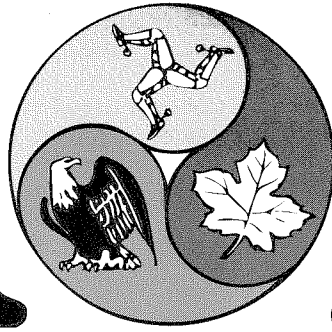


# NAMA



## NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

Vol 69, No 3

To Preserve "Whate'er is left to us of ancient heritage." *TE Brown*

March 1997

## A Ramble on the Island

Dear NAMA, family and friends,  
Can I tell you all about a grand walk by a grandmother? (I'm 57 years old and have three granddaughters.)

I popped over to the Isle of Man in November 1996 to visit my mother, Doris Leece Woolnough, and my brother and sister-in-law. My brother David is the owner of Erin Supplies in Port Erin.

I felt I could do with a bit of a walk (which to me means two miles at a gentle pace). Well now, my brother David and his wife Margaret belong to a walking group known as the Rushen Ramblers.

Actually the Rushen Ramblers are pretty good. They have done an end to end (Point of Ayre to the Sound), the Parish walk and also round the coast.

Margaret Woolnough, my sister-in-law, and Kenny Quirk, another Rushen Rambler, plotted a route for me. My one stipulation was no hill climbs.

The day of the walk dawned clear, fresh, and cool. I was beginning to have second thoughts! What had I gotten myself into? Margaret and Kenny picked me up at Mum's house on Shore Road in Port Erin at 10:30 am.

First leg was a breeze, Port Erin to Castletown by car.

And am I prepared! I'm wearing my old dependable sneakers (so old, no tread left); comfy socks, no seams around the toes; (Don't you really hate those socks with thick seams all around your bunions?) pants were fine, stretch cotton; T-shirt (cotton) and sweatshirt (cotton). But then I had this wind breaker type of jacket. The zipper broke and the whole affair flapped about totally out of control. In the big pockets of my totally unsuitable jacket I had two packets of Ribena, a black currant juice drink.

From Kenny Quirk's house in Castletown we walked to Poulson Park. And I thought, "I can handle this." (But I did wish they would slow down a bit, I'm more into strolling.) We followed the river from Castletown to Ballasalla. Came out at Rushen Abbey which I understand has been taken over. (As a child, going to Rushen Abbey for a day out was something very special—the rose gardens, strawberry teas and the peacocks!)

Going through Ballasalla, we did stroll, stopped at the local store, replenished my Ribena, bought a post card and had a nod and a chat with the locals. ("Going walking then are you?") I got the once over, as if to say, probably see you in the White House by lunch time. (The White House being a pub in Ballasalla.)

Heading out from Ballasalla I said to Margaret that I needed to find a loo. (And it did occur to me at this stage that perhaps I should cut down on the Ribena.) Margaret thought I was just making excuses and that we should stop in at the White House. But don't you know, I spotted some public toilets. "Probably locked up at this time of year," says Margaret. But luck was with me. Open they were, and with toilet paper and running cold water.

By this time I'd walked maybe three miles and I was feeling pretty good.

From Ballasalla we went down through Balthane, all along the coast, under the gantry to Ronaldsway Airport. And we kept on walking. We passed a sign that said Visitors Centre, and thought oh, good, a cup of tea and a bit of a sit down. But, it was closed, no visitors in November.

Then I spotted a sort of elaborate shed. The sign said Officers Flying Club. I said

to Kenny that looks promising. "Oh, no Susan." "Why not," says I. "Well for one thing you aren't an officer or a flyer and they don't open till 4 pm."

So we tramped on, over stubble fields and numerous stiles. Then, amazing civilization, Derbyhaven. (Thought to myself I can get a bus from Derbyhaven to Port Erin—no buses, all on winter schedule.)

Brisk walking right through Derbyhaven into Castletown. A stop over at the Glue Pot. Now I'm one of the sort of people who really enjoys a glass of wine, but by now my system was so shocked it took me a great effort to down half a glass of soda water.

Kenny and Margaret really enjoyed a drink! "Not bad time that, Margaret," said Kenny. "Well, slower than usual," says Margaret, "because. . ." and she nods her head in my direction.

When we got to the Glue Pot the sky was very heavy and dark grey and threatening. And Kenny said, "If it was going to rain we'd call it a day." I have no idea why he said that. Here I am in the Glue Pot. In total shock, hardly able to sip soda water. My trusty sneakers have been through farm yards and have been over topped by manure.

I looked out the Glue Pot window and prayed for buckets of rain. What did I see—a cold silver shaft of sunshine.

I knew I was committed. So off we went into that cold grey day. To be very honest the remainder of the walk is just a vague blur in my mind.

I do remember finally coming out on a main road again at the bottom of Fishers Hill. I do remember seeing three very comfy looking benches on the road to Ken-traugh.

It wasn't until we had left Gansey and

were heading up the Round Road to the Four Roads that I knew I was going to make it.

From the Four Roads, I trailed Margaret and Kenny like a zombie. (Put one foot in front of the other foot, Susan, that's all you have to do!)

Our final goal being the front bar in the Falcon's Nest Hotel. Coming down Station Road I could see Falcon's Nest and I said the Margaret, "If they move that place two feet away, I'll never make it."

Got to the Falcon's Nest at 4:20 pm. I was so stunned I couldn't even drink soda water. Fifteen minutes later my brother David joined us. His first words were, "Well how did you do Susie?"

Very casually I replied, "To Colby and back." (That's a two miler.)

"That's what I guessed," says David.

My walk was in fact 11 and a half miles at a brisk pace. I don't think I've walked more than five miles at one time in all my life. The coastal scenery was spectacular. I wouldn't have missed it for anything in the world. Would I do it again. . . yes, why not.

Cheers, Happy New year to all,  
Susan Sharpe

PS I'm wondering if there is anyone with Manx connections in New England, especially NE Massachusetts or SE New Hampshire. Write to Susan (Woonough Leece) Sharpe, 23 Winona Avenue, Haverhill, MA 01830.

PSS I'm as Manx as the hills says Garry my English husband. We have been in the US 23 years. Garry is a sculptor and I was a nurse and midwife way back in the late 50s and 60s in Staffordshire and Liverpool. We have 5 children; four boys and a girl, 32, 31 29, and a pair of 19 year olds born in the US; and three granddaughters. I manage to pop over to the Isle of Man at least once a year, sometimes twice.



## A BIT OF HISTORY

### The Manx Smugglers

The most flourishing period of Manx smuggling was between 1715 to 1765, and it still continued, notwithstanding numerous revenue cutters, to be a profitable business between 1765 and 1798, and to a less extent, between 1798 and 1815, or even later.

It is curious how little we know of the exploits of individual Manx smugglers, though those of such men as Yawkins, the Dutchman, are the subject of rugged verses. Manxmen were, however, his most successful rivals, and the fact that one of the best known smuggling creeks on the Kirkcudbrightshire coast is called the "Manksman's lake" indicates that they were well known in this trade. The verses, already referred to, record their presence:

Oft at the Ross, with Yawkins and with Doal,

And Manksmen gabbling from the manor hole,

What noggins I have drank of smuggled rum

Just from the little "Isle of three legs" come.

We are only able to give accounts of three Manx smugglers, and they belong to the last of the periods mentioned. It is for our readers to decide whether such Manxmen are "Worthies" or not.

The first, THOLLAN RADCLIFFE, of Cronk Breck, Andreas, attempted to run his lugger (a craft no more than a large open yawl without cabins), with a whole puncheon of French brandy in her, over to Galloway, but was captured. The captain of the cutter put one of his crew on board the lugger, which he took in tow. Night came on, and RADCLIFFE calling to his men in Manx, to "hoist the clout", a small square sail, the only sail which the lugger carried, seized the cutter's man, threw him overboard, cut the tow-rope and stole away ultimately disposing of the brandy as he had originally intended.

The second, JAMES MOORE, was lying in his lugger in Douglas Bay, where a revenue cutter happened to be at the time. In talking to some of the cutter's crew, MOORE boasted that his craft would beat theirs in a race. This reaching the captain's ears, he accepted the challenge, as he thought it would be a good opportunity of showing MOORE and his fellow smugglers that the speed of his boat was such that they had but little chance of escaping. MOORE'S preparation for the race consisted in buying a crock of butter, and in smearing his boat to the water-line with its contents. The result, whether it was owing to this maneuver, or the natural speed of the lugger, was that she not only out-paced the cutter, but actually sailed round her! The chagrin of the cutter's captain may be imagined.

Of the third, QUILLIAM, the following story is told: "On one occasion his vessel, loaded with spirits, bound for Ireland, was chased and overhauled by a revenue cutter, but he paid no attention to

the summons to bring to, and even when a blank shot was fired from the cutter, he sailed on without taking any notice. Then a cannon ball was fired, which fell into the sea not far from QUILLIAM'S vessel. On seeing this QUILLIAM ordered his crew to get below, but remained on deck himself and brought up his vessel in the wind. The revenue cutter then lowered a boat, which came alongside, and its officer angrily demanded why he did not bring his boat up first signalled. QUILLIAM replied that out of his crew of six, four were dead of cholera, and that the two remaining were dying. Horror-stricken by this news, the officer ordered his boat back to the cutter, which sailed off. When it was out of sight, QUILLIAM called up his men from below and made off for the Irish coast.

Source: *Manx Worthies* by AW Moore, 1901.

### Ellan Vannin

We all enjoy hearing or singing the hauntingly beautiful "Ellan Vannin", but how many of us know the history of this song? The following is from the NAMA Bulletin of October 1938.

In 1828 a young English actress visiting the Isle of Man with a touring company, performed in the Athol Street Theatre in Douglas. She was a leading player, and was talented not only as an actress but as a poetess. Her verses, in the pretty, graceful style of the period, appeared regularly in the Poets' Corner of the *Manx Sun*.

The Athol Street Theatre has vanished along with other landmarks of the quaint little town which was Old Douglas. Quaint, too, would now seem the plays and players which appeared on its tiny stage. The *Manx Sun* went down below the horizon long since. But in the hearts of Manx people the world over will always be enshrined the words of "Ellan Vannin"—written so many years ago by that young actress and poetess, Eliza Craven Green.

It is strange as well as touching that the author of these beloved verses was not Manx. That the Island's charm made a vivid and lasting appeal to this English girl is shown in the fact that "Ellan Vannin," with its tenderness and longing, has become the national song of the Manxman abroad. In the Island home with the "green hills" before him, he may not realize the full pathos of the lines—but transplanted to another land he finds himself deeply moved by them. The Editor of the *Isle of Man Times* wrote—"You have never really heard 'Ellan

Vannin' until you have heard it in America."

It is sung at every Manx gathering, large or small. No matter how carefree the occasion—a jolly outing or picnic perhaps—as dusk gathers there will be a hush; someone is singing the opening notes, others join in; by the time the last verse is reached everyone is singing, softly and with feeling;

"Then mem'ries, sweet and tender  
Come like Music's plaintive flow  
Of the hearts in Ellan Vannin  
That loved me, long ago.  
And I give, with tears and blessings  
My fondest thoughts to thee—  
My own dear Ellan Vannin  
And thy green hills by the sea."

## The Manx Flag

We often receive requests on how and where to purchase a Manx flag, but now we have another question. When is it appropriate to fly the Manx flag? The obvious answer is July 5th, Tynwald Day. Some fly the banner on St Patrick's Day because of his religious influence on the Island plus the legendary fact that he rid the Island of both snakes and toads. Another time might be January 2 to commemorate the execution of Manx martyr William Christian (Illiam Dhone) at Hango Hill. Joan Ogden of Janesville, Wisconsin, says she flies it on special family days such as birthdays and anniversaries. It gives her opportunities to talk about family and heritage with those who are curious. Norman and Joan Gill fly the Manx banner when they are in residence at their Wisconsin home, sort of like the Queen does at Buckingham Palace.

If you wish to order a small Manx flag, 10 inches tall and approximately 3 inches by 5 inches, send your order to The Flag Store, 520 Broadway, Sonoma, CA 95476, 707-996-8140, FAX 707-996-8171. The cost for individual flag is \$3.00, \$2.50 if ordering in quantities of 12, or \$2.00 per flag in gross quantities (144).

Check with the Wisconsin Convention committee to see if they still have some of the larger flags available: Doris J Alff, 36 Campus Lane, Janesville, WI 53545.

On the Island, flags made from nylon-wool/polyester with the Three Legs of Man actually sewn onto the flag as opposed to being printed, roped, toggled and ready for flying are available from Colas (IOM) Limited, Balthane Industrial Estate, Ballasalla, Isle of Man IM9 2AQ. The prices are as follows: 1 yard Manx

Flag—£26.90, 1.5 yard Flag—£33.15, and 2 yard Manx Flag—£41.40. An additional charge of £3.00 would be requested for the postage.

## Manx News

It was bound to happen—the first fast food franchise, McDonald's, is coming to the Island later this year. The location will probably be in the city centre of Douglas.

The Centre of Manx Studies has embarked on a three-year study of the way Manx people speak the English language.

Manxman Phill Kelly, of Kirk Michael, is the Department of Education's new Manx language officer. He was a full time peripatetic Manx teacher working under Dr Brian Stowell.

The anniversary of the death of the Manx martyr Illiam Dhone should be made a national holiday according to Yn Cheshaght Ghailckagh (Manx Language Society). They feel that the man who saved the Manx government should be remembered in more ways than a stained glass window at Tynwald.

On the political front, the new Chief Minister is Donald Gelling and Noel Cringle is Speaker of the House of Keys. New Minister of Tourism and Leisure David Cretney has reorganized his department. Dominic Delaney MLC has been given responsibility for Everymann Holidays along with other duties. Former Chief Minister is now Sir Miles Walker, receiving his knighthood in the New Year honour list.

Fishing for salmon is strictly out of bounds from October 31 to June, but with the fish returning up-river to spawn, this is the poachers' busiest time so the moonlit battle between the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's river watchers and those fishing illegally swings into action at this time of year.

Kate and Matthew were the most popular names for girls and boys born in 1996 on the Island. There were no Manx names in either of the top ten name list, however, the Celtic names of Ryan and Callum did appear.

The first horror film made on the Island was *Rampage*. In February filming began at the Castle Mona Hotel of the first ghost film, *Appetite*.

A farmer replacing a fence post discovered 65 coins from the 13th and 14th century England and Scotland. They have been turned over to Manx Heritage.

Source: *The Isle of Man Examiner*.

## Our Own People

Eleanor Gawne from Massachusetts was at the Homecomers Tent on Tynwald Day, and making plans to return in 1997. George and Marie Duke from New Mexico were in Peel and gave a copy of their Duke Family Tree to the Family History Library. John Wade and Frances, also from New Mexico, stayed in Peel and spent some time with me and I arranged for them to be interviewed by the *Examiner* newspaper to ask for help with their Wade Ancestry. Audrey Faragher spent the month of July on the Island and was able to collect a lot of information about her Faragher line of Braddan. Theresa Quirk from Connecticut who visited the Island in August was able to renew her research of the Quirk family of Patrick. Nancy and Jim Weaver from Missouri, who attended the convention in Madison, brought a copy of the group picture taken on July 19th. Their visit in November was quite a contrast to the last time they were over in August 1994. They enjoyed themselves very much at the Falcon's Nest Hotel in Port Erin, and the weather was sunny, temperatures about 50 degrees.

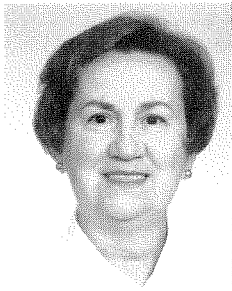
My e-mail address is noleen.c@internexus.co.uk for anyone who wishes to contact me by that means.

Best wishes for 1997 to all NAMA members from the Isle of Man members.

Noreen Cottier  
Regional Representative in the IOM  
3 Crowley Terrace  
Peel, Isle of Man IM5 1UA  
British Isles, UK

## Manx Proverbs

*Moyll y droghad myr heu harrish.*  
Praise the bridge as you will go over it.  
*Oie mooie as oie elley sthie,*  
*Olk son cabbil, agh son kirree mie.*  
One night out and one night in,  
Bad for horses, but good for sheep.  
*Gyn skeddann gyn bannish.*  
No herring, no wedding.  
*Ta beaal tutler poagey-scrieu jouyll.*  
A gossip's mouth is the devil's post-bag.  
*Cre-erbee ny leighyn ta deiney*  
*Manninagh jannoo, t'ad shickyry dy*  
*varyrsagh jeh.*  
Whatever laws Manxmen make, they are sure to repent it.



## President's Message

*Tar-shiu dy-valley* Come home!

After a record breaking winter on the mid-western plains, it is all the more enjoyable to be making summer plans to revisit the Isle of Man. Each trip confirms that it is truly my 'home away from home' and I feel certain all of our members have this same sense of nostalgia whenever visiting the beautiful Island.

We've already had a good response to the 1997 Homecoming; but it is not too late for others to contact: Mr Laurence Skelly of Travel Connoisseur, 1011 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92108, to arrange to join the 1997 travelers. This year, for the first time we have a Manxman, Mr Skelly, who is an official representative of the Isle of Man Department of Travel and Leisure, here in the United States who is also an experienced travel agent. Mr Skelly and his associates are able to individualize travel itineraries to and from all destinations; and they are also familiar with the traditional events and points of interest on the Isle of Man that are so important to our members. After meeting with Mr Skelly on February 6th, I am convinced he will take good care of the details that will make this Homecoming an outstanding trip!

Our NAMA membership drive continues. I have been mailing out pewter key tags to our members who enroll new members. We still have a limited supply. Please send in the registration forms if you want to receive yours.

While visiting California in February, I was able to be present at a meeting of the San Diego County Manx Society held at the lovely home of Marion Kelly. During that meeting we discussed the value of attracting new and younger members. It was suggested that local societies might hold special events once or twice a year in an effort to increase interest in Manx activities across the generations. Let me hear from your society if you have other suggestions for us to explore.

We are still looking for ways to encourage Manx outreach activities at Celtic Festivals, Highland Games, and other regional events. Along with these activities is a proposal to look for fund raising activities to establish a fund designated to help defray the nominal entry fees and the cost of minimal displays for use at such events. Laurence Skelly has already offered to provide copies of an Isle of Man informational brochure which may be used in membership development and outreach activities.

We send our sincere thanks to CCS & Associates, of the Isle of Man, for providing us the NAMA Home Page located on the Internet at <<http://www.isle-of-man.com/interests/genealogy/nama/index.htm>>. Through this media we have been receiving inquiries about NAMA membership almost weekly and I have heard reports that local societies have also benefited from their listing.

Thanks also go to John (Jack) Cormode and Ron Quayle; now we have new membership enrollment forms to send to prospective members. Related information tells us that Dr Calvin Quayle, NAMA Genealogist, with the help of his son, has been working on ways to make the family history information obtained from the back of the membership forms more accessible to members. A Manx Surname Search system has been proposed to allow members to inquire about surnames, localities, and dates in their family tree. The NAMA genealogical file will include the records which were carefully maintained for many years by our Honorary President, Edna Cowin, along with recently collected information. This will become an important resource for Manx families if each NAMA member will take the time to provide as much information as possible. We appreciate all this important work.

Let's keep developing more Manx communication links. You may reach me at the address on page 11 or use e-mail <[Kelly.M.F.-MANX@worldnet.att.com](mailto:Kelly.M.F.-MANX@worldnet.att.com)> for a faster response.

*Jannoo soiagh jeh*—I will accept with pleasure.

Mary F Kelly  
NAMA President

## Children's Column

"The Top of the Mornin' to you on St Patrick's Day!" Girls and boys, a bit of green shamrock is a sight not alone for Irish eyes, but for everyone who believes that spring is really just around the corner.

We Manx should give more than a passing thought to St Patrick, because he was the one who brought Christianity to the Isle of Man. That was in 447 AD. Dates are hard to remember, so we'll say that Manx people have followed the Christian faith for fifteen hundred years!

The rock on which Peel Castle stands is called St Patrick's Isle to this day. One of the Castle buildings is St Patrick's Church. Its roof has long since fallen in ruins, but the four ancient walls are the very oldest structure now standing in the Isle of Man. They are probably the oldest remains of a Christian Church anywhere in the British Isles!

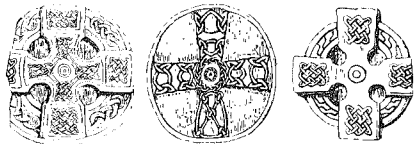
So on March 17th let's think of St Patrick. No doubt he found a shamrock or two in our Manx glens; no doubt he'd be proud to know that Manx boys and girls think of him, fifteen hundred years after his time, on a vast continent which he had never heard nor dreamed of.

Source: NAMA Bulletin, March 1939.

(Attention parents and grandparents! Share this with children who are not yet able to read it themselves. If possible, show them pictures of Peel Castle and St Patrick's Isle. Get them interested in their heritage. For an inexpensive book of Manx photographs order the *Isle of Man in Colour* by The Manx Experience, address on page 12.)

## Membership Drive Incentive

A limited number of split-ring key chains with tags beautifully cast with NAMA symbols (double sided) in antiqued pewter will be given as gifts to NAMA members who enroll new members in our organization. The same item is available for purchase at \$7.50 plus \$2.50 postage and handling. Send new member enrollment (with note about this offer) or \$10.00 to Helen M Drom (address page 11).



## Chaplain's Corner

As an activity of family history I have traced my own personal religious heritage with its strong roots in the religious culture of the Isle of Man.

The Craine and Caley families of Sulby, Isle of Man, from whom I am a descendant were for several generations baptized, married and buried in the Lezayre Parish Church and yard near Ramsey. Not much information is available about earlier generations before these ecclesiastical ties and records.

My grandfather, John Caley Craine (b 1866) was associated with the Methodist Church in Sulby and attended the church-run school attached to the Sulby Episcopal Church of England until he was expelled at the age of ten because of uncontrollable stuttering during class recitations. Then his main religious training came from the Methodist Church and his mother. She also provided him with what we call today "home schooling" after which he went to work in the Southward Woolen Mill at Sulby. During his work there on the looms and the dye vats he sang Methodist hymns to the rhythm and established tempo of the looms and was able to cure himself of his speech impediment.

At the age of 26 in 1892 he emigrated by steamship to America where he attended Hedding College, a Methodist school which provided training for the ministry. He served several churches in Illinois over his lifetime.

My mother Mona Janet Lezayre and Sulby Devore were raised in the environment and influence of a strong church connection. My mother was diligent in taking "us kids" to Sunday School and Church in the Methodist Churches in our home towns. When we lived with my grandmother, Sarah Smith, we went to the Park Boulevard Presbyterian Church of Streator, Illinois, where I have vivid recollection of sitting in the pews for Sunday School class and hearing the sermons of Edgar W Smith.

As a fourteen-year-old I started to sing in the church choir along with my father, a professional bass singer in the Chicago Civic Opera, and my older brother. I have continued to sing in my church choirs for the past 54 years. Church

music has been a rich source of religious, spiritual and Biblical learning from the words of the music.

What a rich heritage I received under the tutelage of my mother. I made a response to the example of my Methodist preacher grandfather and trained for the ministry myself and served churches in California for 20 years.

A strong religious influence was passed on to my children, Kimberly and Geoffrey as "PK's". Kim has established her young family in church and Matthew is in the 4 and 5-year-old Church School class. She is carrying forward faithfully her religious heritage.

Where our religious heritage line will go in the future only time and future generations will tell. The roots so far have been faithful and firm.

A good exercise for each Manxman might be to examine, as I have done, how genuine and faithful have been our spiritual and religious roots. We need to observe how our religious life is being nurtured today and how we are encouraging and providing for a strong religious nurture for the coming generations. As someone has concluded, "Christianity is always one generation from extinction."

Thank God my family line has transmitted a living religious heritage through the generations and continues to do so into the future.

Rev Devore Craine Smith



## Ladies' Auxiliary News

Greetings to Members of the Ladies' Auxiliary!

Many women still have membership in the Ladies' Auxiliary and this organization will continue to exist until the next convention. At that time we can expect ongoing ad hoc committees in NAMA to continue the important work that was previously done for the association by the Ladies' Auxiliary. Until that transition is completed, I want everyone to know that we still need to continue our hard work on our arts and crafts projects to be sold at the convention in 1998.

It is always a treat to see the ingenious and outstanding work our members produce for one of the best outlets for these unique Manx projects. The funds generated from the sales are important to our association; and you will be fondly remembered by the buyer who takes home your handmade item!

Mary F Kelly  
Acting Ladies' Auxiliary President

## OBITUARIES

**Laura Winifred Kinrade**, BA, MEd, age 67, died unexpectedly at Humber Hospital, Toronto, on March 16, 1995. Laura was the younger daughter of Annie and Thomas Harold Kinrade and only sister of Dorothy. Laura was related to Mr Norman Radcliffe on her mother's side, and to his wife Phyllis Quaye Radcliffe on her father's side.

Laura was a Toronto teacher for 47 years, wrote newspaper articles and published a book entitled *Half-Pints*. She sang in her Anglican Church choir for over 40 years. Laura visited her relatives in the Isle of Man twelve times, and loved to exchange letters. Access is a big problem for a quadriplegic but Laura was a NAMA member and wanted to hear every detail. Over the years Laura attended quite a number of Toronto meetings and parties in Toronto. She was at the NAMA Convention held there in 1988.

Laura was proud of and loyal to her Manx heritage. The Manx three-leg emblem is engraved on her tombstone.

**Robert Charles Camaish**, a former NAMA Trustee, died of a heart attack on January 20th at his home in Warrenton, Virginia. He was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. He was born on October 7, 1915.

Bob was a native of Minnesota and a graduate of Hibbing Junior College and the University of Maryland. He served in the Army Air Corps in World War II and was recalled to Air Force active duty during the Korean War. In 1975 he retired from the Air Force Reserves as a Lieutenant Colonel and also from the Veterans Administration. After his retirement he was an active volunteer at the Fairfax County Hospital.

Bob was one of the founders of the Washington Manx Society in 1977 and served as its first President. Bob was a long time NAMA member and a Trustee from 1984 to 1990. He was also a significant contributor to the very successful 1986 NAMA Convention in Williamsburg, Virginia. Bob was proud of his Manx heritage and will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his wife Janet of Warrenton; his daughter Marna Morgan of Oakton; two stepchildren, Robert W Pennie of Centreville and Lynda Toler of Broad Run; and four grandsons. His first wife Hildegard died in 1986.



# SOCIETY NEWS

## World Manx

A very successful Christmas Lunch was held on 14 December at the Rutland Hotel, Douglas, attended by 118 members and friends. The first event of the New Year is always our Manx Tay held as usual at St Andrews Church, Douglas on 11 January. The weather was not particularly good and that coupled with a mini-influenza epidemic on the Island reduced the numbers to 70. Unfortunately the event was overshadowed by the news that Arthur Pugh, the husband of Alice our Secretary, had had a severe stroke and was in Nobles Hospital.

Our Annual General Meeting is on March 8 at St Andrews and the Committee has met to map out our programme for 1997/98. This year Tynwald Day is later than usual, Monday 7 July, so our Annual Gathering and dinner will be on Saturday 5 July at the Masonic Hall, Douglas. It is hoped to have our Annual Service at the Methodist Church in Peel on 13 July provided it does not clash with a major event in the Methodist Churches as it did last year.

There is to be a change in the venue for the TE Brown lunch which will be in the Masonic Hall, Douglas on 18 October. We are hoping to organise a service to commemorate the centenary of Brown's death on 26 October, this will probably be at Kirk Braddan.

Finally a reminder, the competition for young people is about TE Brown. (See the last Bulletin for more details.)

Best wishes for 1997 to all our friends in NAMA.

## Cleveland

In December over 50 of us gathered at the Hilton Inn for our annual Christmas party. We were entertained by a friend of the Duncans who related a very different and unusual Christmas story. Then we had a gift exchange, as well as gathering mittens and hats for a local charity.

Since the first of the year, we have been saddened by the loss of three of our members. John Hughes, a past president of the Cleveland Manx, passed away in Tucson, Arizona. John and his wife, Kathryn, had been planning to move back to Cleveland

in just a few weeks. Theron Sayle passed away a few days after John. He was not an active member, but joined us last in May. Lastly, Mike Krach left us. He was the husband of Margaret Kennish Krach, a past president of the Cleveland Manx. Mike had been disabled for the last several years. Our numbers are diminishing too rapidly.

Due to the possibility of inclement weather, we do not meet during January or February. We will probably meet around the second week of March, but plans are indefinite at this time. On April 13, we plan to attend a Scottish program in which Bill Duncan is involved. Plans for May and June have not been finalized as yet. However, if anyone is in the area and would like to know about our meetings we would like very much to have you contact us. Our president's phone number is 216-449-1372. Alice Cannell will be most happy to give any information.

## Minnesota

The Manx Society of Minnesota met on November 16 at the Department of Special Collections of the O'Shaughnessy-Frey Library on the campus of the University of St Thomas in St Paul. Turn out was small, the weather was terrible—heavy rains following a day of sleet.

The purpose of the meeting was to acquaint our members with the Manx materials in this Celtic Collection. The first thing to catch our eyes were the beautifully bound volumes of the NAMA Bulletins! They have many old Manx books, especially relating to history and geography of the Island. It was interesting to browse through some of the other Celtic periodicals in the collection, many with sections or articles on the Isle of Man. It was also an opportunity for some to surf the Internet. This is a marvelous facility and collection open to use by everyone. If you are in the area and would like to visit it, it is open from 1 to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday, 10 am to 5 pm every third Saturday; and other times by appointment. Before visiting, please call 612-926-5467 to check the business hours for that day.

An exciting weekend is planned for

May 17 and 18. This two day celebration will be held at Castle Rock, Minnesota, and is joint venture of the Manx Society of Minnesota, the local Castle Rock Manx and Castle Rock United Methodist Church. The Saturday activities, beginning at 9:00 am, will center around the abandoned Manx cemetery that we have been working on for several years to clear and reclaim. Throughout the morning and afternoon there will be tours of Manx sites in the area where the first Manx immigrants settled in southern Minnesota, the showing of several Manx videos, the use of three computers for genealogy research, an extensive display of Manx artifacts, Manx music, and you might even see a Manxman in his kilts. A rededication ceremony and program will take place at 2:00 pm. There will be a meals served in the late afternoon. On Sunday the site will be the Methodist Church in Castle Rock, including a rededication of the church, which was originally called McKinley Chapel for the itinerant circuit minister who lead the worship services for the Manx pioneers of this area, plus a program with Manx entertainment and a pot luck dinner. This is going to be a wonderful time for the Manx to get together and share their heritage and love of the Isle of Man. For more information contact Rita Lace, 5960 290th Street West, Northfield, MN 55057, telephone 507-645-6412, Fax 612-460-6996 attention Peggy, e-mail [ritalace@juno.com](mailto:ritalace@juno.com) or [clan-smith@microassist.com](mailto:clan-smith@microassist.com)

Our next meeting will be March 25 at 6:00 pm at the Edina Hennepin County Library.

## Vancouver

After a longer and colder winter than usual, we are now thinking of shedding winter woollies and buying seeds for spring.

Over the Christmas holidays, Vancouver had a visit from BRIAN STOWELL, a Manx language officer who lives in Onchan, Isle of Man. He and his family were visiting relatives in our area. We had a dinner meeting arranged and unfortunately a heavy snowstorm put a stop to all our plans. PRESIDENT TERRY McCaffrey was able to have a visit with

Brian at a later date and enjoy a conversation with him in the Manx language. We hope they will return again.

Our November dinner meeting was also cancelled due to weather conditions so we will all look forward to our Spring Tea to be held in late April /early May.

We were saddened on January 02, 1997 with the passing away of JUNE KEANE. June had discovered her Manx family connection while doing research on her family tree. We offer our condolences to her family and friends. We will miss her.

## Chicago

The Chicago Manx Society will hold their next meeting on Sunday, April 13th, at the home of Brad Prendergast on the north side of Chicago at 1:00 pm. We will begin with a pot luck dinner which is always enjoyed by all. There is always a good variety of food and more than enough to satisfy everyone. All Manx and their friends are always welcome.

Following dinner we will have a program about a subject of interest regarding the Isle of Man or about things Manx. We will also start planning a celebration for our 125th Anniversary in March 1998. The Society was founded in 1873 as "The Sons of Mona" the year following the Great Chicago Fire of 1872.

The City of Chicago is considering holding a Celtic Festival some time this summer and we will discuss our possible participation. The Isle of Man is one of the six Celtic Nations, the others being Scotland, Ireland, Wales, Cornwall, and Brittany (in France). The Chicago Manx formerly participated in The Chicago Holiday Folk Festival every year, which included all nations of the world, and it is hoped that something along this line may take place again.

## San Diego

A record number of 32 people attended our December meeting at the home of Devore and Ruth Smith. Carla Fournier was co-hostess. We were pleased to welcome visitors from the Isle of Man, Ian and Myrtle Harrison, guest Frances Kermeen and new member Ron Shimmin.

An election was held for the office of president for the following two year term. Fenella Speece was elected to this office. Fenella was born on the IOM and has been an enthusiastic member of our society for a year and a half. A gift exchange followed and we enjoyed much good fellowship.

In February, we again broke the record as 33 folks came to meet Mary Kelly, President of NAMA, and her husband

Frank Evans. A very pleasant, sunny afternoon was enjoyed at the home of Marion Kelly. Co-hostesses Gail Rhodes, Doris Dobbel and Virginia Mellan helped to make our meeting a very festive occasion indeed.

Mary Kelly spoke to us about the need for outreach to other Manxmen and most especially to our children. Laurence Skelly, a member of our local society and official travel agent for the IOM Board of Tourism, told us of plans for a homecoming trip to the Island this summer.

The next meeting of the San Diego County Manx Society will be April 13 in San Diego.

## Ontario

The Ontario Manx ended 1996 with a great Christmas Party in Richmond Hill, Ontario, with 35 in attendance.

We had the pleasure of having Maron Honeyborne as a guest at the Party. Maron, formerly of Douglas, has been visiting her sister Margaret Ugray Veljkouic in King City. Maron now resides in London, England, and is an active member in the London Manx Society.

The Spring meeting will be held Sunday, April 27th, 2:00 pm at the home of Carol Christian, 19 Painswick Crescent, Willowdale, Ontario, 416-491-4602.

There will be a group travelling from the Isle of Man to Canada in May to commemorate the Centenary of the Women's Institute. They are touring by bus, and would welcome anyone living in the areas to drop by for a bit of a Chin-wag. Their schedule is: May 7, arrive Toronto to Brantford (Quality Inn); May 9, Niagara Falls (Sheraton Brock); May 10, touring the US via Boston; May 13, Quebec City (Radisson Gouverneurs); May 15, Ottawa (Lord Elgin); May 17, Toronto (Toronto Colony); and Departure May 19 at 9:15 pm.

## 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 60805

### CLEVELAND

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

### FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Ernest Cleator, 5 Selborne Drive, Douglas, IOM

### GALVA

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

GREATER WASHINGTON DC  
Marjorie Christian, 7814 Rebel Drive, Annandale, VA 22003

### 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

### QUEENSLAND

Joe Quayle, 4/57, Mt Cotton Road, Capalaba, Queensland, Australia 4157

### ROCKY MOUNTAIN

Sheila Kent, 5131 Jellison Court, Arvada, CO 80002

### UTAH

Russell A Cannon, 348 E Winchester Ave, (6400 South) Suite 110, Salt Lake City, UT 84107

### SAN DIEGO

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

### SOUTHERN

Dr Barry Vann, 134 Ridge Road, Grenada, MS 38901

### VANCOUVER

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

### VICTORIA MANX SOCIETY

Tom Corlett, 6 Burgundy St, Doncaster, Victoria 3108 Australia

### 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, IM8 1NN, British Isles



## A Manx Poem

by Eileen Bertha Ilson

Here's a salute to "the Manx"—  
They are full of playful pranks.  
Humour nourished for many years,  
Sometimes one is reduced to tears.  
And we should all give our thanks,  
To our heritage "the Manx".  
Anyone from Mona's Isle,  
Is always born with a smile.  
So be as proud as you can,  
Because you have roots in  
"the Isle of Man".

Sent in by the Ontario Manx Society

## Manx Folklore

February 2 is the festival of the purification of the Virgin Mary or Candlemas-day. There is a superstition that good weather on this day indicates a long continuance of winter and a bad crops, and that its being foul is, on the contrary, a good omen. This is very similar to our Ground Hog's Day.

For March there are various weather sayings: "Better a slaughter in the country than the month of March should come in mild" and "A peck of March dust is worth a year's rent in the Isle of Man". There is an old superstition that a Saturday's new moon was unlucky, and if it occurred in March it was still more so, "A Saturday's moon in March is enough in seven years".

March 17, Patrick's Feast-day, was celebrated by a fair. There is an old saying, "Patrick's spring Feast-day, the ox to his stake, and the man from his bed". It seems to indicate the time when active farming operations should begin. Seed-sowing is usually begun in the Isle of Man about this time.

Herring fishermen tried to catch the first bee they saw in April to bring them good luck and good catches.

Good Friday was a day on which several superstitious customs were observed. No iron of any kind was to be put into the fire, and even tongs were laid aside, lest any person should unfortunately stir the fire with them, a stick of the mountain-ash being used as a substitute. To avoid placing the iron griddle on the fire, a large thick cake, called a soddag, which was triangular in shape, was baked on the hearth. It was also a custom for people to go to the shore on this day to gather shell fish.

It was believed that anyone who went up to the top of a high hill on Easter Sunday morning to watch the sunrise would see the sun bow two or three times, as if in adoration to the risen Saviour.

*Oie Voalldyn* (May-day Eve) was another occasion of many superstitions because it was believed that the fairies and other spirits were active at this time. On this date a small crosses (croch curin) were made from the branches of the rowan or mountain ash without the aid of a knife. These were placed above the door of dwelling-houses to ward off the evil spirits and above the cow-houses or in the cow's tail to ensure good milk for the coming year. Fires were lit on the hills to drive off the evil spirits and in fields to purify them. On this eve young women would place a snail between two pewter dishes and in the morning expected to see

their future husband's name written on one of the dishes.

Early May-day morning girls went forth to gather dew to wash their faces. This was to ensure good complexions. Also early this morning horns were blown to prevent fairies from enticing children away. Later in the day a May Queen was chosen.

Source: *The Folk-lore of the Isle of Man* by A. W. Moore, 1891.

## KNOW YOUR ANCESTORS

### The New Back Page

In 1996, the North American Manx Association started using a four generation pedigree chart on the reverse side of the Member Enrollment form. It never occurred to me, though it probably should have, that this tool, common to me, is not common to the non-genealogists in our membership. Several of you have found it mysterious, confusing, and intimidating. Therefore, this is an attempt to clarify, demystify and make the form more user friendly.

The purpose of the "Pedigree Chart" we are using is to show the direct ancestors of one person. Normally, that one person should be the member who has direct ancestors from the Isle of Man, since our aim is to have the information available to others who might be related to them. To be most useful, the information should be as complete as possible with dates and places clearly stated.

Line number one, then, is the NAMA member. Just below the vital information for this person is a line for the name of the spouse of this member. Line 2 is for the member's father. Line 3 is for the member's mother. Lines 4 and 5 are for the parents of the member's father. Line 6 and 7 are for the parents of the member's mother.

Lines 8 and 9 are for the parents of the member's paternal grandfather. Lines 10 and 11 are for the parents of the member's paternal grandmother. Lines 12 and 13 are for the parents of the member's maternal grandfather. Lines 14 and 15 are for the parents of the member's maternal grandmother.

At the upper right of the form is "Chart No. \_\_\_". This pedigree chart would be number one. If you want to extend the pedigree further, there is a line at the far

right under each of the great-grandparent's name to indicate which chart that name is continued on. For example, if your great grandfather was Robert Quayle [entered on line 8] then his line could be continued on "Chart No. 2". On chart number 2, Robert Quayle would then be entered on line 1, his parents on line 2 and 3 and so on as above.

There are a few other conventions followed by genealogists to aid accuracy and clarity. One is the form of writing dates. Please use the form as follows: 10 Dec 1795. See my article in the last NAMA Bulletin for the complete rationale for using this structure. It really is important that you do not use numbers to indicate the month in a date.

Names can be entered in a number of forms. QUAYLE, Robert; Robert Quayle, Robert/Quayle. I prefer the second of these forms, but it can lead to misunderstanding such as when the surname is two names, as in Nick Vine Hall. His surname is not Hall, it is Vine Hall. The other two forms make this more clear.

Female names present a different problem. Genealogists always list them by their maiden names rather than by their married name. It makes the pedigree charts much easier to understand. We would appreciate your following this convention also.

I also have a question which I have not been able to find an answer. The previous page which our new pedigree chart replaces had the following statement on it: "The applications are retained in the Clague Museum, Cleveland, Ohio, and are available for reference purposes by interested persons." As far as I can ascertain, these forms were never placed in the Clague Museum. If that is true, why was this statement on the previous form and why did it remain there for years? Can someone give me the facts?

### Calvin King Quayle, Genealogist

*Although many of our members have been doing genealogical research for many years, some may be beginners or just contemplating starting this project. The following has some practical ideas about where to begin.*

### Where to Start Your Search

Births, marriages and deaths are the stuff family trees are made of, and the first step in tracing your roots is to gather copies of documents that record those events.

Family Bibles, old photographs, school records and military discharge papers are excellent sources of names and important



dates of your ancestors.

Next, talk with older relatives about their recollections of their parents and older siblings. Then, contact distant family members and see what records they have.

Once you know the approximate dates and places of birth, marriage or death of immediate ancestors, write for official copies of these records. They can be gold mines of additional information.

### State and Local Records

State records are kept in state archives or vital records offices. County records may be transferred there after a number of years or stored in county courthouses.

For addresses and phone numbers of these offices, obtain a copy of *Where to Write for Vital Records: Birth, Death, Marriages, and Divorces* (stock number 017-022-01196-4; call 202-512-1800 or write to Superintendent of Documents, PO Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954; \$2.25).

### Federal Records

Start with census records. The ones from the 1900, 1910 and 1920 censuses are the most complete. They usually list the birth date of each family member and the year of immigration if foreign born.

Indexed records are available for all states for census data from 1790 through 1870, and records from the 1880 through 1920 censuses are on microfilm in the National Archives.

You don't have to go to Washington to do the research. You can tap into the records through your local library (many of them will rent microfilm records from the archives) or one of 12 regional archives. For a list of these, obtain a copy of *Using Records in the National Archives for Genealogical Research* (stock order number 367A, call 719-948-3334 or write to Consumer Information Center-4A, PO Box 100, Pueblo, CO 81002; send 50 cents).

You can also get a copy of the list of regional archives by writing to the General Reference Branch, National Archives, Washington, DC 20408 and asking for form 82, "Order for Copies of Census Records."

The National Archives also holds military and pension records (form 80, "Order for Copies of Veterans Records") and passenger arrival records (form 81, "Order for Copies of Ship Passenger Arrival Records"), as well as agricultural census information and federal land transfer records.

### Searching Overseas

Start with the consulate or embassy in the US of the country of birth of a foreign ancestor. You can get a list of these at your local library if it has a copy of *Foreign Consular Offices in the United States* or send for Publication 7846, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS) has family history records from the US and many European countries. You don't have to be a member of the church to use them.

These records are available by loan through 2,000 branch libraries around the country. Call 801-240-2331 to find the location of the one nearest you.

Another source of help, the National Genealogical Society (4527 17th Street, N, Arlington, VA 22207-2399; call 703-525-0050), has a lending library that contains an extensive collection of family records and genealogies.

Nonmembers pay \$5 a day to use the library. Membership costs \$35 per year and includes use of the group's research service to search the library's materials for a specific family name.

Source: "Searching for Your Roots", *Kiplinger's Retirement Report*, September 1994.



## UP CLOSE & PERSONAL

### NAMA Genealogist, Calvin Quayle

Calvin King Quayle was born 70 years ago in the small city of Logan, Utah, the son of Joseph Larson Quayle and Addie Mabel Hillman, the sixth of nine children. Family tradition indicates that my name was chosen by my maternal grandfather, Ira King Hillman. Having been asked by my mother for a suggestion, he answered, "Name him after the two greatest men in America—Calvin Coolidge and myself." My natural modest obviously was inherited from my Manx grandfather James Quayle, who left the Isle of Man and journeyed to Salt Lake City, Utah in 1853. He then, as a married man with four children, was a pioneer settler of Logan, Utah in 1860.

Some of you will note dates and say, surely this must be a great-grandfather. But no, he was 62 years old when he married my grandmother and 72 when his last child was born. I'm uncertain if this is a

Manx characteristic. I was educated in Utah and Idaho public schools, including high school, bachelor and master's degrees. After teaching high school for two years, I went back to school to complete a PhD at the University of Minnesota. My teaching career led me to Chico State Colleges, The University of Michigan and The University of Wisconsin—Eau Claire. I taught at various times: technical theatre, public speaking, dramatic literature, oral interpretation, and history of the theatre. On the side I also taught courses in genealogical research. After 37 years of teaching, I retired to find myself busier than ever, doing genealogy workshops, running a business of Self-Storage, being the ward clerk of my church, and doing one or two little things with the North American Manx Association.

Along the way, I married a lovely woman, Ruth Virginia Winget, had three children and am now the proud grandfather of 14 brilliant grandchildren.

My interest in actually doing genealogy began with a trip my family and I made to the Isle of Man in the summer of 1970. I knew my grandfather was from Peel and earlier from Kirk Michael, but little else. We met a man in Kirk Michael by the name of Quayle who, after he heard my story, was absolutely sure he knew who we were. He took us to a home he said was that of my ancestors and allowed as how it was a good thing we were not related to that bunch of Quayles over in Kirk German who were a very disreputable group. After I started tracing from factual records, of course it was "that group in Kirk German" who were my ancestors.

As genealogist to NAMA it is my goal to help the members to do their own research in the Isle of Man. It seems to me that the best service I can offer members would involve two things. First, to try to bring together members who are searching the same or similar lines. A new Manx Surname Search program which my son and I devised will aid this effort. You will hear more of this in future Bulletins. Second, for those of you who are new to genealogy research, some advice and counsel as to how to do genealogical research. That was what the workshop at the Madison convention was all about. I plan to create a document with simple hints which will be available to anyone who wants it.

In conclusion a plea for your help. When you send information to us for use in the Manx Surname Search—please list your ancestor by full name, your female ancestors by their maiden name, state the locality by city or parish [not just Isle of

Man], and list complete dates following this format: 31 Dec 1743.

### **Third Vice President, Norman Standish**

The Standish family in America started with the arrival of Myles Standish on the Ship Mayflower in 1620. As military leader of the Pilgrim group, Myles expected to return to reclaim his lands in England and the Isle of Man. However, he devoted the remainder of his life to the cause of Plymouth Colony although he remained a "stranger" and never joined the faith. The following generations were traders and clipper ship builders. My great grandfather came west, trained as a blacksmith in ship building, to seek employment on the new railroads being built in the Midwest. He found work at Oxford Junction, Iowa, the terminus of the railroads west at that time, and settled in that area. My grandfather, father and I, while in high school, worked on the same railroad.

Following college at Beloit College, I worked at Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company as a chemist on polyester resins on a project to develop "peaceful applications" following World War II. Returning to graduate school at Purdue University, I was drafted into service and served as a cryptoanalytical specialist in the Far East. Returning to Purdue, I married the lovely wife Ingrid, started our family with the birth of Robin (my red headed daughter) and finished my PhD in Chemistry. The remainder of my career was with Standard Oil Company (Ohio) which later became BP America, Inc. I worked in various roles in chemicals, refining, exploration and production until I retired in 1993. Christopher, a son, and Hilary, a daughter, were added to our family and are presently graduate students at Texas A&M University. During my employment, I spent much time in Europe, at one time working for six months in Perstorp, Sweden. At this time, I am Chair of the Petroleum Division of the American Chemical Society and a National Councilor for the Cleveland Section.

Over the years we have collected many document and items from Standish family history. Many of these have been consolidated at Standish House Bed and Breakfast in Lanark, Illinois, where I grew up. As the reputation of our Bed and Breakfast has grown many people have contacted us from Europe, the Isle of Man, England, Ireland, Canada and United States providing information which had been buried over the years. At this time we are recognized as a major

source of information on Pilgrim History, we have the largest collection of Pilgrim prints in the United States and we have presented hundreds of programs on Pilgrim History to school groups. My wife Ingrid and I have assisted many people trace their genealogy back to the arrival of the Pilgrims. The State of Illinois recognized our efforts in 1996 with an award for "Outstanding Tourism Promotion". We do a re-creation of the First Thanksgiving in costume the second Saturday of November each year in Lanark, Illinois. We will be meeting with the Director of Tourism for Illinois to develop a plan to present this program in Chicago this year where they expect to seat 1000 people for dinner.

I have been active in the Society of Mayflower Descendants, serving as Lt Governor, Cleveland Colony; Lt Governor of Dallas, Texas and Recording Secretary for the State of Ohio. I am also a member of Founders and Patriots and SAR. We have enjoyed our association with NAMA, the annual meetings, and visits to the Isle of Man and look forward to the opportunity to be more involved in the governance of NAMA. Many Manx people came to America in the 1800s and early 1900s. We would like to find a way to identify their descendants and introduce them to NAMA.

### **Trustee, Bradley E Prendergast**

I was born in Chicago, Illinois, and was the second son of Bill and Florence (Kneale) Prendergast Abbinanti. I was raised in Chicago, studied law at Illinois Institute of Technology, and became a lawyer in 1980. I have been engaged in the general practice of law, as a sole proprietor, since that time. I concentrate my practice in real estate, probate, wills, trusts, estate planning, domestic relations, and general civil litigation.

My Manx connection is by my mother's side, and both my grandmother and grandfather were born in the IOM. My grandmother, Elizabeth Anderson Elliott Kneale, was born in Port St Mary in 1884. My grandfather was born in Douglas in 1885. My grandfather, John Alfred Kneale, was active in the Chicago Manx Society and the NAMA after coming to the United States from the IOM in 1907. He settled in Chicago because his uncle, Tom Coole, had been a carpenter there and had help rebuild after the Chicago fire. Two early members of the Chicago Manx Society, Mr and Mrs Harry Corrin (Charlie Corrin's parents) were his sponsors. Mr Corrin was a carpenter and helped my grandfather get

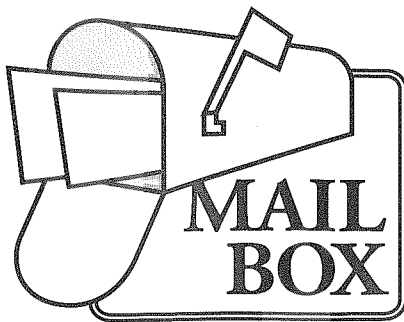
work in the building trades. My grandfather went on to be a carpenter contractor and was in business with Charlie Kneen and himself. The firm of Kneen and Kneale built many fine apartment buildings on the south side of Chicago, many of which are still occupied.

My grandmother came to the United States to be married to my grandfather, arriving here in 1919, and married shortly thereafter. My mother is 100% Manx/American and always took my brother John and me to all Manx functions from the time we were about three years old. The Chicago Manx had sponsored the NAMA Convention in 1962, and I have good memories of attending. The Chicago Manx also had annual picnics, dinners, and long before there were Celtic Festivals, the City of Chicago used to have a multi-ethnic festival. The Chicago Manx always participated, and we displayed Manx cats and kittens. It was always the hit of the festival.

I have been to several NAMA Conventions since Chicago, and also on two great trips to the IOM. NAMA hosted the convention in the IOM in 1979 for the Millennium. We went to the convention after spending eight days in Ireland. It was my first chance to see the Island, and we saw all there was to see for the short nine days we had. On Tynwald Day, we had the opportunity to attend a tea and meet and talk to Queen Elizabeth II.

My entire family went to the IOM for the 1992 convention, including my mother, brother, sister-in-law, and my niece and nephew. Again we had a great time and took advantage of the amenities of the Island, including my playing some golf. My mother still has many cousins on the IOM, and we were entertained by all of them. We needed more time.

When you grow up in a household that is full of Manx people, you never know that something is part of your culture and not of others. I can remember some of the many expressions that my grandfather would use, but did not really appreciate it until I first went to the IOM. If there was little head room going down a set of stairs, Gramps would say, "Mind your head." I always knew he meant to watch your head, but found it slightly funny how he used that expression. When I toured Peel Castle in 1979, the sign over the door that said "Mind your head" was perfectly clear to me. My niece and nephew had no idea of what it meant and thought it was funny. It was these things, among others, that makes me think we need to preserve our Manx heritage.



I would like to see more written articles on both ancient and present day Manx events for the Bulletin. It would be wonderful to offer for sale such written accounts as the diary read at the Laxey Picnic during the 1996 NAMA Convention. Such memoirs and memories are beyond price. Perhaps it would also act as a stimulus to expand the historical record. Everyone has a story and should be encouraged to put them down in written form before they are lost. It might be an idea to sponsor poetry, essay, and short historical narratives as a feature in future Manx conventions. Similar to the song and dance programs already a delightful segment. Or visual arts such as photography or paintings on the Isle, or from American Manx settlements. Another idea might be to hold an "open house" featuring such things as old family scrapbooks, pictures, antique objects from families. It would involve a bit of planning and security but I believe it is "doable". The above suggestion could supplant the time period formerly used for the Ladies' Auxiliary lunch.

Ingrid C J Standish  
Solon, OH

While reading *Tales of the Tailless*, a wonderful book on Manx cats written by Robert Kelly and published by The Manx Experience, I came across a photo of a postcard of a Manx cat with the words "Manx Convention, Cleveland, O, August 21-25" printed across its body. Another postcard had a Manx cat with the words "Slaynt as shea as aash dy vea as marryns son dy bragh, Health and peace and length of days and happiness for ever, NAMA Victory Convention". It said the second card was issued at the North American Association Convention in Toronto and was dated 8.VIII.47.

I am interested in learning more about these cards. Was it common to issue them at our conventions? Also, I would like to purchase some for our Manx postcard collection.

Joan Gill (address on page 11)

## Manx Writings

There are so many wonderful writings about the Isle of Man in the old Bulletins that we would like to share them with our members. Since space and cost does not permit including them in current issues, we will be offering copies of them at a price that will cover the printing, shipping and handling, and also bring a bit of revenue to the organization. Make your checks payable to North American Manx Association and mail your orders to the Bulletin editors (address on page 11).

This time the writing of Gertrude Cannell, formerly of Douglas, will be featured. She was a member of the NAMA Bulletin Committee during the 1940s and her articles reflect her love of the Island. She was quite a writer—beautiful descriptions and lyric prose that is pleasurable reading.

If you are compiling family genealogy, her history of the Island or articles on the Manx sites would be a great addition to your information. Or just for you to learn more about the Island and to be able to pass it on to your children and grandchildren.

**Ellan Vannin. . . A Brief History**, ten pages of facts sprinkled with bits of lore and oral tradition; includes political, religious, and naval history; plus information on many of the famous sites on the Island. \$4.00

The following titles are one page descriptions and reminiscences, \$1.00 each:

Ramsey Town  
Peel—The Western City  
Peel—The Cathedral City  
Castletown—The Ancient Capital  
The Lights of Douglas  
Laxey  
Ballagh—Cradle of Pioneers  
Lezayre  
Marown Parish  
Port y Shee  
Rushen Abbey  
The Plains of Heaven

The titles from the last issue are still available:

**Manx Mix** by John Parker. \$4.00

**Genealogy of the Isle of Man** by Niegel G Crowe. \$4.00

**Tynwald, What It Is and Where It Is Going** by the Honorable James Cain. \$4.00

**Manx Quilting** by Shirley Spencer. \$4.00

**Manx Folklore** by Joan Gill. \$7.00

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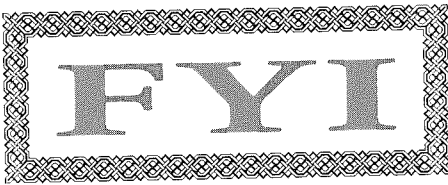
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### Stay on a Manx Farm

Manx Farm Stay is a group of farm owners from around the Island who offer self-catering or bed and breakfast accommodation at their farms. This group has designed a leaflet describing each of the four bed and breakfast farms and the seven self-catering units, with facilities available and a rating for each. For more information contact Jean Jackson, Kerrowgarrow Farm, Greeba, Isle of Man IM4 3LQ, British Isles, UK.

### TT Book

Intrepid motor racers who put the IOM on the international map at the beginning of the 20th century are celebrated in *TT Pioneers*, a new book by Robert Kelly. It is a glossy publication packed with archive photographs and anecdotal nuggets. The price is £15.99 and can be ordered from The Manx Experience, 45 Slieau Dhoo, Tromode Park, Douglas, Isle of Man IM2 5LC British Isles, UK. They will also send you a catalog of their many other excellent titles.

### Manx Videos

Queen Elizabeth II High School at Peel has produced an excellent video entitled "Manx Myths and Fairy Tales", consisting of twelve myths and tales which will appeal to both adults and children. The cost for mail order is £12.99 plus £3.00 for postage and packaging. Contact Patricia on 00 44 1624 816585 and payment can be made by Visa or Mastercard. Or write to Beckmann Home Video, Dept BHEO46, PO Box 44, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 7AE, United Kingdom.

Also available from Beckmann are three other videos about the Island. "The Way of the Gull" follows TV traveller David Bean as he treks the spectacular 100 mile coastal path of the Isle of Man. "Land of Mann" comes from Melvyn Bragg's acclaimed TV series and encapsulates every aspect of the Island's history, scenery and traditions. "Railways of the Isle of Man" captures footage of all the types of rail travel on the Island. For current prices please telephone Beckmann at the above number.

"The Isle of Man—An Island of Contrasts" is 65 minutes of breathtaking photography, fascinating commentary and haunting original music by Charles Guard

which combine to tell the millions of years old story of the Island. The cost is £12.99 plus £2.00 for foreign video format. It can be ordered from Duke Video, Milbourn House, 13 St George's Street, Douglas, Isle of Man IM1 1AJ, British Isles, UK. (Also available from this address is a new compilation CD of Manx music featuring 23 tracks and over 70 minutes of the most popular Manx music performed by the best Manx musicians for £12.99.)

### Manx Jewellery

Five Kingdoms is part of Celtic Venture in Ramsey and they have been designing Manx and Celtic inspired jewellery for eight years. In this age of mass production they pride themselves that each piece is hand finished in Sterling Silver or 9ct Gold and supplied in its own presentation box with a brief description of the design. Their three legs designs are available in brooches, earrings and pendants. The prices range from £15.00 to £18.00 plus £4.00 postage and handling, Visa or Mastercard may be used. Write to Five Kingdoms, 60 Parliament Street, Ramsey, Isle of Man, IM8 1AJ, British Isles, UK.

### Manx Board Game

A new board game for two to six players called "Holiday Isle of Man" was created by Kate Rodgers. The game is laid out like a Monopoly board with a central map of the Island. Around the outside are colored squares depicting places on the Island. "We have kept it as Manx as much as we can," says Kate. The price is £14.99, with all proceeds going to local charities and other deserving causes. To order write to Kate Rodgers, 3 Cronk Airh, The Promenade, Port St Mary, Isle of Man IM9 5DE, British Isles, UK.

### Currency Exchange

Some NAMA members have used Ruesch International to obtain Foreign Bank Drafts and Foreign Check conversions for a fee of only \$2.00. They make sending funds to England, the Isle of Man, and other locations as simple as a phone call, 1-800-424-2923 or FAX 202-408-1211. Their address is 700 Eleventh Street NW, Washington, DC 20001-4507.

### NAMA Items

There is a new NAMA pin, introduced at the 1996 convention. The logo remains the same, but the pin is slightly larger and easier to read. The NAMA pin now has a safety-pin clasp making it easy to wear on collars, lapels, shirts and caps. It sells for \$5.00. Buy one today and be up-to-date!

The NAMA certificate depicts the interlacing chain and corner crosses designed by the first Norse sculptors around 1000 AD, as well as the NAMA crest and Manx national flower. Your name will be artfully drawn on the certificate. The cost is \$3.00. Send your orders to Helen Drom (address on page 11).

### Deadlines

We welcome and need your contributions at any time. Listed 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

If you wish to FAX your material, send to Norman Gill at 612-513-1757.

NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION  
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3

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