



Queensland Manx Society

Serving the Manx Community since 1914

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2022

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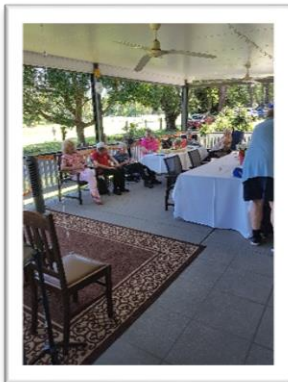
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Well, we have reached the end of the year 2022, and we are about to celebrate Christmas again to send the year off with a bang. We hope that members can join us to make this a memorable occasion (page 5).

Our weather has continued to be wet, and our dams are overflowing, just as Inigo Jones had predicted in the 1930's. We can also expect 2023, if he is right again, to be wet as well, so we may have to look to the shy to plan our events for next year. Oh well that's life in our beautiful country.

Our Hop tu Naa celebration on Sunday 30th. October was a lovely gathering.



Between falsehood and useless truth is little difference...Dr. Samuel Johnson 1759



Our hosts, Betty and Howard Elmes, provided a wonderful setting at their home for us and enabled our musicians Michael McGeever, Shaun Smith, Neil Griffiths, Max Cain and Geoff Conwell to entertain us throughout the afternoon. A trivia quiz and secret parcel added to the festivity. The weather was pleasant, and setting was ideal.

Isle of Man

The original inhabitants of the Isle of Man were the Neolithic and Mesolithic tribes, followed by Bronze Age dwellers and the Celts - whose civilization is the basis of Manx culture. Christianity was introduced during the fifth and sixth centuries. Vikings invaded more than 1,000 years ago and Norse rule lasted on the Kingdom of Man from 979 to 1266 AD. The Vikings founded the Tynwald Parliament - the oldest continuous parliament in the world, which has been in existence for 1,000 years.

The Isle of Man has a strong, independent identity within the British Isles mainly due to its self-governing status, proud maritime history and ancient Celtic heritage. It has the oldest continuous parliament in the world, Tynwald, which dates back over 1,000 years, and its mother tongue, Manx Gaelic, although not as widely spoken today, still defines the speech patterns of many islanders, giving them a distinctive accent.



Manx National Heritage Turnips' at Cregneash on Thursday and Friday! Admission is free for all children, [Friends of Manx National Heritage](#) Members and with your Annual Pass. Turnips £2, available 11am to 3pm, with the opportunity to select your very own Manx Moot! Traditional Hop tu Naa crafts and activities will take place at Cregneash on Saturday and Sunday. For tickets to Traditional Hop tu Naa, please visit

<https://manxnationalheritage.im/.../hop-tu-naa-at-cregneash/> (Editor's Note) This how they grow them in the Isle of Man. No problem making a lantern out of one of those, if your prepared to work at it.



*MERRY
CHRISTMAS
EVERYONE*



*Queensland Manx
Society Inc.*

*Invites you to our
Jolly Christmas Party*

10th. December 2022, 11.00 am. For 11.30 am.

*Lovely two course Christmas Cuisine, \$40.00
per head (Children half price.)*

*Come & hear 'All Nations Pipe & Drum Band'
Carols, Singers, Raffles, & Secret Santa
(max \$15.00 – non-perishable food items)*

*Bring the family or a friend and join in
the fun.*

*RSVP 28th. November – Secretary Glen Smith on 0419028751 and payment can be made at the
door or to the Society bank account BSB 034 080 A/C 183032*

ARANA LEAGUES CLUB, DAWSON PARADE, KEPERRA



MANX WORDS

A word contains history, both a history of its own and the history of the people who use or used the word. Words can shape identity, and as Robert Macfarlane points out in *Landmarks*, our sense of place.

What do Manx words have to say to us about Manx life, history, identity? What do they reveal of importance? Manx as a language is closely tied to a small place, and it has never had a large number of speakers. Although, its related to Irish and Scottish Gaelic, Manx is a unique language, and its vocabulary reflects a unique community and experience. Manx preserves some old and unusual words that either disappeared or fell out of favour in the other Gaelic languages after the Middle Ages: *airinagh* for farmer, *eayst* for moon, *iu* for drink. That's a testament to the longevity of Gaelic speech on the Island. Let's explore a few Manx words that have an interesting story to tell.

Carval (carol)

Carval is such an obvious borrowing from the English carol, as in "A Christmas Carol", that you might not think of it as a "real" Manx word, but that's far from the case. Although the word may have originated as a medieval French term for a song sung during a ring dance, carval represents a uniquely Manx tradition and an important corpus of Manx song. The French term *carole* has been dated to the early 14th. Century. The Oxford English Dictionary's earliest citation of carol or carolling in English dates to 1502 and defines the term as "a song or hymn of joy sung at Christmas". By the 1700's, Manx songs called carvalyn - the plural form of carval - were being sung in church on Christmas Eve, also known as Oie'll Voirrey, the "eve of Mary's feast". But they weren't exactly "hymns of joy".

The carvalyn were religious poems, sung to traditional melodies, focused more on the need for repentance than celebration of the nativity. "By far the greater number of them are devotional rhapsodies which exhort the sinner to repent by picturing with terrible realism the agonies of hell." A.W. Moore wrote in the introduction to his "Carvalyn Gailckagh/Manx Carols" (1891).

"The punishment of the damned is contrasted with the reward of the saved, but the former received much more attention than the latter. Old Testament history also received much attention, the Fall of Adam, and the lives of Joseph, Jacob, Jonah, and David, being favourite subjects."

Here's a brief excerpt - and I do mean brief - from "Tra Ta Mish Jaeghyn er yn Yrjid Heose; A Hymn on Man's Shameful Fall," by Rev. Thomas Allen, vicar of Maughold from 1727 to 1746:

As gold which he cannot spend will make no man rich...Dr. Samuel Johnson 1759

Ta dooinney kerrit myr va, cairys gra,	Man suffers punishment, as Justice urged,
Te geddyn baase myr va firrinys shirrey da,	He dies, as Truth demanded it should be,
Te geddyn pardon myr va myghin guee,	He pardon gets, as Mercy did entreat,
Ta Jee as dooinney coardit myr baill shee.	He is at one with God, as Peace desired.
As shos yn oyr dy vel shin jiu er jeet,	This the reason why you're come to-day
Ayns shoh kione-fenish myr te cooie as fit,	Into God's house, as right and proper is,
Dy ghoaill rish garih as kenallys yn Ayr,	To thank the Father for sending His Son
Ayns coyrt eh Vac dy ghoaill nyn ghooghys er.	To take our nature on Him in the world.

You'll find all 48 verses in both Manx and English in A. W. Morre's *Caralyn Gailckagh (Manx Carols)*, published in 1891 and available online through the 'Manx Notebook'.

If you thought that type of "entertainment" would make for a solemn dreary Christmas Eve, you'd be wrong. Oie'll Voirrey celebrations of old were often linked to 'riotous' behaviour. Certainly, an incident at Ballaugh on Christmas Eve in 1758, when younger members of the congregation allegedly pelted the home of the ailing Rev. Philip Moore with rocks, was over the top. Rev. Moore had been too ill to hold the Oie'll Voirrey service. In a presentment to the ecclesiastical court, he asked the vicars general for directions - "for the future prevention of such enormity to the more serious & suitable manner of observing & solemnising the Ill-vorry (Oie'll Voirrey) & to prevent as far as may such indecencys & irregularitys as under the cover of the night & darkness are too often, tis to be feared committed on such nocturnal meeting."

These "indecencys & irregularities" were much on the minds of the ministers well into the 19th. Century. In October 1817, the Manx Methodist Conference held at Ballakaneen, Andreas, condemned the "Ill-Veries", which drew "the worst of characters.

"Oie'll Voirrey became less rowdy in the 19th. Century, although young girls reportedly threw dried peas at the "more stolid" bachelor singers on occasion, and the evening often ended in a local tavern with "jough-vie" (good drink) of spiced ale. William Kennish, the 19th. Century Manx poet who wound up in Brooklyn, New York, wrote in "The Manx Ilvary (Oie'll Voirrey)":

By custom taught for ages back,
 The lasses brought their pease,
 In pockets full each Ilvary,

Knowledge which he cannot apply will make no man wise.....Dr. Samuel Johnson 1759

The bachelors to tease,
By taking opportunity
When they were least aware,
To throw their pulse artillery
And make the rustics stare.

Here's a description of an Oie'll Voirrey celebration from 1025 by A. G. Gilchrist, from the Journal of the Folk-Song Society (Vol. VII, No. 29): "At the close of the Christmas Eve service the parson generally left, and with him the 'quality'. But the clerk remained in charge, and now the carval-singing, often continued late into the night, began. The company brought their own candles - the more well-to-do bringing branched candlesticks - to illuminate the church, which was decked with holly and ivy.

According to one account, each person who intended to contribute a caral - sung solo or in dialogue form by two, without accompaniment - fixed a thin lighted taper on the sloping board before him and continued to sing as long as his taper lasted. Then another would light his taper, and sing until his light went out, and so until all had had their turn. Or, says another account, one or two men would stand at a time to sing." According to P.W. Caine, carval singers used a "lofty key" that produced a "wailing, woful (sic) sound" not unlike that of Scottish Gaelic psalm singers in the Western Isles. Perhaps it's no wonder that some were pelted with parched peas.

The custom of carval singing on Oie'll Voirrey "lingered in the Island" until about 1870, according to Gilchrist. Today, you can still hear carvalyn sung in concert and other venues on the Isle of Man at Christmastide and other times. One of the most popular carvals today is Oikan ayns Bethlehem - "A Child in Bethlehem" - and you can find recordings of this by many singers, including Manx Language Officer, Ruth Keggin Gell.

William "Illiam" Cassidy - Courtesy of the North American Manx Association 2021

BRISBANE STANDING STONES

Celtic Council of Australia (Qld) are nearing their goal of erecting Standing Stones in Brisbane at Mooreland Park, Auchenflower, beside the Wesley Hospital. After many setbacks, twists and turns, they have finally reached agreement with the governing body's who control this type of installation and are now entering the signing of agreements stage to finalise the project. The stones have been sitting in Brisbane for many months and the major sponsor for the project, "Hutchesons Construction, " are ready to move when all is complete. It was hoped that the project would be erected by Christmas, however, it is taking longer than expected to finalise it, but we can expect completion in the new year.

Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself. -George Bernard Shaw

The erected stones will need to sit for a period of time to settle into place before it is safe to allow the public to be near them. It is expected that a dedication of the monument will be possible by June or July, however, it is hoped that the Scottish Tartan Day will be able to be held there on the 17th. June 2023. It is incredible how much effort has to be put into obtaining approval to erect a monument for a worthwhile cause. This one has taken years to achieve, but CCAQ is like a bulldog and never let go of the task. It is incredible how much effort has to be put into obtaining approval to erect a monument for a worthwhile cause. This one has taken years to achieve, but CCAQ is like a bulldog and never let go of the task.

Office of Lieutenant Governor

His Majesty, The King

For many centuries the Stanley family (the Earls of Derby) were feudal Kings or Lords of Man, but in 1765 the Island was purchased by the British Crown. His Majesty The King is the Head of State and is Lord of Man.

The Isle of Man as a Self-Governing Crown Dependency - the Role of His Majesty's UK Government and Parliament

The Isle of Man is an internally self-governing Crown Dependency and the Crown has ultimate responsibility for its good Government. Whilst His Majesty's UK Government is responsible for the Island's Defence and International Relations, the Isle of Man is not part of the United Kingdom and has its own Manx Law under which it passes Acts of Tynwald and makes its own Regulations (as Primary and Secondary legislation). The UK Parliament has paramount power to legislate for the Isle of Man on all matters but it is a long-standing convention that it does not do so on domestic matters without the Island's consent.

His Excellency, The Lieutenant Governor

The King's Personal Representative on the Isle of Man is formally styled the Lieutenant Governor and is appointed by Warrant of His Majesty The King, following the recommendation of the Isle of Man Selection Committee led by the President of Tynwald, Chief Minister, and the First Deemster and Clerk of the Rolls.

The term of office of the Lieutenant Governor is at The King's pleasure but is normally five years. The Warrant sets out the role in broad terms and speaks of the requirement to promote the Royal Family, The King as Head of State and the need to promote the happiness of the people. Whilst The King and the Lieutenant Governor have certain executive functions, it is considered that all material functions are discharged by the Isle of Man Government as the Head of State almost always acts on the advice of the Council of Ministers.

Changes in the role of the Lieutenant Governor were amongst the most significant of the Isle of Man constitutional reforms during the 20th century. This process continues and it is

the wish of the Isle of Man Government that the Lieutenant Governor encourages such change, subject to him being the guardian of the affairs of The King or Crown matters. During July 2021, it was announced that Lieutenant General Sir John Lorimer was appointed as the 31st Lieutenant Governor of the Isle of Man. Sir John was sworn-in at Castle Rushen in Castletown on the afternoon of Wednesday 29 September 2021.



Lieutenant General Sir John Lorimer KCB DSO MBE

Lieutenant General Sir John Lorimer KCB DSO MBE was educated at Marlborough College, Wiltshire and Pembroke College, University of Cambridge. He joined the British Army in 1981 and was commissioned into The Parachute Regiment. He served in all three regular Parachute

Regiment battalions and commanded 3 PARA from 2000 to 2003. His service saw multiple operational deployments in Northern Ireland, Iraq, the broader Middle East and Afghanistan.

At higher command, Sir John commanded 12th Mechanized Brigade in Iraq and Afghanistan and 3rd (United Kingdom) Division. He also completed a year-long tour in Kabul as Deputy Commander of the NATO force. He was Chief of Joint Operations from October 2014 until June 2017, commanding all of the UK Armed Forces global operations. His final military appointment was as Defence Senior Adviser Middle East and North Africa, a role he held for three years.

Sir John was sworn in as the 31st Lieutenant Governor of the Isle of Man at Castle Rushen on 28 September 2021. The tenure for the appointment is five years. Sir John is married to Philippa. They have three grown-up sons. His outside interests include most sports, especially rugby, skiing, walking and history.

Lady Lorimer MBE (Philippa)

As an Army daughter, Lady Lorimer grew up overseas - in Africa, Germany and Norway. She went to school in Dorset and then went on to read Natural Sciences at Durham University. In 1987, she was commissioned into the Royal Corps of Signals, serving in 30th Signal Regiment and deploying on operations in Namibia with the United Nations and in the Middle East during Gulf War 1. She left the Army after six years to pursue a career in the Defence industry, where she worked for various companies, including the Racal Electronics Group and Exensor UK Ltd, selling and marketing specialist communications and security equipment to the Police, Ministry of Defence and other agencies.

Lady Lorimer has been the Commanding Officer of the First Aid Nursing Yeomanry (Princess Royal's Volunteer Corps) (FANY (PRVC)) since July 2017. The FANY is a thriving charity, whose all-female volunteers are an essential component of the United Kingdom's emergency response capability. Members of the Corps are on call 24/7 to provide support to civil and military authorities at times of national crisis.

Lady Lorimer and her husband have three sons in their 20s. Her interests include keeping fit, fly fishing, cross-country and downhill skiing, hill-walking and water sports. She is never happier than when exploring beaches and searching for interesting creatures in rock pools.

The Deputy Governor

The Warrant of appointment of the Lieutenant Governor also appoints the First Deemster and Clerk of the Rolls (the Isle of Man's Chief Justice) to act as Deputy Governor or, in the event of their absence or inability to act, the Second Deemster. When acting as Deputy Governor the First Deemster has all the powers of the Lieutenant Governor and these become effective during the absence of the Lieutenant Governor from the Island or in the event of the inability of the Lieutenant Governor to act. A Deemster, when acting as Deputy Governor, would be titled 'His/Her Honour the First (or, Second) Deemster (Surname), Deputy Governor' and is referred to as Your Honour.

Outline Job Specification of the Lieutenant Governor

- To be His Majesty, The King's personal representative and impartial adviser
- To be the personal representative and impartial adviser to His Majesty, The King, Lord of Mann
- To represent His Majesty, The King on ceremonial occasions
- To host Royal and VIP visits and occasions in conjunction with the Island's Government
- To play a full and active part in the social and charitable affairs of the Island and assist the Isle of Man Government to promote community activity
- To carry out certain executive functions such as the issuing of passports and Naturalisation and the exercising of delegated authority to give Royal Assent to a wide range of primary legislation
- To make recommendations for certain Crown appointments in consultation with the Island or Church authorities, as appropriate
- To make recommendations for official Honours and Awards
- To work with the Island's Government to help promote the Island's interests on public and social occasions.

The Role of the Lieutenant Governor

There are three overlapping roles: Constitutional, Community and Ceremonial.

Constitutional

The Lieutenant Governor derives his powers directly from the Crown, from United Kingdom Acts of Parliament in respect of certain specific functions (e.g., Nationality); and from Acts

of Tynwald or Customary Law. The purpose of the constitutional role is to maintain the legitimacy and continuity of government as this is the foundation of civil peace and order which is maintained by the rule of law.

The First Deemster, the Second Deemster and the Judge of Appeal are Crown Appointments but the Lieutenant Governor appoints, after independent process, the remaining members of Island's Judiciary including Magistrates. HMs' Attorney General and Solicitor General are Crown Appointments.

The Lieutenant Governor has a role to play with certain Crown Appointments within the Church of England on the Island.

State Awards and Honours. After taking advice, the Lieutenant Governor is responsible for making recommendations, on behalf of Isle of Man residents, for Honours that are announced in His Majesty, The King's New Year and Birthday Honours lists. The following link provides [more information for individuals considering making an Honours nomination for someone living on the Isle of Man.](#)

The Lieutenant Governor also has a responsibility to provide supporting comment on all Isle of Man nominations for both [The King's Award for Voluntary Service](#) and [The King's Award for Enterprise](#).

Community

The Lieutenant Governor's community role is by far the busiest. The Lieutenant Governor and his wife are patrons of many organisations and charities, and give their support and encouragement whenever there is an opportunity. Patronage of the Lieutenant Governor signals that an organisation is worthy of wide support. During most years, there will be many functions to attend all over the Island.

After taking advice the Lieutenant Governor is also responsible for the appointment of the captain of each of the 17 ancient parishes of the Island. This office, normally for lifetime, was first recorded in 1626 to provide Watch and Ward and originated from Norse times in order to maintain ceaseless vigilance to prevent invasion. Formerly the head of the local militia, these days the post is largely ceremonial and recognition of the primary citizen of the Parish. On appointment a Captain takes the oath of office in the presence of the Lieutenant Governor and will receive their badge of office from him. A Captain is entitled to use the letters 'CP' after his or her name.

Birthdays and Anniversaries. With prior notification, the Lieutenant Governor sends birthday wishes to Island residents who celebrate their 90th or 100th birthdays, and letters of congratulation to those couples who celebrate their Golden or Diamond (or longer) Wedding Anniversary. The Office of the Lieutenant Governor can liaise with Buckingham Palace on the occasion of Diamond Wedding Anniversaries or 100th Birthdays on behalf of Manx residents. Detailed information can be found at the our [Anniversary and birthday cards page.](#)

Ceremonial

The Lieutenant Governor takes part in public ceremonies as the representative of His Majesty, The King. This role includes such duties as Presiding on Tynwald Hill during the Tynwald Ceremony on Tynwald Day each July, attending the National Remembrance Sunday Service, holding occasional Honours Investitures and hosting visiting Ambassadors and High Commissioners in conjunction with the Island Authorities. Many of the Lieutenant Governor's community functions also have a ceremonial dimension, such as attendance at the official openings of buildings, addressing conferences, or the launching special of events and appeals.

Neither The King nor the Lieutenant Governor takes an active or initiating role in the executive functions of government. By binding convention, the Head of State almost always acts on the advice of the Council of Ministers.

Contact details for the Office of the Lieutenant Governor

Hilary Leece

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Office of the Lieutenant Governor and Government House in Onchan, Isle of Man, IM3 1RR



Government House is the Official Residence of the Lieutenant Governor and family. It also provides accommodation for official guests to the Isle of Man and is used extensively for formal functions such as lunches, dinners and receptions. As Office of the Lieutenant Governor is based at Government House, the House is the normal workplace of the Lieutenant Governor and his staff.



The House was originally Bemahague Farm and owned by the Heywood family. The main part was built between 1820 and 1830 with an extension to its present size in 1904 when the Manx Government bought the House. The maintenance of the House is the responsibility of the Department of Infrastructure who oversee the property through their Estates team. The House has four main bedroom suites, a fifth bedroom, two large reception rooms, and a formal dining room; together with service rooms and a number of offices.

The grounds cover about 12 hectares, some of which is lawn or garden, with much of the rest being woodland or grazing land. There is also a well-established rose garden, orchard, vegetable plots and greenhouses providing flowers, produce and garden plants for the House and Gardens. Many visitors are welcomed to Government House each year, including: foreign Ambassadors, visiting politicians, VIPs and business leaders; and many more people from all walks of life on the Isle of Man. Functions hosted by the Lieutenant Governor and spouse range from formal ceremonies and receptions to teas, lunches and dinners. Organised visits by school groups and youth organisations from across the Island are also encouraged.

The support to the Lieutenant Governor in his official functions is provided by a small, dedicated team of administrative and house staff. They are all Isle of Man public servants and members of the Crown and External Relations Directorate within the Cabinet Office. The Chief of Staff/Private Secretary is responsible for the leadership of all operational aspects of the household and provides direct support to the Lieutenant Governor with their Constitutional duties. The Chief of Staff, House Manager and Social/Engagements Secretary handle all administrative matters, such as maintaining the Lieutenant Governor's diary, assisting with correspondence, speeches, arranging the daily programme and handling the protocol associated with all official events. The House Manager, Chef, Butler/Chauffeur and Assistant Housekeepers look after the House, Kitchen, the Lieutenant Governor's travel around the Island and ensure the efficient running of functions (with the support of a trusted team of casual staff, who supplement the team when required). There are also a number of Honorary Aide-de-Camps (Honorary ADCs) who assist the Lieutenant Governor and their spouse when they are hosting official functions at Government House.



Courtesy of gov.im - About the Government, Departments, Boards and Offices

Life is really simple, but we insist on making it complicated. -Confucius

KEBEG

There is a deep dub, or pool, on Ballacoan stream, which the children of Laxey call Nikkesen's. It is the home of Nyker, the Water Goblin. It has no bottom; and brambles and ferns are growing round it, and fir trees and hazels are hiding it from sight. No child, no grown-up persons even, will go near it after dark.

A great many years ago, a beautiful girl living at Ballaquine was sent look for the calves, which had gone astray. She had got as far as Nikkesen's, when she took a notion that she heard the calves over the river in Johnny Baldoon's nuts. At once she began to call to them:

'Kebeg ! Kebeg ! Kebeg !

So, loud that you could hear her at Chibber Pherick, Patrick's Well. The people could hear her calling quite plainly, but, behold, a great mist came and rolled down the valley, and shut it from sight. The people on one side of the valley could hear her voice yet calling through the mist:

'Kebeg ! Kebeg ! Kebeg !

Then came a little sweet voice through the mist and the trees in answer:

'Kebeg's here ! Kebeg's here !

And she cried:

I'm comin' ! I'm comin' !

And that was all. The Fairies who live in Nikkesen's had pulled in, and carried her to their own home.

She was never heard of again.

Manx Fairy Tales - Manx Notebook 1911

WELSH CHRISTMAS PARTY & AGM

The Sunshine Coast Welsh Society are again hosting a Christmas Party and AGM, and this time it will be held at the 'Golden Beach Tavern', 32 Bowman Road, Caloundra starting at 11.30 am. For the AGM and lunch at 12.15 pm. Prior booking is essential so please contact wssc@welshsunshinecoast.com Everyone is welcome to join them.

I have found that if you love life, life will love you back. -Arthur Rubinstein

ANNUAL CALENDAR

26 th . November	CCAQ Christmas Party	RSL Coorparoo 45 Holdsworth St.	12.00 noon
4 th . December	Welsh Society Sunshine Coast Christmas Party AGM	Golden Beach Tavern	11.300 am
10 th . December	QMS Christmas Party	Arana Leagues Club Dawson Pde., Keperra	11.00 am.
26 th . February 2023	QMS Annual Family Picnic	Jameson Park Scarborough	10.00 am.
11 th . March 2023	St. Patrick's Day March	Brisbane CBD	10.00 am.
4-7 th . May	Aust. Celtic Festival	Glen Innes	
20 - 21 st . May	Ipswich Celtic Gathering	Ipswich Showground	
17 th . June	Scottish Tartan Day	Toowong	11.00am.
25 th . June	CCAQ Friendship Day	Mt Gravatt	12.00
8 th . July	QMS Tynwald Day	Arana Leagues Club	11.30am.
15 th . July	CCAQ Annual General Meeting	Services Club, Coorparoo	11.00 am.
19 th . August	QMS Annual General Meeting	Arana Leagues Club	11.00 am.

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