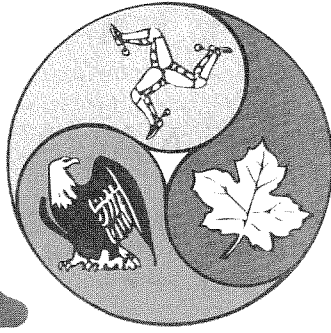


N A M A



NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

Vol. 80, No. 1

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

Spring 2009

Manx Homecoming 2009



The Manx Homecoming is scheduled to take place between the 2nd and the 9th of July, 2009.

The event includes visits to some of the most beautiful parts of the Isle of Man, including a visit to Peel and a hiking tour around the southern coast of the Island.

The highlight of the trip, however, is attendance at the President of Tynwald's garden party, a very prestigious event on the Island, and the opportunity to attend Tynwald Day.

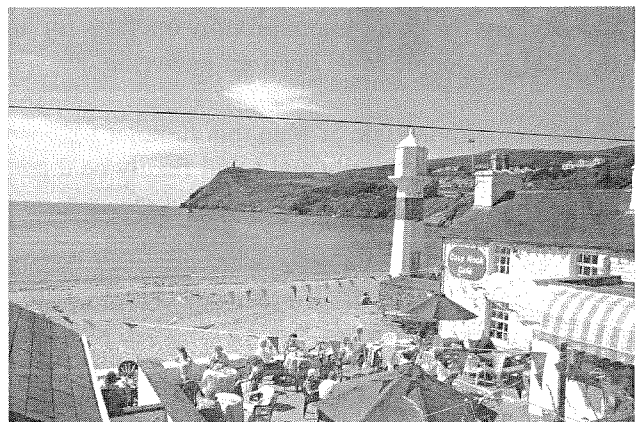
Tynwald Fair Day, held on Midsummer's Day each year, is a tradition dating back over 1,000 years and began when the meeting of the Manx Parliament was established as a legal requirement by the Island's ninth century rulers. The formal proceedings of Tynwald are accompanied by a fair, folk dancing and music, and the event ends with a concert and fireworks.

The Garden Party and Tynwald Day form the centerpiece of a wonderful week on the Isle of Man, and the visit as a whole represents an opportunity to get back in touch with your Manx roots.

Left: The view south from Niabyl beach, one of many spectacular views on the Island. Below: the beach at Port Erin.

Among other things, the package includes accommodation at the Sefton Hotel in Douglas, receptions, travel on the island, the Garden Party and a grandstand seat at Tynwald Day. Full details, including cost and itinerary, are shown on page 7.

If you would like to take part in the Manx Homecoming, please contact Laurence Skelly as soon as possible to secure a place. You may reach him by phone at Tel: 001-44-1624-852901 or by email at skelly@manx.net



NAMA Notes

NAMA President's Message



Hello Fellow Manx!

The excitement is building as we prepare for Homecoming 2009 on the Isle of Man in July.

This will be a special occasion for me and my family. I have been to the Isle of Man only once over 30 years ago.

The memories remain strong with visions of the promenade, the Horse Tram, Laxey Wheel, Snaefel, Tynwald Hill, Fairy Bridge, cities, towns, hills, and towers. I can't wait to go back to the beautiful Island in the Irish Sea.

I have studied the Manx Tynwald celebration but the reality is slowly sinking in that we will be there! It is an honor to be included in the President of Tynwald's Garden Party at the International Business School.

Like a scene from a famous Manx movie, this grand affair takes place on the lovely grounds of a stately mansion, hosted by President Noel Cringle with Manx dignitaries and special guests in attendance.

Can you see the color, the splendor, and the ceremony as we approach Tynwald Day?

We will participate in the 1,030 year old tradition to proclaim the new laws. Fun, Fair, Music and Fireworks are the order of the day. What a better way to celebrate the Island's national celebration!

Oh to be Manx on the Isle of Man on Tynwald Day, a place where the government proudly operates for and by its Manx people in an open-air gathering.

Come home to the Isle of Man this summer for Tynwald Day. My family and I will finally be there.

Lhiats,
Sally Dahlquist,
NAMA President

NAMA - Manx Scrapbook

The NAMA Blog has been renamed to be Manx Scrapbook as that's what it's turning into!

Go to <http://namanx.blogspot.com> for lots of interesting stuff. Join the debate about our patron saint. Catch up on the replacement for Summerland. Find out about the other Isle of Man. Check out the saucy book set in the IoM.

All the below posts in March so far. Where else would you go for news?

- * Manx visitors to Washington
- * SNAFU over railways
- * New family complex planned by Sefton Group
- * Cav wins
- * Who wants to be a millionaire?
- * Who is our patron saint?
- * A talk by our old friend John Quirk on the Manx giant
- * Go Zoe
- * Indian terrorist threat in Isle of Man
- * A Fine Cauldron of Fish
- * Royal Navy visits Douglas
- * New home for fossils
- * Manx is Great!!!
- * Hi Ho Silver lining!
- * Steampunk
- * First online Manx casino
- * Cabaret at the Gaiety

Kelly McCarthy

Stay in touch by email

NAMA would like to be able to stay in touch with you by email. Brad Prendergast has volunteered to coordinate and maintain an email mailing list along with the work he does in keeping postal address information up to date.

Your email will only be used for contact by NAMA for Manx news updates and for Association news that can't wait for the publication of the bulletin. Please drop an email to Brad with the subject line: 'NAMA Member Email Address' to beeves@juno.com.

NAMA Notes

Jeheiney Caisht

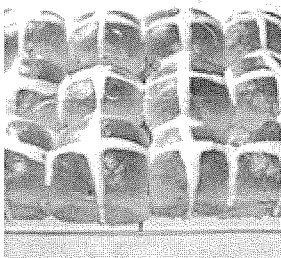
That's Good Friday in Manx. The day we have Hot Cross Buns. Here's a recipe with US measurements from All Recipes.com.

INGREDIENTS

- * 3/4 cup warm water (110 degrees F)
- * 3 tablespoons butter
- * 1 tablespoon instant powdered milk
- * 1/4 cup white sugar
- * 3/8 teaspoon salt
- * 1 egg
- * 1 egg white
- * 3 cups all-purpose flour
- * 1 tablespoon active dry yeast
- * 3/4 cup dried currants
- * 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- * 1 egg yolk
- * 2 tablespoons water
- * 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar
- * 1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
- * 2 teaspoons milk

DIRECTIONS

1. Put warm water, butter, skim milk powder, 1/4 cup sugar, salt, egg, egg white, flour, and yeast in bread maker and start on dough program.
2. When 5 minutes of kneading are left, add and cinnamon. Leave in machine till double.
3. Punch down on floured surface, cover, and let rest 10 minutes.
4. Shape into 12 balls and place in a greased 9 x 12 inch pan. Cover and let rise in a warm place till double, about 35-40 minutes.
5. Mix egg yolk and 2 tablespoons water. Brush on balls.
6. Bake at 375 degrees F (190 degrees C) for 20 minutes. Remove from pan immediately and cool on wire rack.
7. To make crosses: mix together confectioners' sugar, vanilla, and milk. Brush an X on each cooled bun.



NAMA Website

The NAMA website continues to grow with submissions from member manx societies and associations, and you can go there for up to date news between bulletins. Please drop in and visit at www.northamericanmanx.org.

The password-protected Members Only area is accessible only to paid up members of NAMA. The log in information is:

User name: **nama**
Password: **tynwald**

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*The new officers list
for 2008 on will be updated
in the next Bulletin.*

The Manx in Missouri

The following article was written by George Callow, a NAMA member living in Calgary, Alberta. George and I corresponded when he ordered a copy of The Manx Connection and he noted that there was no mention of the Missouri Manx. This article is an excerpt from a much longer piece that George has researched and written about the Manx settlers in Holt County, Missouri.

George provided these comments about how he conducted his research: This article was made possible because of readily available and low cost access to information about the Manx pioneers of Holt County. A collection of old newspaper articles and obituaries located at the Holt County Historical Society and scanned extracts from "Gone Home" sent via e-mail by May Noble together with US census data, wills and Missouri death certificates, were researched. Having access by means of a home computer, to the British, US and Canadian censuses because of membership in a public library with an Internet subscription to such data was an added benefit. Certain details concerning Joseph Banks were provided by a granddaughter.

Nineteenth Century Manx Settlement in Holt County Missouri

In 1836, a two million acre tract of land known as the Platte Purchase was ceded to the State of Missouri. The Platte Purchase which had been an Indian reservation is located in the northwest corner of the state between the Missouri River and the original state boundary. It consists of rolling prairie grasslands bordered or traversed by wooded rivers and streams. In the early days, there was abundant wild game including buffalo, deer and wild turkey as well as wild plums, nuts and berries along the banks of streams.

The territory which is one of the most fertile farming areas in Missouri was obtained from several Indian tribes in exchange for lands in Kansas and Nebraska, as well as 7,500 dollars (1556 pounds) and certain land improvements and services in the new reservations.

The Platte Purchase which was divided into six counties including Holt County, was released for homesteading by which new settlers could obtain up to 160 acres by clearing and cultivating a half acre and building a house which was usually constructed of hewn logs mortared with mud.

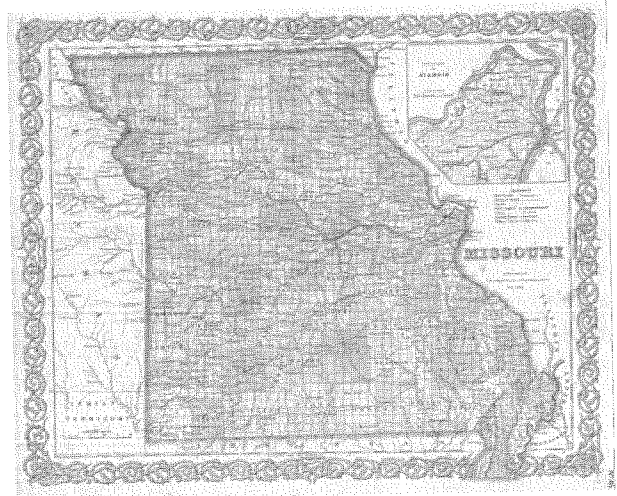
Settlers from adjoining northern and southern states as well as immigrants from the British Isles and Europe settled there in large numbers before and after the Civil War. Among the settlers to the Platte country were some 64 Manx adults and children according to the 1880 census. The majority of them became residents of Holt County which was organised in 1841.

The 1880 census also shows that 38 Manx, mainly tradesmen and their families resided in St. Louis, Missouri, a rapidly developing city in the 19th century. In addition 51 Manx immigrants were living in 14 other counties scattered throughout the state.

To make an exact count of Manx settlers to Missouri from census data would be difficult because of transcription errors or misidentification of the origin of immigrants from the Isle of Man. There was also a lot of movement by some settlers searching for better opportunities or wanting to remove themselves from tensions caused by clashes between abolitionists and slave owning plantation owners prior to and during the Civil war.

This fertile land of Holt County which was compared by some with the Garden of Eden, provided great promise and opportunity for the new settlers. Nevertheless, the earliest pioneers would have encountered such problems as isolation, periodic floods, droughts, hail and tornados.

Associated with droughts were grasshopper plagues and a lack of well water. The earliest settlers would later have to deal with the constant threat of warfare because of the slavery issue. For the earliest Manx immigrants who settled in Holt County, mainly after 1847, they would have only a few years to get established before the beginning of the Kansas-Missouri border wars (between abolitionists and slave owners) of 1854-1861 and the Civil War of 1861-1865.



The Manx in Missouri

William Banks (Kermode) - the First Manx Settler

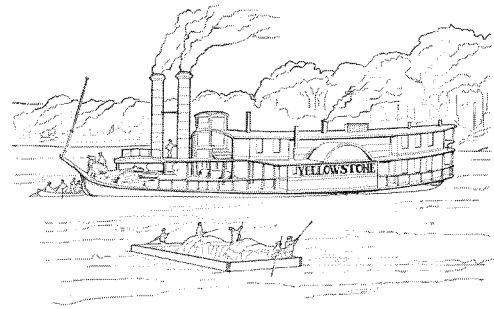
William Banks (Kermode), the first Manxman to settle in Holt County was born in Peel, Isle of Man, Oct. 21, 1811, according to a biography dictated by him to a reporter. His parents were Thomas Kermode and Catherine (Bridson) Kermode, both natives of the Isle of Man. He was raised on a farm and received a common school education.

About the age of 17, he went to Liverpool, England to work as a three year apprentice for 7 pounds a year, on a steamship freighter. His first voyage of seven months was to Mobile, Alabama, St. Andrews, Florida, the West Indies including Jamaica and back to Liverpool. He jumped ship and went aboard a vessel sailing to Baltimore and thence to New Orleans. On arriving in America, he adopted the surname Banks which he used for the rest of his life. He probably wanted to avoid the possibility of being flogged or imprisoned because of deserting a merchant ship. In New Orleans in 1830, he was hired as a deckhand on a Mississippi steamboat stern wheeler, and was in St. Louis late in the year of 1831.

After two years working on the Mississippi boats, he signed on as a deckhand for \$15 (5 pounds sterling) a month, on the "Yellowstone", a small (144 ton) side wheeler Missouri river freighter, which was part of a fleet belonging to the American Fur Company. This company had a monopoly on the fur trade in the American part of the Great Plains and the Rocky Mountains.

In 1832, the "Yellowstone" loaded with trade goods, ascended the Missouri river from St. Louis, bound for Fort Union. This commercial trading post was located near the confluence of the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers which is in North Dakota, (but close to the Montana border). Making this 3800 mile round trip by steam from St. Louis was considered a major achievement in transportation. News of the boat's success was carried in newspapers of America and Europe.

Deck crew on steamboats would be required to fire the boiler, man the pumps, handle the cargo, push the vessel off sandbars, snags or newly formed ice, and supply wood for fuel. The steamers would have to make a number of stops along the river, so that wood could be collected.



At a point three and a half miles below the present site of Forest City, Holt County, Mo. the "Yellowstone" made one such stop so that Banks could cut wood for the boiler. It was in the springtime and Banks observed a cold water spring with strong pressure gushing from the base of a limestone cliff. Of all the scenic spots along the Missouri River, William Banks was particularly attracted to it. Nine years later he would make this place his home and name it "Iowa Point." He also realised that at this location, there was plenty of wood and fresh water to support a permanent landing and supply station for the steamers. Not knowing about Lewis and Clark, the explorers, who passed through in 1804, William Banks and the rest of the crew thought that he was the first white man to set foot in the area. They also did not know that the Lewis and Clark expedition had reported shelters of fur traders in the vicinity. William Banks was however, the first permanent white settler and the first Manxman to set foot in what was to become Holt County.

For three years, he remained with the American Fur Company and made the annual spring time trip to Fort Union and back to St. Louis. On the third such trip in 1834, the "Yellowstone" reached Fort Union in 75 days and returned in two weeks to St. Louis with a load of 8,000 buffalo robes and 6,200 wolf and fox hides. Throughout 1832 and 1833 the "Yellowstone" made numerous trips up the Missouri to other less distant destinations. During the winter months (November to March) the American Fur Company used this steamboat on the lower Mississippi river, making trips between New Orleans and the Yazoo River, a tributary of the Mississippi River.

After leaving the "Yellowstone," William Banks advanced to mate of the steamboat "Howard." With this advancement came a salary of \$100 (20 pounds) a month. He continued to travel the entire river system, which extended from New Orleans to Fort Union. He finally attained the rank of captain and likely doubled his previous wages as a mate. For his time, he was as familiar as any one with the Missouri River.

The Manx in Missouri

Steamboat travel involved many perils. Snags caused by log debris, and sand bars often grounded or sank boats. If a steamboat travelled too early or too late in the season, it could be crippled by ice. Many boats were lost. Cholera was a constant concern. In July, 1833, only two of a crew of 10 survived a cholera outbreak on the "Yellowstone". Residents on shore threatened to burn the ship. William Banks must have been one of the two survivors. During the total of 10 years on the steamboats, he had two narrow escapes as a result of boiler explosions. In one incident when an explosion took place, some forty people died from the effect of steam.

He settled in Holt County when it was first organised in 1841. In the summer of 1841, he in partnership with John McIntosh, then clerk of the steamer "Thames," a regular Missouri river packet,* chartered that steamboat which was loaded with cypress shingles and other building materials, as well as \$7000 (1458 pounds) of merchandise.

On the 9th of August, 1841 they landed at the place of his dreams only to find to his dismay that a mulatto, a freed slave by the name of Jeffrey Dorion (corrupted to Doraway) was occupying the 20 acres where the landing and spring were located and therefore had preempted it. (had squatter's rights). For \$600 (120 pounds), one half in cash with the rest in trade, Captain Banks was able to buy Dorion's claim. Furthermore, Banks persuaded Dorion to work for him as he well recognised Dorway's experience and building talents.

The place where Banks settled was called Jeffrey's Point, which later he renamed Iowa Point, in honour of the Iowa tribe. A store house of hewn logs, thirty-six by twenty feet was built at Iowa Point and stocked with goods that had been transported on the steamer. This mercantile business was the second one to be established in Holt County. Even though a great deal of trade was conducted with the natives who had a steady source of income in the form of "annuities" or treaty money, the business failed and William Banks suffered considerable financial loss..

In 1844, Dorion built a flat boat for Banks who started a ferry business across the river at Iowa Point. The first use of the ferry was Sept. 1844 when a group of US cavalry troops returned from an expedition visiting Pawnee villages. With the \$50 (10 pounds) earned on that day, Banks entered for his first 40 acres of land (SE quarter of section 15 Twp 59, Range 38). He ferried many people, teams and stock across the river as it was a popular

emigrant crossing during the "Gold Rush" and very profitable. On a good day, he cleared as much as \$144 (30 Pounds). Other income was generated from a wood lot that supplied steamboats with fuel as well as water from the spring.

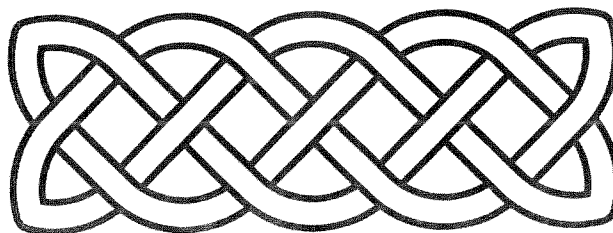
Many of the people, who used the ferry, were making their way across the plains to California or the Oregon Coast. Some of the several thousand Indians who lived on either side of river also used Bank's ferry.

During this time of initial prosperity, he built a house near the spring. In 1848, according to one account, Captain Banks and Dorion built three limestone buildings from the nearby limestone cliffs; a two story house, a horse stable with a loft and a granary. The limestone dwelling which was known locally as the "Rock House" had two foot thick walls plastered with lime burned in a nearby kiln. The joists consisted of hewn walnut logs and hand rived shingles covered the roof.

By learning some of the Indian languages and becoming acquainted with their chiefs, Banks cultivated a great friendship with these people. He also frequently met Indian women. Chippewa oral history tells us that during the time he spent on the steam boats (1831-1841) he fathered a son to a Chippewa (Ojibwa) woman.

After he settled down at Iowa Point, William Banks formally took a wife by the name of Wah-Rush-Ka-Me of the Iowa tribe. A marriage was performed by Indian custom but on the Missouri state side of the river. An essential feature of the marriage ceremony was the presentation of gifts including blankets and beads to the bride's parents. From this union, Joseph Banks was born circa 1848. Wah-Rush-Ka-Me must have died soon after giving birth and the baby was looked after outside of the Banks home since Joseph does not appear on the 1850 US census with his father.

George Callow's account of the life of Manx settler William Banks will conclude in the next NAMA Bulletin.



*A boat that is used for conveying mail, cargo and passengers on a regular schedule.

NAMA Homecoming 2009

2009 Homecoming Itinerary

The 2009 Manx Homecoming trip is between 2nd July and 9th July, and promises to be a wonderful time. Here is the itinerary for the trip.

Itinerary

2nd July –
Depart United States/Canada

3rd July –
Arrive on IOM – Check-in to Sefton Hotel

4th July –
Welcome reception in the Villa Marina 4pm - 6pm
Manx folk dancers provide entertainment and US/Manx décor.

Optional “Gathering Dinner” with World Manx Association in Douglas

5th July -
President of Tynwald’s Garden Party, International Business School, 3pm - 5pm.
International Business School is the old Nunnery (stately mansion). Grand affair in the lovely grounds. It is an honour to be included in this event.

6th July - Tynwald Day. St Johns. All day.
After the ceremony the coach will depart for Niarbyl to visit this natural scenic area and stop for late lunch. Optional stop back in St Johns en route back to Douglas for those wishing to enjoy the Manx National day celebrations with Manx music and fireworks. Public buses available back to Douglas.

7th July – Free day.

Reception at Manx Museum with presentation on the Manx Million project and IOM Ancestry centre. Time to visit the Museum. 10am – 2pm.

Dinner in Peel followed by Peel Ghost Walk. 6 - 9pm. Ghost walks are fun and all ages will enjoy. The guided walk around Peel tells chilling tales of Peel’s dark past. Folks that are unable/do not wish to walk will be hosted by the World Manx Association in Peel.

8th July- Day hiking tour around the coast from Port St Mary to Port Erin.

Stunning coastal scenery taking in the Chasms, Sugar Loaf Rock and other dramatic vistas. With a stop at the Sound café and option to take the bus back to Port Erin or continue walking. Those not wishing to walk can take the train to Port Erin and visit railway museum before we meet at the Cosy Nook Cafe on the beach for a Manx BBQ dinner in Port Erin. Full walk approx 3 ½ hours or half with finish at the Sound.

9th July - Depart back to North America

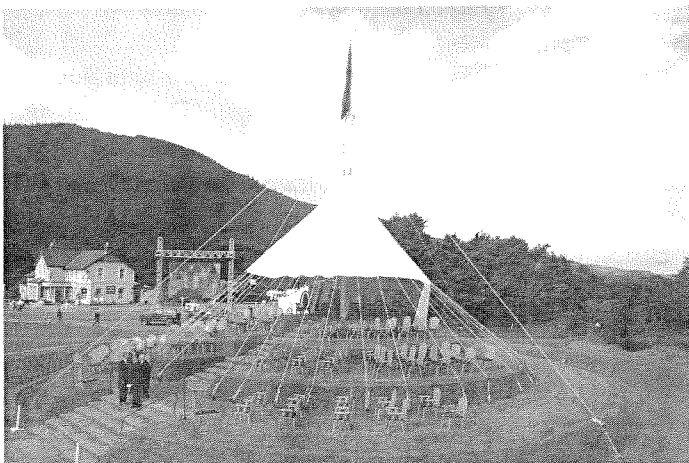
Reservations: Destination Isle of Man

Laurence & Jackie Skelly
Corlett’s Yard, Union Mills,
Isle of Man
Email: skelly@manx.net
Tel: 001-44-1624-852901

Package Details

Total package price GBP 580.00pp based on twin/double share. Current rate of exchange will mean the cost is USD 848.00

- 6 Nights Accommodation twin/double ensuite at Sefton Hotel, Douglas
- Manx Welcome Pack
- Welcome reception at the Villa Marina with local entertainment
- Manx Museum reception including food
- President of Tynwald’s Garden party (Manx tea party)
- Grandstand seat for Tynwald Day and lunch at Nirabyll café
- Manx Roast dinner in Peel with a Ghost Walk or visit to Leece Museum
- Manx BBQ steak dinner on Port Erin beach.
- All transportation to above events including to/from Isle of Man airport



Society News

Manx Society of Minnesota

March 7, 2009 Meeting

The Manx Society of Minnesota met on March 7, 2009 at Elsie's in Northeast Minneapolis. Twenty one members were present.

Highlights of the meeting included photographs of the NAMA Convention taken by members, Janice Leafer and Sally Dahlquist, and door prize drawing.

A special presentation by 4th grader Katie Anderson on Manx culture was informative and a real treat. Katie's project consisted of decorating a box with photographs and artifacts from the Isle of Man. Katie spoke briefly on the Tynwald Parliament, Manx cat and shared a personal story of someone who lived on the Isle of Man. Great job Katie!



Katie Anderson making her presentation on Manx culture.

Upcoming meeting for June will be held at Vice President Janice Leafer's home. Theme will be all things Tynwald in preparation for the 2009 Homecoming to the Isle of Man.

Marilyn Craine Anderson, Secretary

Greater Washington Area Manx Society - 12th Night

Once everyone has gathered, the "First Footer" arrives, Bruce Blackistone, armed in full Viking regalia to drive off any bad spirits with his battle-axe. He presented the traditional gifts of bread, coal, and money to assure that we are well provided for throughout the rest of the year.



We then sit down to an all-you-can-eat feast of roast turkey, ham, vegetables, salads, bonnag (traditional Manx bread), hot & cold beverages, and desserts including a traditional Christmas pudding.

This year we welcomed back the Celtic sounds of our own *Na Maraghan* band: Iliam Cassidy and Ed Bradshaw with guest singer, member Kelly Crenshaw. We played "How Green you Are" with the tail of the Manx cat, and finished off with a pass-the-parcel game, then all joined hands and sang Auld Lang Syne.

Especially notable this year was the enthusiasm of the young people. We can proudly boast that we had teenagers who played dumb party games and SMILED!!!!

Our next event will be a Murder Mystery dinner put together by our author members Honora Finklestein and Sue Smiley in April. Their books have a half-Manx heroine as well as lots of scrummy recipes!

Bruce, the Viking, has also promised us a trip out in their Longship later in the summer!

Contact kelly@mustgoto.com if you would like to join the GWAMS.

Kelly McCarthy

Society News

Northern California Manx

Past NAMA President Jack Cormode suggested a "Cooish" before Christmas. It was a good idea, so Kim Parker and her husband volunteered their home and business property in Santa Clara County to host it. We met on Sunday afternoon, 14 December.

There were a dozen of us and Jack and Larry discussed the Convention in Minnesota in August, and also the upcoming 2010 Convention in Denver. Jack even brought the A-Z Manx Test that we took in MN.

We had three couples who drove 50 - 80 miles to attend the cooish. WE have probably 50 Manx families that have been part of our group over the years and a number sent their regrets for this meeting.

Maybe we need another "cooish" in the Spring?

Larry Fargher

Wisconsin Manx Society

The Wisconsin Manx Society, Inc. will hold its bi-annual meeting on Sunday, May 17, in the lower level of Midvale Community Lutheran Church, 4329 Tokay Boulevard, Madison. Participants may register between 11am and noon.

A catered "Soup, Sandwich and Salad" lunch will be served at 12:00 by TJ's of Sauk City. Since this is a statewide meeting, it will be held in May in hopes of avoiding varying Easter vacations and inclement traveling weather. The 1:00 pm program and business meeting will follow the social hour and lunch.

Mary Kelly, a founding member of the Wisconsin Manx Society, (WMS) and long time Board Member of the North American Manx Association (NAMA) will present the program, which will highlight an interesting and effective system for experiencing and/or learning the Manx language.

Manx Pro, a Magnum Language System, is an immersion language program. It has grammar lessons, vocabulary lessons, speech recognition, short stories in Manx and a talking dictionary. Participants will be able to hear and attempt the language of Manx ancestors. Manx is a

Gaelic language and due to concerns that it may be lost, various efforts have been made to bring back the native Manx tongue to the Island

Guests and new members are always welcome at Wisconsin Manx Society meetings. Due to increased meeting expenses, registration fee for this luncheon meeting will be \$14.00 per person.

Reservations for the luncheon should be made before May 9th by calling Vice President, Judy Bonnet at (608) 884-8905. Please spell name and leave phone number

Doris Alff

UNESCO in firing line from Manx-speaking schoolchildren

MANX is not a dead language, pupils at the Bunscoill Ghaelgagh have told world culture chiefs. Children at the Manx language school in St John's were upset after the Isle of Man Examiner and iomtoday reported how the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) considered Manx 'extinct'.

Five youngsters have written to UNESCO, in Manx, inviting it to send representatives to the school to watch them learn and communicate in the Isle of Man's native tongue.

Their letters include English translations by their teacher, fluent Manx speaker Paul Rogers, who said UNESCO's announcement was disappointing for everyone trying to keep the language alive.

Mr Rogers said: 'I showed the Examiner article to the children and they were all quite indignant about it.

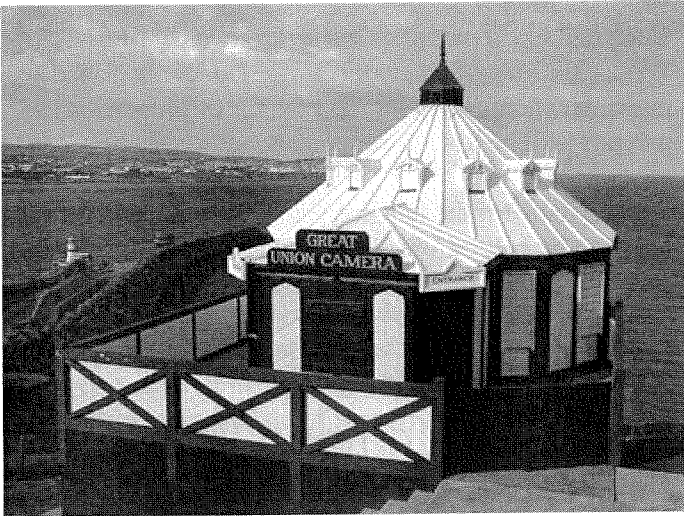
'They felt offended that someone would say the language they use at school and sometimes at home did not exist.

'In her letter, one of the pupils explained she speaks Manx to her family, and she was annoyed that UNESCO had not come to the school before making its decision.'

The pupils also wrote about the Yn Chruinnaght Celtic festival, The Guild music festival and Tynwald Day to show that Manx was used during public events too.

Manx Notes

The Great Union Camera Obscura



Over 350 people from as far afield as Australia visited the Great Union Camera Obscura over the Easter weekend.

With eleven lenses and mirrors, visitors enter the darkness of the building and see panoramic views from all around Douglas bay. Watching real-time images of seagulls flying across the viewing boards and cars, boats and people going about their daily business is part of the fascination which has entertained visitors for more than 100 years.

Run by the Department of Tourism & Leisure and manned voluntarily by the Isle of Man Victorian Society, the Camera will be open for the Summer Season from 2nd May 2009 every weekend from 1.00pm to 4.00pm on Saturdays and 11.00am to 4.00pm on Sundays and Bank Holidays. If the flag is flying the Camera is open.

Hon Martyn Quayle, Minister for Tourism and Leisure, said: 'It is pleasing to know that so many people took the time to visit the Camera Obscura during Easter. I hope that visitors and residents will support it this season and come and see all it has to offer. The Camera also provides a weekend attraction with a difference for visitors with a unique view of Douglas Bay.'

One of the few original Camera Obscuras to have survived the test of time, this wonderful example of Victorian ingenuity is undergoing a facelift at the moment and is being repainted.

Story courtesy NAMA Blogspot

Mark Cavendish scoops top prize at Sports Awards evening

Tour De France star Mark Cavendish secured another leading honour when he was named the Isle of Man's Sportsman of the Year 2008 at the annual Sports Awards evening at the Villa Marina.

A world icon in cycling, Cavendish retained the award he won jointly with off-road motorcycle ace David Knight last year.

A packed house in the Royal Hall saw Cavendish, still only 23, receive the Isle of Man Bank-sponsored award to huge applause.

World Cup snowboardcrosser Zoë Gillings, tipped as Britain's best hope for a medal at next year's Winter Olympics, retained the IoM Bank-sponsored Sportswoman's award.

The under-21 male category, sponsored by Aon, was won by British Junior Road Race Champion Peter Kennaugh who accompanied Mark Cavendish in the recent Track World Cycling Championships in Poland.

The Isle of Man Newspapers under 21 female category was won by the Island's youngest ever female golf champion Emma Harris, who was just 12 when she won the title last summer.

The Ambassador of the Year category saw double TT winner and British Formula Two Sidecar Champion Nick Crowe see off strong opposition from 2007 winner James Toseland, Supersport World Champion Andrew Pitt, 2008 US Grand National Cross-Country Champion David Knight and Winter Olympian Zoë Gillings. This category was sponsored by the Department of Tourism and Leisure.

A new introduction this year was the IoM Sports Council Award for outstanding achievement in the Isle of Man, and this deservedly went to 21-year-old Dan Kneen who won a record three races in last year's Manx Grand Prix.

This article originally appeared on iomtoday.co.im and was written by John Watterson.

Manx Notes



Arthur Caley, The Manx Giant

Arthur Caley is a fascinating figure. Born at Sulby in 1829, both his parents and grandparents were of ordinary stature, and he had numerous brothers and sisters, none of whom were remarkable for their height. At the age of 22 he was 7ft. 6in., and weighed 21 stone, and it is said that he grew slightly after that age. He was well built and so strong that he could lift a sack of flour with one hand and toss it into a cart.

Early in 1852 he went to London, where he was exhibited. Soon afterwards he was engaged for exhibition in Paris for twelve months. It is said that the sumptuous living he indulged in that capital had such a bad effect upon him that he died in 1853 of surfeit. The man who engaged him had insured his life for £2,000.

If this quick bio piques your curiosity, visit namanx.blogspot.com for more on the Manx Giant

NAMA Membership Enrollment Form

Promote and Protect our Manx Heritage

Please print your information and mail with your check to John Prendergast at the address below

Name _____ Spouse _____
Street _____ City _____ State/Prov _____ Zip/PC _____
Phone _____ email _____

Individual Membership	Dues	Amount
Annual.....	\$ 15	_____
Life		
Under age 50.....	\$250	_____
Age 50 to 59.....	\$175	_____
Age 60 and over.....	\$125	_____
Junior (age 1-18 years, no bulletin).....	\$ 2	_____

Family Membership	Dues	Amount
Annual.....	\$ 20	_____
Life (2 adults, based on age of youngest)		
Under age 50.....	\$325	_____
Age 50 to 59.....	\$235	_____
Age 60 and over.....	\$200	_____

Total remittance in US dollars or equivalent amount _____

To become a NAMA member, or to renew your membership,
please send this form and your check or money order to:

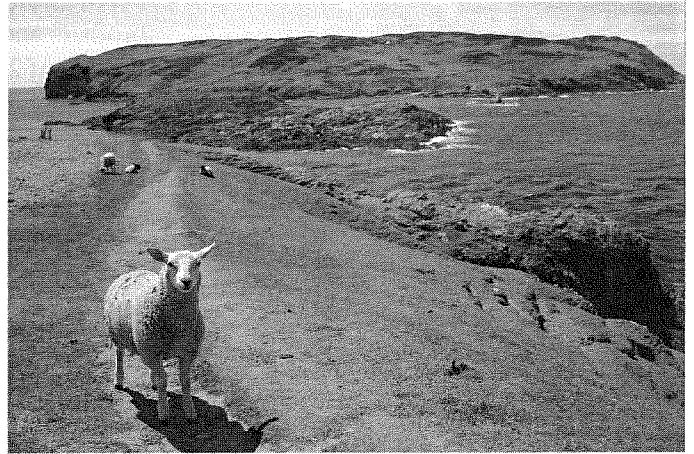
John Prendergast, NAMA Treasurer 10251 South Bell, Chicago, IL 60643-1901 USA

NAMA Homecoming 2009

Return to the Isle of Man



A viking re-enactor on the Isle of Man



One of the curious locals you might meet on your visit to the Isle of Man. In the background is the Calf of Man, a small island on the south coast of the Isle of Man that serves as a bird sanctuary.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Manx Association

North American