

# N A O M A

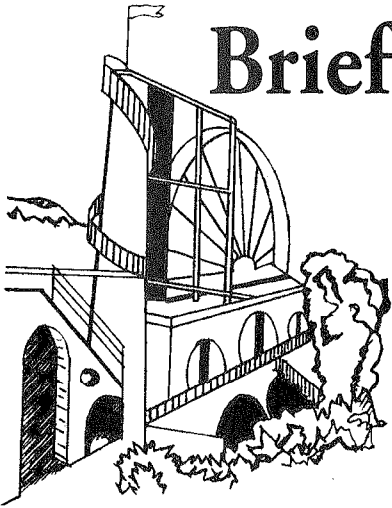
## NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

Vol. 66, No. 3

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

March 1994

## Convention Briefs



### Logo

The logo for the 1994 Convention is the Laxey Wheel, the Lady Isabella. This well-known Manx landmark seemed to tie in with several aspects of Minnesota life.

We have a number of Manx living in the Iron Range of northern Minnesota. Many of their ancestors located in that area to work in the mines, an occupation they had had on the Isle of Man. Much of Minnesota's industry has historically been related to mining.

The water connection is obvious. The Lady Isabella is a waterwheel. Minnesota has not 10,000, but over 14,000 lakes as well has a major waterway in the Mississippi River. (See separate article on the Lady Isabella inside this issue.)

### Registration

In May you will be receiving a registration form with detailed information about the meal selections, costs and a convention agenda. The convention registrations must be returned by July 22 to allow time

for final preparations. Your registration packets may be picked up during the convention either Friday or Saturday on the second floor foyer of the hotel.

There will be a separate hotel registration card included with your registration materials. Conventioneers have been given a special room rate of \$75. Hotel registrations must be received by July 31, 1994.

### Raffle Tickets

With your registration information you will receive six raffle tickets. The price is one for a dollar or six for \$5.00. What a deal! Please return your completed raffle tickets and money with your registration. Or if you can not attend, send in just the tickets and money. If you do not wish to purchase any tickets and want to send them back, that would be greatly appreciated as we can use them to sell at the convention.

Don't forget there are some great prizes! We have a number of Manx books and publications, several Manx tartan items, some crafts and arts relating to the Island, and, of course, the vacations: at Lake Tahoe, Big Sky, and The Standish House B&B.

### Souvenir Booklet

In the recent convention mailing you received a reservation form for space in the convention souvenir booklet. This is a great way to greet other Manxies and to remember and honor your Manx ancestors. Please send in your form by June 15, 1994.

### An Entertainment Sampling

Friday evening the Tradisean Dancers will be performing and teaching Manx folk dances. This is a Twin Cities group that

began as a Scottish country dance class and has expanded to performing dances from all the Celtic countries. Their program will include *Illiam Y Thalhear* (William the Tailor), a dance for three, and *Reaghyn Dy Vannin* (Manx Dirk Dance). Then we will dust off the "magic lantern" and slides of Walter Stevenson that he used in the 1930s in his lectures on the Isle of Man in the Chicago area.

Saturday evening is the banquet and dance. After dinner the gathering will be addressed by the Honorable Edmond Lowey and the Honorable James Cain, both members of the Isle of Man government.

On Sunday we are pleased to have Bryan Moon, a local artist-adventurer, giving a talk and slide presentation on his trip to Pitcairn Island, where Fletcher Christian and the other Bounty mutineers settled over 200 years ago.

Here is an excerpt from Moon's Pitcairn Island Journal:

"Perhaps because I was British born, it had been a life-long ambition to visit Pitcairn Island.

"I had found the legend, lived with its people, share their life and returned with unexpected treasures. It had taken five weeks, sailing 2,600 miles across the Pacific and about 13,000 miles by air. Few people make the trip each year and if the number of islanders continues to decline, fewer may make it in the future. I had come to know the happiest, kindest people in the world. I am a lucky man."

Mr Moon will have some of his art on display for sale and will hopefully have some Pitcairn hand crafts for sale.

### Speakers

We have two genealogy speakers. On Saturday James W Warren will conduct a workshop titled "Seven Things to do if You REALLY Want to Find Your

Ancestors!" It has something for everyone, from those who are just beginning their genealogical search to those who think they have finished!

Jim and his wife have 28 years of research and lecturing experience between them. They have taught classes and lectured extensively at local, regional and national levels. They were co-recipients of the 1992 Grahame T Smallwood, Jr Award of Merit from the Association of Professional Genealogists. They will have some of their publications available for purchase.

On Sunday Janell Dickinson of St Paul will be doing a workshop called "Collecting Family Oral History". She will cover how to word your questions to get the information you want, the legalities of recording oral history, and will also cover another of her specialities, how to preserve your photos, document, and memorabilia.

Janell also does lecturing on the local and regional level.

Jack Parker, former curator of the James Ford Bell Library at the University of Minnesota, will give a talk called The Manx Mix that will explore the diversity and ethnicity of a small space.

Other speakers are listed in the program printed inside this issue.

## Sales Tables

The Ladies Auxiliary will have their many items and crafts on sale. The convention committee will also have a variety of Manx items for purchase. Two members will be traveling to the Island this spring and searching for merchandise to bring back for the Manx sales table. We also expect a few local artists and craftspersons to have their Manx related works on display.

## Ladies Auxiliary

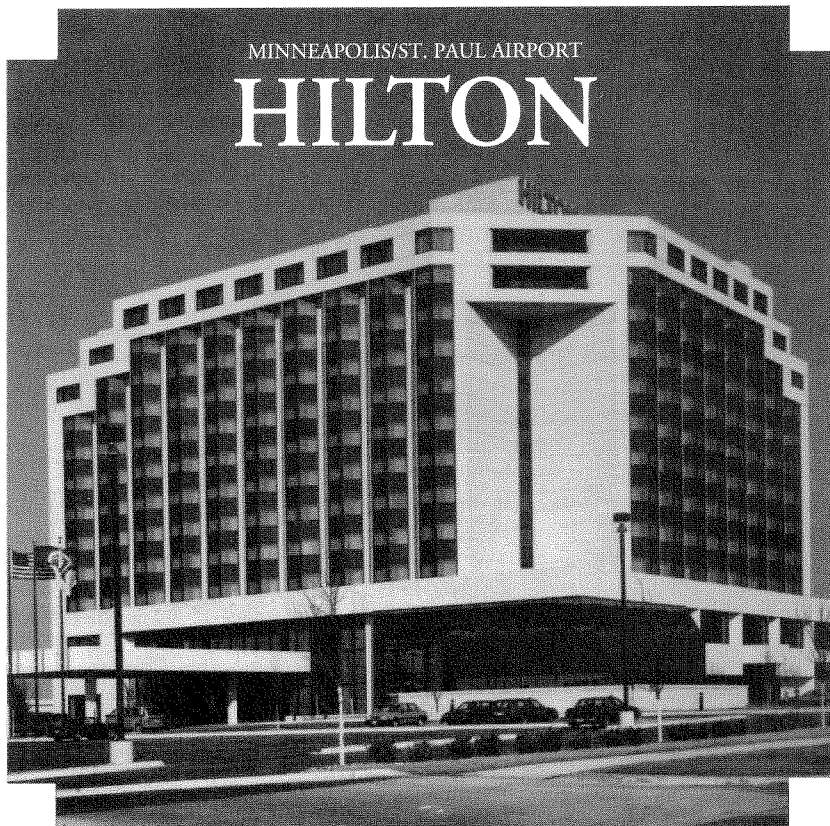
Happy New Year to you all from Marshall and Tina Cannell.

The excitement mounts in anticipation of our next reunion in Minneapolis this summer. We look forward to renew-

ing friendships with many of you, and beginning new ones. The conventions are truly family reunions, aren't they? And what a vast and varied family NAMA is!

This is also a "tickler" to all the ladies of the Auxiliary to work on their entries for our contest (see the September 1993 Bulletin) and their contributions for our sales tables. By the way, husbands, beaux, companions are most welcome to contribute to our tables with the fruits of their hobbies, etc.

The venue for our luncheon sounds most attractive, and the menu will be delightful, you'll see. We shall be enter-



ained by two very interesting speakers, Mae and Willard Reese of the Wisconsin Manx Society. They will talk about the history of the chapel in Laxey on the Isle of Man and about the church it inspired in Wisconsin. Mae has written a booklet "Laxey, the Little Manx Church on the Hill". A limited number of copies will be available at the convention.

So, ladies, be sure to sign up for our luncheon when you fill out your convention reservations. There will be membership information in the May Convention mailing.

See you in Minneapolis!

## Shopping at the Mall

Minnesota's Mall of America has it all. It's five times bigger than Moscow's Red Square, bigger than Buckingham Palaces' 40 acres of gardens and 20 times bigger than St. Peter's Basilica. On busy weekends, it's Minnesota's third-largest city. Want to spend one minute in every store? Allow six hours.

For the kids, there is more than Knott's Camp Snoopy. Tots can have a mini-adventure at Lost Forest, where all the stuffed animals have unique stories and all the store representatives are story tellers. At LEGO™ Imagination Center,

kids can enjoy the giant, animated models, or create their own in a special play area with kid-sized blocks. At Bloomingtondale's kids can sit in miniature cars and watch videos, while you shop in Children's Wear.

Source: *Home and Away*, AAA  
Minneapolis, January-February 1994.

## Visit Duluth

By Charlene Shimmin  
While in Minnesota, attending the NAMA Convention, why not plan a trip to Duluth, the world's largest inland port city. Duluth is situated on beautiful Lake Superior. It is a place for true relaxation.

There are several must things to see.

Visit the waterfront area where you can watch ships from

all over the world come and go. Sometimes the ships are open for touring. One of the newer highlights is the two mile lake walk. The famous Aerial Lift Bridge spans the canal between the lake and the bay. Canal Park Marine Museum, operated by the US Army Corps of Engineers, interprets the Duluth waterfront and its history. Harbor and dinner cruises are available at the Vista Dock. Next to the Vista dock sits a 610 foot retired ore boat on which there are daily tours. Also in this area are specialty shops in the old warehouse type buildings.

Maybe you would like to look down

on Duluth. Take your car to the top of the hill and drive along Skyline Parkway. Don't forget to stop at Enger Tower for a panoramic view of the city and lake.

If you love museums, the Depot is a must. It houses five museums including one on trains. Glensheen Mansion, built in the early 1900s, was the home of a steel company executive and is now open to the public.

Duluth has much to offer, including cool summer weather, so be sure to pack a jacket.

If you wish more information call our convention center, 1-800-4-Duluth. They will be happy to send you a brochure and also help with reservations. Hotel reservations are a must during the summer.

We, John "Jerry" and Charlene Shimmin, invite you to stop by for coffee and view the port from our home on Park Point. Give us a call, 1-218-722-6828.

Hope to see you in Minneapolis and Duluth.

## Northern Minnesota

Ironworld USA is located near Chisholm, Minnesota in the heart of the famous Mesabi Iron Range. Ironworld USA is a celebration of the history and industry of Minnesota's legendary Iron Range. It is an international experience that allows you to see and feel life as it was for the men and women from 43 nations who settled the land, worked the mines, and transformed this region from a dense wilderness into a highly industrialized society in the span of less than 100 years.

Visit an Ojibwe or Dakota Indian camp and learn how native Americans used plants for food and medicine, built their shelters, and made their clothing. Or visit the Pioneer Village and learn how to make soap, candles, or learn to cook over an open fire. See the voyageur sod hut and stockade with voyageurs working on a canoe, cooking, and singing.

Dig for your Minnesota roots in the Iron Range Research Library. The library's extensive genealogical resources include federal and state population census schedules from 1850 - 1910; naturalization papers for much of northeastern Minnesota; passenger lists and indexes for the ports of New York and Boston at the turn of the century; plat maps for Minnesota; and local and regional newspapers dating back to 1887.

Tours of mine sites are available at both Eveleth and Hibbing. Reservations can be made through Ironworld USA (218)254-3321.

# TENTATIVE PROGRAM

## 41st NAMA Convention

### Friday, August 19, 1994

- 3:00 to 7:00 PM Registration
- 3:00 to 5:00 PM NAMA Executive Committee Meeting
- 5:30 to 6:30 PM Social hour with pianist Jane Karayusus
- 6:30 to midnight President's Reception and Dinner  
Welcome by Minnesota Manx president, Bloomington mayor, former Douglas Mayor Basil Callows  
Tradisean Dancers  
Isle of Man 1930s slide show

### Saturday, August 20, 1994

- 8:00 to 10:00 AM Registration
- 8:00 to 9:00 AM Ladies Auxiliary and Manx Sales Tables
- 9:00 to noon Business Meeting  
Welcome Session  
Report from Societies  
Report from Executive meeting  
A Manx Folktale  
(Children's Activities provided)
- 12:00 to 2:00 PM Manx Videos
- 12:30 to 2:30 PM Ladies Auxiliary Luncheon and meeting
- 2:30 to 3:30 PM Stephen Harrison of the Manx National Heritage
- 3:30 to 4:30 PM Seven Things to do if You REALLY Want to Find Your Ancestors, genealogy workshop by James W. Warren
- 4:30 to 5:30 PM The Manx Mix by Jack Parker
- 3:00 to 5:00 PM Ladies Auxiliary and Manx Sale Table  
5:45 PM Group photo
- 6:00 to 7:00 PM Social hour with Celtic harpist Ruthann Ritchie
- 7:00 to midnight Convention Banquet and Program  
Mistress of Ceremonies—Fran Shimmin  
Speakers—Eddie Lowey and James Cain  
Dance—music by Jamie Gans, Michael O'Sullivan and Gordon Abel

### Sunday, August 21, 1994

- 9:00 to noon General Meeting  
Memorial Services  
Committee Reports  
Manx Skit
- 12:00 to 2:00 PM Ladies Auxiliary and Manx Sales Tables
- 1:00 to 2:00 PM Collecting Family Oral History, genealogy workshop by Janell Dickinson
- 2:00 to 3:00 PM Manx Miscellany by Tom Cashin
- 3:00 to 5:00 PM A visit to the Mall of America
- 6:00 to 7:00 PM Social Hour
- 7:00 to midnight Dinner and Program  
Looney Tunes  
Bryan Moon's Pitcairn talk and slides

### Monday, August 22, 1994

- 9:00 to 12:00 AM General Meeting  
Elections of officers  
Transfer of office
- 1:00 to 3:00 PM NAMA Executive Committee Meeting and Luncheon



## Christian Portrait

Jerry Gordon, a Liverpool artist, helped the Merseyside Police create a picture of Fletcher Christian.

He presented police with line drawings of Christian's grandparents and great-grandparents, drawings and photographs of his descendants on Pitcairn Island in the South Pacific, and a description of Christian given by Captain Bligh in his log book.

The police then used the information to produce a picture on their Electronic Face Identification (E-fit) system.

The most amazing thing about the picture is that it seems Fletcher bore a stunning resemblance to actor Mel Gibson, who played Christian in the film "The Bounty".

Mr Gordon's eventual aim is to paint

a portrait of Christian. He has already been to Pitcairn Island to paint his descendants and the site where the Bounty crew landed. He is planning an exhibition at two Lake District museums in May and June, where he will be showing his finished portrait and other information about Christian. It is hoped that TV cook Glyn Christian, a direct descendant of Fletcher, will open the exhibition.

Also interested in creating a picture of Fletcher Christian is Isle of Man student Adrian Teal. Teal is still looking for information about Christian's family on the Island. In particular he is keen to trace auction books of a sale at Milntown in 1904 in which some pictures were sold. Teal will give his information to an FBI-trained artist.

Source: *Isle of Man Examiner*, January 18, 1994.

## Manxmen on the Bounty

Much has been written about that thrilling sea story, the Mutiny of the Bounty. However, it may not be amiss to explain more fully wherein lies its particular interest for Manx people.

In the year 1780, Lieutenant William Bligh, a young naval officer just returned from a voyage with the famous discoverer Captain Cook, took a long holiday during which he visited the Orkney Islands and the Isle of Man. In Douglas he met Miss Elizabeth Betham, daughter of Richard Betham, Receiver General of the Island and Water Bailiff of Douglas. On February 4, 1781, Bligh and Miss Betham were married in Onchan Church. The young couple made their home in Douglas for a few years thereafter.

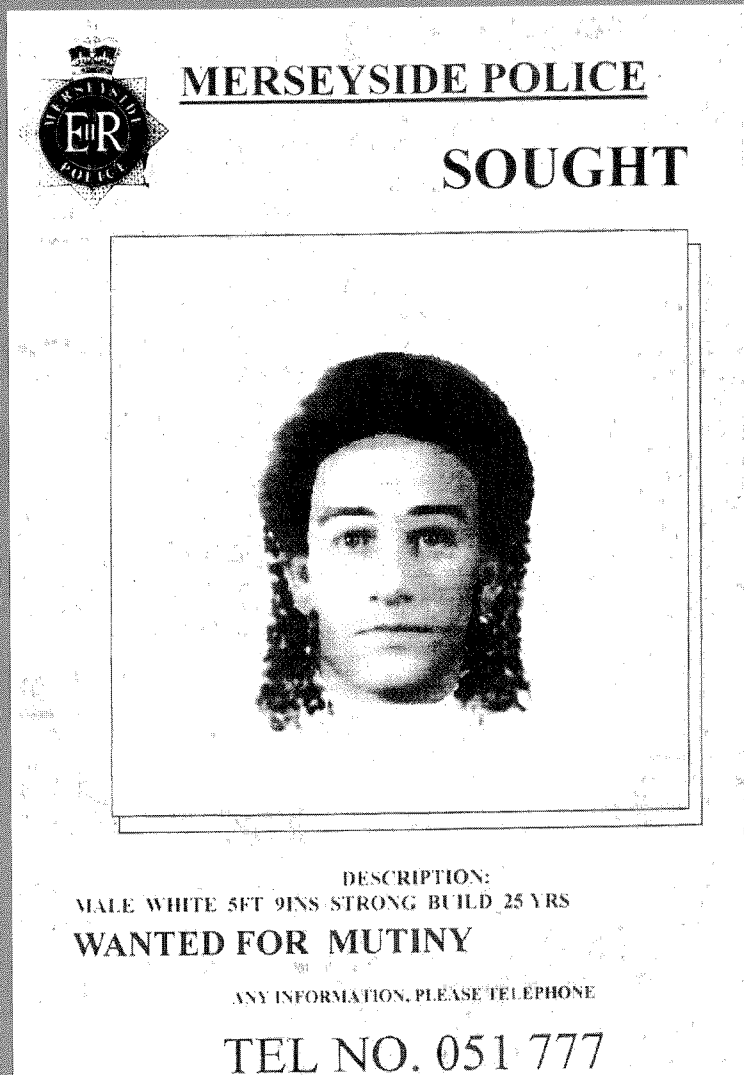
Through his wife's family Bligh became friendly with Deemster Heywood, who lived at The Nunnery. The Deemster's thirteen-year-old son Peter wanted to get into the Navy, and his father and friends talked to the Lieutenant on the lad's behalf.

Then...a Manx sea captain, name of Taubman, recommended to Bligh's notice a young man, Fletcher Christian, of a Manx family resident in Cumberland. Bligh took Christian with on two voyages prior to the Bounty expedition.

The object of the Bounty's famous voyage was to transplant the breadfruit plant from the Society Islands to the West Indies. Bligh was placed in charge and earned the nickname of "Breadfruit Bligh"—which sounds Manx enough! The expedition set sail in November 1787, Bligh taking his two Manx friends along—Fletcher Christian, 24, master's mate; Peter Heywood, 14, midshipman—a little lad with a light complexion, "Isle of Man" accent, and the Three legs tattooed on his right leg, according to Bligh's own description.

That is how the three leading characters in the drama of HMS Bounty found their common ground of acquaintance in the Isle of Man.

After the mutiny, Bligh eventually got back to England, Fletcher Christian and the other mutineers reached Pitcairn Island and settled there, and young Peter Heywood was brought home, tried and actually condemned to be hanged as a mutineer. But as every story must have a happy ending somewhere, it is cheering to know that the little lad from Douglas—Peter Heywood with the Manx accent and



**MERSEYSIDE POLICE**

**SOUGHT**

DESCRIPTION:  
MALE WHITE 5FT 9INS STRONG BUILD 25 YRS

**WANTED FOR MUTINY**

ANY INFORMATION, PLEASE TELEPHONE

**TEL NO. 051 777**

the Manx emblem on his leg—was pardoned, returned to duty and served for over forty years with honor and distinction as an officer in the Royal Navy.

Source: *NAMA Bulletin*, October 1944.



## Bounty Book

My daughter's graphic company published a booklet for me concerning H.M.S. Bounty and Pitcairn Island which may interest persons familiar with the mutiny on the Bounty and its Isle of Man connections: i.e., Fletcher Christian, Peter Heywood and Captain Bligh's wife "Betsy" who Bligh married at Onchan.

The book's title is *Book Relics from HMS Bounty*. It consists of two monographs: "History of Two Bibles from H.M.S. Bounty" which traces how and why the Pitcairn Bible and the Bounty Bible come to be where they are today and "History Behind 'Relics of the Book Kind' from H.M.S. Bounty" which traces 8 book relics and gives their present locations. It has been heralded as "the only work of its kind and it includes references to supportive documents and other literature". This soft cover booklet consists of 46 pages, it is 5 1/2 by 8 1/2 inches, well-illustrated and contains a bibliography.

If anyone cares to order a copy, they may send \$14.95 plus \$1.05 postage to: Pauline F. Ernst, 1457 Ravenswood Drive, Los Altos, CA 94024



## Manx Reunion

For years Robert E. Miller of Galva, Illinois, wanted to re-establish ties that bound him to the Isle of Man. Miller's ties to the Isle of Man are through his father, Robert Smith Miller. The elder Miller left the Isle at the age of 17. Over the years, communication was lost between the families, even though Bob Miller's grandmother was alive for several years on the Isle and two aunts remained behind.

Miller had little but a name to go on when he began the search for his first cousin on the Isle of Man a little over a year ago. Local Manx authority Russell Kelly started the ball rolling by presenting him with a phone book from the Island. Miller wrote each of the families by the last name of Evans, hoping to find his cousin Jeffrey Evans. During the odyssey, Miller wrote ten letters to Evanses living in

Ramsey. By chance, an executrix closing the estate for a family by the name of Evans had heard of the man Miller sought. Not on the Isle, but in Marple, England.

When Miller dialed the number, his first overseas call, he discovered the Evans were in Saudi Arabia on business. Soon, however, Miller heard from his long lost cousin.

Miller and Evans are first cousins through their father and mother, respectively. Miller's father, Robert, and Jeffrey's mother, Nellie, were brother and sister.

Jeffrey and his wife Marjorie visited the Miller home in October. During the Evans' short stay acquaintances were made with other relatives in the area. In addition to the new information shared, old photographs were brought out and reminiscences began.

"If we're not careful, we put off things too long," said Jeffrey Evans, who was happy to meet with his cousin.

Source: An article by Brenda M. Ring in *The Galva News*, October 20, 1993.



## Warm Remembrances

by Joanne S Wright  
Elizabeth, PA

The holidays are over and the New Year has made itself known by the bitter cold weather we are experiencing. To chase away these long, dreary, wintry days, I close my eyes and in memories, I return to the Isle of Man, when in July of 1992 I visited the cousins who live in Douglas. The time coincided with NAMA's Convention of 1992, and I had recently joined its membership. I take pride that I am an American, but I'm also proud of my Manx heritage, and this is why I am so pleased to belong to this association.

My great-grandparents, Edward and Margaret Corkhill (Corkhile) Caley, were married in the Parish at Lezayre in 1870 before coming to America. Today they lie buried in a small cemetery. I see their graves are cared for.

In 1984, when I first visited the Isle of Man, it was "love at first sight" with the Craine cousins I met and the lovely "Ellan Vannin". I vowed that I would return someday, and that someday was in 1992 when I did return to spend both quality and quantity time with the cousins. I worshipped in the church at Lezayre where my

great-grandparents were married, and in the parish churchyard, I found the graves of my great-great grandparents, William and Margaret Kneale Caley. I walked the lovely Glen Auldyn where my great-grandfather's boyhood home still stands. Tynwald Day at St John's was an awesome ceremony I will never forget!

For the past nine years, I have given myself a Christmas gift...a gift of a telephone call to the Isle of Man when my cousins and I exchange holiday greetings, and again, as though transported over land and sea (by the fairies themselves), I am on the lovely Isle of Man.

On New Year's Eve, when the cousins return the call to me, I listen to hear the whistles from the ships as they lie in Douglas harbour or to hear the church bells as they peel from nearby churches. Then my "Manxie" cousins wish me a "Happy New Year", tell me of, and ask me about the latest happenings. The calls never last too long, and when the last "I love you" goodbyes are said, the warm feeling lasts much longer!

My "Manxie" cousins and the Isle of Man are never far away, for I keep them close in my heart...how they are loved!



## Manx Weather

It rained and rained and rained and rained  
The average was well maintained  
and when our fields were simply bogs  
It started raining cats and dogs  
After a drought of half an hour  
There came a most refreshing shower  
And then the queerest thing of all  
A gentle rain began to fall.

Next day 'twas pretty fairly dry  
Save for a deluge from the sky  
This wetted people to the skin  
And after that the rain set in  
We wondered what's the next we'd get  
As sure as fate we got more wet  
But soon we'll have a change again  
And we shall have—  
A drop of rain.

Author Unknown

This poem was printed in the Western Australia newsletter.

# Lady Isabella

At the end of the eighteenth century when valuable mineral deposits, including lead (with silver) and zinc, were found in the Laxey area small scale mining began. With the formation of the Lonan Mining Association there were more serious attempts to work the ore deposits and the mines were expanded. In 1848 the Association was reformed as the Laxey Mining Company. It continued to prosper and attracted miners from as far away as Cornwall.

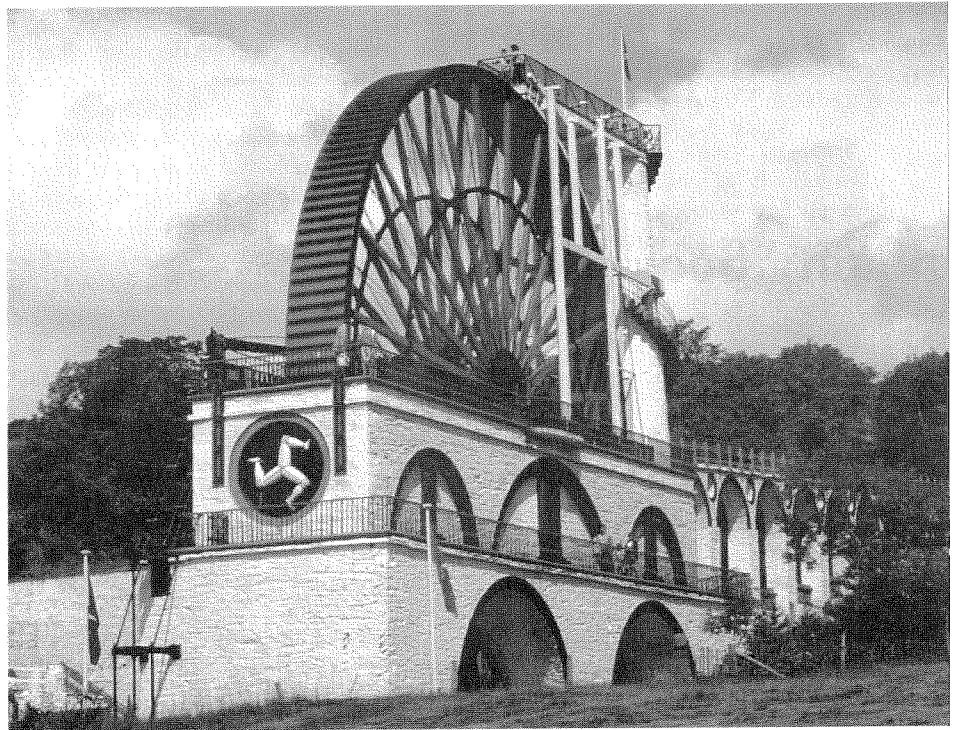
A constant hazard was the flooding of the mine from water draining from the slopes of Snaefell. It is known that a waterwheel, for pumping purposes, was in operation by 1828. It was joined by a second wheel about 1840. Little is known about these wheels except they enabled new depths to be reached, but soon were unable to cope with the volume of water.

Lead was in great demand by industrial Britain. For the mine to fulfill its potential, a drastic remedy was required. Since there were no coal deposits on the Island, the cost of steam powered pumps were too costly. So in 1849 the decision was made to build a much larger waterwheel.

Robert Casement, mine engineer, was asked to submit a plan for a wheel capable of producing enough hydropower to raise 250 gallons of water per minute from a depth of over 1000 feet. His design was a 72 foot diameter wheel of the pitch-back-shot type. The water would be fed to the top of the wheel filling the buckets to provide the motive power of the wheel. The wheel crank was attached to a system of rods which ran to and fro along the viaduct leading to an inverted T-rocker which transferred the horizontal forces to the vertical rods operating a new pumping system in the Engine shaft.

To his mechanical design Casement added architectural embellishments. He designed a tower with a spiral staircase to give access to the viewing platform above the wheel. (There are 95 steps from ground level to the viewing platform.) Casement's rod duct is a series of 34 arches to compliment the wheel design. The result was a splendid Victorian monument.

However, the tower was important for another reason. Within it is a pipe carrying water from a cistern built higher up the valley, higher than the top of the wheel. This is how the supply of water necessary to turn the wheel is brought to the buckets. Each bucket can hold 24 gal-



lons of water. The amount of water in the buckets determines the speed and power of the wheel. There is an estimated 185 horsepower with the wheel turning 2 1/2 revolutions per minute.

Construction began in the spring of 1850. The axles and cranks were so large they had to be made by the Mersey Iron Works, Ellesmere Port. The giant hubs were supplied by the Vauxhall Foundry, Liverpool. These were brought by ship to Laxey Bay and dropped on the beach at high tide. (There was no adequate harbor.) At low tide gangs of miners used ropes and rollers to haul the supplies to the wheel site.

The rim of the wheel is made up of 48 cast iron segments, one for each of the 48 spokes that give it its impressive size. The wheel has an overall diameter of 72 1/2 feet and a circumference of 228 feet, making it the world's largest of modern times and recorded in the Guinness Book of Records.

By the end of the summer of 1854 the construction work was completed. The final touch was a large casting of the Three Legs of Man placed on the southern end of the upper part of the wheelcase. It is over 6 feet in diameter and is the largest casting of the Manx emblem in existence.

On Wednesday, 24th September, 1854, the wheel was officially christened and operations begun with a ceremony and fireworks attended by a crowd of several thousand. The wheel was named Lady Isabella in honor of the Governor's lady.

The wheel remained in operation for 75 years.

Source: *Lady Isabella and the Great Laxey Mine Official Guide* published by The Manx Experience and The Manx Museum and National Trust.



## Calf Bird Stamps

Birds recorded on the Calf of Man are featured on a new set of six Manx stamps released on February 18 to coincide with the opening of the Hong Kong '94 Stamp Exhibition. The birds shown on the stamps have been chosen to depict a colourful cross-section of very rare visitors to the Calf and also the most commonly ringed.

The two 20p stamps feature the white-throated robin, whose sighting on the Calf is officially accepted as the first recorded in Britain, and the black-eared wheatear, a rare vagrant from southern Europe in spring and autumn.

On the two 24p stamps are Europe's smallest bird, the goldcrest, which is one of the most frequently ringed species on the Calf, and the Northern Oriole, formerly the Baltimore Oriole, from North America. A first-year male was trapped on the Calf on October 10, 1963, only the third British record of the species. There have been 11 more since.

The 30p stamps feature the kingfisher, recorded on the Calf twice on the rocks

at Cow Harbour in 1961 and 1970—there have been some records of Kingfishers breeding on the Isle of Man in the 1930s but since 1940 summer records have been very scarce—and the hoopoe, a distinctive European bird, principally of spring passage, recorded seven times on the Calf.

In 1962 the Calf formally joined the ranks of the British bird observatories. Since that time more than 150,000 birds of 146 species have been ringed and more than 1,800 recoveries reported. In 1986 ownership of the Calf was transferred to the Manx National Trust. Between 1959 and 1992 the species list has increased from 120 to 248 and includes no fewer than 40 'firsts' for the Isle of Man.

Source: *Isle of Man Examiner*, December 7, 1993.



## IOM Summer Events

Princess Anne will preside at the Tynwald Day ceremony and take part in celebrations to mark the 75th birthday of the Save the Children Fund, of which she is president.

Her Royal Highness's two-day visit on July 5 and 6 will also include attendance at the Tynwald lunch and garden party at Government House and Tynwald Day banquet at the Castletown Golf Links Hotel, an equestrian event staged by Riding for the Disabled at the Abbeylands Equestrian Centre, and a reception and lunch organized by the Save the Children Fund on July 6th.

A Save the Children Fund Noah's Ark tapestry, first stitched by Princess Anne at Buckingham Palace in the autumn and now touring the country, will be on the Island for three weeks.

The first Manx Maritime Festival, planned for July 1-10, will feature every conceivable sort of activity related to water, from tall ships and jetskiing to films and a nautical fashion show, even a search for a mermaid living in Manx waters. The main theme of the festival will be the 170th anniversary of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution.

The second weekend in July is a Classic American car rally complete with '50s cars, dress, and movies.

Life behind the wire is the theme of an exhibition to be staged at the Manx Museum from April 30 through October 1. During both World Wars, all those

identified as 'enemy aliens' were interned on the Isle of Man. The exhibition will look at how all these different people and others coped with life behind wire. There will be a large number of photographs and other memorabilia, and examples of the vast variety of art and craft work which was produced in the internment camps.

Source: *Isle of Man Examiner*, February 1, 1994.

July 2 through 9 will see the celebration of the establishment of the Local Authority in Lonan Parish 100 years ago. The main purpose is to raise money for the construction of a children's playground with particular emphasis on disadvantaged children. There will be Jumble sales, auctions, children's sports and games, Barbeques, Dances, Live Music and Fun, Fun, Fun!! All "Homecomers" are warmly invited to participate in these memorable days.

Lonan Parish stretches from the Liverpool Arms Pub northwards to the Dhoon Glen and westwards to the mountain road, from the Black Hut down almost to Creg Ny Baa. A substantial area in Island terms.

Source: Letter from the Lonan Parish Commissioners.



## Manx Language Revival

There are only two people in the world at present teaching the ancient Gaelic language, Manx. Brian Stowell, a physicist born on the Isle of Man, is one of them.

After a successful career in the sciences in Liverpool, he returned to the Island with the intention of devoting the rest of his life to the revival of the Manx language. It was a formidable task, for the last native speaker on the Island died 20 years ago.

Out of a population of 70,000, only about 50 Islanders are fluent in Manx, and fewer than 700 can get by. "Manx as a community language is almost completely dead," complains Dr. Stowell.

Manx (or Manx Gaelic) is an offshoot of Old Irish; its development reflects the Island's tumultuous history. Before 500 AD the Manx people spoke a Celtic language belonging to the same branch as Scottish.

Under the Vikings, who ruled the Isle of Man from 800 to 1266, it coexisted with Norse, having incorporated a few

Scandinavian words. After the Viking era, England and Scotland fought for control of the Island and England eventually won. The language adopted English spelling and some features of Scots Gaelic, but remained separate from both. The 18th and 19th centuries saw a sharp decline of Manx—dismissed by the Island's aristocracy as low-class and plebeian.

Manx is a poetic language. The expression for swallow is *gollan ny geayeee*—the fork of the wind.

At present, Manx is staging a revival. Road signs, many starting with *Balla*—meaning farm in Manx—are now a common sight. A local radio station broadcasts a weekly programme in Manx.

On Saturday nights Stowell and other language enthusiasts meet in a pub to play Manx folk music and to speak the ancient tongue. I was invited to one of these gatherings and felt genuinely moved by the melodious language and the harmony of Manx melodies.

The Manx language is taught in 31 of the Island's schools. When Stowell and his colleague started the programme a year ago, they received thousands of applications from parents who wanted their children to study it. They had to do everything themselves, write text books, work out a curriculum and teach.

The children seem happy enough to attend the classes. "*Fasty Mie! Ta'n ennym* Brian Stowell. Good afternoon! My name is Brian Stowell." He says it first in Manx, then in English, and asks the children what their names are and where they live.

He takes out a plastic spider—*duole* in Manx. Having asked one of the students to leave the room, he hides it. The pupil comes back and starts looking for the spider, while the rest direct him by shouting "Warm!" or "Cold!" in Manx.

Time passes quickly. In just 40 minutes the kids easily communicate with a couple of dozen Manx words. At the end of the lesson Stowell tells the class a Manx legend about a black dog—*moddey doo*—near the ancient castle of Peel. "Anyone who sees this dog at dusk is going to die soon..." he says.

A little girl raises her hand worriedly: "Mr Stowell, my auntie often walks her black dog near the Peel castle in the morning...Is it all right?"

"It's OK in the Morning!" Brian Stowell says reassuringly—in Manx of course.

Source: An article by Vitali Vitaliev in *The European*, December 10, 1993.



# The ICE Project

The following is taken from a letter to NAMA from Julie Harmer, Project Director.

The ICE (Introducing Computer-Notebooks in Education) Project is a research study of computer technology in education. This ambitious project will investigate the impact of the notebook computer used by two entire school year groups, one in secondary and the other in primary education.

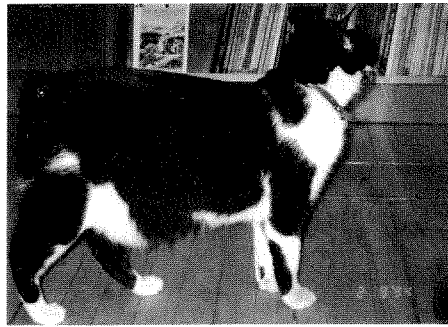
The children will be given their own Apple Macintosh PowerBook computer for twelve months to use both in school and in home. In total some 170 children and 55 teachers will be involved in the study over a two year period. This is not a remote and theoretical investigation but a pragmatic approach to research with teachers and pupils working together using computer technology.

The ICE Project, supported by Lancaster University, has been costed at £320,000 and the funding will be made entirely by grants and sponsorship. On behalf of the project team I would like to invite the North American Manx Association to be associated with this exciting project by supporting the funding. If any members would like further detail, they may write to The ICE Project, Queen Elizabeth II High School, Douglas Road, Peel, Isle of Man. Telephone 0624 843181 or Fax 0624 844245.



The newest children's book store in Minneapolis, Wild Rumpus, has a special appeal to children of all ages. It is exciting to visit for its extensive variety of quality children's books. But what makes it unique is the at home feeling created by the many resident animals. It has a number of birds, including doves, love birds and cockatiels, a salamander and frog, a group of rats, fish, a bunny, and two Manx cats!

When the owners were collecting their menagerie, they selected two Manx for their cat residents because of their mel-low, friendly, outgoing personality. The



Brave Irene selecting a book to read.

first two cats were named Brave Irene and Pearl. Each cat was suppose to be female, but both turned out to be males!

Brave Irene is named after title cat character of a book by William Steig. But Pearl was named after a pig character from the book *The Amazing Bone*, also by William Steig. Pearl was "a pig", she loved to eat and had other porker characteristics. Sadly Pearl escaped from the store one day and was hit by a car. She has been replaced by another Manx cat named Ruby, no direct literary connection. Ruby's uniqueness is three extra toes on her front paws! They give a thumb-like appearance to her front feet. (Maybe she's named after Ruby Keeler, a heavy footed tap dancer.)

The Wild Rumpus is located in the interesting, rather artsy, Linden Hills Shopping area of south Minneapolis at 2720 West 43rd Street. It is open seven days a week with special Saturday activities that go beyond books. For example, they have had a sheep shearing demonstration, a cowgirl and her horse, art workshops, music, etc.

The store has all the familiar children's books, both fiction and non-fiction, all the new publications, and it specializes in foreign language books and children's books imported from other countries. It's a must if you come to the convention!

## OBITUARY

The Rev Herbert S Costain, 86, of Winchester, VA, died on October 15, 1993. Rev Costain was born August 24, 1907, in Manchester, England, the son of George Stanley Costain of the Isle of Man, who spent his lifetime in the Merchant marines, and Ethel Austin Costain of Liverpool, England. He retired in 1979 as rector emeritus of St James Church in Indian Head, MD, and was a minister in

southern Maryland for 35 years. Before entering the ministry, he had worked at the Times Herald newspaper in Washington, DC, and had served eight years on the staff of the Washington YMCA.

He was a 1944 graduate of the Alexandria, VA, Episcopal Seminary. He was a humanities student at Shenandoah University and a member of the Winchester Host Lions Club and Christ Episcopal Church. He was also a poet and a member of the Shenandoah Valley Writers' Guild and the Poetry Society of Virginia. Rev Costain was a long time member of the North American Manx Association as well as the Washington Manx Society.

He married Nancy Kneisley in May 1972 in Orkney Springs. His first wife, Eloise H Russell Costain, died in 1975. He is survived by his wife and three step-daughters.

Orry Teare, 62, a retired Douglas, Isle of Man, school teacher died in December 1993. Orry and his wife Betty lived in Onchan and played a significant role in the success of the 1992 NAMA Convention held in Douglas during Tynwald. They were introduced to members of the Washington Manx Society in 1990 while visiting their daughter Voirrey Stockdale, who worked as a social worker in Washington, DC, for 18 months. Their offer to help with convention planning on the Island was accepted and proved to be extremely helpful during Ron and Margaret Quayle's 1991 Tynwald week planning visit and again during the 1992 convention. He is survived by his wife and a daughter and a son.

Mabel F. Everett, 84, died peacefully in a nursing home on November 6, 1993. Mabel was born March 2, 1909, in Laxey, Isle of Man, the 11th of 12 children born to John Fargher and Mary Barron.

In 1910 the family immigrated to the United States to homestead in Montana. In 1928 they moved to Washington where Mabel attended Knapp's Business College. In 1949 she married Charles Everett. Daughter Nina was born in 1951.

Mabel was a member of the Episcopal Church most of her life. She was a member of the Insurance Women's Club for many years. She took a creative writer's class and wrote several paper about different things in her life.

This year when her health started to deteriorate, the doctor decided she needed to go to a nursing home. She loved it there. She rode stationary bicycles,



watched movies, went to cooking classes and teased the staff.

Margaret Everiss (nee Quine) died December 15, 1993, at the age of 99. She was the oldest member of the Cleveland Manx Society.

She was born in Onchan, Isle of Man, October 24, 1894. She went to Cleveland, Ohio, at the age of 19 to be close to her sister Annie Jackson and her brother William Quine.

Her husband Charles preceded her in death in 1973 after 53 years of marriage. At that time she went to live with her daughter in Sarasota, Florida.

One of the highlights of her life was traveling to the Isle of Man in 1979 (at 85 years of age) to attend the Millennium. She was invited to have tea with the Queen of England at Governor's House.

Margaret is survived by her daughter, Gladys Bobnar; a sister, Eleanor Kinley; a brother, Robert E Quine of Onchan; and many nieces and nephews.

## OUR OWN PEOPLE

Roger and Pauline Nelson of London, Ontario, have spent the winter in Peel, staying with Pauline's parents Ernie and Jessie Greggor. They are enjoying meeting many old friends and also the milder winter weather in the Isle of Man.

Mona Abel of Sidelake, Minnesota, spent a few days on the Island at the end of January and had a chance to visit the Coffee Shop at the new Mount Murray Country Club, a Radisson development. Mona also found out more about her Manx ancestors from the Proprietor of the Guest House where she stayed in Peel, they were related.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As this letter is being written, the Washington DC area is experiencing another of this winter's all too frequent ice and snow storms. Margaret and I are soon headed for a two week "warm" vacation in Hawaii and after that we'll work on our plans for this summer's August NAMA Convention in

Minneapolis. I'm sure our upper Midwest and Canadian friends are also ready for this winter to end.

By now you will have received my letter requesting that you consider making a contribution to NAMA to help us regain our financial health. I am gratified by the number of you who have already sent contributions and on behalf of the association wish to thank you. To those members who haven't as yet mailed a contribution, please consider sending one to our treasurer (address on page 15). With your help we will be able to continue to produce the fine professional Bulletin that we can be proud of as we share information about our Manx heritage.

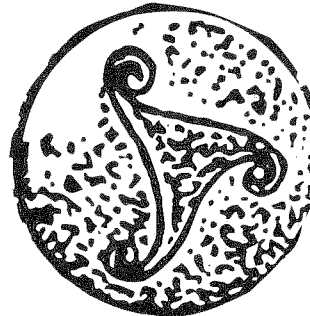
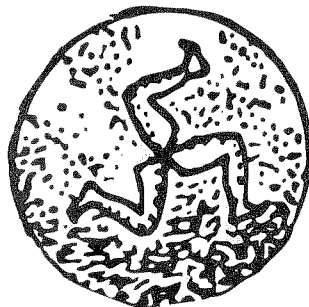
In my letter I also asked you to recommend new members. As of now we have a list of about 100 potential candidates. I hope each of you sent us at least one (three or more would be terrific) member recommendation. If you haven't, or if you have thought of other names, please send them to our treasurer soon so we can send them a sample Bulletin along with a membership form in time for them to join before and hopefully attend our convention. Remember, you will receive one or more FREE GIFTS depending on how many of your recommended names join NAMA. I'd like to increase our membership by 25% (to 1,000) by this summer's convention. **Please help us reach this goal!**

I look forward to seeing many of you in Minneapolis. I'm sure you'll want to attend as you learn more about the exciting convention Norm Gill and his "volunteer staff of thousands" have planned for us.

*Ron*

Ronald J Quayle  
President

## SEPARATED AT BIRTH?



Source: The Greater Washington DC Area Manx Society newsletter.

# SOCIETY NEWS

## Salt Lake

The Greater Salt Lake North American Manx Association Chapter was organized December 9, 1993 at a breakfast meeting at the Alta Club in Salt Lake City, Utah.

This is the first time that such a group has been formed in the Rocky Mountain Area.

The organizing effort was done through Louis Callister, an attorney, and Russell A Cannon, who is a member of the Utah State Legislature.

Manx names abound in Utah, and date from the arrival of the first Mormon missionary on the Isle of Man on September 16, 1840. John Taylor, who was then a member of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles of the LDS Church, went to the Isle of Man on that date and began the organizing of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints on the Isle of Man.

Notable among the families who are represented as converts to the Church, and who subsequently immigrated to Utah are the Callisters, the Caines, the Cannons, the Cowleys, the Creers, and others with Manx names.

This progeny has multiplied rapidly throughout Utah, and many have assumed positions of prominence and leadership in business, government, and the professions.

Elected as officers were President—Russell A Cannon, Vice President—Louis Callister, Secretary/Treasurer—John Creer. Those elected to serve two-year terms on the Board of Governors were Thomas Caine, MD, Jim Jardine, Joseph Cowley, and Louis Callister.

Also present was Nigel Crowe, Chairman of the Isle of Man Family History Society. Mr. Crowe spoke on family names found in Utah, with reference to their roots in the Isle of Man. Mr. Crowe was in Utah to attend the George Cannon Family Association Reunion which was held on December 6, 1993, at which time he presented a paper on the McCannons of Baldwin.

## Minnesota

The Manx Society of Minnesota met on February 5th at Cassidy's in Hinckley for lunch and a business meeting. Fifteen members were present. President Bill

Shimmin tried to bring a special guest, a Manx cat from Floodwood, but it was not available on the weekend.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report shows that we are benefiting from our non-profit status and have a greater balance. Jim Anderson and Sally Dahlquist worked many hours to make the change from a private foundation to non-profit. The corporate minute book has now been brought up to date.

For old business several interesting Manx connections from the membership form were read and there was a reminder to send in dues. The 1994 NAMA Convention committee reported on the process of their plans and encouraged all members to attend. We learned that in the US Census, Manx has been listed for a number of years as the smallest white minority.

New business included announcements about a number of Celtic activities coming up in the Twin Cities area and a list of 58 Manx related books available from the University of Minnesota Library compiled by Linda Shimmin. The members voted to buy a full page ad in the Convention Souvenir Booklet. Ways to increase NAMA membership were discussed. We hope to create a news release to be printed in several area newspapers and try for some radio or television time. Norm Gill will do some further research into the cost of enameled membership pins.

The meeting closed with a short lesson on how to win at Black Jack for those going to the casino and we watched a portion of the video of the 1993 TT Races. It was interesting to get a feel of the speed of even the smaller motorcycles.

## Ontario

Once again the members, family and friends of the Ontario Manx gathered together for their Annual Christmas party in the Fireside Lounge at the Thornhill Community Centre December 4th.

We started our evening with a delicious Pot Luck Supper. Later 93 year old Olive White played a medley of Christmas songs and carols, and we had a nice sing-along.

Our Christmas draw was a success, and everybody went home with a door prize and memories of a great evening together.

We are now looking forward to our spring meeting, which will be held at the home of Carol Christian April 17th.

## Vancouver

Our winter has so far been mild. In fact, as I write this in January 1994, we are having one of the mildest winters on record. Already bulbs are beginning to show signs of new life.

Last November's "Back-end Do" Harvest Festival was, as usual, a happy occasion. A bountiful table and colourful decorations enhanced the pleasure of the evening. Children's games and a raffle involved all who were present. The evening ended with the singing of ELLAN VANNIN.

In December, baskets of floral arrangements containing Poinsettias and small plants were sent out to all our shut-ins and seniors. We welcome this occasion to show our appreciation to those who have supported our Society over these many years.

With sorrow we announce the death of one of our long time members, MRS ANNE CROSSAN. Mrs Crossan was born in Glasgow and lived in the Isle of Man for many years, raising her family there. After immigration to Canada, she joined the Vancouver Manx Society. She was in her 93rd year at the time of her passing. We extend our sympathy to her family and friends.

Our hard-working committee members will gather at the end of February to arrange the program of events for 1994.

## Chicago

The Chicago Manx Society held its meeting on Sunday, February 27th, at the home of Craig and Joselyn Cain in Evanston, Illinois. We began at 1:00 PM with a pot-luck dinners, followed by a program on the Isle of Man presented by one of our members.

We have been having an attendance of between 18 and 28 people and they have all enjoyed the dinners, programs, and having a time to visit and renew

friendships. We hold our meetings about every four months throughout the year.

We are sorry that we will be losing Craig and Joselyn Cain from our fellowship since they will be moving to New Hampshire at the end of March to be nearer their family. We wish them the best of luck in their new home.

Several members of the Chicago Manx have expressed an interest in attending the NAMA Convention in Minneapolis in August, so we hope to have a good representation there.

## World Manx Association

Although it is only about eight weeks since the WMA members on the Island were assembling on Saturday 11 December for our Annual Christmas Lunch it seems like an eternity.

This time it was held at the Hydro Hotel on the Promenade in Douglas. 139 members were present and after an excellent meal we were entertained by Alan Wilcocks and friends. Alan always likes to have some audience participation and so we all joined in the singing of Christmas Carols.

St Andrew's Church, Douglas, was the venue for our Manx Tay on Saturday 7 January 1994 when 143 members were present. For this event the female members of the committee dressed up in long black shirts and white blouses with a bonnet or a little lace cap on their heads. Thankfully the male committee members did not have to adopt the same attire. The entertainment consisted of Manx songs and recitations including a poem by Charlie Craine, a former WMA Secretary.

Our next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting on 12 March, again at St Andrew's Church. It has been decided that the WMA Newsletter should be produced in future after AGM so that any changes can be reported straightaway.

## San Diego

The December 12th meeting was held at the home of Devore and Ruth Smith. Eighteen members were present. An election of officers was held. New officers are: George Watterson, president; Bob Kermeen, historian; and Ruth Smith continues as secretary/treasurer. Sincere thanks were expressed to Marge Frederick for her many years of service to our society.

Christmas refreshments and decorations contributed to a festive holiday spirit. Gifts were exchanged and we ended our meeting by joining together as we sang the Manx National Anthem and Ellan

Vannin.

The February 13th meeting was also held at the Smith home. George and Carol Watterson co-hosted the event. Twenty-five members attended. We were happy to welcome Barbara Ramondino to our group. Barbara recently moved to Orange County from Minnesota—their loss is our gain. We enjoyed the video *Story of Mann* and had a great afternoon visiting with friends old and new.

## Cleveland

In December, 51 of us gathered at the Hilton Hotel for our annual Christmas party and gift exchange.

Due to the probability of bad weather (and this year it has been very, very bad with both a lot of snow and sub-zero temperatures), we do not meet in January or February, but we will be meeting at a restaurant in March. Hopefully, we will not have a repeat of last year's storm on the day we meet.

Since we no longer have a specified meeting place, we meet primarily in restaurants or party rooms, or anywhere a member can locate for us.

## Society Contacts

(It is important that each society checks their listed contact to be certain it is correct. NAMA and WMA members around the world use these names and addresses.)

### CHICAGO

Florence Abbinanti, 9330 S Richmond Ave, Evergreen Park, IL 60642

### CLEVELAND

Mona Haldeman, 191 Glenview Drive, Avon Lake, OH 44012

### FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Ernest Cleator, 6 Selborne Drive, Douglas, IOM

### GALVA

Shirley Kelly, 316 NE 6th Ave, Galva, IL 61434

### GREATER WASHINGTON DC

J. Russell Woodgates, 2325 42th Street NW, #306, Washington, DC 20007-4941

### MARITIME

George Curphey, Box 716, Liverpool, Nova Scotia, BOT 1KO, Canada

### MINNESOTA

Joan Gill, 10215 38th Court N, Plymouth, MN 55441

### NEBRASKA

Vicky Gobber, 214 Barrington Dr, Gretna, NE 68028

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

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

### ONTARIO

Bob Watterson, 76 Dunlop St, Apt #605,

Richmond Hill, ON, L4C 2M5, Canada  
SALT LAKE

Russell A Cannon, 7720 South 700 East, Midvale, Utah, 84047

### SAN DIEGO

Ruth Smith, 4966 Rockford Drive, San Diego, CA 92115

### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Mrs. Joyce Kinley, 2816 Shantar Dr, Costa Mesa, CA 92626

### VANCOUVER

Vera Henry, 3142 W 32nd Ave, Vancouver, BC, V6L 2C1, Canada

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA

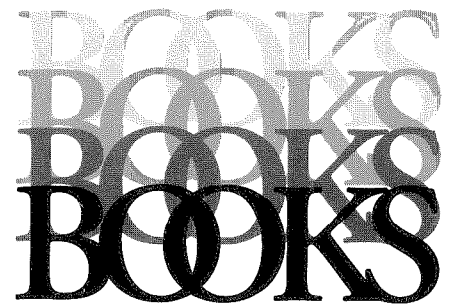
Kathleen Craine, 8 McGill Street, Kewdale, Western Australia 6105

### WISCONSIN

Pamela Kelly, 2001 South Thompson Drive, Madison, WI 53716

### WORLD MANX ASSOCIATION

David Caley, Kilmuir, Ballure Promenade, Ramsey, IOM



## The Oldest Hand on the Pequod

*"Where wert thou born?"*

*"In the little rocky Isle of Man, sir."*

*"Excellent! Thou'st hit the world by that!"* — Moby Dick. Chpt. 125).

He'd learned a thing or two in his time, the Manxman; he knew a thing or two. He wasn't the oldest hand on board for nothing. No man on the seas knew better than he did a loner's vulnerability, his desire for comradeship and his conflicting need to remain aloof, falling back on human warmth only once or twice perhaps, in the whole of a solitary life time. Then, also, time had taught him the depths and shallows of his own resources so that he had come to know at last through the schooling of experience that he was any man's equal. Yet, for all that, as years slipped past him, he had grown increasingly cautious in his judgements,

*Continued Page 12*

more and more able to recognise and respect other men's strength or wisdom or happiness without wishing to set himself up against it. You could say he had found, after a sombre fashion, contentment, and whatever the world outside himself thought of his life, in this one respect at least it had been successful: he had few regrets. His pleasures were inordinately simple; a sound night's sleep, a full pipe; he liked nothing better than to watch the young lads dancing at night on the scrubbed deck.

Among the sailors he had got himself a reputation for uncanny insight. Things non-human, and things human, he saw in them merely reflections of each other. That night on the Pequod, for instance, after the entire crew had drunk to the death of the White Whale, when it had grown dark, and the captain had gone down to his cabin, there to feed on his obsessions, and the men sullen and nervous, lounged about the deck, who but the old Manxman was first to remark on the jagged flash of lightning which suddenly shot through the sky, likening it to the white, livid scar which streaked the length of the captain's face?

Again, he had developed a sympathy with drowned men, an awareness of how many consciences had been assimilated by the sea; and sometimes he would speak of the green skulls rolling across the ocean floor fathoms down beneath the ship, as if he had counted them. These morbid lapses of his, however, were rare, and brief, very brief, for they were glimpses into his private realities. Of scientific facts he took no notice when they contradicted these realities. Take the cries heard off some rocky islets for example, which terrified the entire crew, until the captain explained that not ghosts nor mermaids were responsible for the clamour, but only some young seals abandoned by their mothers. The Manxman alone was not convinced. With the stubbornness characteristic of his people, he held fast to his belief that what he had heard was the cry of poor drowned sailors. And, as it fell out, did not events prove him right? Shortly after, didn't they pass a ship searching for a lost boat-load of her crew? He had reason to keep his beliefs, this old deck-hand, when they coincided so precisely with the workings of coincidence.

And he had other singularities: there was the way in which he would differentiate between the two kinds of madness common aboard ship. One was a sickness of obsession, arising out of some evil strength in a man's mind, and this the old

Manxman knew was dangerous, a disease common in leaders, and one which, in his captain, could doom the entire ship. Nevertheless he could respect and feel for its victim, and even the sickness itself he respected as an initiation into a darker side of the universe. But the other kind of madness, the one derived from the mind's weakness and breaking out in degrading terror, pathetic hysteria,— this could fling the Manxman into a frenzied rage. Because in truth, he feared manifestations of weakness as being too personal, too intimate, and laying bare too much of the soul.

For this reason, when the ship's boy on the Pequod lost his senses, the old Manxman turned surly in his dealings with him, as if he were warding something off.

Not to weaken: nothing was more important. And the older he became, and the tired, the more important it was. To remain brisk, competent, to keep a check on his emotions—these were the secrets of his dignity. To look the bleakness and the vastness of the world in the eye and not to falter. So he rarely talked of his home, in case it gave rise to the weakness of sentiments in him that he had forgotten about and was not prepared to meet.

Then there came a day on the Pequod, when the crazed captain peering at him with a strained, but intelligent face, asked where had he been born? "In the little rocky Isle of Man, sir."

The answer was grudgingly given. He had talked with yellow men who smiled out of almond eyes. He'd compared the customs of the Spaniards and the South Sea Islanders. He'd spun yarns with Danes, and Dutchmen and Finns. He'd prowled through the richest and most stinking ports of Europe. He'd hung for three nights in a cold sea to a splintered mast and been picked up at the end of it by a fever ship. He'd fallen off the main mast and been saved from shattering on the deck by the scruff of his neck. And now, he remembered suddenly, as he answered the captain, the insignificant rock he had been born upon. Small and firm in the vast and fluctuating world of his later experiences... Green humps of hills, narrow streets where the sunlight was trapped and warmed the house walls. White-washed steps. Women talking by the harbour wall. The lighthouse. The warm pink of the castle ruins, with the sun going down. The naive charm of the Chapel bell. All that, the Manxman told himself, was a long time ago. And if it still existed somewhere to the West North West, it did so only for other people, never

again for him. And no, he did not regret even that. Who would recognise him there, if he ever set foot on the harbour steps? Who would come running down out of the cottages to meet him? No, no. He'd made his decision long ago. He was his own home, and beyond himself, the ship was his home, and beyond the ship, the sea.

On the day Moby Dick rammed the ship, the old Manxman was standing in the prow of the Pequod watching the havoc caused by the angry creature among the lowered boats; and he gasped along with the other men who lined the Pequod's side when they saw how, through the water, the great shadowy bulk turned in their direction. They knew what was to follow. They fell horribly silent. A paralysis of horror numbed them. The Manxman, his eyes fixed on the ugly hump of the whale's head, brace himself for the impact. All his life he'd been practising for this, bracing himself for the impact.

The crash sent him hurtling to the deck. Someone else fell across him. His ears were filled with the crack of violated timbers, the hiss of encroaching sea; and frantic against the careening sky, the foremast lurched drunkenly...

"All over," thought the Manxman, "and no regrets." Only he wished, as everything blackened, that he'd not been reminded so recently how far away he'd been born.

Roberta Lamming

Source: *Manninagh, A Review of Manx Culture*, No. 1: May 1972.

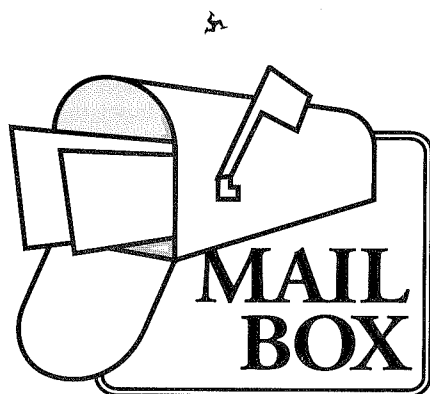


## News Flash!

Just as we were "going to press" we received confirmation from Stephen Harrison, Director of The Manx Museum, that he will be attending the convention in August. This is exciting news. Mr Harrison will be giving a talk and slide presentation on Saturday about work of the Manx National Heritage throughout the Isle of Man. Last year it won the prestigious British Museum of the Year Award and a special award in the European Museum of the Year Competition. Their work has become internationally renowned as a unique exercise interpreting 227 square miles of the Manx landscape. He will also bring us up to date on the exciting new projects about to commence. For those who have not been on the Island, this will be an excellent opportunity to see a bit of your heritage.



Also coming from the Island is Ellis Killey of the Tourist Board. Those who attended the 1992 convention or who have been part of a Homecomers group on the Island will remember him as the one who arranged all our tours.



This short piece about coins from the Isle of Man was in the December 1993 issue of *Cats Magazine*.

The Pobjoy Mint Ltd of Sutton Surrey, England, producers of the Isle of Man series of Cat Coins, recently gave away a gold, cat coin necklace during the American Numismatic Association's "World Fair of Money" coin show in Baltimore, MD.

First issued in 1988, the Cat Coins now are the best selling fractional gold piece in the world. The uncirculated and proof gold coins are struck in weights of 1/25, 1/10, 1/5, 1/2 and 1 full ounce.

The Isle of Man legal tender Cat Coins have depicted the following breeds: Manx (1988), Persian (1989), Alley (1990), Norwegian Forest (1991), Siamese (1992), and Maine Coon (1993).

For additional information about the Cat Coins, contact Pobjoy Mint Ltd, USA, PO Box 153, Iola, WI 54945, phone (715)445-3581, Fax (715)445-2652.

Beverly Walker  
Coxsackie, NY

From Robert Kelly of Chicago, Illinois, we received two order blanks from Pobjoy Mint listing other Manx coins. Included were five Nigel Mansell 1993 race car coins, 1992 and 1990 IOM nine coin sets in colorful card holders, special commemorative coins such as 1989 Mutiny Bounty, 1989 George Washington, 1987 American Cup. He also sent a US Postal Service folder about Express Mail. One of the examples of rates given was from Manhattan Island to the Isle of Man, a two pound package for only \$21.00. You never know where you'll find reference to the Island!

I do enjoy reading the Bulletin, and the December edition was no exception.

However in several places I see the Isle of Man, UK address; this is incorrect. The Isle of Man is not part of the United Kingdom. The proper address is Isle of Man, British Isles

It may also interest some readers that the present site of Tynwald Hill is not where the Vikings met. Their Althing or Tynwald was in the approximate centre of the Island. That was in West Baldwin, near St Luke's Church.

P J Bridson  
Desbarats, Ontario

I have an ornate inscribed sword that I would like to sell to a proper descendent of a Malcolm Caley. The sword is by Rob Mole & Son, Birmingham with gold proof inset. It is inscribed "...to Malcolm Caley, by the ...1st (City of Norwich) Battn, Norfolk Volunteers...10th January 1916". The scabbard appears to be silver.

I wish to sell it only to a descendent of said Malcolm at my cost (\$450.00). I would truly love to see this sword find its home with a proper descendent, which, unfortunately, I am not. But with the name Caley the honoree must have been Manx.

Tom Caley  
Box 340  
Metamora, MI 48455

(If the sword finds its way to a descendent, please let the co-editors know.)

ALICE QUAYLE GERSHMAN, 5253 Bluebell Ave, No Hollywood, CA 91607, is looking for any Quayles who might know or have heard of a Harry (Henry) Quayle whose life-size painting was seen in a LaJolla, CA, curio shop in 1910 by my uncle. My uncle noted that this painting looked so much like his grandfather. The owner of the shop told him that this Harry Quayle raised the first Bear Flag in South California and he knew him well.

The Bulletin is great, the Mail Box letters are a great idea, as that is what it is about, getting to know each other, and finding new members. Here is one for you! I got a letter from Robert Phillips of St Paul, Minnesota, asking for help in finding a record of his G/Grandmother, Elizabeth Dawson. He addressed it to me, as 'Librarian, IOMFHS'. I don't find his name on the NAMA or FHS 1993 membership lists! But I will reply, and suggest he join both Societies!

Noreen Cottier  
Peel, Isle of Man

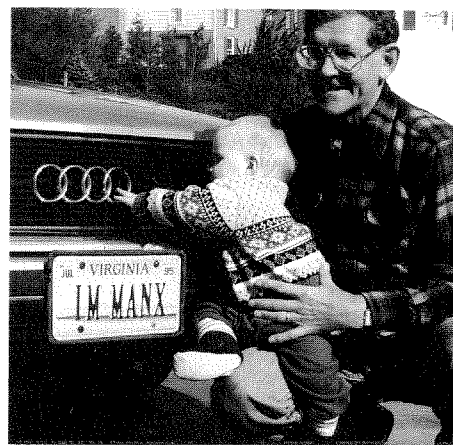


Photo of NAMA President Ron Quayle and grandson, Colin Michael Spohn (almost one year old), son of Michael and Jill Quayle Spohn, in front of newly acquired Manx vanity license plate and a newly washed car on a rare warm sunny day.

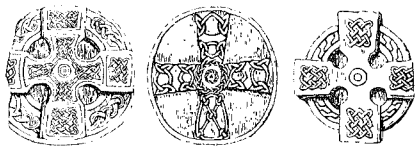
## Manx Quiz

While browsing through some of the NAMA Bulletin files, we came across a series of "questions of general knowledge" about the Isle of Man published in the 1930s and 1940s. This appeared to be an interesting way to share bits of information about the Island.

This set of questions is about the geography of the Isle of Man. How many can you answer?

1. How many parishes are there on the Isle of Man?
2. Which parish does not touch the sea?
3. Where is salt found on the Island?
4. What is the highest point on the Island?
5. What is the longest hill?
6. What is the largest stream?
7. Where is Sky Hill and for what is it famous?
8. What is Spanish Head and how did it get that name?
9. What is the most central point in the Island?

(Answers on page 14)



## Chaplain's Corner

The children of Abraham, the Hebrew people, became a blessing not only in the Land of Israel, but throughout the world, especially as that religion was made known and lived out by disciples of Jesus Christ our Lord. Abraham emigrated from Ur of the Chaldees to the land of Canaan to possess it as God had promised, saying, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing...and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." (Genesis 12:2,3). The blessing came in the form of religion, law, justice, principles of freedom, democracy and humanity that permeate all of Western civilization.

In a similar way emigrant descendants from the Manx people of Celtic and Viking origins have been a blessing to many nations and peoples of the world—Ireland, England, Canada, Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, South Africa and even Pitcairn Island, and especially the United States of America. In the early 1800s (as accounted by Mona Douglas in *They Lived in Ellan Vannin*) many emigrated at first to Ohio, especially Cleveland where she recounts (page 77) there were 250 Manxmen. By 1883 the Manx colony in Cleveland numbered 4000 and in 1968 "families of Manx descent in Cleveland numbered 30,000—about two-thirds the entire population of

### Manx Quiz Answers

1. seventeen
2. Marown
3. Point of Ayre
4. Snaefell
5. Sliu Lewaigue, descending two and a half miles into Ramsey
6. Sulby River
7. one mile west of Ramsey, a battle was fought there in 1079 between the Manx and Norsemen
8. near Port St Mary, ships of the Spanish Armada were wrecked there in 1588
9. St Luke's Church, Baldwin

the Isle of Man." (How many people of Manx descent are there in your town now?) Like the people of Abraham, Manx people have gone to other lands and have blessed them by their character, integrity, economic drive and their undergirding faith in God as revealed in Jesus Christ and His Way.

Let us remember and revere our historical and family roots and live lives that are a credit to our Manx heritage. Moreover, take care that this way of life and character are passed on to our descendants, our children and grandchildren by bequeathing them our history, our tradition and our faith (through our worship and religious teaching). Remember our heritage to them. Reiterate it, talk with them about it, invite them to share in our Manx events and societies. In the spirit of Toevia in *Fiddler on the Roof* who sang so urgently, "Tradition! Tradition!" sustain our Manx heritage and continue it by our active dedicated participation in it.

Rev Devore Craine Smith



One of Norm Gill's volunteers running to get everything ready for the convention. Drawing from the *Isle of Man Examiner*.

## Landlocked Shipowner

Kazakhstan, which has no outlet to the high seas, has bought its first ocean-going freighter and named it after the former Soviet republic's President, Nursultan Nazarbayev.

Reuter reports from Moscow that Itar-Tass said the Nursultan was registered on the Isle of Man, which would become the home port for other ships that Kazakhstan plans to buy in partnership with several unspecified English firms. Kazakhstan plans a small naval fleet for the Caspian Sea.

## IOM Establishes a US Advisory Board

The Isle of Man established a US advisory board of lawyers, accountants and business representatives to target their promotional efforts in the United States.

Alpha International Management Group Ltd here was appointed by the Isle of Man's Department of Industry to assist the board and help increase awareness of the Isle and its proximity to the European Community.

Source: *Journal of Commerce*, July 14, 1993.

## Filming on the Island

Queen's Pier, two sidecar race teams, female body builders and a Loaghtan sheep are set to feature in a film being shot in the Isle of Man. And what's more, as part of this science fiction narrative, the Island itself will turn into a body.

The bizarre project is the work of American visual artist and film maker Matthew Barney. While on his way to Ireland to find a location, he heard about the Island and decided to take a look. Once there he described the Island as 'a film-maker's dream'.

Filming begins in March Matthew hopes to have the film ready for launch during the TT.

Source: *Isle of Man Examiner*, February 15, 1994.

## Membership Drive

As NAMA members you have already received a letter from President Quayle requesting your assistance in recruiting new members. It is important to keep our organization growing. All groups need new members, new ideas, new enthusiasm to keep the group alive and vital. For most members we had a parent or grandparent who helped keep interest in the Island alive. That is no longer true. Now we must recruit each new generation of people with Manx heritage so that the knowledge and love of that wonderful Island continues to grow and thrive.

We have some incentives to encourage your help in this membership drive. You will receive a NAMA membership certificate for every new member whose name you submitted. If you already have a certificate, you may ask to have it made out to another member of your choice.

For recruiting three new members, you will be awarded a NAMA pin. All of the above, plus a personal letter from the NAMA president, will go to members who bring in five new members. All members who recruit three or more new members will be recognized at the convention.

We have not forgotten the societies. The society which has the greatest increase of NAMA membership among their local membership will receive one year free NAMA membership (\$20.00) and an "award" to be given at the convention in August. Remember to have your new

members indicate on their membership form the name of their local society. It would be helpful if each society sent Helen Drom a list of their membership.

We all know Manxies who are not NAMA members. Many of them may not even be aware that we exist. So let's see what each of us can do to get them active in our association.

The challenge: A thousand NAMA members by August 1994! You have until the end of July to enroll your recruits.



## NAMA Dues Renewal Form

The North American Manx Association was organized to bring together those who have Manx Ancestry and an interest in the Isle of Man. The first NAMA meeting was held in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1928. The membership is spread throughout the United States and Canada.

To keep members informed of Manx activities both here and on the Isle of Man, a bulletin/newsletter is issued quarterly. A convention is held every other year and homecoming trips are available periodically.

*See membership categories below. Note postage supplement. Please print!  
You may change your membership category if you wish to.*

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip/PC \_\_\_\_\_

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP	AMOUNT	YOURS
Annual.....	\$ 15.00	_____
Life Under 50 Years Old.....	150.00	_____
Life 50 Years or Over.....	100.00	_____
Junior (age 1-18 years, No Bulletin).....	2.00	_____

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP	AMOUNT	YOURS
Annual.....	20.00	_____
Life (2 adults, based on age of youngest)		
Life Under 50 Years Old.....	200.00	_____
Life 50 Years or Over.....	150.00	_____

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP	AMOUNT	YOURS
ANNUAL (Not for use by individuals).....	20.00	_____

MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE.....	AMOUNT	YOURS
The membership certificate design and coloring have special significance relative to the Isle of Man. A letter of explanation is sent with each certificate.	3.00	_____

NAMA PINS.....	5.00	_____
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POSTAGE SUPPLEMENT	AMOUNT	YOURS
Pays for higher NAMA Bulletin mailing costs. Canadian members add \$4.00, all overseas (IOM, UK, etc.) members add \$6.00.....		_____

TOTAL REMITTANCE IN U.S. DOLLARS \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form, or a facsimile, along with a check made payable to NAMA to:  
NAMA c/o Helen M. Drom, 4960 Cherry Avenue, Santa Maria, CA 93455.

NOTE: Canadians may send a Canadian check for the equivalent number of U.S.dollars  
Overseas members send U.S. funds.

## North American Manx Association Officers 1992/1994

### Hon. President:

Norman Clucas  
Webster Grove, MO

### Hon. Vice Presidents:

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Win Livingstone  
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### Past President:

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### President:

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Alexandria, VA 22304

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10215 38th Court North  
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### 2nd Vice President:

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P. O. Box 146  
Cottage Grove, WI 53527

### 3rd Vice President:

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4957 Lochside Drive  
Victoria, BC, Canada VBY 2E6

### Secretary:

Elizabeth Duncan  
436 Audrey Drive  
Richmond Heights, OH 44143

### Treasurer:

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Santa Maria, CA 93455

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Joan and Norman Gill  
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Plymouth, MN 55441

### Pres. Ladies Aux. to NAMA:

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### Sec./Tres. Ladies Aux. to NAMA:

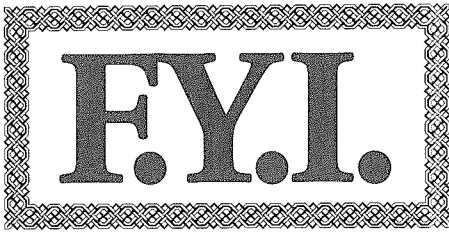
Dorothy Gawne  
8605 N. Merrill  
Niles, IL 60648

### Chaplain:

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

### Trustees:

Norman Standish  
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Mary Hayslett  
Alexandria, VA  
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## Manx Music and Folklore

'The Secret Island', a new cassette produced by Manannan Music, explores the music and song of Manx legend but has a contemporary feel.

The album has been compiled and recorded by Charles Guard. The music has been especially composed by Marlene Hendy, of the Mannin Folk, and is performed by her. She is joined by singer Dilys Sowrey, flautist Peter Cubberley, guitarist Mark Cleator, violinist Bernard Osborne, and Celtic harpist Charles Guard.

The cassette is priced at £7.50. You might write to Island Hi-Fi & Compact Disc Centre, Perveril Buildings, Loch Promenade, Douglas, Isle of Man, British Isles.

More out-of-print Manx folklore comes back into circulation with three new books by specialist Onchan publisher Chiollagh Books.

*Skealyn Cheeil-Chiollee* gathers a selection of traditional folk narratives collected in the last quarter of the 19th century by Charles Roeder. A large part of the material is concerned with 'fairylore'.

The second book, *Customs and Traditions, Cure and Charms, Fairies and Phantoms*, reprints folkways material gathered by Walter William Gill which was originally published in the third of a series of Manx scrapbooks written by the author in the early 20th century.

Both of these titles are priced at £4.45.

The third is an edited reprint of William Cashen's *Manx Folklore*, originally published by G & L Johnson in 1912.

You might write to the Lexicon Bookshop, 63 Strand Street, Douglas, Isle of Man, British Isles.

Source: *Isle of Man Examiner*, December 7, 1993 and *Manx Life*, September 1993.

## Manx Life

*Manx Life* is a monthly publication featuring both current and historical articles about the Isle of Man. The full color picture on the cover is worth the cost of the magazine. The cost per year for an overseas subscription is £23.00. Mail your

request to Subscription Department, Manx Life, 14 Douglas Street, Peel, Isle of Man, British Isles.

## Celtic Pub

O'Flaherty's Irish Pub where all the Celtic nations meet is located at 514 Toulouse Street in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Featured on its publicity is a collage of the flags of the six Celtic nations, with the Three Legs of Man on the center top. Sounds like a good place to visit with folk music and dancing.

## NAMA Membership List

A list of all the members of NAMA is available for \$3.00 from Helen Drom (address on page 15). This list may not be used for any commercial purpose or solicitation. You might use it to locate Manx when you are traveling, for genealogy research, helping to find Manx for your society or for starting a new society.

## Small World

Did you notice on the last night of the Olympics from Norway that bronze medal winner Chen Lu from China skated her exhibition program to music by Rick Wakeman who recently performed Heritage Suite at the Manx Museum?

## 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.

Deadline	Bulletin Issue
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, preferably 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 612-541-8705.

## Video

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

## Mailing Label Information

Line 1: membership TYPE (**Ind**=Individual, **Fam**=Family, **Soc**=Society and **Comp**=Complimentary) and TERM (**Year**=Yearly member and **Life**=Life member). Line 2: current year's dues and postage supplement status in U.S. dollars (**AMT**=amount due for your membership type and term, **Post**=postage supplement due and **TOT**=total amount due). The labels are produced about three to four weeks before you receive your Bulletin.

If the **TOT** amount on your label shows that you need to send a payment, please send a check today, made out to NAMA, in U.S. funds (or a check for equivalent Canadian funds drawn on a Canadian bank) to Helen Drom, 4960 Cherry Avenue, Santa Maria, CA 93455. Your prompt payment saves us the cost of reminder mailings.

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

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