



# Queensland Manx Society

## Serving the Manx Community since 1914

### NEWSLETTER JUNE 2023

#### INDEX:

Page 2 – QMS  
News – Too Old  
to Drive

Page 3 – Tynwald  
Day

Page 4 – Manx  
words

Page 5 – March  
Snow

Page 6 – Islands  
Coronation  
Celebrations

Page 7 – There's a  
Fault – Chips,  
Cheese & Gravy

Page 8 – Manx  
Myths – Railways  
Special  
Anniversaries

Page 9 –  
Retirement of  
Manx Missile –  
Queens Pier up-  
date

Page 10 –  
Summerlands

Page 11 – Battle  
of Ramsey Bay

Page 13 – Annual  
Calendar

Page 14/15 – Kids  
Pages

Winter is here again with plunging temperatures and April showers have passed along with some beautiful days in between. Australia has experienced the full gambit of weather conditions this year. In various parts of the country, we have had droughts, floods, fires, earthquakes, snow storms, high temperatures and strong winds. However, there have been some beautiful days along the way and it all seems normal in the end. We are so lucky to live in our part of the world where we can enjoy good weather most of the time. The Isle of Man has experienced some extremes of weather conditions, but they too have had some beautiful weather to enjoy as well. An article to follow will detail what real snow storms are all about.

The Queensland Manx Society is about to celebrate Tynwald Day on the 8<sup>th</sup> July, and we have organised a grand event with a wonderful guest speaker in Yvonne Barlow.

Yvonne has Manx heritage as the daughter of the late Heather Cowell along with her sister Shelley Cass. She was/is closely related to the late Lillian Smith and her family, a long-standing stalwart member of the Queensland Manx Society over many years.

Yvonne was a councillor on the Pine Rivers Council and worked closely with the Mayor, Yvonne Chapman, before it was merged with the Moreton Bay Regional Council. She even has a park named after her at Murrumba Downs in recognition of her services to the Pine River Council. She now is a sitting member of the Moreton Bay Regional Council.

Yvonne has, over many years been a driving force behind a group of ladies who perform at many charity events and in particular Aged Care Homes - called the "Red Hot Manas". We may ask her to perform for us on Tynwald Day.

Yvonne is a very successful business woman in Real Estate and is a breeder of horses on beautiful property at Kurwongbah with her husband Mark Henderson.

We have just received a copy of the London Manx Society newsletter, which has some wonderful articles in it. We have been given permission to copy articles in our newsletter and done so in the past, but this time we could almost put the whole newsletter in ours because the articles are so good. Alternatively, we could refer you to their website so you could download it, however, we have selected the ones that are most appropriate to us and show them below. Makes compiling a newsletter much easier for us and we thank the London Manx Society for their friendship and consideration.

### **QMS NEWS**

With sad regrets we have to announce the passing of Athol Peck of Jamboree Heights who passed away in May last, aged 89. While Athol's heritage was mostly Scottish, he accompanied his wife Edith who has Manx heritage, to many QMS events over many years. A quiet man with a long history in the automotive industry, he was always interesting to talk and had many stories to tell. We offer our condolences to Edith and her family for their loss.

Over the years, we have conducted events around the Brisbane (Sunshine Coast) areas, and have been able to gather members together in reasonable numbers. However, it is becoming more difficult to achieve the results of the past, (due to an ageing membership, increasing traffic flows, cost of travel, and cost of catering at events) and our committee has reconsidered how we organise our activities. One way was to have BYO outdoor functions at public sites and that was reasonably successful, but distances to travel to these locations is still a difficult issue. So! We are embarking on a new venture of having small "Meet-up" events in between the usual major events (such as the Annual Picnic, Tynwald Day, and Christmas Party). We have ascertained districts where members live and will look to arrange a "Meet-up" in various areas throughout the year. One of our committee members will contact you to see if you are available, and make arrangements to meet at a designated location and time along with a couple of other members for a chat and beverages. It's all voluntary but we are hoping you can join in with these small gatherings to enjoy a chat and raise topics of Manx nostalgia. If you get a phone call, please consider joining in and enjoy a lovely hour or two and even bring a friend along who has some connection with the Isle of Man. We are trialling this approach over the coming year to bring members and friends together in a different way so help us out by joining in.

### **Too Old To Drive**

Mylchreest Car Hire have advised me and Avis confirmed that Avis Car Hire for whom they are agents, now has a maximum age of 78 for those hiring a car on the Island (their own is 76). They believe that all other firms also apply a similar maximum age to all wishing to hire a car on the Island. It makes life more difficult for older members.

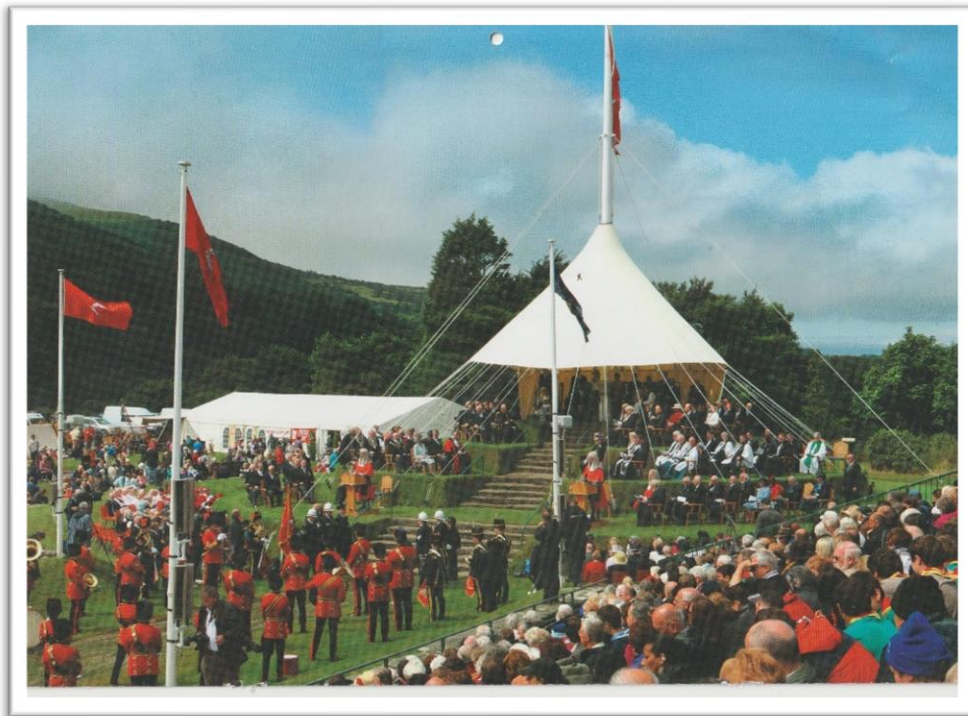
Courtesy London Manx Society, Douglas Barr-Hamilton

# **TYNWALD DAY**

**QUEENSLAND MANX SOCIETY INC**

**Saturday, 8<sup>TH</sup>. JULY 2023**  
**11.00 am.**

**ARANA LEAGUES CLUB**  
**DAWSON PARADE**  
**KEPERRA**



**YOU ARE INVITED TO A SPECIAL LUNCHEON TO CELEBRATE  
TYNWALD DAY OF THE MANX NATION.**

**COME AND JOIN IN THIS WONDERFUL OCCASION WITH A  
DELIGHTFUL LUNCH FOLLOWED BY A GUEST SPEAKER – CR  
YVONNE BARLOW FROM THE MORETON BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL.  
JOIN IN WITH FRIENDLY MANX MEMBERS AND FRIENDS.**

**Come along and join us so bring the family or a friend – lovely venue, lovely  
food and entertainment.**

**\$37.00 per person and the bar will be open for drinks and beverages – tea and  
coffee with the meal.**

**Wonderful Raffle prizes.**

## MANX WORDS

### **Fliaghey (Rain)**

"Into each life rain must fall", American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote, but if you're on the Isle of Man, you get more rain than usual. Being in the middle of the Irish Sea, the island gets 34 inches of rain a year, well distributed over all the seasons. Dublin gets 26.9 inches, and Liverpool 32.9 inches. The Manx hills get more rain, however, than the coastal plains. The top of Snaefell gets a drenching, 75 inches of rain on average a year. So, it's not surprising the Manx have a rich variety of ways to talk about the rain and multiple words to describe precipitation. The chief of these is a very old word, 'fliaghey'. In Manx fliaghey is rain, and ceau fliaghey means raining - literally 'throwing rain'. Fliaghey is derived from an old Gaelic word 'fleochad' or 'flechud', the common Gaelic word for rain in the Middle Ages. In turn, flechud was derived from 'fliuch', which means wet, and is fliugh today in Manx. Like eayst for moon and aile for fire, the medieval Gaelic term today survives only in Manx. Irish today uses 'baisteach' and 'fearthainn' and Scottish Gaelic 'uisge', or 'water'.

By the seventeenth century, 'flechud' had become 'fleichadh' in early modern Irish, according to 'A History of Ireland in 100 Words' (Royal Irish Academy, Dublin 2019). Fleichadh with a silent "dh" at the end, would be very close to contemporary Manx 'fliaghey'. That makes fliaghey a fine old word, indeed, but it's not enough to describe all the various types of rain one might experience on the Isle of Man. **Fliaghey-fliugh**, for example, is a drenching rain, literally a "wet rain". **Deayrtey fliaghey** is pouring or pelting rain, **sheer fliaghey** a persistent rain. A sprinkle of rain is a **Jeiryn fliaghey**. A misty rain is a **dramane** or **drapane**, and a little rain **smoidraght**. A Manx rain word chart would be very helpful. The very best Manx phrase concerning rain? "**Tarstaigh veih'n fliaghey!**" That's "Come in out of the rain", hopefully to a seat by a nice warm fire and an appropriate beverage.

### **Aile (Fire)**

Words related to hearth and home often convey warmth, light and comfort. 'Nil aon tintea'n mar do thintea'n fein' is an Irish expression meaning "there is no hearth like your own". The Manx word for fire, 'aile', is associated with a more unusual, heavenly form of light. Aile is pronounced much like "aisle" or "isle" in English, both of which have a silent "s". If you've been in Castletown, you may have strolled by the Stashoon Aile or Fire Station. But the Manx are unique in their use of the word aile, as in so many things, for 'fire'. In Irish and Scottish Gaelic, the common word for fire is 'tine' or 'teine'. That word isn't found in Manx. Instead, Manx preserves an archaic word that originally meant 'very bright' in Old Irish, 'aingel' or 'airgel' and later 'aingeal'. The word survives in Irish and Scottish Gaelic with the meaning 'brightness, light, fire, beacon, warmth', but is considered archaic. Not coincidentally, 'aingeal' is also the Irish and Scottish Gaelic word for 'angel', now 'ainle' in Manx. The word originally was borrowed from Latin 'angelus'. (Manx also has another word for angel, 'giallican', which would seem to mean "bright one" or "little bright one" from the root 'gel.)

The connection between the words for 'angel' and 'brightness' shouldn't surprise. Take this description of an angel from the Book of Daniel (110:5-6): "Va e chorp myrgeddin goll-rish y veryl, as e eddin myr sollyssid y tendreil, as e hooillyn myr lampyn dy aile..." - "His body also

was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire..."

So how did Old Irish or Scottish Gaelic 'aingéal' become Manx 'aile'? There are a couple of possible explanations.

First, the 'ng' in the middle of the word is elided in some Scottish Gaelic dialects, meaning it's more like 'ai-yil'. The same process may have happened on the Isle of Man. Second, 'aile' could also be related to later variants such as 'aigheal', in which the 'gh' would be pronounced as an English 'y'.

In any case, the ministers who developed the Manx spelling system, spelled the word as they heard it - more or less - without reference to written Irish or Scottish Gaelic.

In Ireland and some parts of the Scotland, 'aingéal' is pronounced with a hard 'ng' - something like the 'ng' in 'angular', Scots and later English borrowed the Scottish Gaelic word as 'ingle', referring to a domestic fire. We first find it in Scots in the early 16<sup>th</sup>. century, according to Dr. Michael Newton, who explores the origin of the word in his book "Gaelic in your Gob: Four Dozen English Words that Came from the Scottish Highlands" (Saorsa Media, 2021). You also may have come across the Scots term 'inglenook' - a recessed area by a chimney fire.

The Greeks believed Prometheus stole fire from the gods. In Manx, the word for fire has more 'angelic' origins. Remember that the next time you take a brabbag roish yn aile (a 'warning', usually of your backside, before the fire - a truly Manx expression!)

**Illiam Cassidy - Courtesy North American Manx Association.**

## **MARCH SNOW**

It seems odd to be reporting on snow in our summer edition of our newsletter, but members may be interested to know that the Island experienced a heavy snowfall immediately after our Spring newsletter. Most areas were heavily blanketed and the mountain roads closed although the route from Creg-ny-Baa to Douglas was soon cleared. However, Sue Wooley tells me that Ramsey escaped the snow and they were a bit disappointed. Elsewhere, it was heavy and many trees blown down made it difficult to clear the strong drifting on the road between Ballacraigne and Kirk Michael.

With its temperate climate, only infrequently has the Isle of Man experienced memorable blizzards, but one was the great snowfall of 1895 - and it did snow in Ramsey that year! Island newspapers tell the story of a thick white blanket covering the whole island: two feet deep drifting to 10 feet, was one estimate. The Ramsey Courier describes a south-easterly blizzard producing 33 hours of snow with temperatures as low as 19°F and it certainly came down hard from the outset. The train from Peel could not make Douglas and its passengers had to spend the night at Union Mills while the train to Ramsey got no further than Ballaugh. The "Ellan Vannin" anchored outside Glasgow because of poor visibility and a vessel that had continued its way into the port collided with her. The

Ramsey lifeboat, after being carried to the harbour for launching, was dropped into it before the tide had risen sufficiently and was damaged, fortunately above the water-line, allowing temporary repairs before setting off late to take the crew from a stricken vessel in the bay.

Different organisations seem to have had a different approach to clearing the snow. Access to the Snaefell Mine was re-established in a few days but the Laxey Wheel would not turn so water could not be pumped from the Laxey

Mines. Snow piled up in Parliament Street in Ramsey, remained there for three weeks and it was a long time before anyone could reach Sulby. The effects of the blizzard were most severe in the North of the Island but in the South Santon was badly affected and business or the day after the fall was suspended in Douglas and very few shops opened while a ship went aground near Port St. Mary, and the Castletown lifeboat was



Waterloo Road, Ramsey – February 1895. Courtesy of Manx Museum iMuseum

launched to bring the crew ashore. Many events from funerals to football had to be postponed. In the countryside, grass covered by snow prospered but the turnip crop suffered as did other vegetables and those looking after livestock found life difficult with big loss of sheep.

Courtesy of London Manx Society, Douglas Barr-Hamilton. Source: Island Newspapers.

### **Island's Coronation celebrations**

While the world's focus on the events of the coronation of Charles III was fixed on London with the governor and Chief Minister at the ceremony in the Abbey and others: two police officers on duty and an ambulance volunteer and a sea cadet lining the route, there were celebrations on the Island too. Several venues were open for communal viewing of the television coverage of the parades and ceremony: at the Empress Hotel in Douglas and Park Hotel in Ramsey, where afternoon tea was available afterwards, in the Market Square in Castletown and at the Courthouse in Ramsey where there was also a community

market. Then, in the early evening, Douglas' peace was shattered by the flypast of four Texan Mk.7 planes from RAF Valley in Anglesey.

On the Sunday there was a street party in Ramsey, a Parish Day in Ballaugh and a fair in Colby that was followed by a concert and, next day, a fête in Onchan at the Methodist Church, tea and entertainment on the Queen's Pier in Ramsey where the fourth and fifth bays are nearly complete, the first three being the venue, an afternoon tea with the public able to take a walk on the latest stretch of the pier to be restored.

Courtesy London Manx Society, Douglas Barr-Hamilton.



### **There is a fault line splitting the UK and America**

The Iapetus Suture runs through the Irish Sea, but is visible at one of our favourite places on the Isle of Man, Niarbyl.

The Niarbyl fault shows where two ancient continents collided - Avalonia and Laurentia.

Avalonia is now England, while Laurentia has part of North America and, interestingly, Scotland. The Appalachian Mountains are related to the mountains in Scotland, as well as, in Norway, but it does not really click that Scotland and England were ever separated geographically.



### **Chips, cheese & gravy is the national dish\***

Every time we go to the Isle of Man. EVERY TIME...

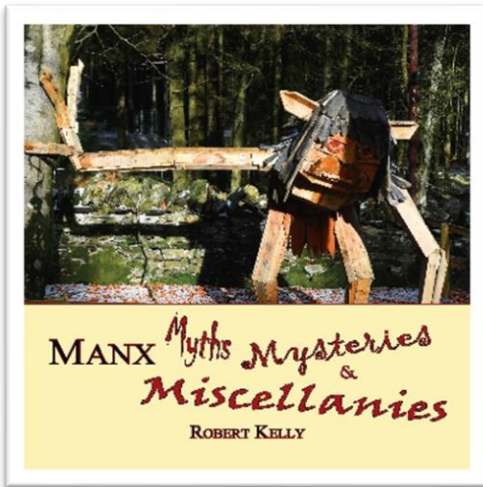
We HAVE to get chips, cheese & gravy!

It's exactly how it sounds - chip shop chips piled with exceedingly colossal amounts of grated cheese and gravy.

\*Okay, unofficially the national dish. The actual national dish is ... well, its officially Queenies, or queen scallops, as voted for by the public. However, chips, cheese & gravy only lost by around 100 votes. Traditionally, though, the actual national dish is "Priddhas an' Herrin'" - boiled potatoes and another popular Manx food, kippers.

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

## **Manx Myths, Mysteries and Miscellanies**



Do you know what a "Vitascope clock" is? Or where you can find the remains of the Manx flax industry? Or what was the meaning behind Mabelreign? Robert Kelly does! Manx born and bred, Robert spent his entire life researching and writing about the Isle of Man, and amassed a huge fund of fascinating and little-known information. Sadly, Robert died in 2018, but this collection of some of his unpublished work reminds us not only of his erudition and delight of his homeland. Whether he's writing about repurposing a concrete ship or the history of the Douglas mace, Robert Kelly writes with wit, individuality and style.

Courtesy London Manx Society - Sara Goodwins

## **Railways' special anniversaries**

Some of my friends love steam trains and view the Island as a paradise for railway enthusiasts. Its Heritage Railways are unrivalled with their unique narrow-gauge tracks, beautifully preserved and still running as they ever did. 2023 is a particularly special year, as it is the 150th anniversary of the Steam Railway and the 130th anniversary of the Electric Railway. Both have played an important part in boosting the Isle of Man's tourism, as well as serving the needs of Manx residents throughout their combined 280 years of service. This year, therefore, there will be a celebration of the railways and the ingenuity of the people involved in their operation over the years with a packed calendar of incredible events.

### **Saturday 1st July - Celebrating 150 Years of Steam**

The day will be filled with celebrations to mark the official anniversary of the opening of the Douglas to Peel line by the Isle of Man Railway Company Ltd on 1st July 1873. Featuring the 150th Anniversary Plaque unveiling, a Victorian Fayre at Port Erin Station, a Loco Line-Up at Douglas Station, a Dining Train to commemorate former Isle of Man Railways Company Secretary G.H. Wood, and much more.

### **Sunday 23rd July - Sunday 30th July - A Week-Long Railways Festival**

A festival to celebrate both anniversaries featuring Manx Electric Railway Motorman Taster Lessons, Legendary 'Boat Trains', Ultimate Railway Experience Tours, Workshop Tours, and much more.

### **Sunday 10th September - Celebrating 130 Years of Electric**

A special commemorative day to mark 130 years of the unique Manx Electric Railway which first opened from Derby Castle to Groudle Glen on 7th September 1893. Featuring the 130th Anniversary Plaque unveiling, a Victorian Fayre at Laxey Station, Snaefell Mountain Railway Workshop Tours and more.



The railways can be enjoyed throughout the year, whether it's experiencing an unforgettable journey along the coastal cliff tops, trying out one of the many unique dining events, taking a trip to see Santa, or enjoying a 'Fyn & Tonic' (with award winning Manx Gin!) and a Manx Mezze Plate with friends on the MER Fynoderee Line.

### **BBC Two's Great Coastal Railway Journeys**

An episode on Monday 22nd May on BBC Two where Michael Portillo visited the Isle of Man's ancient parliament of Tynwald, being taken down the east coast on the Isle of Man Steam Railway to Castle Rushen, one of Europe's best preserved Medieval castles, test-drove the smallest production car ever made in Peel, hopped aboard a working fishing boat at Port St Mary and met two passionate advocates of the Manx language.

**IOM Government, Visit Isle of Man (Courtesy London Manx Society)**

### **Retirement of the Manx Missile**

Just in time for us to be able to include the news in this newsletter we heard the news that Mark Cavendish had announced on a rest day in the Giro d'Italia that he will leave cycling. He expects to race in the Tour de France which starts on 1st July when he will start his retirement. He has just turned 38 and told a news conference, "Cycling has been my life for over 25 years. It's taught me so much about life, dedication, loyalty, sacrifice and perseverance - all important things to pass on now as a father.

"The bike's given me opportunities to see the world, meet incredible people who are involved and not involved in the sport - a lot of whom I call friends. Today is my son Casper's fifth birthday; it's a rest day and I can spend that with them now. Now it's important to be there for every birthday, every school concert - important I can be there for them."

Cav has been a keen cyclist for most of his life and, after impressing on the Island, was selected for British Cycling's Olympic Academy in 2003. That year he won three gold medals in the Island Games in Guernsey, in the Criterium, the men's Team Trial and the Men's Road Race and the next year a first "adult" event, the Girvan (South Ayrshire) Three Day Race. A sparkling career followed with a spectacular record in the tour de France in which he twice won the "Green Jersey" award for the top sprinter and won a total of 34 stage wins, sharing the record with Eddy Merckx. The Manx will be roaring him on when July comes.

Cav is still expected to race the Tour de France in July (starts on 1st), where he'll be aiming to break the all-time record of 34 stage wins that he currently shares with Eddy Merckx.

During his career, he's won 161 races and two green points jerseys at the Tour de France. He was chosen as the BBC's Sports Personality of the Year in 2011 and been named the Island's Sportsman of the Year twelve times since 2003 when he won the award for Under 21 Sportsman of the Year.

**Courtesy London Manx Society - Douglas Barr-Hamilton**

### **Queen's Pier update**

When we last reported on the renovation of Ramsey's Queen's Pier, constructed between 1882 and 1886 and named after Queen Victoria, work was ongoing by the Queen's Pier

Restoration Trust under a five-year lease with the government signed in July 2017 to restore the first three bays, the pier having been closed in 1990 following safety concerns and increased maintenance costs. A condition required the work to be completed in five years but it was actually finished in four. The lease has since been renewed for 15 more years with further extensions available if needed.

There was a special opening to the public on the Monday after the Coronation and on 14th May the pier began opening every Sunday between 2pm and 5pm. This will continue until the close of the summer season at the end of September and there is no admission charge. With the new lease in 2022, Dennis Curphey, an experienced site manager in the construction industry, took control of the project with a team of ten regular volunteers working on the pier four days a week, a team augmented by the governor's wife. In November 2021 Lieutenant Governor Sir John Lorimer and his wife paid their first visit to Ramsey's landmark and Lady Lorimer said that when she had a day free, she would volunteer her services to the pier's restoration. Despite her busy schedule, in March she kept her word and joined the volunteers in a morning of sanding and varnishing the rail's centre planks.

A huge operation was carried out over three days in November last year to swap the corroded old iron girders for new steel as volunteers continued their invaluable progress, meaning that phase two of the project, which goes up to bay eight, is on course to be finished next year. Delivery of steel for bay six is due this month and bays seven and eight will be surveyed before more steelwork is ordered. When they are complete, there will be just 52 more to do.

The restoration trust continues to seek funds to continue their work. The largest single donation to date has been a £30,000 legacy from a local resident who regularly fished off the pier and they have also been given a total of 36 lengths of rail from Auldyn Construction, which is replacing the track on the Snaefell tramway which are suitable for the track on the pier and the trust is grateful for the very generous donation. The project has cost the trust £375,000 so far and completing the work will probably increase the total expenditure to around £2.5 million. Fund raising efforts large and small will continue and a coffee morning was held in Ramsey town hall in late April.

**Courtesy London Manx Society - Douglas Barr-Hamilton - Source IOM Courier**

### **Summerland's not forgotten**

2nd August 1973 was a dark day in the Island's history. Built on the site of the old Derby Castle, Summerland had opened on 25th May 1971. Costing £2m the resort covered 3.5 acres and included a dance hall, five floors of holiday games, a roller-skating rink, restaurants and bars with accommodation for 10,000 visitors. But not everything was perfect. The roof was made of transparent acrylic sheeting called Oroglas. About 7.30 that evening, it caught fire.

About 3,000 people were in the complex and three boys were smoking in a shed on the centre's miniature golf course. Later they told the police that the blaze was probably started by a match or stub they'd thrown away. The burning kiosk collapsed on part of the building clad in a material with no fire-resistant qualities and the fire spread quickly through the sheeting that covered the rest of it, largely because of the resort's open-plan design. Because of delays in calling the fire brigade, it was particularly intense and locked fire doors prevented many from a rapid evacuation and some fifty people (some accounts say 53) died: eleven of them aged under twenty. Some eighty were seriously injured.

A public enquiry lasting five months began in September but no-one was specified as responsible and the fatalities were attributed to misadventure with the evacuation and flammable building materials being condemned and changes to improve fire safety required through amended building regulations. The Liverpool boys, two just 12 years old and the other only 14, were each fined £3 for breaking the kiosk door and ordered to pay 33p compensation and 15p costs.

Badly damaged by the fire, the site was cleared later that year and, although rebuilt on a much smaller scale to re-open in June 1978, Summerland closed permanently in 2004 and was demolished the following year.

Although a BBC report seemed to feel that on the Island the tragedy had been, "Forgotten and trivialised" Manx Radio tells us that, according the deputy chief minister who described the tragedy as a 'profoundly sad chapter' in Manx history, the fiftieth anniversary of the disaster should be a 'defining moment' for the Isle of Man. The Manx government plans to mark the anniversary with:

A national service of remembrance on 30th July at St George's Church in Douglas.

A presentation on the eve of the anniversary to recognise formally the emergency services and hospital staff for their response.

Culture Vannin's producing a new oral history project presenting memories from those who experienced the fire and its aftermath. Manx National Heritage launching an online exhibition called 'Remembering Summerland'

On 2nd August, Douglas City Council holding a service of remembrance at the Kaye Memorial Garden.

A book "The Silence of Summerland" by Ruth McQuillan-Wilson, costing £11.95 is available at bookshops in Ramsey and Port Erin, email: [mail@bridge-bookshop.com](mailto:mail@bridge-bookshop.com)

**Courtesy London Manx Society - Douglas Barr-Hamilton** - Sources: Manx Radio, BBC, Daily Express

## **Battle of Ramsey Bay**

A mercenary army raised by the French had just defeated the British at the Battle of Carrickfergus on 26th February, 1760 but the slaughter had been immense on both sides so after very much a Pyrrhic victory, they set off to return home. As the three-ship flotilla

approached the Isle of Man two days after the battle, it was intercepted by a Royal Navy squadron of the same size and battle raged as they sailed from Jurby to the Point of Ayre then, after the death of its commander, François Thurot, it surrendered in Ramsey Bay. The British had caught up with the French ships at about dawn and the battle begun between the Mull of Galloway and Jurby Head. Thurot responded by trying to use the soldiers he was carrying to board the Royal Navy's Æolus but lost many from small-arms fire while they were still on deck. The fleets then engaged in broadsides while sailing towards the north-east but the French, handicapped by being on a transport mission rather than a fighting one, suffered considerably more casualties, Thurot was hit by musket fire and killed with his body, like that of most of the casualties, thrown overboard. On reaching the Point of Ayre, the French turned into Ramsey Bay to surrender. Thurot's body was washed ashore at Monreith Bay in Dumfries and Galloway and buried with full honours in the churchyard at Kirkmaiden-in-Fernis.

In the Manx Museum there is a wonderful picture of the ships in Ramsey Bay after the battle painted by Richard Wright or one of his contemporaries and said to portray the scene accurately.

Despite the battle having little connection with the Island, it seems to have made an impact as there is in the glen on the opposite side of the main road at Bishop's Court, a memorial to the battle, a mound called Mount Æolus, and there used to be a monument including the bowsprit of the "Maréchal de Belle-Ile" which washed ashore on the Manx coast and two cannon that were stolen in 1987 and never recovered.

**Courtesy London Manx Society - Douglas Barr-Hamilton**

**WE ARE NEARING THE END OF OUR FISCAL YEAR OF OUR SOCIETY AND WE WILL BE HAVING OUR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING IN AUGUST. LONG STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE STANDING ASIDE THIS YEAR AND THE POSITIONS OF PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND TREASURER ARE VACANT FOR THE COMING YEAR. ALSO, WE WOULD HOPE THAT NEW PEOPLE WOULD NOMINATE FOR THE GENERAL COMMITTEE TO BRING NEW THOUGHTS TO THE TABLE FOR OUR DELIBERATIONS. IF YOU FEEL THAT YOU COULD CONTRIBUTE, TO PLEASE CONTACT GEORGE COWIN ON 0421210222 OR [g.cowin9@hotmail.com](mailto:g.cowin9@hotmail.com) TO OBTAIN A NOMINATION FORM FOR THE AGM.**

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

## ANNUAL CALENDAR

17 <sup>th</sup> . June	Scottish Tartan Day	Brisbane Boys College	(Cancelled)
25 <sup>th</sup> . June	CCAQ Friendship Day	590 Creek Rd.	12.00
		Mt Gravatt	
24 <sup>th</sup> . June	Midsummer Eve	Isle of Man	
8 <sup>th</sup> . July	QMS Tynwald Day	Arana Leagues Club	11.00am.
29 <sup>th</sup> . July	CCAQ Annual General Meeting	Services Club, Coorparoo	11.00 am.
16 <sup>TH</sup> . July	140 <sup>th</sup> . Anniversary United Welsh Church	6 Thomas St. Blackstone	
19 <sup>th</sup> . August	QMS Annual General Meeting	Arana Leagues Club	11.00 am.
25 <sup>th</sup> . November	CCAQ Christmas Function	Coorparoo RSL	11.30 am.
9 <sup>th</sup> . December	QMS Christmas Party	Arana Leagues Club	11.00 am.

PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT	SECRETARY	TREASURER
George Cowin D Ua	Maxwell Cain JP (C Dec) Urr	Glen Smith	Douglas Quayle D Ua
104 Blackall St.	20 Cashmere St.	6/18 Maxwell St.	232 Endeavour Dr.
BASIN POCKET Q4305	ROTHWELL Q 4022	NEW FARM Q 4005	BANKSIA BEACH Q 4507
0421 210 222	0407 039 356	0419 028 751	0490 771 235
<a href="mailto:g.cowin9@hotmail.com">g.cowin9@hotmail.com</a>	<a href="mailto:maxwellcain1@gmail.com">maxwellcain1@gmail.com</a>	<a href="mailto:glentaysmith@gmail.com">glentaysmith@gmail.com</a>	<a href="mailto:dnquayle@tpg.com.au">dnquayle@tpg.com.au</a>

### Committee Members:

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Val Ashworth

Tony Ashworth

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Norma Conwell

Nigel Jeffares

### Webmaster:

David Bayliss

### Life Member:

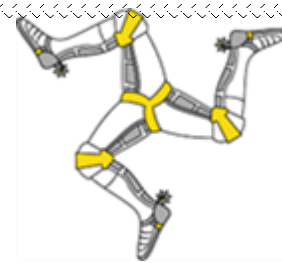
Les Witherington

### Kids Pages:

Deborah Rowles

**Membership Fees will be due in May so please forward your details and payment to the Treasurer, Doug Quayle. Direct Debit can be made to BSB 034 080 A/C 183032 Westpac Individual Member \$15.00 Family \$20.00**

# Manx Kids



*Dedicated to Edith Smith (nee Faragher) who was a long-standing QMS member.*

## *Five Fun Facts about the Hen Harrier*

1. Hen Harriers are hunters. They are birds of prey.
2. They glide down low in search of food.
3. They eat small birds and mammals.
4. They live in open areas with low-growing plants.
5. The hen harrier nests on the ground among the heather.



## *Billy Beg, Tom Beg and the Fairies* (Retold)



Not far from Dalby, Billy Beg and his little brother Tom Beg, lived together on a lonely croft. Poor Tom had a hump on his back. Billy was a bossy brother and was always telling Tom what to do. One day he said, "Tom, go to the mountain and bring home the sheep."



So, Tom set off to the mountain. He searched everywhere, but could not find any sheep. Tom had travelled far from home and dusk was coming. He started on his long journey back when a grey mist rolled in and Tom lost his way. When the mist cleared he found himself in a green glen such as he had never seen before.

Tom heard a far away sound drawing nearer to him. What could it be? The sound grew louder and suddenly, the glen was full of fine horses ridden by Little People with the lights on their red caps shining like the stars above, making the night as bright as day. They were blowing horns, waving flags and playing music.



Then, Tom saw, the grandest Little Man he had ever set eyes upon, dressed in gold and silver with shimmering wings. "It is a bad time you have chosen to come this way," said the Little Man who was the King. "Are you one of us tonight, Tom?" "I am surely," said Tom. "Then," said the King, "it will be your duty to stand here and take the password." The King whispered the password to Tom and he stood there all night doing his duty for the Fairy King. The King was so pleased with Tom that he used his magic to remove the hump from his back. When Tom finally arrived home, his brother couldn't believe his eyes when he saw Tom standing up proud and straight and tall.

*Can you find the  
Laxey Wheel  
on the Isle of Man map?*



### *What is the Laxey Wheel?*

The Laxey Wheel is a large waterwheel built in the town of Laxey in the Isle of Man.

The wheel itself is 22metres high. As a comparison a three-storey house is about 10 metres high. It is said that the Laxey Wheel is the world's largest working water wheel.

The wheel was used to pump out the Laxey zinc, lead and silver, and copper mine.

Today it is a popular tourist attraction in the Isle of Man.

*For you to colour.*

