

The Mhelliah

Mid October in London means the London Manx mhelliah and the Society again remembered and gave thanks for the Island's harvest at St Bride's Church in Fleet Street. The service was led by Nick Alexander, a joint member of LMS with his wife, Anne and, as usual, included Manx content, hymns to Manx music, the Lord's Prayer recited in Manx by president Alastair Kneale, the Tynwald prayer and the Manx fishermen's evening hymn.

Despite early fears in the committee, it was well attended and we especially welcomed Tony Sell continuing a link his mother forged in the middle of the last century and the Manx poet laureate, Zoë Cannell, who stopped over on her way to Clifton to honour T E Brown, posthumously the island's first poet laureate. Zoë was able add some zip to the lunch in the Punch Tavern in Fleet Street that followed the Church service, reciting two poems, one of which for the first time in public. A member of the society when she lived in London, it was also the occasion for renewal of friendships, the usual raffle of objects Manx along with Stewart Christian's Christmas puddings and other gateaux and, above all, an excellent pub lunch in the heart of London.

In his novel, 'The Manxman' written in 1894, Hall Caine describes the Mhelliah thus:

"On the day when the last of the harvest is saved in the Isle of Man, the farmer gives a supper to his farm people and to the neighbours who have helped him to cut and house it. This supper, attended by simple and beautiful ceremonies, is called the Mhelliah."

The day reflected something of that spirit.

London Manx Society also has a long association with St Bride's Church in London's Fleet Street, where the annual Mhelliah Service is held. St. Bride's is one of the oldest churches in London. It is traditionally thought to have been founded by St Bridget of Ireland in the sixth century or in her name by Celtic monks. Remnants of the first church on the site are said to have significant similarities to a church dedicated to St Bridget of the same date in Kildare, Ireland. The present church is thought to be the seventh church to have stood on the site. The most recent having been designed by Sir Christopher Wren in 1672.

Alastair Kneale

with additional material from DBH



Photographs, Alastair Kneale

OBITUARY

Mary Weller

Mary Weller was born in London into a Methodist family in 1947, the youngest of three sisters and attended James Allen's Girls' School in Dulwich. While at school, Mary did Christmas post in Battersea in December 1964 and first met Sam in the back of a Post Office van on the way to start their post rounds. Subsequently, they started travelling home from school together as Sam attended nearby Alleyn's School.



Following school, Mary attended teacher's training college in Brighton while Sam started a chemistry degree in Manchester. Following her training, Mary returned to London to start teaching while Sam remained in Manchester to study for a PhD. Mary and Sam were married in 1971 and Mary moved to Manchester, teaching in Sale, Cheshire while Sam completed his doctorate.

During their student years, Sam and Mary went on many adventurous travel holidays including hitchhiking one summer with university friends across Portugal, Spain, Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia.

Sam commenced work at Kodak's research laboratories in Harrow and they moved to Watford where they started their family, both their sons, Geoff and Colin, being born there.

Sam's mother lived in Bride in the Isle of Man and Mary enjoyed spending family holidays there. Both Geoff and Colin have happy memories of their visits to Ellan Vannin which continue to the present day.

Mary stopped teaching to bring up her family but, eventually, returned to part-time special needs teaching in Watford.

She dedicated herself to supporting Sam in his career looking after the family at home while Sam travelled to many parts of the world on business for Kodak. During one of Sam's assignments in the USA, Mary, plus Geoff and Colin, joined him there for a year.

Despite the many holidays in the Isle of Man to visit Sam's mother, there were also family holidays in France and Mary developed a love of the country.

After moving to Cambridge, Mary joined a French conversation group, replacing the Italian class she was part of in Watford. Both Mary and Sam enjoyed immersion French classes in various parts of France.

Mary was a talented pianist, singer and artist. She studied art at college and sang in a church choir in Bushey, Herts, possessing a lovely voice. At home she played on a pianola that belonged to her parents, filling the house with hymn, popular and classical music.

While not Manx, Mary attended London Manx Society meetings regularly with Sam and was a willing helper there. Her last holiday was a trip to the Island revisiting the many locations she had enjoyed there over so many years. Mary made many contributions to the life of Wesley Church, Cambridge, following their move there in 2005, including the Friday lunch club for the elderly and flower arranging. Special events like Christmas, Easter and Harvest would see one of Mary's wonderful floral designs in the church porch.

Sadly, following diagnosis of breast cancer and associated surgery three years ago, Mary developed Alzheimer's disease which quickly limited her ability to participate in, and enjoy, her interests. Despite this Mary continued to be involved in the church and French class for as long as she could and, with Sam, attended the local Memory Notes Dementia Singing Group, at which she could still enjoy music and songs. Their annual trips to the Norfolk coast every New Year's day also continued to the last.

Sam cared passionately and unrelentingly for Mary at home in the intense last year of her illness. The wonderful staff at Arthur Rank Hospice in Cambridge helped make her last few days at home as comfortable as possible.

Mary passed away peacefully a day after her 72nd birthday and will be sadly missed by Sam, her sons Geoff and Colin, their wives Helen and Lyn and her grandchildren Harry, Grace, Seb and Blythe.

Manx Language Poetry Selected for Endangered Language Anthology

With an estimated forty percent of languages around the world said to be in danger of extinction, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a

resolution proclaiming 2019 as the International Year of Indigenous Languages, in order to raise awareness of the potential threats to their future but also mobilise people into action for their preservation.

It's claimed that most of these are indigenous languages, which in turn is said to put both the culture and knowledge systems to which they belong at risk. Additionally, these people can often be isolated both politically and socially which is reflected by their geographical location, history, culture, language and tradition.

The Manx language was famously declared extinct recently by UNESCO based upon the death of the last native speaker, Ned Maddrell, in 1974. But after an outcry by some of the estimated six hundred active speakers, including pupils from Bunscoill Gaelgagh (the Manx speaking primary school) UNESCO revised the Island's language status to that of a living language. In many areas the state of an indigenous language is believed to reflect that of its people, where it identifies origin or membership in a community - as well as the ethical values of their ancestors. However, unlike some countries the Manx language, which has successfully embraced modern technology, has received positive support from government, in conjunction with the countless volunteers who have devoted their time to keeping the Island's native language alive.

Recognition of language instability is, however, growing, with a belief that a country's language should be recognised as a strategic, national resource for development and reconciliation, with the ability to foster and promote local culture, customs and values; ultimately adding to the rich tapestry of global, cultural diversity. The recent publication of *Poems from the Edge of Extinction: An Anthology of Poetry in Endangered Languages* by John Murray Press, on National Poetry Day, has also focused attention on this situation. Borne from the Endangered Poetry Project, this revolutionary publication, edited by Chris McCabe of the National Poetry Library, has brought together fifty poems from across the world where language has been identified as endangered, and includes a contribution from the Isle of Man by Bob Carswell, entitled *Duillagyn Ny Fouyir* or *The Leaves of Autumn*.

With one of the world's seven thousand languages reported to be disappearing every two weeks, this anthology (with accompanying English translation and commentary) aims to preserve and reclaim voices which would otherwise die. Chris McCabe said, "This book has grown from a simple idea I had in my role as National Poetry Librarian - to collect poems spoken, or written, in endangered languages throughout the world, which would help to document our understanding of how poetry exists globally."

The anthology, which includes contributions from both new and established poets, identifies some of those languages perceived to be endangered and offers a unique insight into the culture of those vulnerable languages through the voices of their writers.

Valerie Caine

© November 2019

(Courtesy of Manx Life)

Viking Time Names

In Viking times, the Danes were called 'DHOO-GAEL', that is black foreigners, while the Norwegians were called 'FIN-GAEL,' fair strangers. It has usually been supposed that this was a distinction made on account of a difference in complexion and colour of the hair in the two races but the Danes were not dark but fair and ruddy, as were the Norwegians. The reason the Danes were called 'Dhoo-Gael' is on account of the dark metal coats of mail they wore. The personal names 'Dougal' and 'Fingal' arose from the distinction. The people of Man and of the Isles in these times were said to belong to the 'INNIS-GAEL' or 'GALL-GAEL,' the name used exclusively to denote the race springing from inter-marriages between people of the two nations after Man and the Isles became inhabited by the Norse

(Source: Island Heritage (1952) by William Cubbon

NSW Newsletter Oct '19

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New book - Sophia Morrison, Mona Douglas and Their Enchanted Isle

Sophia Morrison and Mona Douglas devoted their lives to the preservation of the Manx Gaelic language and traditional Manx life, especially the Island's folklore. Sophia's Manx Fairy Tales is still a famous book while Mona Douglas was an outstanding poet from an early age and throughout her long life also made an impact as a prolific journalist, a novelist, a collector of folklore, folk music and folk dancing and a producer of pageants and plays and organiser of many Celtic congresses and festivals. She was also a lifelong buttress of the Manx language and flag-bearer for the Manx nation. On top of all of this she found time to be a hill farmer and to conduct a long romance with a handsome Italian former internee. This book by Derek Winterbottom is a short biography of Sophia and a longer one of Mona, who it claims to be the most influential Manx woman of the twentieth century. £12.50 Available in the Culture Vannin shop and other Isle of Man bookshops

Culture Vannin, November newsletter

Bunscoil Ghaelgagh trip to Ireland

A group of ten children, plus teachers and support staff from the Bunscoil Ghaelgagh recently went on a week-long trip to a Gaelscoil in County Clare, Ireland. This trip was partly funded through the Kaneen Bursary, which is run

by Culture Vannin, in memory of the generous financial support a Manxman in Canada bequeathed for events such as this. Support also came from Lloyds Bank in the Island and the parents.

The ten children had all demonstrated a commitment to the language and a willingness to use Manx with their contemporaries. With support from our partner school in Ennis, Gaelscoil Mhichil Ciosog, we visited a number of local sites and concerts and spent a day at their school learning Irish and finding out about Gaelic sports. Trips out included visits to The Michael Cussack Centre, the Burren and the Cliffs of Moher whilst children from the Bunscoill also performed at a local concert.

The aim of the trip – the first of many it is hoped – was to show to our own children that there are other students learning through a language similar to Manx and to get them to think of the wider picture of language revitalisation. The visit made a big impression on the students and we suspect that this might be long-lasting.

The Bunscoill and Culture Vannin received a great deal of PR for the trip both in the Island and in Ireland and the staff at the hostel, where we stayed, commented that our children were the best behaved that they had had in years. For more information and videos about the trip visit Learnmanx.com

Adrian Cain, Manx Language Development Officer, Culture Vannin

Celebrating 400 Years

It will be expensive in Plymouth next year as Massachusetts and the USA celebrate the 400th anniversary of the arrival there of *The Mayflower* and the Pilgrim Fathers but the North American Manx Association has chosen the city for their biennial convention. It is entirely appropriate in view of the Society's Manx connection through Captain Myles Standish, the group's military leader, a descendant of whom is past president of the Association, Norm Standish. The convention runs from the evening of Thursday 6th to Sunday 9th August a day on which no activities are planned that will provide the opportunity of building any friendships made and strengthening links already forged over the weekend.

Full details can be found on the Association web site, <https://namanx.org>
DBH

Florrie's Song

Last year in the western, "The Ballad of Buster Scruggs" a familiar song was heard. One key word was different in the film. It began, "Has anyone here seen Molly, Mollie from the Isle of Man." Of course, we all know the song as:

[Intro]

Has anybody here seen Kelly?

K-E-double-L-Y

Kelly! Kelly! Kelly! Kelly!

Kelly from the Isle of Man

[Verse 1]

Kelly and his sweetheart wore a very pleasant smile
As bent upon a holiday they went from Mona's Isle.
They landed safe in London, but alas it's sad to say
Poor Kelly lost his little girl up Piccadilly way
She searched for him in vain and then of course began to fret
And this is the appeal she made to everyone she met,

[Refrain]

Has anybody here seen Kelly?

K-E-double-L-Y

Has anybody here seen Kelly?

Find him if you can

He's as bad as old Antonio

Left me on my own-e-o

Has anybody here seen Kelly?

Kelly from the Isle of Man



[Verse 2]

When it started raining she exclaimed "What shall I do?"
For Kelly had her ticket and her spending money too
She wandered over London like a hound upon the scent
At last she found herself outside the House of Parliament
She got among the suffragettes who chained her to the grill
And soon they heard her shouting in a voice both loud and shrill,

[Refrain}

The Isle of Man Times in 1919 described the artiste that made the song famous as the greatest chorus singer in the world. It was, of course, Florrie Forde. Florrie had been born near Melbourne in Australia in 1875 but dropped her father's name, Flannagan after her parents' divorce when she was three and took her stepfather's surname, Ford, later adding an -e to make it her stage name, having moved to Sydney at the age of 16 and started a career in Music Hall. In 1897 she travelled to London and made her debut on the London stage on August Bank Holiday that year.

Several sources say she had been married for a short while in Australia but she married an art dealer named Laurence Barnett at Paddington registry office in 1905 giving her name as Flora Augusta Flanagan, spinster. By then she was well established in Music Hall. Florrie first appeared at the Derby Castle in 1900 where the audience would number around 4.000 and missed the Manx summer season only in 1902 and the years of the First World War, making her final visit in 1939. Her 1908 song, "Has anyone here seen Kelly", proved a big hit but she had other songs with a Manx hint including, "Flanagan, Take me to the Isle of Man again" although we don't know whether it was the song or her name that led to Robert 'Bud' Winthrop, a young comedian in her company, to change his name when he paired up with Chesney Allen, Florrie's one-time manager, to form Flanagan and Allen whose first appearance was in one of her shows known as, "Flo and Co". She first sang, "It's a long way to Tipperary" at the Derby Castle in 1913, a song that was to become a war time favourite with British troops and during the war she played a part a bit like Gracie Fields in the second. It was that year that she appeared in her first Royal Command Performance. She appeared again in 1935 and 1938. She embraced the gramophone too and made some 700 recordings between 1903 and 1936 and appeared in three films made in 1934 and 1935. The best known of these was, "My Old Dutch" which portrayed the lives of Londoners during the First World War. Her co-stars were Betty Balfour, Gordon Harker and Michael Hogan and it was produced at Islington Studios by Gainsborough Pictures.

Florrie appears to have enjoyed her time on the Island and mixed with the islanders when not performing. Indeed, she is quoted as saying, " I never have happier times anywhere than on the dear little Isle of Man". She acquired the bungalow at Niarbyl and spent her Sundays relaxing there and joined in Island life, even becoming Honorary Vice President of the Pulrose branch of the British Legion in November 1937 and being instrumental in the erection of the monument to the unknown sailor after the 1914-18 war.

Florrie Forde collapsed and died from a stroke after singing for troops in Aberdeen in April, 1940 at the age of just 64. Her songs, especially this one, live on. If you would like to hear her sing, Culture Vannin has restored two recordings and transferred them from damaged 78s and they can be heard via the organisation's web site.

DBH

Sources: Australian Dictionary of Biography, Leigh Life, Manx Music.com, Kelly Family Tree.

New TT Display to Replace Folklife Gallery in the Manx Museum

With new and exciting ideas in the pipeline for the redevelopment of the basement displays in the Manx Museum, it will bring to a close the much-loved Folklife Gallery, which has been on permanent display since the 1950s and remains largely unchanged. The Folklife Gallery is a gentle reminder of a bygone age on the Isle of Man, evoking memories of a mainly rural setting.

By far the largest display is the quarterland farmhouse, based on the northern style, which by and large, incorporates beach stones and a slate floor within its design, reflecting differences in building materials in comparison with the south of the Island. The unpretentious farmhouse, furnished with a host of domesticity, and gathered from a range of sources, was initially placed into position in 1938, allowing visitors an opportunity of viewing two distinct building styles. The other, of course, being Harry Kelly's cottage at Cregneash which opened during the same year. It encapsulated a life which was already rapidly disappearing.

There's long been a rumour that the spectre of a young child appears in the bedroom of the farmhouse, thought by some to be an urban myth, but if you know otherwise Yvonne Cresswell, a curator at the Manx Museum, would be delighted to hear about your experiences.

Farming life inevitably dominates the basement, an extension of the Manx Museum built during the 1930s, interspersed with historical curiosities, such as the Ballafreer sundial and reminders of Arthur Caley, the so-called Manx Giant, which have their own stories to tell. There's also an opportunity to look inside a fisherman's hut, glance at a typical old-style dairy and appraise the old-fashioned corner shop which sold everything you could possibly need, and was once a common feature in every village. And students of fashion can also enjoy a small selection of the museum's extensive wardrobe, covering the nineteenth century.

But life moves on, with Manx National Heritage currently at the feasibility stage of redeveloping the basement into a new TT gallery - dealing with nostalgia in a contemporary setting. It's a lengthy project, viewed as having international importance, with a potential opening date of 2022 (subject to change), displaying memorabilia as well as motorbikes and highlighting different strands of the TT which assist the smooth running of the event. It's seen as a good opportunity to re-interpret this area of the Manx Museum and engage visitors with objects using new technology, as a way of displaying another side of Manx identity.

Some of the objects currently displayed in the Folklife Gallery will be re-assigned elsewhere amongst the Manx National Heritage sites, with others

cared for in storage until such time as they too can be re-instated in future displays.

The Folklife Gallery currently remains untouched, but for those who wish to have a final, nostalgic visit, will close in January of next year.

Valerie Caine

© October 2019

(Courtesy of Manx Life)

The announcement caused quite a stir on the Island (letters in the newspaper/Tynwald question/Manx Radio, petition, etc.) and since publication of this article a petition to save the Folklife Gallery has been launched at www.change.org. Word from the Island suggests people think these will not change the outcome although the grapevine suggests that the quarterland cottage and the shop may be transferred elsewhere but at this stage any transfer remains unconfirmed.

Manx Cats cure sciatica

We are often recommended to fitness regimes: jogging, weight training, Yoga, Pilates and the like but did you know that Pilates originated in our Island?

The NHS web site tells us that Pilates was developed by German-born Joseph Pilates, who believed mental and physical health were connected. Pilates emigrated to the USA in the 1920s and opened a studio in New York where he taught what he first called, "Contrology" for over twenty years before the practice spread worldwide and took his name. However, Pilates beliefs were influenced by something else before western forms of exercise: the Manx cat. Born in Germany to Greek parents in 1883, working in a circus Joseph Pilates was in Britain when the First World War broke out in 1914 so was interned on the Isle of Man and found himself at Knockaloe. In an interview with Robert Wernick published in *Sports Illustrated* in 1962 entitled, "Learning to be an Animal," he is quoted as saying, "Here, as weeks lengthened into months and years, I watched my fellow-prisoners sink into apathy and despair, with nothing to do but stare at the bare crumbling walls of their prison, nothing to break the daily monotony but the inadequate meals (for the German submarine blockade was slowly starving England) and an occasional walk around the bare courtyard with nothing to look at but an occasional starving cat streaking after a mouse or bird.

"It was the cats which did it. For though they were nothing but skin and bones: even the most animal-loving prisoners could hardly spare them anything from their own pitiful rations when their own children were begging to be fed, they were lithe and springy and terribly efficient as they aimed for their prey. Why were the cats in such good shape, so bright-eyed, while the humans were growing every day paler, weaker, apathetic creatures ready to give up if they caught a cold or fell down and sprained an ankle? The answer came to me when I began carefully observing the cats and analyzing their motions for

hours at a time. I saw them, when they had nothing else to do, stretching their legs out, stretching, stretching, keeping their muscles limber, alive. I began working out an orderly series of exercises to stretch the human muscles, all the human muscles. I began demonstrating these exercises to the dejected figures around me and, since they had nothing else to do, they began to do the exercises too. Awkwardly and timorously at first but under my firm supervision, they became more and more confident, more and more bouncy, like cats. They ended the war in better shape than when it started and, when the great influenza epidemic came sweeping over all the countries that had fought in the war, not one of them came down with it."

I have my own testimony. Pilates style exercised prescribed by a NHS physiotherapist cured my sciatica some twenty years ago and it never returned; though 'flu did.

DBH

Sources: NHS, Knockaloe web sites

Vicars forbidden from keeping ale-houses on IoM

Vicars were forbidden from keeping ale-houses in 1667. Admittedly, it's not the most important of all events in the history of the Isle of Man, but it does raise questions about the lives of vicars (and the laity) during the 17th Century. The injunction from the Bishop of 1667 gives some hints to help your imagination... "Having had information that several Clergy men in this Island doe contrary to ancient Canons of ye Church, and the present Constitution and commands of our owns Church, disgrace their Calling & prostitute her houses (which should be as schools of Discipline to the rest of their Parishes) to Irregular & disorderly meetings by vending ale & beer & Keeping victualling Houses. These are to require all Ministers within the Isle aforesaid to forbear this unhansome & undecent Course so inconsistent with the Dignity of yer profession and so contrary to that studious retirement they are obliged to by it. And if any shall hereafter be found guilty of this sordid indecency he shall for the first time be suspended from his office and benefice and for the second made incapable of any spiritual preferment in this Island" This comes from the fascinating piece on 'Historical Background to Manx Public Houses' on the Manx Notebook online here: <http://www.isle-of-man.com/manxnotebook/gazateer/.../intro.htm>

NSW Manx Society newsletter, November 2019

Oie'll Verree

The words are another way of saying Christmas Eve and the day is still celebrated on the Island on 5th January, its date in the old Julien calendar and it's worth noting the actual meaning of the Manx words: Verree is one way of

saying Mary (like Moirrey or Mayree). When it follows another word such as Oie'll the M changes to a V in Manx.

Many Manx people nowadays will identify Oie'll Verree with the annual concert given in Kirk Michael sponsored by Culture Vannin and organised by volunteers of the Michael Heritage Trust, always held on 5th January. For the last two years the compère has been former LMS member Zoë Cannell, now an Island resident and the Manx Poet Laureate who joined us at our Mhelliagh in October.

The concert always begins with the audience singing "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night." An evening of Manx entertainment follows. This will include music, recitation, song and dance with the presentation of the Yn Gliggyr award. This precedes a Manx dialect play acted by The Michael Players and the final Arrane Oie Vie (Goodnight Song) before the eagerly anticipated home-made supper.

DBH

Sources: Culture Vannin, IOM Today, Alastair Kneale, Valerie Caine

Nollick Ghennal erriu, as blein feer vie
Seihll as slaynt da'n slane lught-thie;
Bea as gennallys eu bio ry-cheilley,
Shee as graih eddyr mraane as deiney.

Merry Christmas to you, and a very good year
Long life and health to the whole household;
Life and joy to you living together,
Peace and love between women and men.

Crossroads Care New Calendar on Sale Now

If you're looking for a gift with a local flavour which also helps the on-going work of an Island charity, then here's the opportunity to pop into any branch of Crossroads Care to pick up your copy of next year's calendar and their Christmas cards.

The charity's beautifully illustrated calendar, entitled As Manx as the Hills, has been designed by local artist Felicity Wood and depicts a number of original designs alongside a selection of Manx expressions. They have been chosen specifically for their relevance to the Isle of Man, using a mixture of well-known phrases and other which are a little more obscure - with

explanations also provided. This year's Christmas card design has been taken from the calendar. Felicity, who has been associated with Crossroads Care for eighteen years, specialises her work by developing a modern twist on Celtic design using a range of medium, including clay and watercolour. Her work has raised thousands of pounds for the charity.

Crossroads Care is an independent Manx charity which provides support to all carers and individuals with care needs, regardless of disability, illness, or age, and is currently the leading provider of both practical and emotional support for carers living on the Isle of Man - with a view to improving their lives.

Both the calendar and cards can be purchased from the charity's main office at Eden Park, or from any of their local shops. Alternatively, purchasers can phone 673103 or contact mfaragher@crossroadsiom.org. The calendar is priced at £6 with a pack of ten Christmas cards costing £4.

www.crossroadsiom.org

Valerie Caine

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December Island Quiz

(Open to non-members through the web site)

1. The words to the Manx fishermen's Evening Hymn were written by (a) Dr J Clague, (b) A P Graves, (c) J F Gill, (d) W H Gill?
2. Hollywood's film of Hall Caine's, "The Manxman," was made in (a) 1924, (b) 1925, (c) 1926, (d) 1927?
3. The car with the first MN number (MN1) belonged to the deemster, current or retired, (a) Charles Callow, (b) Sir William Drinkwater, (c) Thomas Kneen, (d) Stewart Stevenson Moore?
4. The IOMSPCo ship that ran aground on Conister Rocks in 1939 (98 years after the Tower of Refuge) was (a) Ben-my-Chree, (b) The Cushag, (c) The Mona, (d) Tynwald?
5. The LMS quarterly quiz is published to honour the memory of (a) G F Clucas, (b) R H Fargher, (c) P E Garbutt, (d) W S Rosee?

Closing date 15th January. The first reader to send me five correct answers will receive a Manx £20 note.

Answers to Autumn quiz:

1. The IOMSPCo ship named to honour Queen Victoria was called, (b) Empress Queen,
2. The Manx brothers who collected Island folk music in the 1890s were named, (d) Gill,
3. Glen Rhenass is now known as (c) Glen Helen,
4. Cheltenham Spa was founded by a Kirk Lonan sea captain named, (d) Skillicorn.
5. Cummal Mooar (sheltered housing) on Queen's Promenade, Ramsey replaced the retail outlet, (a) Fargher's General Store.

There was no all-correct set of answers in October.

Acknowledgements

The editor thanks Adrian Cain, Valerie Caine, Alastair Kneale, Sam Weller and New South Wales Manx Society, for their kind contribution and also Isle

of Man Newspapers, Culture Vannin, Yn Cruinnaght and Manx National Heritage. News about you and articles (of around 450 words) about Island life are welcome and of interest to all. If in doubt, please contact me.

Contributions can be sent at any time for inclusion in the next newsletter, if possible by email (*barrhamilton@btinternet.com*) or to 132 Bush Hill, N21 2BS. Copyright is retained by the contributor. Opinions expressed are those of the contributor and not necessarily those of the editor or the Society. Closing date for the next issue, 20th February.

Dates for your Diary

Mhelliah

Wednesday 11th December at 3.30 pm.

Join President and Secretary's Christmas chat in the "Bonnington"
Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Southampton Row, WC1B 4BH

NEXT NEWSLETTER DUE IN THREE MONTHS

PLEASE SEND NEWS TO:

Douglas Barr-Hamilton, 132 Bush Hill, London N21 2BS

(telephone 020 8360 8001)

e-mail: barrhamilton@btinternet.com

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