

The Friends of
Manx National Heritage



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Dear Friend,

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I am pleased to be sending you details of the 2009 AGM and Annual Lecture, together with the latest FMNH Members Events Programme. The subject of the Lecture is "A Lifetime with Historic Buildings" by Dr. Donald Buttress LVO OBE. Dr Buttress is an architect of outstanding talent responsible, amongst other projects, for the monument of the late Queen Mother in The Mall. This should prove to be a very interesting evening.

It has been another action packed (if rather soggy!) summer! I seemed to be always reorganising outdoor events, but in all cases the wait was worth it. The rescheduled walk from Port St Mary to Port Erin with Dessie Robinson, for example, ended up a sparkling day that only the Isle of Man can give you. And we even managed to lay on basking sharks close inshore! Do look at the website www.friendsofmanx.org for some of the other things we got up to over the summer.

For the winter programme I have, as usual, tried to find something for everyone. I have tried to do more events in the evening and weekends for those of you who work. I do hope you enjoy what's on offer. You will see that we have been invited by the Steam Packet to visit parts of the Ben that the public don't usually get to see. Also we are extremely fortunate to be able to put on another Murder Mystery Dinner. The last two have been incredibly popular and Jane MacGregor Edwards has penned another epic, this time called "The Rum Cove Murder". Do book early for this evening of sleuthing as the places go very quickly.

The three Balthane visits are the same tours as we have been running this summer. We will organise new visits for the 2010 summer programme picking out different items of interest. Also, if you're wrestling with what to give people for Christmas, don't miss the 15% off shopping day for FMNH members at the Manx Museum on 21st Nov.

I would also like to thank all those at Manx National Heritage who help with the Museum talks. These are always fascinating events and the speakers take a lot of time and trouble preparing for these free sessions. A pretty please though... if you put your name down do try to turn up and support, or let me know if you are not coming so I can offer the place to someone on the waiting list.

My thanks must go to all you volunteers who have supported us this year. We have achieved so much and I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting so many new people. We really are making a difference. Thank you. You will find the latest volunteer opportunity form at the back of this leaflet.

We also enjoyed seeing so many of you at the Royal Show this year. We love it when you stop and say hello and I'm pleased to say the stand won First place in its category for Best Stand!

Lastly you may be interested to know that I have been volunteered into giving a talk to the BaFM (British Association of Friends of Museums) conference in York in Oct as a curtain raiser to FMNH hosting the conference here next year.

I know I say this in every letter, but it really is important! If you change your e.mail address (or your mailing address), do please let us know. It can save a great deal of returned e.mails and wasted postage and ensures that you do get your new cards etc on time. I am always pleased to hear from any member by phone or e.mail.

Many thanks for your continued support.

With best wishes,

Nicola