



**Queensland Manx Society**  
**Serving the Manx Community since 1914**

*Newsletter - August / September - 2023*

	<b><i>Hello to all QMS Members:</i></b>
<b>Items of Interest</b>	
Message from President	As well as being voted in as your new President for the next 3 years, I also have the QMS newsletter to see to, and will try to make this as informative as possible, especially with QMS news and events.
Results of AGM	
Introducing your new Committee Members	We have a new, keen Committee, and I am looking forward to hearing all their new ideas which we can then share with you.
Opening of Standing Stones Date, Programme How to get there	Should you wish to put forward any ideas which you think could be of benefit to the QMS, please feel free to contact me at any time.
Hop-tu-Naa	
QMS Badges	I will be experimenting with different items of interest and would appreciate receiving some sort of feedback to these ideas. Also, if any of you think that you could prepare a QMS newsletter and have lots of ideas at hand, please contact the Committee. We would love to hear from you.
Meetings	
QMS Christmas	
Snippets from the Isle of Man	
Other Celtic Society Events	I look forward to seeing you all at the Opening of the Standing Stones, our Hop-tu-nee get-together and Christmas Party. Read on for more information. Until then.....
Membership Fees	
	Val Ashworth QMS President & Newsletter Editor

## **I INTRODUCING YOUR NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2023/2024:**

Following the Queensland Manx Society's **Annual General Meeting**, on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August, which was held at Arana Leagues Club, Dawson Parade, Keperra, I wish to advise the following results:

Firstly, thanks to those members who attended and helped the Meeting to run so smoothly.

**PRESIDENT:** Val Ashworth [Also Newsletter Editor]  
**VICE PRESIDENT:** Maxwell Cain  
**SECRETARY:** Nigel Jeffares  
**TREASURER:** Janis Blackburn

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Tony Ashworth, Norma Conwell, George Cowin, Betty Elmes, Doug Quayle, Michael Osborne

Also, taking over the position of **Social Media & Website Director**, is Doug Quayle. Congratulations to all Committee members. These new Committee members are keen to put forward new ideas to help advertise and promote the Queensland Manx Society over the next 3 years. If you have any queries or ideas for the Committee to work on, please feel free to contact anyone on the committee.

## **CELTIC COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA [QLD] – OPENING OF STANDING STONES MONUMENT IN BRISBANE**

The Celtic Council of Australia [Qld] is holding an inaugural ceremony to all to witness the opening of the Standing Stones in Brisbane, which they have donated to the Brisbane public. The Standing Stones each with a Celtic plaque are to be placed in Moorlands Park, details of which are below.

### **"News Flash"**

*Come along and join us to witness the Standing Stones Monument Inaugural Ceremony, to be held at the Moorlands Park, Auchenflower [just off Coronation Drive] Brisbane, on 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2023, at 12 noon.*

*Celtic Council of Australia [Qld] Inc. are proud and honoured to be able to donate this wonderful CELTIC STONES MONUMENT to the city of Brisbane.*

#### **Programme:**

- *Inaugural ceremony date - 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2023, starting at 12.00 noon until 3 p.m.*
- *Sentinels of the Stones appointment Ceremony – VIP's to arrive at 11.45 a.m.*
- *Grand Parade of flags of the Celtic Nations – Celtic Nations Pipes and Drums Band and Entertainment from the 8 different Celtic nations.*
- *Other entertainment by TOM KIMMET*
- *Food and Coffee Van on site*

#### **TRANSPORT TO MOORLANDS PARK:**

*There will buses to Moorlands Park, Ferries stop near by and the Auchenflower train station is a short walk away, and of course, Taxis, Ubers, as required.*

*Wesley Hospital "car parking" station can also be used - on through Patrick Lane.*

*Enjoy the day with the CELTIC COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA [QLD] - Bring your own picnic and drinks, Hats, Umbrellas, Chairs, etc.*

**FREE ADMISSION – EVERYONE WELCOME**

For the Queensland Manx Society Members, our own tent will be on display with Manx Memorabilia, etc. Come and visit, have a picnic, view our own Isle of Man Standing Stone with plaque and help promote the QMS on this important day. This site will be open to us for any of our events in the future and can be visited at any time.

## **HOP-TU-NAA**

*Hop-tu-Naa is a Celtic festival celebrated in the Isle of Man, and is held on the 31<sup>st</sup> October. It is the celebration of the traditional Celtic festival of Samhain, the start of winter. It is thought to be the oldest unbroken tradition in the Isle of Man. The tradition eventually mutated into Halloween in northern England and in Ireland, and was carried to America by Irish immigrants and developed into the modern Halloween.*

*The term Hop-tu-Naa comes from a Manx Gaelic song traditionally sung during the festival which included the nonsense Hop-tu-naa as a refrain. On the Isle of Man today, many groups of people continue the tradition of singing Hop-tu-Naa songs "around the houses". In the past, the local people would travel "around the houses" of the wealthy families, soliciting gifts and carrying turnip lanterns.*

*In modern day Hop-tu-Naa, children dress up and go from house to house hoping to be given sweets or money, as elsewhere. The children carry carved "turnip" lanterns [which are known as "moots" by the Manx] and sing Hop-tu-Naa songs. Many public Hop-tu-Naa events take place across the Isle of Man each year, most of which today include competitions songs.*

*There is also a traditional dance for the event, a simple procession dance for pairs of dancers which involves the Manx reel step and a combination of arches only. This dance is taught in many schools on the Isle of Man during October each year, and it is danced at many of the Hop-tu-Naa events across the Island.*

The QMS will not now be holding our own Hop-tu-Naa event this year, but it will definitely be on the QMS Calendar next year.

## **EMBROIDERY WOVEN QMS BADGES AND MEMBERS NAME TAGS:**

In the past, the QMS have had shirts, polo necks or otherwise, scarves, etc embroidered with our QMS logo. If you require any embroidery done, please let us know. We usually have a Blue shirt but any colour garment would be suitable. Please contact Mrs Jan Blackburn, on 0414 764 848, or Mrs Val Ashworth, on 0403 564 217.

Also, our new Treasurer, Mrs Janis Blackburn, can arrange for Member's Name badges to be printed. If you require a Name Badge, please contact her on 0414 764 848.

## **MEETINGS AND GET-TOGETHERS:**

As well as our usual more formal Members' meetings, we are hoping to hold more informal events, such as visits to Nurseries, the Tramway Museum, ABC Studios at South Bank, Cross River Rail tour, and picnics, etc. at different times of the year.

The first outing I would like to promote, would be a free tour of the Cross River Rail Experience centre, to find out everything you need to know about building Brisbane's new underground. Cross River Rail is a new 10.2 kilometre rail line from Dutton Park to Bowen Hills, which includes 5.9 kilometres of twin tunnels under the Brisbane River and CBD. By unlocking the bottleneck at the core of the transport network, Cross River Rail will allow more trains to run more often to enable a turn-up-and-go transport system for the whole of South East Queensland. I have been on the tour and it is very informative and quite awe inspiring, considering the width and depth of the whole concept. We could meet up and go as a group, or, if you would just like to go and take the kids over the school holidays, please contact Cross River Rail on 1800 010 875 or email on [info@crossriverrail.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@crossriverrail.qld.gov.au)

If you wish to go as a group, please ring our Secretary, Nigel Jeffares, on 0423 324 995 and he will arrange a suitable date for us.

### **QMS CHRISTMAS PARTY:**

Our Christmas Party this year, will be held at the Arana Leagues Club, as usual, on **Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> December, at 11.00 a.m.** As this is the last QMS event for 2023, please come along, bring friends and relatives, and enjoy. We will hold a Secret Santa again this year, with Santa himself passing out presents. Further details will appear in the next newsletter.

### **SNIPPETS FROM THE ISLE OF MAN:**

We have received an email from John Manley, Historian and Author, of Douglas, Isle of Man, asking for our members to be aware of his new book, ***“Manxman Captain Henry Corrin of the Mosquito Shore, 1752-1769”***.

*The book is a tale of survival in the alien environment of Central America; exporting mahogany and tortoiseshell to England and Jamaica and dealing in contraband with the neighbouring Spanish. Captain Corrin became globally successful and left his Bluefields estate in 1769 to his 5 year old Peel nephew, Robert Cummins. Captain Robert Cummins later became a successful British naval hero in his own right.*

For copies of the book or for further information, please contact: John Manley - Mobile +447624 420662.  
Email: [johnmanley58@hotmail.com](mailto:johnmanley58@hotmail.com), OR **TOBY PRESS**, 37 Stanton Road, ASHBOURNE DE6 1SH,  
EMAIL: [books@franscript.co.uk](mailto:books@franscript.co.uk)

### **TRADITIONAL INDUSTRY’S COMEBACK – [From the London Manx Newsletter]**

*During the last few days of July the Queenie season got off to a good start adding to the good news that the Island’s fishing industry is enjoying new life following a better season for king scallop and a new quota for herring, which meant that local boats could fish commercially for viable quantities for the first time in a quarter of a century.*

**Douglas Barr-Hamilton**

Source: Manx Radio

### **FROM MILK TO RUM [From London Manx Newsletter]**

*When I was a lad in Andreas, Billy Teare used to deliver a can of milk from Ballakelly each morning. Recently I have discovered that two friends, Rick Dacey and Ian Warborn-Jones, have set up an artisan distillery on the same farm in Kiondroghad Road where they produce spirits including a white rum known as “Manx Hoolie” and sell them through their business, Outlier Distilling Company, having converted the old milking shed into a distillery.*

*They are using a 160-litre wood-fired still, burning off-cuts from a local sawmill and using water from a well on the farm: all this part of an undertaking as a UNESCO biosphere partner to produce the rum in a sustainable way; every part of the process is done by hand.*

*I also discovered that the rum is now being sold in Harrods. I won’t be having it delivered daily.*

**Douglas Barr-Hamilton**

## PEEL CASTLE WOOD IN NEW SOUTH WALES MUSEUM

*Said to have been made from wood from the castle, a chair believed to have been made in the late 17th or early 18th century and belonging to New South Wales Manx Society member Inneen Donnelly has been found a new home as she needed to part with it. The Society has arranged for it to be exhibited in the Museum at Glen Innes. It's a museum steeped in Celtic tradition and the place where the Australian Celtic Festival is held annually.*

*Inneen's grandmother was a Quilliam and the chair comes from that side of her family which is related to Captain Quilliam who was on the Victory when Nelson died during the Battle of Trafalgar.*

**Douglas Barr-Hamilton**

**Source: NSW Manx Society**

## OTHER CELTIC SOCIETY EVENTS:

CCAQ Standing Stones Opening Ceremony - 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 at Moorlands Park, Toowong, 12 p.m.

CCAQ Christmas Party, 11.00 a.m. RSL, Coorparoo, 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2023

Queensland Irish Association Christmas Party, 11.30 a.m. - Toowong -26<sup>th</sup> November, 2023

Welsh Society Christmas, 12 p.m. 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2023 - Caloundra

## MEMBERSHIP FEES:

***Membership fees are due again. These have not changed - Single Membership is \$15.00 and Family Membership is \$20.00. Fees can be deposited in any Westpac Bank using the BSB 034080 and A/C 183032. Please send your membership fee to our new Treasurer, Janis Blackburn, email and address below:***

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### PRESIDENT

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### Committee Members:

Tony Ashworth, Betty Elmes, Michael Osborne, Doug Quayle, Norma Conwell, George Cowin

**Social Media & Website Director:** Doug Quayle

**Newsletter Editor:** Val Ashworth

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