinctive large back legs, strong haunches and extra 'halo' layer of fur which mark the unique breed, and, of course, not a sign of a tail. Just like Manxie, this four year old tomcat loves to explore and disappears off on his own mysterious errands, for several days at a time.

According to his owner, tough guy Sooty is quite a character. There's often a hint of a wicked smile playing about his whiskers. *Playdays* director Helen Sheppard must have been well and truly smitten too. She chose Sooty for the programme because he looked just like she imagined Manxie would be when he was older.

Sooty, who is one of only 200 Manx cats on the Island, enjoys all the good things in life. A favourite treat is chopped cold chicken.

Excerpted from an article in the *Isle of Man Examiner*, October 20, 1992.

## King Arthur's Manx Link

Ramsey historian Stephen Pettit's contention that King Arthur's choice of a Manx base is fact rather than fiction is backed up by a secret manuscript for a proposed new book, which is intended to impart a whole new credence to the theory. Fearful lest too much advance public familiarity with its intended contents should engender contempt for this as yet unpublished work, Mr. Pettit, a long time Member of the Royal Institute of Philosophy, reasons that a sustained pre-

publication authorial/Arthurian low profile will best protect his new book's eventual sales prospects.

"Suffice it to say for the moment that the Isle of Man's location in the Irish Sea would have made the Island a vital staging-post for Arthur's conquest in Ireland, and the perilous nature of that sea would have made a refuge for the small ships of Arthur's time, of vital importance," he said.

His interest was aroused by his godmother's gift to him as a twelve year old, of the children's book *The Adventures of King Arthur*. Stephen Pettit has spent many years researching the Arthurian story. He is the author of three books about King Arthur and has many other published titles.

He draws surprising random comparisons between Arthurian and modern times, and promises to reveal more in a book which few who have been stirred by the frequently inaccurate attempts at previous Arthurian exposes will wish to put down.

"The entire course of Arthurian history has been thrown astray by errors of medieval chroniclers, compounded through generations of often well-intended repetition and enlargement," said Pettit.

"Even the book my godmother gave me was wholly wide of the mark, but it turned out to be the launching pad for my investigations. In the end, of course, Arthur simply got too big for his boots, a bit like Margaret Thatcher."

Excerpted from an article in the *Isle of Man Examiner*, September 22, 1992.

**Editor's Note:** After years of research, detective work, revision and reinterpretation, in 1986 Norma Lorre Goodrich of Claremont, California, published *King Arthur* also recognizing a Manx link with the legendary Arthur.

She sets forth the theory that Avalon was the Isle of Man. Geographically the Isle lies on a line with the center of Britain. "From the Isle of Man Arthur could see with the naked eye Ulster, Cumberland, Wales, Dalriadic Scotland, and Strathclyde." Avalon was a disappearing island, easily lost and difficult to find. This is consistent with the belief that the sea god Manannin can cast his veil of concealment over the Island.

Avalon was in the land of King Gorry, a surname listed among the "distinctive Manx" names. He was called King Orry and is buried in a Neolithic grave site well document in Man.

The Isle of Man contains other geographical features such as a "Great Meadow" where ancient armies were

massed and evidence of medical nunneries located on the same site down through the centuries.

There is descriptive evidence that St. Patrick's Isle, site of Peel Castle, the Round Tower, and ancient churches, was Avalon and the site of Grail Castle.

## Memorial Gifts

by Jean Kelly

If you will look under the heading on the first page of this Bulletin you will notice the quotation from the words of the Manx national poet, T.E. Brown, "To Preserve 'Whatever is left to us of ancient heritage.'" Over the years, the purpose of the North American Manx Association, and its Bulletin, has been to fulfill this challenge and many of those who have gone before us have treasured these links with our homeland.

One way to insure the continuation of the NAMA is to honor loved ones by giving a memorial gift. We are a not-for-profit organization, thus your contributions are tax deductible. Your donations can be sent to the Treasurer, Helen Drom, and will be acknowledged at some time in the Bulletin.

## NEHGS Update

by Norman W. Standish

Attempts in the past two years to establish a memorial book fund for NAMA with the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) have met with continuing delays and lack of response from Mr. George Sanborn, Director of Acquisitions.

I contacted the Director of the NEHGS, Mr. Ralph J. Crandall, this summer. Mr. Crandall expressed sincere interest in any genealogical information on the Isle of Man as the focus of their collection was Great Britain. They have been attempting to expand the membership and have received a number of requests for information on the Isle of Man. They have grown from 4000 members in 1980 to 14,000 members today. He felt this was the main reason for the increasing number of requests concerning the Isle of Man.

Their card index lists some 17 books concerning the Standish family and Myles Standish including the three books by G.V.C. Young and L. Hill. They did not see any books on the Manx list I had sent that would add to their collection. They do have two items which they would like

to obtain: (1) microfilm of grave records and wills from the Isle of Man, and (2) a copy of the microfilms compiled by the Mormon's on the Isle of Man. They have no problem with adding a NAMA book plate in the cover of the book indicating that it is a memorial to some individual. He suggests that microfilms might be marked in one of two ways: (1) by adding a book plate to the box which contained the microfilm, or (2) by putting a marker on the beginning of the microfilm when it is made.

Mr. Crandall indicated that he would like to have all future contacts directed to him. He would welcome any members of NAMA who would like to join the NEHGS. Application forms can be obtained by writing to the New England Historic Genealogical Society, 101 Newberry, Boston MA 02116. Membership is \$45 per year. Non-members use the Library for \$10 per full day and \$5 per half day (this can be applied against annual membership). Photocopies are \$0.25 per page.

They have a lecture for beginners at 7:00 PM on the first Wednesday of each month. In addition, *Shaking Your Family Tree* by Dr. Ralph Crandall, which is a basic guide to tracing your family's genealogy, is sold by the Society. Monthly lectures on a variety of genealogical subjects are available to members.

Mr. John G. L. Cabot, Vice President of Cabot Company, is a Trustee of the NEHGS. His ancestors are from the Isle of Man. He is interested in contacting someone to obtain genealogical information. His address is John G. L. Cabot, 75 State Street, 13th Floor, Boston, MA 02109-1806.

## Island News

Are you being served...If you're a fan of the PBS British comedy of the same name, then you know all about "Mrs. Slocombe." But did you know the actress who plays her lives on the Island?

Molly Sugden and her husband William Moore came over several seasons ago to appear in the comedy *My Giddy Aunt* at the Gaiety Theatre.

"The only time I'd been to the Island was when I was eight years old and came for a week's holiday from Keighley," Ms. Sugden told the *Examiner*. "So we knew virtually nothing about it when we came here together. But we were absolutely knocked out by the beautiful scenery and the friendliness of the people." They bought a house in Port St. Mary where

they spend several months a year.

**Manx Gaelic Back in Schools...**  
"Moghrey mie" is how many Manx children are saying "Good morning" to each other.

Some 120 years after English became mandatory in classrooms, nearly 40% of junior high students are voluntarily learning Manx Gaelic once again in the classroom.

Former Minister for Education Ron Cretney, who taught himself to speak Manx Gaelic as a boy, is ecstatic; "Once you have some knowledge of the language, the Island becomes a different place," he told the *Examiner*. "Place names, objects, trees, fields, plants, fish, hills all have a name which means something. Everything becomes more interesting - it's not just a lump of soil. It will give these youngsters a much greater appreciation of their environment."

Much of the course content has been transferred to Apple Macintosh computers

capable of pronouncing the main key words as well as showing the correct spellings. Cassettes are also being prepared.

**Give Mannan Back to the Manx...**  
"Mec Vannin," the Island's nationalist party, has reactivated its youth wing "Aeglagh Vannin" (Youth of Mann). Founded in 1931 but dormant since the mid Seventies, the youth group's return represents a revival of interest in Manx nationalism among some of the Island's children and teenagers. "Just prior to the general election last year we were hoping to increase Mec Vannin membership," says secretary Iliam Costain. "We found that the greatest response was from people aged 18-19 and younger." Aeglagh Vannin's purpose is to "marry culture and politics for the young."

Taken from the Washington DC Area Manx Society Newsletter.

## Story of Mann Developed

Nature walkers and heritage lovers sampling the delights of the Manx countryside can now discover more about their surroundings at two important sites — thanks to a number of information boards erected by Manx National Heritage.

At Cregneash the panels provide information and guidance for visitors to the Church Farm Walk which leads to a working turn-of-the-century farm. The walk provides a different perspective to Cregneash, offering new views of the village, and may even encourage people to walk further afield to other Manx National Heritage sites in the area such as the Chasms or Meayll Hill.

At the Laxey Wheel a number of direction markers have been installed in addition to the information boards in an attempt to interest visitors in fully exploring the whole site. From the wheel itself they point up to some of the other mining remains.

Manx National Heritage have also brought out a unique range of half-model boats with Manx registration markings and a selection of model sailors. Handcarved in wood, the ships are framed and ready to hang.

Both the ships and the brightly painted pipe-smoking sea dogs are available from the Manx Museum shop.

Excerpted from an article in the *Isle of Man Examiner*, September 15, 1992.



# Notes from the Island

Ramsey 21 October 1992

September in the Island always sees quite a flurry of sporting activity with the Manx Grand Prix Motor-Cycle races, which this time attracted more visitors than in recent years, and then two car rallies, one of which involved some very interesting vintage cars. However once these events are over and the last of our summer visitors has gone the Island in a strange way comes to life again. All the various clubs and societies start their programme of events and you meet people again that you last saw in the spring.

In spite of some small increases in the visitors for the TT and the Grand Prix, the Tourist Industry has had a bad year and we have had the sad spectacle of a number of hotels and boarding houses being forced into liquidation and the premises being sold off at auction for what seems ridiculously low prices. It is no comfort to those at the receiving end to know that in many of the UK holiday areas the situation is just as bad and in many places even worse.

We all like to blame something or somebody, the high cost of travel to the Island, the Minister for Tourism, the lack of facilities to attract tourists, the failure of the hotels to modernise. Everyone has their favourite scapegoat but the major reason is the deep recession in the UK. We have been watching the recent collapse in the value of sterling and the increasingly desperate efforts of the British Government to cobble together some form of economic policy with some apprehension. Strange to say the fall in the value of the pound sterling may help tourism if it makes the cost of holidays cheaper to people from other countries. No one seems to know what the effect of the removal of tariff barriers between the EEC countries will have on tourism and trade generally.

The report of the Committee set up to look into the merits or otherwise of the bid by Scottish Power to take over the Manx Electricity Authority is still awaited.

Naturally many groups are opposed to this proposal and they have made the most of the opportunity to try and persuade the public that they should fight the takeover, with apparently some success.

The meeting of Tynwald this week has been told of one major change in the scheme for treating the Island's sewage, the original proposal was for the treatment works to be sited in the Glen Vine area but there was some doubt if the flow in the river was sufficient to cope with the volume of effluent and a site in the Santon area has now been bought by the Government so that the purified effluent can go straight into the sea.

The Santon area is also the site of a major development by an American Consortium. Work is well advanced on the creation of a championship standard golf course together with a hotel and other leisure facilities, it is hoped that the course will be ready for playing in Spring 1994. It is well sited in relation both to Ronaldsway Airport and to Douglas and is just the sort of facility that many have said is necessary to attract the visitors of the future.

The Government has changed its mind about the development of the Nobles Hospital site; subject to the approval of Tynwald a new main hospital will be built on a 'green field' site at Ballamona on land already owned by the government. Some local hospital facilities will be retained at the Nobles site for the Douglas area and it is also proposed to provide a small local hospital in the Port St Mary/Port Erin area similar to the existing Cottage Hospital at Ramsey.

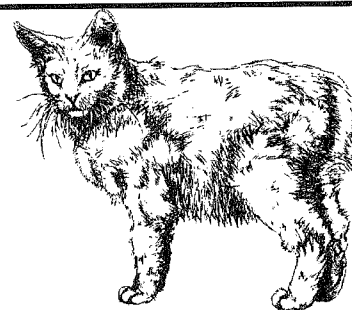
There have been some changes on the board of the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company. Mr Norman Corlett, the Chairman for many years, has resigned and been replaced by Mr. Juan Kelly who is a former Managing Director of Shell International Marine and is currently President of the International Shipping Federation. Another new director is Hamish Ross, the Managing Director of Sea Container Ferries, Scotland. He has experience of operating high-speed catamaran ferries between Stranraer and Belfast and his appointment has stimulated speculation that a similar high-speed ferry may operate on Manx routes in the not-so-distant future.

My house in Ramsey is right by the shore and on most days I can see across the sea to the hills of Southern Scotland and to the mountains of the English Lake District. The first snow is showing on the Lake District mountains and over the last weekend we had a slight sprinkle on Snaefell but it soon went. Normally we

get very little snow in the Island although I can remember some seven or eight years ago waking up on the morning of my birthday (29 December) to find that a foot of snow had fallen during the night and was even lying on the beach. Every photographer in the Island rushed out and the pictures taken have been appearing on our calendars ever since. It had all gone three days later.

By the time these notes appear in your Bulletin I expect that in many parts of the USA and Canada you will have had several falls of snow and you will be well prepared for the Christmas festivities. I would like on behalf of myself and all the members of the World Manx Association to wish you all a very happy Christmas and to join with you in hoping that 1993 may see an end to the bloodshed in the world and we may all live in peace with one another once again.

David Caley  
Kilmuir  
Ballure Promenade  
Ramsey, Isle of Man



Thanks, Manx

Sapiens "Dear cat of Manx,  
Bereft of tail,  
Do you give thanks  
Or sing travail  
For lack of tail!"

Manx "Within our ranks  
Hear no sad tale;  
The female Manx  
Within our dale  
Prefer curtail."

Mary F. Kelly of Cottage Grove, Wisconsin, discovered this book of rhymes. *The Erudite Owl &*, by Donald Anderson, illustrated by Meryllann Meisler, and printed by Jack Meisler.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I am honored to be the new president of the North American Manx Association. Another Quayle we all know will have to wait at least four more years for an opportunity to be president.

As your first vice president, I was privileged to be the convention chairman of our July 92 Convention in Douglas, Isle of Man. Based on the many complimentary comments the convention committee received, I believe the NAMA92 Convention was one of our most successful conventions ever. One of my objectives was to get many of our members to the

Island for their first visit. Forty percent of our 172 registrants did experience the Island for the first time and I'm sure they will describe their enjoyable visit to many others who may in turn visit the Island.

Being on the Island with so many other NAMA members along with many Island Manx friends and family was an exhilarating experience. The impressive turnout of senior Manx government officials at the Manx Museum reception and the Palace Hotel banquet made us all feel welcome to the Isle of Man.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the many people who made our convention such a success. A special "thank you" goes to the Washington Manx Society and its president, Russ Woodgate. They provided outstanding support in planning, coordinating and carrying out all the many functions required for a memorable convention. The convention could not have taken place without the able help of Hilary Dugdale, Manx Tourist Board Conference Coordinator, and Ellis Killely and his wonderful Everymann Holidays staff. Thanks also to Noreen Cottier, our long time NAMA member and special liaison on the Island, and to Betty Hanson, President of the World Manx Association, and her organization. Mervin Stokes, Gaiety Theatre Director, deserves a special thanks for the wonderful evening of Manx entertainment he produced.

A successful organization requires the involvement and support of all of its members. To help NAMA grow and prosper and offer benefits to its member I hereby invite each of you to think about ways we can improve NAMA and better serve your needs and interests. We have a highly informative quarterly Bulletin and enjoyable biennial conventions. However, certainly there are ways we can improve and initiate new creative opportunities to explore our heritage. We need to constantly find new members and retain current members and find ways to pay the bills of this all volunteer organization. Please jot down your ideas and send them to me at 3934 Ft Worth Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22304. Your ideas are welcome and appreciated!

On behalf of all the members I especially wish to thank our past president, Larry Fargher, for so capably leading us for the last two year. Also to Reverend Herb Kelly who served as our chaplain for over 20 years our sincere appreciation.

I look forward to being your president for the next two years and to seeing many of you at our 1994 Convention in Minnesota.

Sincerely yours,



Ronald J. Quayle  
President

## Tribute to Tartan Designer

Dick Roberts, who designed the Isle of Man tartan, died in March this year at the age of 80. This man who dedicated 55 years of his life to Tynwald Mills was remembered when friends, former colleagues and family dedicated a seat in his memory at the craft complex. The bench was installed in the newly opened children's playground at a special ceremony on October 23, 1992.

He designed the tartan basing its colours on the naturally occurring hues in the Manx countryside. Lines from his poem *The Isle of Man Tartan* explain: The misty-blue for the seas that surround

The reddy-brown for the rocks that abound

The green for the grass and green for the trees

The gold for the gorse that waves in the breeze

The white for the cottages, homely and gay

The red for the sunset at close of the day

The purple, the heather that covers the hills.

Excerpted from an article in the *Isle of Man Examiner*, October 27, 1992.



## Manxman's Meander

One of the most informative books for anyone planning a discovery tour of the Island, *The Isle of Man by Tram, Train, and Foot* has been newly reprinted and updated. Written by Stan Basnett together with archaeologist David Freke, the book is a must for the dedicated home-based traveller and visitor alike.

The cheery narrative gives the book a welcome, chatty quality, which serves to distinguish it from the frequently more formal gazetteers and guide books. Updated to take account of changes to the rights of way network, and endorsed as an official publication for next year's Manx Electric Railway centenary, the book also contains several useful sketch maps.

The Island's history, culture and natural beauty are all examined in some detail. This book is made for walkers and railtravellers, and, at £5.99, offers fair value.

Excerpted from a review by Andrew Anderson in the *Isle of Man Examiner*, August 25, 1992.





# SOCIETY NEWS

## Cleveland

What a treat we had Sunday afternoon, September 27th, when we heard the 1992 Cleveland Medal winner sing for us. Miss Christine Kinvig has a beautiful voice...and a sparkling personality. (There is more information about her performance elsewhere in this Bulletin.)

Fall was the ideal time for our group to hold a dinner meeting at the Mapleside Restaurant for the adjoining shops were filled with new crops of area grown apples, pumpkins, and all the things one associates with autumn. Beautiful fall coloring in the trees was an added bonus.

Going to the other side of town, November 8th was the date for a meeting at Alexander's Restaurant in Enclid, Ohio. Our annual **Christmas dinner/party will be at Delphine's Restaurant** in the Cleveland Hilton South Hotel in Independence. We try to alternate locations by going from one side of town to the other to accommodate more of our members.

This being the December Bulletin, may we send a Manx greeting from all our officers and members:

*Shee as maynrys de ny Maninee  
Trooidmagh yn Seibil*

Peace and happiness to the Manx people throughout the world.  
Margaret Kennish Krack  
319 Ridgeview Drive  
Seven Hills, OH 44131-5617

## Minnesota

The Manx Society of Minnesota held their fall meeting on Saturday, October 17, 1992. We all enjoyed the beautiful autumn weather. Twenty-some members enjoyed an hour of socializing and meeting the new officers before a delicious lunch. President William Shimmin poured the wine and soda. We welcomed a new member Ken Kneal.

The business meeting followed lunch. Minutes of the summer Sand Lake meeting were read and corrected. The treasurer offered reminders to pay dues, consider donations to the society, and to recruit new members. LaJean Anderson thanked all on behalf of Alicia Anderson, her granddaughter and winner of the Minnesota Manx Society Scholarship award. Members introduced themselves

and shared the Manx item they had brought for "show and tell." The items included maps, paintings, photos, photo albums, a tea pot, bell, plaque, postcards, and many, many Manx stories covering such topics as golf, honeybees, storybooks, family histories, wind velocity on the IOM, fairies and tartans. It was truly an interesting, fun time—something to do again.

NAMA first Vice President Norman Gill reported on the next NAMA Convention to be held in Minnesota in 1994. A committee is still checking on hotels in the Twin City area and Duluth. Since the opening of the Mall of America, the status of hotel accommodation availabilities in the Twin Cities has changed. It is hoped that the site and date will be settled within a month. At that time the other committees will be formed and activated. The Executive Board meeting of NAMA in the fall of 1993 will also be held in Minnesota.

We hope to have a February meeting in the Minneapolis area. In May we will have Tom and Phyllis Cashin from Kirk Michael, IOM, as our guests. Tom is already preparing a talk on the general history of the Isle of Man to give at that meeting.

As the holidays approach, the officers and members wish all NAMA members:

*"Ollick ghennal erriu as blein feer vie."*  
A merry Christmas on ye, and a very good year.

Linda Shimmin  
3727 Blaisdell Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55409

## Washington, D.C.

As of January 20th, we lose our bragging rights over having a United States Vice President on our membership roster. But we do look forward to having the Quayle family with us more often at our functions.

Our big news, of course, was the successful organizing and hosting of NAMA 92 on the Island in July. The culmination of more than a year's worth of meetings, it was the second time we've put together a convention, following the gathering in Williamsburg in 1986. More than a dozen Washington-area Manxies attended NAMA 92, including most of the members of the planning committee:

Chairman and mega-coordination:  
Ron & Margaret Quayle

Co-chairman and publicity: Russell Woodgates

Treasurer: Don & Yvonne Quayle

Registrar: Mary Hayslett

Souvenir Booklet: Jay Andrews

Graphics: Mary Cannell Andrews

Logistics and Distribution: Jack, Marjorie & Julie Christian

Garry & Mary Elizabeth Lightowler

Bill & Doris Brideson

Elizabeth McGlohn

On a warm Saturday in early June, several of us picnicked at a Maryland state park near the Potomac River, then enjoyed a leisurely ride under the trees gliding along in a mule-drawn barge on a stretch of the historic Chesapeake & Ohio Canal. As our Park Service interpreter related vivid stories of the men who dug and later traversed the once busy freight route, we knew that many Manx immigrants and their families must have certainly been a part of its history.

Now we are planning for our annual Twelfth Night party. We find it a more convenient time for our members, most of whom are just too busy in December with football and family holiday preparations. **This season, we'll actually be gathering on Ninth Night (Saturday January 2nd).** But it will still be Christmastime, and we expect a good afternoon turnout as we let out the old year and welcome in the new with a "tall dark stranger" as our First Footer, then tuck in to a feast of roast turkey and ham with all the fixin's, followed by stories, games and dancing.

If you know of any Manxies coming to Washington to work in the new administration, be sure to have them contact me. We'd love to meet them!

Russell Woodgates  
2325 42nd Street, NW, #306  
Washington, DC 20007-4941

## San Diego

Seventeen members and guests gathered at the home of Brian and Hilary Harrison for our October meeting. Eight of those in attendance were born in the IOM, including Win Livingstone, a guest from Douglas who was visiting her sister, Joyce Kinley.

We also welcomed new members, Gordon and Kathrine Garrett. Gordon

learned of our society when he shared a hospital room with member George Frederick. It's amazing how Manxmen emerge in strange places!

We look forward to our **December 13th meeting** at the home of Devore and Ruth Smith.

Ruth Smith  
4966 Rockford Drive  
San Diego, CA 92115

## Ontario

The Ontario Manx Association started off the year with the Manx flag flying over Milne Park in Toronto for the Annual Picnic. Luckily the rain held off and a little sunshine smiled at the antics of more than 30 Manx folk showing off their athletic prowess competing against each other in the Games! Everyone contributed to a good picnic lunch enjoyed in the true spirit of our shared heritage.

Later in the summer a get-together was held in the lovely garden of Mrs. Phyllis Busche - sister of our Social Convener Bob Watterson. Bob had collected an album of photographs and programmes from dinners, tours and shows which were held during the NAMA Homecoming for the week of Tynwald 1992, which was of great interest to all. Members of our Association who travelled to the Island for this great event were Bob Watterson, Carol Christian, Edna Kee, sisters Shirley Tate and Norma Martin (formerly Moore) and Jim and Joyce Davies and their son Kevin.

October 3rd will be long remembered by more than 40 members when we gathered in Thornhill to listen to the lovely voice of Christine Kinvig, winner of the 1992 Cleveland Medal. We were enthralled as Christine sang a selection of Manx, Irish and Scottish songs in both English and in the Gaelic. Her rendition in Manx Dialect of Manx poetry brought back many memories of the L'il Island and renewed our determination not to forget our Manx culture in our new country. Christine's fiancé Mark Bregazzi was welcomed at this meeting, along with Mrs. Elsie Wood from the Island, and Lucille McPherson from Alaska. A Manx sing-song was enjoyed by all from a book of Manx songs specially prepared by Margaret (Parkinson) Roche but the individual turns asked for by Molly Kelly were not forthcoming and our excuse is natural Manx modesty! We were all pleased to see that Tom Cubbon is over his recent illness and also thank everyone concerned for their contributions to the raffle prizes.

Everyone is now waiting to see what surprises Bob Watterson has in store for us at the **Christmas Party to be held on 5th**

**December in Thornhill.** If any of you will be in our area at the time you would be most welcome to attend. Bob can be contacted at 416-889-4652 for details.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year - Nollck Vannit as Blein Noa Feer Vic.

Wendy Kennish  
GRP Box 1, Box 11  
RR6 Bowmanville  
Ont L1C 3K7

## Vancouver

PRESIDENT TERRY McCAFFERY, on behalf of the VANCOUVER MANX SOCIETY, extends Season's Greeting, Merry Christmas and best wishes to one and all for the New Year.

In July, two of our members, VERA HENRY and MONA WITSTEN attended the NAMA Convention in Douglas, IOM. They had a great time - found the convention well planned and met many wonderful people. After the Convention, they visited relatives on the Island and then travelled to London, Channel Islands and France. They are pleased to report the election of MR. JIM PHILLIPS, Victoria, B.C. as Third Vice-President of NAMA. Also in July, committee members met for dinner at Mandos Restaurant, Burnaby, B.C. to celebrate Tynwald Day.

August was the month for our annual picnic. Unfortunately, due to many being on vacation, it was poorly attended. However, for those attending, a fun time was had pounding nails into boards - ladies are practising already for next year. As a finale, a train ride at the Children's Zoo made for a perfect time.

It is with sorrow we announce the passing of two of our long time members - FRANCES RAWLINSON, on July 2, 1992 and IOSBEL KELLY, on August 26, 1992. Although both had been ill for some time, they were always pleased to hear news of the society and continued to be interested in all events. To their friends and family, our sympathy is extended. We will miss them.

Congratulations to LESLEY and GLEN McGEE on the arrival of their new baby girl, TESS MORGAN, born August 27, 1992 at Langley Memorial Hospital. Welcoming the new baby are grandparents, ANGUS and JUDITH GILLON (nee McMeekin), brother AIDEN and sister KARMAN.

Arrangements are being made for our final event of the year, our second annual "Back-end-do". This is a Manx end of harvest party and was such a success last year, we hope for a repeat performance. It is to be held at St. David's Church hall on November 21, 1992. Also, if arrange-

ments can be made, a Christmas lights Bus tour is being planned for late December.

Happy Holidays.  
Vera Henry  
3142 West 32nd Ave.  
Vancouver, B.C.  
V6L 2C1  
Canada

## Wisconsin

The fall meeting of the Wisconsin Manx Society was held October 18th at Madison with forty present. After our smorgasbord dinner, President Dann Willett called the meeting to order opening with the singing of the Manx national anthem. Jean Willett was our accompanist. We voted to take part in the Ethnic Heritage Festival to be held during a 1993 spring weekend at West Town Mall in Madison. Volunteers signed up to help with an information booth and display about our organization. Dann reminded us we will need to have election of officers at the spring meeting. Jean read from two interesting newspaper articles about the Isle of Man. One described the population as the native Manx, the cover overs-mostly English, and the come backs-natives who have returned. Barbara Posekany reported on a delightful picture book for children she had found, *How the Manx Cat Lost His Tail*. John and Norma Bircher announced their daughter Beverly's marriage to a New Zealander. They invited our group to an open house they will be holding in their honor in Blanchardville. The couple will be living on the North Island of New Zealand.

The rest of the meeting was devoted to sharing the Isle of Man NAMA Convention experience by six of Wisconsin's nine attendees. Mary Kelly led the group and showed her excellent colored slides. She was assisted by Frank Evans, Mary Hunt, Joan Ogden, Mae and Willard Reese, each describing a portion of the many activities provided for us. They were unforgettable days for all of us! We want to thank the NAMA planning committee for their outstanding work in giving us this experience of a life time!

**Our next meeting will be held April 25, 1993, at Heritage House in Madison.**  
E. Mae Reese  
9102 W. Cleveland Avenue  
West Allis, WI 53227

## Chicago

The Chicago Manx Society is growing! At its meeting on Sunday, November 8th, (which was a change from our original meeting date of September 27th) there was a total of 29 in attendance, seven of which

were there for the first time. It was heartening to have people travel from as far away as Hammond, Indiana, and DeKalb, Illinois, to be with us. We met at the home of Laurel and Robert Anderson in Wheeling, a northern suburb of Chicago, and began at 1:00 with a time of fellowship, followed by a pot-luck dinner. For our program, different ideas and feelings were expressed by the first-time visitors and those that have been over to the Isle of Man several times.

While on the Isle of Man, Bob Kelly purchased the set of 24 International Genealogical Index Microfiches from the Isle of Man Family History Society Library in Peel. These cover christening and marriage records from the 1600s to 1800s. Bob obtained a reader just the day before the meeting so quite a few stayed after our adjournment to trace some of their ancestors.

**Our next meeting will be on Sunday, May 2, 1993,** at the home of Candy and Lee Gawne, in Sugar Grove, Illinois (near Aurora) beginning with a pot-luck dinner at 1:00 pm. All Manx people and their spouses in the Chicagoland area are invited to share the afternoon with us.

All of us in the Chicagoland area send our greetings to all of you and hope you will have a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

For information about the Society, contact:

Robert Kelly, President  
6858 No Osceola Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60631  
Telephone 312-792-2584

*Editor's Note: At the NAMA92 Convention a request was made to list all the upcoming society meetings for those members who might be traveling to other parts of the continent. To save space, the upcoming meetings have been boldfaced in each of the society write ups.*

#### **SOCIETY CONTACTS**

##### **BISBEE**

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##### **CLEVELAND**

Elizabeth Ducan, 436 Audrey Dr,  
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##### **GALVA**

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##### **WISCONSIN**

E. Mae Reese, 9102 West Cleveland Ave,  
West Allis, WI 53327

*The majority of these names and addresses were taken from the WMA Newsletter. If the information is not correct, please notify the editors.*



## **OUR OWN PEOPLE**

We were surprised and delighted to receive a call from Noreen Cottier, regional representative of NAMA on the IOM, just as the Bulletin was going to press. She wished to extend seasonal greetings from the Isle of Man based members to all NAMA members.

Noreen had taken advantage of an unexpected opportunity to visit the United States. She had time to spend in Cleveland renewing many old friendships. One of the highlights of her visit was a luncheon in her honor on November 8, 1992, given by Ray and Mona Haldeman.



## **A BIT OF HISTORY**

### **Manx Captain in Nelson's Victory**

A Trafalgar Day service October 21, 1992, at Arbory Church commemorated Captain John Quilliam, the eminent Manx naval man buried in the churchyard.

Born at Ballakelly in Marown in 1771 he was press ganged into the navy and served on the frigate *Amazon* in the Battle of Copenhagen, in 1801. The vessel was

under heavy fire and all senior officers were killed leaving the then Lieutenant Quilliam in charge.

Admiral Nelson was so impressed by Quilliam's bravery he had him transferred to HMS Victory. In the 1805 Battle of Trafalgar against the French navy the ship's steering wheel was shot away and Quilliam rigged up a jury gear and kept control of the ship during the battle. His actions gave him promotion to captaincy and the command of the *Ildefonso*.

Excepted from an article in the *Isle of Man Examiner*, October 20, 1992.

### **Christian Descendant**

Ben Christian, who died in early October, was the only descendant of mutinous Manxman Fletcher Christian to ever visit the Isle of Man. In 1987 Mr. Christian and his wife Irma visited Milntown, near Ramsey, the ancestral home of Fletcher Christian.

Ben, who was 71, spent all his life on the island of Pitcairn, the recorded history of which begins with the landing of Christian and his colleagues in 1790. Ben served for 25 years as Island Secretary in Pitcairn. He was also a skilled woodcarver. He made beautiful models of flying fish, with his name carved on the back, to sell on passing ships.

Excerpted from an article in the *Isle of Man Examiner*, October 20, 1992.

### **A Letter from Great Uncle John**

*I have an old letter written to Leslie Oldright, my father's cousin. It was printed in the Toronto Tree by a cousin of mine. Here are some excerpts from that letter.*

*Elinor Dale Scheer, Hillsboro OR*  
My dear Leslie:

Your mother in her last letter said you would like me to write what I know of my father and mother. My father was rather stern and reticent and not inclined to talk about himself or other people. My sister while the regiment was quartered in Dublin was told by our grandmother something about our family history on the OLDRIGHT side.

Our grandfather Oldright's family lived in Frankfort-on-the-Main. He was a student at one of the German Universities, and duels were common among the students at that time, and are to this day, though I do not think they are fraught with as much danger, the most vital portions of the body being protected, these duels are fought with rapiers or swords.

Your great-gandfather whose name was ALTRECHT (translated into English Oldright) engaged in one of these duels, and his antagonist fell as he supposed mortally wounded, and these duels being unlawful, had the man died, he would have been deemed guilty of homicide, so



he fled to the sea and took shipping on the North Sea for England, the ship he was on foundered in a storm, he and a few others survived, and landed in England, but his relatives supposed he was lost, and he never made himself known, but heard in some-way long afterwards that his wounded antagonist recovered.

Arriving in England he enlisted in the English Army. I know nothing of his military career, but suppose he served out his term of enlistment and married in Ireland, where he passed away in Dublin, at the age of 86, my grandmother at the time was 76, and passed away 10 years later, also at the age of 86. I never saw them but once in passing through Dublin.

My father was born in London, Eng. Jan. 29, 1802, and entered the English army at an early age as a drummer boy, I suppose put in by his father. He was at the battle of Waterloo, June 18, 1815, being then about 13 and 1/2 years of age. His regiment the 81st did not arrive on the field till late in the day, and did not participate in the fighting, but were engaged in gathering up the wounded, and taking them off the field while the fighting was going on.

My father rose from a drummer boy, through all the various grades to that of a Major in the army after 44 years of service. He had 7 children, Henry, George, Sarah, Bessie, John, Elijah and William.

My father married Elizabeth CLUCAS at Halifax, N.S. in 1826. She was born in May 1802, being about 5 months younger than my father. Her father was a Scotchman and passed away in middle life at Halifax. Her mother was a native of the Isle of Man—a Manxwoman, they emigrated to Nova Scotia at an early day and my mother was born in Halifax, she always had a desire to return to her native land when they would settle down, which she did after travelling around a good deal of the world with my father.

My father, mother & sister are buried at Dartmouth, N.S. across the bay from Halifax. My mother passed away May 1884, aged 82 years and I believe on her birthday. My father passed 7 years later in Octr 1891, lacking 3 months of being 90 years old. They passed in the same house in Dartmouth, my sister's body & that of her son were taken there and all rest in Dartmouth cemetery.

**Merry Christmas  
to all from the  
NAMA Officers**

# BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

By LaJean Anderson

When Joan and Norm Gill came home from the NAMA Convention on the Isle of Man in July, they brought me two little books to read and review. Both paperbacks are "pure Manx". All the sights, sounds, language and descriptions make the reader feel the authors love all things Manx.

*Gone Like a Puff*, by E. Margaret Brown, (published by The Manx Experience, Douglas, 1991) is a charming story of over fifty years of family life on the Isle of Man. It is difficult to review this book because it is basically one woman's memory of early childhood. Some of the quotes I chose give a bit of the flavor of the writing. "Cars were a rarity in the 30s and the streets weren't choked with parked cars. So the streets were often our playground and the walk home from school full of excitement. One hot, summer day we had to stop to prick the tar bubbles on the road. Then home to a scolding over tar smeared clothes and butter rubbed on black tarry fingers." And another typical passage: "Milk and coal usually came in a horse drawn cart. How embarrassed I used to be when a horse 'obliged' outside our door and mother sent me out with a shovel to scatter the manure around her precious roses."

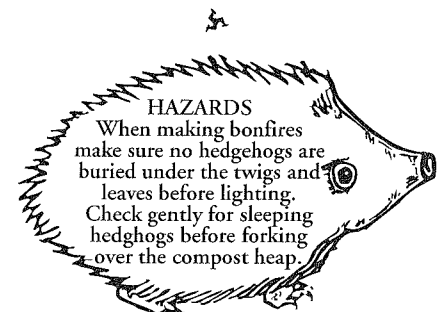
The other story is called *Island of Dreams*, by Denys Tear, (published by DIYMAN, I. of M. 1989). The author and his wife, from England and Scotland, who had married later in life, decided to settle on the Isle of Man, because of his Manx heritage. They bought and struggled to restore an old farmhouse near Douglas. They choose a Manx name for it, 'BALLANEDIN (near stream). The tale reads like our early settlers to the middle west in the US might have written. It is full of details of all their trials with basic problems of water, heat, sewage and raising livestock.

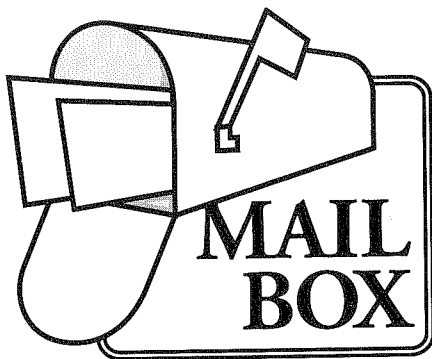
Perhaps the most fascinating part to most of us in NAMA would be Tear's handling of their main reason for choosing the Isle of Man, namely the "tax haven." He writes: "The Island's low taxation sys-

tem is indeed enjoyed by the several millionaires who take advantage of being in residence, and the Manx government in turn must be happy to receive more revenue from such individuals than from large numbers of average Manx breadwinners put together. The benefits of the complete absence of death duties are frequently quoted, but it does not necessarily mean that everyone dies in the Isle of Man with a smile on his face, for you still can't take it with you. The vast majority of the people living upon the Island are there very simply because they just don't know anywhere else that can offer the welfare security of medical, educational and police services that are not under staffed but operate with courtesy and efficiency amid such scenic beauty and in a genial atmosphere of well being amongst friendly, homely, law-abiding citizens."

So if any of my readers have dreamed of retiring to their Manx family homestead area, reading this little book is a must!

Finally I would like to recommend for your reading a marvelous autobiography by Sir Anthony Quayle, the great star of stage and screen, *Anthony Quayle, A Time to Speak*, published by Little Brown and Company (UK Ltd.), London, 1990. He was born on the IOM and was very proud of his heritage but only mentions this in the very beginning chapter of his book. He died just before he finished the final chapter. Critics say he would have won fame as a writer, if he had not chosen to be an actor. He has been chosen "number one" by the majority of great Shakespearan stage performers. He also made many movies and received an Oscar for his part in *Guns of Navaronne*. His anecdotes about the famous of stage and screen give a rare, unusual, human, often humorous, insight into personalities that are familiar to all of us. During Tynwald in 1979, when Queen Elizabeth II came to the Island, T.R. Anderson and I stayed at the Castletown Golf Links, and so did Sir Anthony and his wife. He was an unassuming, pleasant man and fun to be with. We felt we had known him for years. Yes, Sir Anthony was a Manxman of whom we should all be truly proud.





The enclosed picture of our California license plate, "MANXMAN", was issued in 1982 and was quite popular and often photographed during the NAMA Convention held that year in San Diego.

At that time it was on our new silver Mercedes. However, after my wife was followed on the freeway by a questionable truck taking pictures of the car even while she continued to change lanes, we decided to move it to my 1970 Ford Mustang.

Few know the meaning of "MANX-MAN" so we are constantly educating those uninformed souls. Not a day passes without someone asking why we had a plate with "Man By Man"!!

Bob Shimmin  
11 Sunnyfield Drive  
Rolling Hills Est., CA 90274



I have compiled a fairly extensive collection of Manx books, pamphlet, etc. not to mention many photographs! If any of this is of interest to NAMA members, drop me a line.

Jim and Midge Phillips  
4957 Lochside Drive  
Victoria, BC, Canada

We do not have an organized Manx society in the immediate area but I do have family numbering over sixty within twenty-five miles. We always get together for a reunion during the Christmas holidays.

My brother, sister and I were able to go to the Isle of Man for the first time and enjoyed the North American Manx Association Convention there this summer. We would like to share as much as possible with the rest of the family.

Also, do you have an order form for the Manx Museum in Douglas or at least the address where I could write for one.

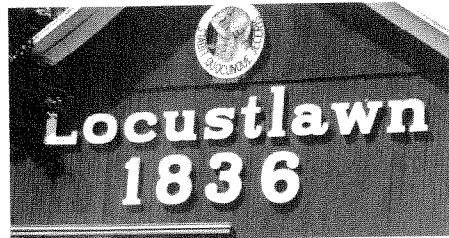
(See page 12 for address)

Thank you for all your work in putting on the convention.

Loye L. Painter  
54 North 300 West  
Logan, Utah 84321

I'd like to nominate this sign for your award for the silliest thing done by a Manxperson in 1992.

Tom Caley  
3051 S. Lapeer Road  
Metamora, MI 48455-0340



I have a request. I would like through the NAMA Bulletin to be able to try and trace descendants and relatives of the two persons I have highlighted on the pedigree chart, John Edward CHRISTIAN and Eleanor (Ellen) KNEALE, and two half-sisters of John Edward CHRISTIAN. I have found out much about John Edward and his wife Eleanor (Ellen), including the "Last Will & Testament" of Eleanor (Kneale) Christian. Funnily enough there seem to be two Wills, the first on dated 6th January 1942 and the second dated 12th February 1942.

What I would like to try and find out is about John Edward Christian's half-sisters, LIZZIE (CHRISTIAN) CLEATOR and CATHERINE ([KATIE] CHRISTIAN) ELKES, who are mentioned in the first "Last Will and Testament" of Ellen J. Christian. They were born to the same father (William Christian) as John Edward, but to a different mother, Sarah Taggart. Until I read this first Will I didn't know either were married, but did have suspicion that they emigrated to the USA along with John Edward Christian. This had always been the family thought.

John Edward Christian was born in Kirkbride, IOM, on February 18, 1855 of William Christian and Margaret Crowe. His father later married Sarah Taggart off Ballacowle and had one son and four daughters, names not listed on the lineage sheet. John died in Napa, California, on December 13, 1941. He immigrated to California in 1891, living in Sacramento, Colusa county, and Napa county working as a farmer.

Roger J. Christian  
Croit-y-Keeil  
Port Grenaugh  
Santan, Isle of Man

## UP CLOSE & PERSONAL

### James Phillips

James Phillips of Victoria, British Columbia, was elected the 3rd Vice President at the 1992 NAMA Convention on the Isle of Man in July. He and his wife Midge just returned from a visit to England and the Isle of Man, their sixth visit since 1980. The main purpose of their visits were to explore the history and geography of the Island, and to visit relatives. With Kelly, Cannell, Brew, Cleater, Kindrade and Corlett in his ancestry, Jim has discovered a number of relatives. He has done considerable family research, both at the Manx Museum and through the local Mormon Church Research Centre.

James was born on July 15, 1925 in Errington, Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada. His parents were John George Phillips of Douglas, IOM, and Edith Mona Kelly of Andreas, IOM. His grandparents were William James Phillips of Douglas who was married to Emily Brew of Foxdale, and Lewis Edward Kelly, Ballakiel, Andreas, married to Sarah Isobel Corlett of Douglas.

James graduated in 1950 from the University of BC with a degree in Business Administration. His career includes 35 years of public service and 3 years in the Air Force as an Air Gunner in WWII. He retired as a financial program director of the BC Ministry of Agriculture, Victoria, BC.

As well as being an active member of NAMA, he belongs to the Vancouver Manx Society, Victoria Genealogical Society, Isle of Man Family History Society, and Friends of the Manx Museum and National Trust. James has been a volunteer tour guide with the BC Aviation Museum.

Jim's wife is Maud (Midge) Phillips of Cologne, Germany and England. They have two children: Kathy, age 33, and John, age 29, and his wife Brenda.

### Sally Dahlquist

When I was young I learned I had Manx ancestry. It meant little to me until I ventured to the Isle of Man in 1978. My mother, LaJean Anderson, and I drove through the countryside on windy roads, barely visible intersections between rock walls, arriving safely at Knockalowe Beg, my ancestors' home near Peel.

There was a young man about my age walking up the drive to the old farmhouse. We stopped to chat and found out his

name was Mark Anderson. I knew this must be my ancestors' farm because my name was Anderson, too! Mr. Anderson and I were unrelated, however, I felt right at home.

Mom and I bundled up to climb the hill from the farm to the distant tower. The winds from the Irish Sea were blowing at great force. This enhanced the drama of the climb. The tower was built by my great, great, great grandfather Thomas Corrin. Corrin's Tower (or Folly as it is known to the locals) was erected in honor of Thomas' first wife, Alice Cowle, who died in childbirth on January 18, 1806.

As I stood before the Tower and surrounding grave sites, I sensed that this country was truly my homeland. The sea air filled my nostrils, my cheeks became an instant rosy red, and my hair curled naturally. I had never felt so fresh and alive in my life.

Completing our trek, mom and I drove to Peel to have a warm drink at the Old Creek Inn. It was my father, T.R. Anderson's birthday. He was the Manxman in the family and was in the US at his office. Mom and I piled into the nearest Manx phone booth and dialed him up. Our connection was crystal clear. The sound of "Happy Birthday" crossed the Irish Sea and Atlantic Ocean with vigor and family spirit.

From that day forward, I, like my father, couldn't get enough of what is Manx. Dad's research revealed that our Manx heritage consisted of family connections to the Corrins, Clagues, and Christians. I am even related to Fletcher Christian, the famous mutineer. (No wonder I like sailing so much.)

In 1979, my father founded The Manx Society of Minnesota. I learned about the history, culture, controversy and ancestry of the Isle of Man. Books, videos, birth and death certificates, wills and family trees were all a part of our everyday life. Our interest grew and in 1984 we hosted the North America Manx Association convention in Minneapolis. I will never forget the fun we had organizing and participating in the tradition and ceremony of such an event. At the convention, I met many Manx people from all over the world and made many friends.

Presently, I am co-editor of the NAMA Bulletin, a newly appointed Trustee of NAMA's property, a past Treasurer of the Manx Society of Minnesota and a newly licensed Attorney and Counselor at Law for the State of Minnesota. I serve with great honor in the Manx positions because of my desire to know more about the Manx culture and my wish to preserve our heritage.

I continue to live in Minnesota with my husband Eric and our cat Feasor. We are expecting a new Manx member to our family this spring. Now all we need is a Manx cat to befriend our American cat Feasor.



## Chaplain's Corner

Manxmen through the centuries, I have discovered, have had at the core of their being a significant religious faith. We receive and revere this as a part of our heritage. Prehistoric monuments and keeills (chapels) indicate religious observances and memorial practices among the early Celtic inhabitants.

Christianity came to the Island under the missions of St. Patrick and developed during the fifth to the eighth centuries and survived during the Norse period (800 to 1079). Churches were established under the bishops and monastic orders from 1200 to 1400, including Rushen Abbey. Seventeen parishes were established in the Island during this English period from which worship and services were conducted and further became the basis for civil organization. The character and culture of the Manx people from generation to generation was shaped by these religious elements in their lives.

Methodist ministers had great influence among the people, establishing chapels and societies from 1758. John Wesley himself visited Man in 1777 and 1781, preaching at Douglas, Castletown and Peel. In recording his visit Wesley noted in his Journal "a more loving, simple-hearted people than this I never saw...they are remarkably courteous and humane." —a fine commendation of our ancestors. Of course other religious traditions also made their contribution to the character of Manxmen.

A century later my grandfather was raised in the Methodist tradition at Sulby, Lezayre Parish, which was subsequently passed on to me by my mother. This religious heritage is ours today, to respect it, learn it, and live it as faithful Manxmen ourselves.

As an expression of this profound and relevant religious history and heritage may your Advent and Christmas observance with your families be blessed and meaningful as you live out your lives and your life of faith received from our heritage from the Isle of Man.

Rev. Devore Craine Smith

### North American Manx Association Officers 1992/1994

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Webster Grove, MO

#### **Hon. Vice Presidents:**

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Westlake, OH  
Betty Hanson  
Douglas, Isle of Man

#### *Past President*

Lawrence Fargher  
830 Kiely Boulevard, #200  
Santa Clara, CA 95051

#### *President*

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Alexandria, VA 22304

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Plymouth, MN 55441

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Cottage Grove, WI 53527

#### *3rd Vice President*

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4957 Lochside Drive  
Victoria, BC, Canada VBY 2E6

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#### *Sec./Treas. Ladies Aux. to NAMA:*

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#### *Rep. Ladies Aux. to NAMA:*

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Alexandria, VA 22304

#### *Chaplain:*

Rev. Devore Craine Smith  
4966 Rockford Rd.  
San Diego, CA 92115

#### *Trustees:*

Norman Standish  
Solon, OH  
Mary Hayslett  
Alexandria, VA  
Sally Dahlquist  
Edina, MN

# F.Y.I.

## LITTLE PEOPLE

Born on July 28, 1992, to Judy and Brian Archer of Tacoma, Washington, was a son, Joshua Creer Archer. Judy is a life member of the NAMA, and daughter of Mona and Clarence Creer of Orland Park, Illinois. Clarence is former treasurer of the NAMA.

## NEW VIDEOS

*Land of Mann* and *Railways of the Isle of Man* were described in the last Bulletin. These videos may be ordered for the cost of \$29.95 plus \$8.50 for post and packing. Payment can be either by Visa or Mastercharge Credit Card. The card number and date of expiry are required. Orders should be sent to: Beckmann Home Video, Dept MANX, P.O. Box 44, Great Bookham, Surrey, England. The company regrets that they are unable to accept US dollar cheques drawn on American Banks. The bank charges for clearing these cheques is so great that any profit element disappears.

## ALL THINGS MANX

If you are interested in purchasing books about the Isle of Man, write to the Manx Museum, Kingswood Grove, Douglas, Isle of Man, for a catalogue. They also have copies of old maps and a collection of crafts from around the Island. Another source for both fiction and non-fiction books is the Lexicon Bookshop, 63 Strand Street, Douglas, Isle of Man. Both of these sources are willing to charge on major credit cards and ship to the US.

Mannin Collections Ltd. run by Alan E. Kelly is a specialist in old prints, paintings and maps of the Isle of Man. They also have coins, stamps, postcards, and books. The address is 18 Inner Circle, Bray Hill, Douglas, Isle of Man; telephone 0624 676116.

## CURRENCY EXCHANGE

Ruesch International will make sending funds to England or anywhere as simple as a telephone call. Two of Ruesch's specialities are Foreign Bank Drafts and Foreign

Check Conversions. They will issue foreign bank drafts in sterling pounds for only \$2.00 per check.

The toll free number is 1-800-424-2923.

Their address is 1350 Eye Street NW, 10th Floor, Washington, DC 20005

## MANX NATURE AWARD

The Manx Nature Conservation Trust has been presented with a prestigious national award by world-renowned naturalist and broadcaster Sir David Attenborough. The accolade was presented in recognition of work carried out this year on the Close Sartfield nature reserve, hidden away in Ballaugh Curraghs. Thanks to the construction of a boardwalk through boggy wetlands by volunteer conservationists disabled people now have easy access to one of the Island's most striking natural areas.

Excerpted from an article in the *Isle of Man Examiner*, September 15, 1992.

## MANX CHRISTMAS COIN

The Manx Treasury's 1992 Christmas coin goes on sale late in November. This year's coin depicts a Manx Christmas street scene of 200 years ago—a boy selling the *Manx Mercury* newspaper, while top-hatted choppers stroll by.

The 50p will be issued as usual in a range of metals with the cased base metal version selling at £1, silver: £25, gold: £475, and platinum: £595.

The treasury spokesman explained that the coins were also available packaged in a colourful Christmas card written in 11 languages including Manx, which makes it an ideal gift for home and overseas.

Excerpted from an article in the *Isle of Man Examiner*, Nov. 3, 1992.

## MEMBERSHIP

If you wish to join NAMA, please send your name and address to Helen Drom, Treasurer (address on page 11). For full information about the membership categories, see the September, NAMA Bulletin.

## 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. Material for the Bulletin is accepted at any time. The earlier, the better. If you wish to FAX your material, send to Norman Gill at 612-540-1437 or Joan Gill at 612-298-6575.

## 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 11.

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

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