

The Friends of
Manx National Heritage



**Members' Events List
& Volunteer Programme**

2018/19

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The Friends of Manx National Heritage



October 2018

Dear Friend,

Pease find attached the 2018/9 Events and Volunteer Programme. As usual we have tried to find something for everyone.

I am very grateful to all of you who have attended our events over the summer – and what a summer it has been! For me, one of the highlights was standing on the top of Cronk Guckley just outside Kirk Michael on a lovely day and seeing a Bronze Age jar about to be brought out of the ground. We are so fortunate with the quality of all our speakers and guides at FMNH events and the fact that events are always fully booked speaks volumes.

I'm also grateful to our wonderful volunteers – and this includes our Corporate volunteers. As the Director has mentioned in his letter, our volunteers have been extremely active on all sorts of projects. We try to make volunteering fun and I am always pleased to hear from any member who may have a particular skill which they think we might be able to use. I hope you find the Events List of interest. Please book early!

Lastly, my usual plea! If you change your address or email address, please let us know. I hope to see as many of you as possible at the AGM on Sat 24th Nov. I will be circulating a letter from the Chairman prior to the AGM in the November newsletter.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nicola".

Development and Admin Officer



Manx National Heritage

Eiraght Ashoonagh Vannin

www.manxnationalheritage.im

Letter from MNH Director, October 2018

Dear Friend

On November 11th the Island joins with the UK, the Commonwealth and many other countries across the world to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War. As you will know, the contribution that Manx men and women made during the conflict was substantial and the war itself brought about massive social and political change here on the Island.

As you would expect Manx National Heritage has played a key role in commemorating this conflict. We have researched and made available our archives and collections; published a key book on the impact on the community, organised a major exhibition in 2014, co-ordinated events and activities by others, delivered lecture programmes, and secured funding to send local school children on battlefield tours. We were able to put the iMuseum at the heart of this by adding biographies of hundreds of Manx people who participated directly in the conflict on land, sea or air, as well as those who served in other ways. We also digitised and translated a unique archive of newspapers produced in the civilian internment camps in Douglas and Peel. In partnership with the IOM War Memorials Committee we refreshed the database of War Memorials and the records of those men recorded on them – again hosted on the iMuseum. We are marking the end of the commemorations by opening a new chapter in the story at the Manx Museum in the form of a gallery. Simply entitled “Mann at War” it surveys the contribution Manx men and women have made to national and international conflicts over 200 years up to the present day. The gallery is the latest component of our refurbishment plan for the Manx Museum and has allowed us to replace outdated displays and update the infrastructure, lighting and decoration.

I am particularly grateful to FMNH for providing funding to conserve the textiles and uniforms which will be displayed in the gallery. This is very time-consuming and specialist work, and it was invaluable to have your support a considerable time ago to allow the work to be completed in advance of the actual project.

The next significant stage of our gallery refurbishment plan is at the early stages of planning and again your support is coming at the crucial early stages of development. Over the last two decades MNH has put on a great many exhibitions and events relating to the TT and it has been our intention to create a long-term exhibit which appropriately reflects the cultural and historic significance of the TT to the Isle of Man. There is no doubt of that significance or our role as the national heritage agency in collecting, researching, telling and sharing the stories and passions which make the TT such a unique and compelling phenomenon. Already we host thousands of images of the TT and all the statistical data on the races on the iMuseum. Over recent years, we have also been building our relationships with individual riders, race teams, organising clubs

and societies to develop our TT collections in preparations for the new gallery. At the moment we are developing plans to strip out the displays in the Lower Folk Gallery as the intended home for the new gallery. Parts of this space date back as far as the 1930's and tell stories which are now told more comprehensively in other sites such as Cregneash, the Grove and the House of Manannan. Just getting the space into good order will be a significant project in its own right as we need to replace electrical, lighting and heating systems and floor coverings as well as decorative finishes and so on. Access to what is technically a basement is also problematic.

The core of the gallery is going to focus on the TT and its impact on the Island. However, that impact has also included other forms of motorsport and other races such as the Southern 100 – which we will not ignore. From the start we are determined to reflect the passion and emotions that surround racing and it will not be a soul-less line-up of machinery. Obviously the bikes and the riders are important but we also want to reflect the experience of the community, the mechanics, the marshalls, the families and the fans. And we must of course remember in an appropriate way those who have lost their lives in pursuit of their dreams, and the families they leave behind.

FMNH has helped the development of the national collections and the gallery by making available an initial sum of £50,000 towards the acquisition of new items. Trustees immediately matched this and as a result we have already been able to make some very special key additions – some of which you will have seen in the media. I am pleased to tell you that this vote of confidence has attracted the attention of a number of collectors and agencies both on and off the island and we have had generous offers of support already as a result. I am also very pleased to see that we have a small group of FMNH members coming together with our lead curator for the project to identify contacts and opportunities that will help us develop the national collections and related initiatives.

In focussing on these two issues I mustn't give the impression that this is all we do. In practice MNH delivers an incredible range and variety of services to many different audiences across the world all year round. We couldn't do it without the financial and volunteer support we get from our Friends. The formal relationship between FMNH and the Trustees continues to thrive and develop, though issues such as GDPR, and new legislation for charities will doubtless mean technical changes in the way we administer memberships and communications. But all these are trivial in the context of our shared values and passions for Manx heritage, landscape and culture.

With my continued and heartfelt thanks,



Edmund Southworth
Director – Manx National Heritage

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PS. Don't forget to sign up online for our newsletter.

Members Events Programme 2018/19

NOVEMBER

Thursday 8th

1000 years of Manx History at the House of Manannan

Join us for drinks and buffet supper whilst our story tellers take you on a journey through 1000 years of Manx history.

Time: 6.30. 7.00 & 7.00pm

Venue: House of Manannan Max 60

£12.50pp

Monday 12th

Tour of the new Mann at War gallery

With curator Matthew Richardson – a chance to hear about some of the more interesting exhibits. If this event is oversubscribed we will repeat it.

Time: 2.00pm

Venue: Manx Museum

Max 12

FREE

Tuesday 20th

The Dome

A private visit to the most advanced Digital Planetarium and Immersive Cinema Theatre on the Isle of Man. With this innovative digital technology you will be provided with entertaining, educational and escapist experiences. Learn about light years and astronomical distances. Relax with a ride on the steam train. Be amazed at the animal antics at the Curragh's Wildlife Park. Also... a different observation of Laxey and Peel. Plus... a bit more! An opportunity not to be missed!

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: The Nunnery Max 30

£10pp

Thursday 22nd

Craft Workshop

Calling all crafters! Come and join us for a fun filled afternoon in the beautiful surroundings at Cregneash. All materials provided. We are going to try and make this a monthly workshop.

Time: 2.00 – 4.30pm

Venue: Quirk's Croft Max 12

£5pp

JANUARY

Thursday 17th

Craft Workshop

Calling all crafters! Come and join us for a fun filled afternoon in the beautiful surroundings at Cregneash. All materials provided. We are going to try and make this a monthly workshop.

Time: 2.00 – 4.30pm

Venue: Quirk's Croft Max 12

£5pp

Wednesday 30th

How to move a Giant - Laura McCoy, Curator: Natural History

The story of how the Manx Museum acquired their large Sei Whale skeleton and how strandings are dealt with today.

Time: 11.00am

Venue: The Manx Museum

Max 50

FREE

FEBRUARY

Tuesday 12th

Isle of Man Public Record Office, Braddan – Tour of Archives and Collection Highlights

The Public Record Office is the official archive of the Isle of Man's public bodies, including Government, Tynwald, Courts and the local authorities. This event gives you the chance to see the PRO's Spring Valley storage facility, which houses records ranging from the 18th Century to the present day, and find out more about the valuable work taking place here. You can also enjoy a talk from Nigel Crowe highlighting some of the less well known source material to be found in their holding.

Time: 2.30pm Venue: Public Records Office, Spring Valley Ind Estate Max 12 FREE

Thursday 14th

Craft Workshop

Calling all crafters! Come and join us for a fun filled afternoon in the beautiful surroundings at Cregneash. All materials provided. We are going to try and make this a monthly workshop.

Time: 2.00 – 4.30pm

Venue: Quirk's Croft

Max 12

£5pp

Tuesday 26th

Researching your Family History

The Reading room at MNH is a hub for people from all over the world tracing their Manx roots. The team are offering a closed session for Friends to learn about the resources and expertise available there. A brief talk will be followed by the chance to try some hands on research. Session to last 90 minutes.

Time: 10.15 am start.

Venue: Manx Museum

Max: 20

FREE

MARCH

Thursday 14th

Craft Workshop

Calling all crafters! Come and join us for a fun filled afternoon in the beautiful surroundings at Cregneash. All materials provided. We are going to try and make this a monthly workshop.

Time: 2.00 – 4.30pm

Venue: Quirk's Croft

Max 12

£5pp

Tuesday 26th

Capture the Castle, capture the cross: How we took engagement on the Isle of Man to another dimension with 3D digital content

Jude Dicken, Collections Information Manager and Allison Fox, Curator of Archaeology. 3D scanning is one of the new big things in the museum world. Jude and Allison gave a presentation at a conference at the British Museum to showcase two projects that Manx National Heritage has commissioned. This talk is an illustrated update on those projects – the recording of Castle Rushen and also the Manx Crosses.

Time: 11.00am

Venue: iMuseum

Max 50

FREE

Friday 29th

Murder Mystery Dinner “Murder at the Wedding”

The Suspect Players are delighted to present the premiere of the latest FMNH ‘whodunit’. (No acting / active participation required). Bring your own wine.

Time: 7pm

Venue: Ballasalla Village Hall

Max 70

£20pp

APRIL

Thursday 4th

“Developments at St Peter’s Church, Onchan”

Elsa Bridson will give a short illustrated talk on the Crosses; there will then be an opportunity to see the window restoration work, browse the information material about events during the Church’s History, and see the newly published books on ‘Vicars of Onchan’ by Elaine Moore.

Time: 2.00 pm

Venue: St Peter’s Church, Onchan

Max 50

FREE

Thursday 25th

Craft Workshop

Calling all crafters! Come and join us for a fun filled afternoon in the beautiful surroundings at Cregneash. All materials provided. We are going to try and make this a monthly workshop.

Time: 2.00 – 4.30pm

Venue: Quirk’s Croft

Max 12

£5pp

Tuesday 30th

Meayll Hill, Cregneash

Join MNH Curator of Archaeology, Allison Fox, as she leads a guided walk around this fascinating site. With prehistoric burials and war-time technology, this Hill is packed with stories about the people of the Isle of Man. Followed by tea at the Cregneash tearoom, under new management, to sample delicious tea / coffee and cake!

Time: 2pm

Venue: Meet in the Cregneash Car Park

Max 12

£5pp

Volunteers needed ...

Can you help?

We are really grateful to all our members who volunteer to help FMNH. Your contribution greatly assists our work and without you we couldn't achieve all that we do. We are always pleased to welcome new volunteers.

Please fill in the details below if you would like to give some time to help the work of FMNH. It can be rewarding and fun! More information and times will be confirmed nearer the time of the events.

Name

Address

.....

PostcodeE-mail

Telephone (Home)

(Work)

(Mobile).....



Please tick the box with any areas you are able to help:

Sewing bees needed - Friday 16th November

We had such a successful workshop last time, thank you to all those involved.

- ☐ Nicola Tooms (assistant curator MNH) would love some help again to make some garment bags for the textiles in the collection. Come and be part of a sewing workshop at the House of Manannan. If you have a sewing machine we would love you to bring it. Lift available for transporting.

Assisting at FMNH events

Thursday 8th November

1000 years of Manx History at the House of Manannan

- ☐ Help with setting up ☐ assist with food preparation and clearing up

Friday 29th March

Murder Mystery Dinner

- ☐ Laying the tables, setting up ☐ Assist with serving food and clearing up

Assisting at MNH events

- ☐ Friday 26th October, 6.30pm – 10.30pm. Ceilidh at Cregneash. Help with catering and ushering
- ☐ Saturday 1st December - Christmas Lantern Making. 2pm and 4pm, at the House of Manannan.
- ☐ Saturday 8th and ☐ Sunday 9th December assisting at a Victorian Weekend at the Grove.
- ☐ Sunday 16th December - Christmas Concert at the Manx Museum 3 x volunteers to look after the tea/cakes etc. in the afternoon.
- ☐ **Supporting MNH Education Department.**
Assisting with preparation for their Schools workshop days. Anthea runs a great programme and FMNH are delighted to support her. Workshops are at the Manx Museum or House of Manannan. Dates to be confirmed

Gardening at Rushen Abbey and the Grove.

We have had a successful summer with help from many volunteers who have made such a difference to the gardens. We are looking for more volunteers who might be able to give some time to work alongside Philip on a Monday at Rushen Abbey, and on a Friday at The Grove. Philip has exciting plans for improvements at the sites. We would love to hear from you if you can help.

- ☐ Rushen Abbey ☐ The Grove



Friends of Manx National Heritage

Booking Form 2018 / 2019

Fill in the booking form and return with your cheque, **made payable to FMNH**, to:
Mrs N Pemberton, FMNH, Ballachrink Mill, Santon, IM4 1HE

NB: to save on postage **WE DO NOT SEND OUT TICKETS**. We will contact you if you are not successful. Events on a "first come, first served" basis.

Name

Address

.....Postcode

E-mail

TelephoneMobile.....

| Date | Event | Price pp | No's | Cost |
|---------------|----------------------------|----------|------|------|
| Thur 8th Nov | 1000 years of Manx History | £12.50 | | |
| Mon 12th Nov | War Gallery Tour | FREE | | |
| Tues 20th Nov | The Dome | £10 | | |
| Thur 22nd Nov | Craft Workshop | £5 | | |
| Thur 17th Jan | Craft Workshop | £5 | | |
| Wed 30th Jan | How to Move a Giant | FREE | | |
| Tues 12th Feb | Public Record Office | FREE | | |
| Thur 14th Feb | Craft Workshop | £5 | | |
| Tues 26th Feb | Family History | FREE | | |
| Thur 14th Mar | Craft Workshop | £5 | | |
| Tues 26th Mar | Capture the Castle | FREE | | |
| Fri 29th Mar | Murder Mystery | £20 | | |
| Thur 4th Apr | St Peter's | FREE | | |
| Thur 25th Apr | Craft Workshop | £5 | | |
| Tues 30th Apr | Meayll Hill | £5 | | |



