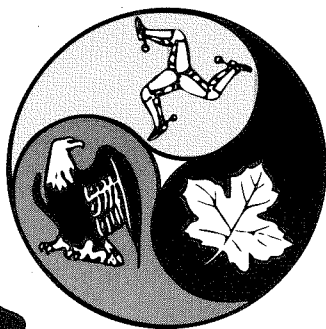


NAMA



NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

Vol. 73, No. 2

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

March 2001

NAMA MEMBERSHIP

IF THE ADDRESS LABEL ON THIS BULLETIN SHOWS AN AMOUNT DUE FOR THE YEAR 2001, THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST BULLETIN. WE TRUST YOU ARE ENJOYING KEEPING UP WITH THE NEWS ABOUT ALL THINGS MANX HERE IN THE USA, CANADA, THE ISLE OF MAN, AUSTRALIA, ETC. PLEASE READ YOUR LABEL NOW AND SEND YOUR CHECK TO HELEN M. DROM, 4960 CHERRY AVENUE, SANTA MARIA, CA 93455-4947, IF YOUR LABEL INDICATES YOU OWE DUES FOR THE YEAR 2001.



MEMBERSHIP DROPS!

From urgency of the above notification, you can tell that our membership numbers have dropped. It is an annual occurrence and is always distressing to us because NAMA must maintain our membership numbers to remain viable. If you have not re-joined for the Year 2001, please do so immediately. You might also think of recruiting other family members. One thing I have tried is to contact someone when I see their Manx name in the paper. This may not bring in large numbers of people, but if every one of us will recruit one additional member this year, then we will be back on the right track. Gura mie eu!

Jack Cormode
President

CONVENTION 2002 NORTHWEST ILLINOIS

by Norman Standish, Chairman

The Convention for the Year 2002 for the North American Manx Association will be held in Northwest Illinois. Headquarters for the biennial event will be in Lanark. The following is information about the region and its history.

Because of the transportation route, the Mississippi River, this area of United States has been influenced by many cultures. First the Indian tribes, followed by Spanish, French, English and finally the new American Government. Early settlers began to move rapidly into this area when the treaty ending the Black Hawk Indian War was signed in 1834. The mining of lead and coal, and farming were the main attractions for these early settlers. Lanark is centrally located in this area and history abounds throughout the region. People from the Isle of Man, Scotland, Ireland and Cornwall were attracted to the mining potential in Northwest Illinois and many of the customs and holidays they brought with them are still important today. These include the annual Celtic Games, St. Patrick's Day Parade over the Mississippi, etc.

At the NAMA Convention we will offer an opportunity to re-live some of the experiences our forefathers lived through as they settled in this frontier area. Two tours are planned. The first tour will follow the pathway of the Black Hawk Indian War visiting the battle fields, the Rock River Crossing used by the miners heading to the lead mining areas to the North, an original Indian Village, a small museum containing the wedding dress Rose Standish wore when she married Myles Standish on the Isle of Man prior to coming to America on the Mayflower in 1620, and we will learn how the settlers banded together to protect themselves from the whirling conflicts surrounding them. We will also stop at Washington Grove where the settlers of this area rose up and took the law into their own hands against the Banditti who made a living by stealing horses and killing people. Times were very difficult, but some struck it rich while others paid with their lives. At that time Galena, which was founded on the site of an Indian Village, was larger than Chicago.

The second tour will follow the original pathway of the stage coach line from Galena to Chicago. We will visit Wool Winning and see the techniques used by the early settlers for making clothes, Paradise Clove in Winslow, a community settled entirely by descendants of the Pilgrims, historic Elizabeth stockade where three women named Elizabeth took to the ramparts to defend the community from Indian attacks, go underground in one of the early lead mines to see the conditions under which the miners worked, and take a ride in stage coaches similar to the ones used in this early period in Apple River and enjoy a trailside meal like those served to the original passengers.

In the early period of lead mining, the miners would live in Peoria during the winter. In the spring they would cross the Rock River and head north to the lead fields. The Sucker is a fish in the Rivers of this area which swims up stream each spring and back in the fall. During this period the Illinois Territory was commonly called the "Sucker" state after

Continued on Page2

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P.O. Box 105
Lanark, IL 61046-0105

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Plymouth, MN 55441-1669

Treasurer
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4960 Cherry Avenue
Santa Maria, CA 93455-4947

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

Genealogist
Calvin Quayle
3756 Halsey Street
Eau Claire, WI 54701

Bulletin Editor (Acting)
Jack Cormode
13085 Franklin Avenue
Mountain View, CA 94040-3922
Jarmode@usa.net

Assistant Editor (Acting)
Jennifer Young
Mountain View, CA 94040

Trustees
Sally Dahlquist
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Seneca, MO 64865

From The Editor (Acting)

Jack Cormode

Please note the change of name for the Bulletin Editor, and that it says "Editor (Acting)".

Michelle Smith, the NAMA Bulletin Editor for the last three years, has had a change of employment and a family member was involved in a serious accident. Then she had a critical, personal illness requiring hospitalization. It was this latter that caused her doctor to direct her to terminate her activities, including the NAMA editorship, so that she could get well and stay well. Michelle has assured me that she is well on the road to recovery, but it will take some time.

The NAMA Board of Directors, on behalf of our members, has expressed its appreciation to Michelle for her fine service to our organization, and has extended to her our best wishes for a full and speedy recovery.

As of now, I have assumed the role of Editor and am trying to keep it going until we can get a regular Editor back into the position with the necessary experience and vision to publish the Bulletin. (In other words, knows what they are doing.)

In addition to experience and the creative muse, we need to have someone who is on the Internet and can attend the NAMA Conventions and Board Meetings.

If you have a willingness to help out with this vital position, please contact me at the address on the Association listing or by telephone (650) 961-6117. To expedite the process, it is requested that you send a résumé along with your message. You will be providing a great service to your fellow Manx.

I hope all of you will understand why this edition of the Bulletin is late and does not have the usual interesting photos of our members or their interests.

Don't forget the deadline for the next issue of the NAMA Bulletin, May 10, 2001. Send your news items, comments and suggestions to Jack Cormode, Editor (Acting), 13085 Franklin Avenue, Mountain View 94040.

The North American Manx Association (NAMA) was organized in 1928 to bring together those who have Manx Ancestry and an interest in the Isle of Man. To keep members informed of Manx activities both here and on the Isle of Man. The NAMA Bulletin is published quarterly - March, June, September, and December. Deadline for submitted information and articles are February 10 - March edition, May 10 - June edition, August 10 - September edition, and November 10 - December edition. Annual membership dues are \$15.00 for individuals and \$20.00 for family or society.

Continued from Page 1

these fish. Once these miners arrived at the lead fields they had no where to live so they usually dug holes in the hillside and were referred to as badgers. Thus, Wisconsin was nicknamed the "Badger" state. Manx miners were an important part of this movement. However, many of their descendants in the area know their forefathers came from the Isle of Man, but have not been actively involved in any Manx groups. Perhaps we can encourage them to participate in NAMA.

Everyone will have an opportunity to visit Standish House Bed and Breakfast, a living museum of history related to Myles Standish and the Pilgrims. Furnished with English antiques, prints and art works (including the original paintings used as illustrations in "Gentlemen of Courage - Forward" by L. Hill), Standish House offers an excellent history of the eleven generations of Standish's in America whose forefather came from the Isle of Man. Myles truly was the "First Manxman to Come to America." Although there are no Standish's on the Isle of Man at this time, they live on in America scattered throughout many of the various States.

This NAMA Convention will be an opportunity to learn where many of those early Manx settlers went and re-live the challenges they faced. More information will be in the next NAMA Newsletter.

President's Message

By Jack Cormode, NAMA President

Rather than a regular President's Message, I am going to give you a commentary on what it was like to serve as Convention Chairman for the NAMA Homecoming Convention 2000. This responsibility allowed me to work with the Manx people and their organizations in a way that very few of you will ever have the privilege of experiencing.

* * * * *

It cannot be proven, but all the evidence shows that it was foreordained that we would hold our Convention on the Isle of Man in the Millennium Year. The World Manx Association is always urging us to return to the Island for Homecoming and makes us feel welcome when we do. But, in 1998, the Isle of Man Government decided that Homecoming 2000 should be an extra special occasion and that NAMA should be part of it. The Chief Minister, Donald Gelling, along with Minister for Tourism and Leisure David Cretney, and the rest of the government, gave the Convention Host Committee subtle but solid support, such as providing the prize for our Opportunity Drawing (Raffle) which gave us a nest egg so we could commit to the costs and activities of the Convention. And who can forget the NAMA Convention at Alexandria, Virginia in 1998, when former Minister of Tourism Eddie Lowey wove a tapestry of memories and dreams of what we would find when we "came home," and the Chief Minister issued a warm, persuasive invitation for the North American Manx to convene from whence we came.

The World Manx Association, led by President Iris Christian, makes sure that there is a place for us at their Annual Homecoming Dinner, a fine festive occasion. But they do more than that, as they serve as advisers and intermediaries for getting things done. One example was the raffle held as part of the NAMA Dinner. Hazel Murphy, WMA Secretary, provided us with the tickets and helped round up some prizes. Doris Lawson, WMA Treasurer, took charge and showed us how they run a raffle on the Isle of Man. This was more difficult than you would realize. The Manx sell tickets in various colo(u)rs, but don't sell them at special rates - a dollar apiece or 6 for \$5, as we do. Add to that we sold some tickets in dollars and some in pounds, and you have a real challenge. It never fazed them.

Along with the WMA we have our 'kinfolk' in the Isle of Man Family History Society, urging us to track down our forebears and links to one another. They staff the FHS Library in Peel and, along with the WMA, the Homecoming tent on Tynwald Day.

The NAMA Regional Representative on the IOM, Noreen Cottier, has been looking after our interests for many years. Her main duties are to serve as translator/recruiter/marketer for us. On the side, she shakes the family trees to see what will fall out.

If you want to experience the quiet pride the Manx have for their Island home, then get to know people like Basil and Helen Callow, who want to guide you to all of the hidden, special areas of Mannin, and tell you of the history and of the flora and fauna of their own land.

There were individuals who wanted to share the best of the Isle of Man with us. Dorcas Costain-Blann of Peel, who creates calligraphic arts and crafts, arranged for displays of Manx items at our Convention headquarters. Much of what was shown was courtesy of the Port Erin Crafts Centre, but Laxey Mills, St. Paul's Bookshop, Promenade T-Shirts, and Duke Video also presented their wares. We could have had much more, every bit of it authentic and of the highest quality, but there just was not room.

Barbara Dawson of Kirk Michael was the Manx co-producer of Concert 2000, a combined NAMA/WMA extravaganza bringing to the Manx and Manx-heritage people a night of their own music by Island musicians.

In the business sector, the telephone company (and later the hotel staff engineer) had to deal with a Convention Chairperson who couldn't figure out how to plug in the charger for a cell phone; printers had to determine how to adapt material from American paper size to British paper stock; tour bus drivers and guides kept their composure in spite of changing itineraries and conflicting requests; florists did not wilt under last minute additions to floral orders; hotel staff members remained unperturbed when unforeseen events disrupted all plans, quietly and efficiently putting things aright.

There was not any part of the Isle of Man Government that did not in some way get called upon to either give us support or be ready to assist. The Department of Tourism and Leisure and their allies at Everymann/Premier Holidays; the Manx National Heritage; the National Library with Roger Sims and his staff; the Civil Registry (for genealogical records); the Department of Education; these are but a few of those who bore the brunt of trying to give us the maximum amount of the Manx experience while still going about their regular assignments.

At one point I approached a uniformed official to ask him to spread the word in the police department as to how and where to reach me if any of our conventioners became ill or was injured. He gently stopped my blathering long enough to explain that he was not an officer in the Constabulary, but rather in the Salvation Army.

For all of the above, you should realize that this is only representative of the many people and times that help was given for our Convention. For every person I talked to, there were five to 10 right alongside also ready to help, and an equal number working behind the scenes. Then there are those even further in the background, but just as important. In the end, you could say that our Convention was the result of the efforts of 75,000 Manx.

I tried to express my appreciation in a roundabout way to one official of DTL by noting that it appeared that they were spending a greater amount of resources and effort for us than they were doing bringing in a comparable number of other tourists. He allowed that this was true, but they were glad to help us return home, because it was "like family."

I think that best sums up why the Manx scattered across the globe always feel like 'coming home' to Ellan Vannin.

Lhiats dy-firrinagh,

Jack Cormode, President

Correction:

In the list of NAMA 2000 Convention attendees, the name of Carol Christian was omitted. Carol, a NAMA Trustee, is from Ontario, Canada. The error occurred in preparing the list and is entirely the fault of the List Preparer.

/s/ Anonymous List Preparer

Society News

VANCOUVER BC MANX

The Vancouver Manx Society extends to one and all best wishes for the Year 2001.

We had a lovely Fall Dinner last October. Approximately 43 sat down to a delightful pot luck dinner. The Manx ladies and gents outdid themselves. The variety and quality of food was a treat. A raffle followed by Manx songs was the order of the evening. A great way to end the Year 2000 activities.

We are sorry to report the loss of two longtime members, Mr. Charlie Christian and Mrs. Marjorie Lumb. Charlie was the eldest son of Mildred and William Christian. He had always attended the Society's events. As a young lad he participated in concerts, acting in plays put on by members. After his children arrived, they also became members. A longtime owner of a successful business in the Vancouver area, he devoted his retirement years to helping others. He is survived by his three children, Harry, John and Ken; his sister, Vera Henry and niece Barbara Claridge; and many other relatives and friends.

Marjorie Lumb was also a member since childhood. A lovely singer, she sang in many Manx concerts. She was the youngest daughter of Alice and Albert Halsall. In later years, Marjorie sang with company choirs and church groups. She is survived by her four children, Pamela, Judy, Dean and Ross; her sister Dorothy Towler, and also other relatives and friends.

They will both be dearly missed.

At our next Committee meeting, events will be planned for the coming year. I know it will be a good one.

Submitted by Vera Henry

GREATER WASHINGTON D.C. AREA MANX SOCIETY

About 75 members and guests assembled January 6th at a new Rockville, MD church

location for a lively afternoon of fun and feasting, featuring our Viking friends Fred Blonder and his dance pals Three Left Feet and "Qualthug" (First Footer) Bruce Blackistone. In lieu of a musical ensemble, Bill (Illiam) Cassidy tooted wonderfully on his tin whistle and Sally Barnhart accompanied on the piano.

In addition to stuffing ourselves with a delicious groaning board of home-cooked food, we Hunted the Wren (as well as the Manx Cat's Tail), passed a very large parcel (which got progressively smaller) and heard a strange tale about a Celtic giant who got a toothache biting onto a griddle sandwich.

The information table set up by our Viking friends, which told about their highly-acclaimed traveling exhibit, was very popular with the assembled crowd. The exhibit is now finishing up its New York City run and is about to head West. The Manx Goods Table did such good business there was hardly anything left.

Thanks to all who assisted in setting up and cleaning up in the kitchen and elsewhere and also to church member Helen Murdoch.

It was nice to again lay eyes on a few folks we hadn't seen in a while, including the Kneales and the Cormodes.

The Annual Meeting and Dinner is set for Saturday, April 21st at Fort McNair.

We are sorry to report recent member deaths.

John Comish, Society President from 1979 to 1981, had presented a memorable Manx slideshow presentation in the early years of the Society. His wife, Shirley, served as Society Treasurer. Although they moved away in retirement, John and Shirley maintained their Society membership. She will carry John's ashes to the Island later this year. Our sympathies go with her.

Lee Hogenson, the mother of Elizabeth Barnes, was a most supportive and active members in years past. She always took charge of the Manx Goods Table for us. We miss her and extend our sympathies to Elizabeth and her family.

Submitted by Russell Woodgates

SAN DIEGO SOCIETY

The December 10th meeting of the San Diego County Manx Association was held at the home of Devore and Ruth Smith. Faith Vick was co-host.

An election was held for the office of Society President for the following two years. Lou Vick was elected to this office. Lou has been a steadfast member of our society for nine years.

The members expressed their appreciation to outgoing President Hilary Harrison for a job well done for the past two years.

Longtime member Laurence Skelly and his family have returned to the Island where they will make Port St. Mary their home.

Twenty members attended our February 11th meeting at the home of Devore and Ruth Smith. Co-host Katie Kermeen helped to make our meeting most enjoyable.

Jim and Linda Kermott are making their first ever trip to the United Kingdom this Summer. They will spend several days on the Island hiking and searching for Manx connections.

In a version of "Who Are We," Virginia Mellon, Lou Vick and Ernie Hughes shared with members their Manx heritage, childhood and family life. Virginia and Lou grew up in the USA and Ernie was raised in England. Virginia, a lifetime member of the Girl Scouts, proudly showed off her 70th anniversary badge.

Submitted by George Watterson

ONTARIO MANX SOCIETY

The Ontario Manx so far has survived a very snowy Winter, but because of these conditions we have had very little activity during the Winter months.

The Christmas Pary this year was a little different and was held at the home of Margaret and Edmonde Roche, with a delicious catered Chicken Dinner and all the trimmings. After dinner we played a few fun games and had our usual Christmas Draw. We had a great time.

The Spring meeting will be at the end of April, place and date pending.

Submitted by Phyllis Busche

cont. page 7

NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

The North American Manx Association (NAMA) was organized in 1928 to bring together those who have Manx Ancestry and an interest in the Isle of Man. The membership is spread throughout the United States, Canada, the Isle of Man and other overseas locations.

To keep members informed of Manx activities both here and on the Isle of Man, a Bulletin is issued quarterly. A convention is held every other year and homecoming trips are available periodically. Local Manx Societies have been formed in a number of areas by NAMA members and others of Manx ancestry. Information will be provided on the location of these societies along with a convenient source of Manx books and video tapes.

NAMA Member Enrollment (2001 & 2002)

See membership categories below, note postage supplement. PLEASE PRINT

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

	<u>U.S. AMOUNT</u>	<u>CANADIAN AMOUNT</u>	<u>YOUR AMOUNT</u>
<u>INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP</u>			
Annual	\$15.00	\$22.00	_____
Life			_____
Under 50 years	\$250.00	\$375.00	_____
50 to 59 years	\$175.00	\$265.00	_____
60 years or over	\$125.00	\$180.00	_____
Junior (age 1-18 years, no Bulletin)	\$2.00	\$3.00	_____
<u>FAMILY MEMBERSHIP</u>			
Annual	\$20.00	\$30.00	_____
Life (2 adults, based on age of youngest)			_____
Under 50 years	\$325.00	\$475.00	_____
50 to 59 years	\$235.00	\$350.00	_____
60 years or over	\$200.00	\$300.00	_____
<u>SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP</u> (Not for use by individuals)			
Annual	\$20.00	\$30.00	_____
<u>MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATE</u> The membership certificate design and coloring have special significance relative to the Isle of Man. A letter of explanation is sent with each certificate.	\$5.00	\$7.00	_____
<u>MEMBERSHIP PIN</u> (1" diameter, has 3 legs, eagle and oak leaf) ...	\$5.00	\$7.00	_____
<u>CONTRIBUTION</u> To further NAMA's goals (United States tax deductible as allowed by law) (If current or any past employer matches contributions, send any required forms to NAMA for completion. Thank you.)			_____
<u>POSTAGE SUPPLEMENT</u> (Pays for higher NAMA Bulletin mailing costs to Canada and other countries. Canadian members add amount shown, <u>all overseas (IOM, UK, etc.)</u> members add \$6.00 U.S.)		\$5.00	_____

TOTAL REMITTANCE (IN CANADIAN OR U.S. DOLLARS) _____

Mail this form along with a check made payable to NAMA to: →
NOTE: Canadians should send a Canadian check for the Canadian dollar amount shown. All others send U.S. funds.

NAMA
 C/O Helen M. Drom
 4960 Cherry Avenue
 Santa Maria, CA 93455

REMEMBER TO COMPLETE THE BACK OF THIS FORM

Show on this chart your relationship to an ancestor from the Isle of Man. Start with you on Line 1. Include further sheets if you wish. This information is kept with the NAMA genealogist. You may write for information concerning other charts on file in that office.

PEDIGREE CHART

Chart No. _____

<p>2</p> <p>BORN: _____ PLACE: _____ MARR: _____ PLACE: _____ DIED: _____ PLACE: _____</p>	<p>4</p> <p>BORN: _____ PLACE: _____ MARR: _____ PLACE: _____ DIED: _____ PLACE: _____</p>	<p>8</p> <p>BORN: _____ PLACE: _____ MARR: _____ PLACE: _____ DIED: _____ PLACE: _____</p>
<p>1</p> <p>BORN: _____ PLACE: _____ MARR: _____ PLACE: _____ DIED: _____ PLACE: _____</p> <p>Spouse</p>	<p>5</p> <p>BORN: _____ PLACE: _____ DIED: _____ PLACE: _____</p>	<p>9</p> <p>BORN: _____ PLACE: _____ DIED: _____ PLACE: _____</p>
<p>3</p> <p>BORN: _____ PLACE: _____ DIED: _____ PLACE: _____</p>	<p>6</p> <p>BORN: _____ PLACE: _____ MARR: _____ PLACE: _____ DIED: _____ PLACE: _____</p>	<p>10</p> <p>BORN: _____ PLACE: _____ MARR: _____ PLACE: _____ DIED: _____ PLACE: _____</p>
	<p>7</p> <p>BORN: _____ PLACE: _____ DIED: _____ PLACE: _____</p>	<p>11</p> <p>BORN: _____ PLACE: _____ DIED: _____ PLACE: _____</p>
		<p>12</p> <p>BORN: _____ PLACE: _____ MARR: _____ PLACE: _____ DIED: _____ PLACE: _____</p>
		<p>13</p> <p>BORN: _____ PLACE: _____ DIED: _____ PLACE: _____</p>
		<p>14</p> <p>BORN: _____ PLACE: _____ MARR: _____ PLACE: _____ DIED: _____ PLACE: _____</p>
		<p>15</p> <p>BORN: _____ PLACE: _____ DIED: _____ PLACE: _____</p>

Name and address of submitter:

Phone: _____

- ☐ This is new information
- ☐ This is an update to information submitted earlier

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA MANX

Waiting until the holidays were over, the Northern California Manx convened for a brunch on Sunday, January 21, 2001. We met at the Marie Callender's in Morgan Hill, centrally located with freeway access. Considering that we had our best turnout in a long time, in spite of it being the 'cold' season, from now on we will include location as well as dining pleasure when we decide where to meet.

In this case, it was Dee and Ray Hickman who found the venue and made the arrangements, another stellar contribution from our Gilroy contingent.

Aside from discussions of the news and general interest items from Ellan Vannin, we had a special presentation about a historical incident with Manx-American aspects. A new member, Sandy Lydon, Professor Emeritus of History at Cabrillo College, told us about an airplane crash on the Isle of Man. Sandy's wife's uncle was an American flyer in World War II and was killed on the Island in 1945. Full details of this incident will be the subject of an article in a forthcoming Bulletin.

Our next meeting is in late April at Ballaparker, the home of Kim Parker.

CLEVELAND MANX SOCIETY

In December, 46 of us gathered at a Holiday Inn for our annual Christmas party. Our entertainment was a harpist, who played both Manx music and some Christmas carols.

We do not meet in January or February because of the possibility of bad weather and the distances encompassed by our membership. On March 17, we met at a local restaurant for lunch and on to a tour of the Plain Dealer, the Cleveland newspaper. April is still in the planning stages, but will either be the 8th or 22nd.

On May 6 we will attend a musical performance, and in June we will tour the home of James Garfield, the 20th President of the United States. Our annual picnic will be on August 18th. Since this is our 150th year, we are hoping to plan some sort of celebration in the Fall.

We are always happy to welcome visitors at any of our meetings.

We regret to inform you of the passing of one of our long time members, Marjorie Keyse Whatley. She was born on February 19, 1938 in Cleveland, the daughter of Melvin Elliott Keyse and Eleanor Killey. In addition to her interest in the Isle of Man, she was also active in several community organizations.

Submitted by Mona Haldeman

IOM News *Headline News from Our Favourite Island*

Tynwald Day will be bigger and better than ever this year with more activities and events planned. Among other things, there will be bands playing in the National Arboretum, folk dancing and street performers on the front green, guided tours of the Royal Chapel and surrounding area, and a fireworks display.

There will be a General Election on the Isle of Man this year with an added attraction. The old House of Keys in Castletown is now in the hands of the Manx National Trust and is expected to be open by polling day.

The teaching of Manx and the history and culture of the Isle of Man are to become part of the education curriculum. Although Manx has been taught over the years, the language coursework will now have legal protection.

The Manx Language Foundation, Yn Cheshagt Ghailckagh (the Manx Language Society), and playgroup organizers Mooijner Veggey have come together to promote the preparation of a modern language teaching program for Manx. A Manx Gaelic unit will be set up initially at Ballacottier School in Braddan and eventually at the St. Johns school building as a part of the larger new school.

These news items and many more are at your fingertips on the Internet. For daily news, check in with Manx Radio www.manxradio.com and for daily and weekly news log on to the Isle of Man newspapers at www.iomonline.co.im.

MANX Publications

NAMA has received notice of the following publications which may be of interest to its members.

"New Manx Worthies", Dollin Kelly, General Editor. Due for publication later in 2001. A Manx Worthy is defined as "a person who has played a significant notable part in Island life or a person with close Manx connections or of Manx birth or descent who has made a significantly notable mark in the outside world." "New Manx Worthies" is a successor to A. W. Moore's "Manx Worthies" published 100 years ago.

"Never to Return", by Hampton Creer, published by Manx National Heritage. The stories of some two hundred Manx men, women and children who were transported to the penal colonies from the 17th to the 19th centuries for murder, or stealing a pig or honey or a pair of shoes, or other offenses.

"Memories of a Country Boy" by John Kennaugh, published by The Manx Experience. The childhood reminiscences in the Isle of Man centering around the late 1930s to the early 1940s.

These and other fine publications about the Isle of Man may be obtained from your favorite Manx bookseller.

Jurby Church Appeal

NAMA has received a request for assistance from the Vicar of the Jurby parish church, Rev. Rod Geddes. The church building is suffering from subsidence, which is not covered by insurance. There is a need for at least £162,000 to maintain the structural integrity of the building. The Parish is hoping that members of NAMA, especially those who have some connection with Jurby, will come to their aid. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Rev. Geddes at email geddes@mcb.net; Telephone 1624 880 419; or postal address The Rectory, Village Road, Kirk Andreas.

It's Not Superstition If It's Universal

Around Chinese New Year, my wife and I had lunch at a Chinese seafood restaurant with a Chinese-American friend, Elizabeth Tu. As we were about to dive into our flounder, Elizabeth cautioned us to pick out the flesh from the downside of the fish, as it was a tradition that it was bad luck to turn the fish over.

Reading Hall Caine's "The Manxman", published in 1895, a few days later, I found this on page 41:

"Then, looking back at Philip's plate, he forced a laugh, and said, 'But you've turned over your herring, sir - that's bad luck.'"

Chaplain's Corner

Rev. Devore Craine Smith



Many members of the North American Manx Association are native Manx, born on the Isle of Man. But most are one or more generations removed from their original Manx immigrant ancestors that make them Manx. I am second-generation from my grandfather, Rev. John Caley Craine of Sulby, Isle of Man. My son and daughter are third-generation and my grandchildren, therefore, are fourth-generation North American Manx. It is only through concerted effort and reminders that their love and appreciation for their Isle of Man heritage is sustained. I was so gratified to find 24 of John Craine's descendants and their families assembled at the 2000 Homecoming Convention on the Island. How can this kind of miracle occur in the families of our other 800-or-so NAMA members?

As I have observed the problem of sustaining an interest (and recollection) of our

living Manx heritage, I have been imagining some possible way to sustain a vital interest in Manx as the generations continue and grow. The NAMA Education Awards were established several years ago and are awarded every year on the Island to resident Manx youth for progress in Manx language, community work, writing and other categories. But we might also benefit from such a program for our American and Canadian youth. Two of our San Diego young people have presented papers and oral reports about their Manx heritage.

Perhaps an essay or writing competition could be established in North America to be an inducement for this kind of venture into our Manx culture, history and life. Manx and Celtic music could be submitted by recording or computer network. Something like this may give the motivation for some of Manx descendants to engage in a serious and meaningful way in sustaining the vitality of our Manx tradition and culture in America.

If this strikes a note with some of our readers, please send me a note or e-mail (devore@cts.com) and maybe we can strike a new "North American Manx Medal."

Medical Research by Manx Descendant

Researchers have identified a gene that makes some males prone to developing prostate cancer based on family genetics. One of the lead researchers in this important finding is Dr. Lisa Cannon-Albright of the University of Utah School of Medicine. She is a highly regarded medical scientist specializing in transmission of hereditary factors in a number of diseases, including melanoma cancer, breast cancer, osteoporosis, colon cancer, and asthma. Dr. Cannon-Albright is a descendant of David Cannon who, with his brother George Quayle Cannon, emigrated to Utah from Kirk Michael in the Isle of Man.

If you know of any other individuals in North America of Manx descent who are making contributions for a better world, please share the information with your fellow members by sending it to the Editor of the NAMA Bulletin.

North American Manx Association

24 North West Eighth Avenue
Galva, IL 61434

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