

The Friends of
Manx National Heritage



**Members' Events List
& Volunteer Programme
2022**

Tel: 01624 824137

Website: www.friendsofmanxheritage.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/friendsofmanxheritage

E-mail: nicola@manxheritage.org

Isle of Man Registered Charity No. 1027

The Friends of Manx National Heritage



April 2022

Dear Friends,

First of all, I would like to pass on congratulations to Marcus Thornton (MNH staff member at the Manx Museum) who drove to the Ukraine border with aid supplies from the people of the Isle of Man, to give to the many Ukrainian refugees fleeing to Poland from the Russian invasion. It is horrific to see what is unfolding in Ukraine and our thoughts are with the people of Ukraine and all those who have been displaced.

As I write this letter, staff at Manx National Heritage sites will be starting to open up the sites, getting ready for the new season. Do please take time to visit the sites, you will receive a very warm welcome. The Bay Room Café at the Manx Museum is now serving a full range of hot drinks, home-made soups, made to order sandwiches plus scrumptious cakes all provided by Noa Bakehouse. Treat yourself!

Meanwhile, it is still full steam ahead with repairs at the Great Laxey Wheel. Restoration work of the Wheel is progressing well. Laxey Wheel will be open daily from 9.30am to 4.30pm, with visitors enjoying a once in a lifetime opportunity to see conservation in action at the wheel complex.

Peel Castle is also undergoing conservation work. The Gatehouse is one of several areas of the castle currently undergoing conservation. High level masonry work was recently carried out on the Cathedral Tower, with further work due to be undertaken to a number of other areas of the castle. The works will also require a temporary closure to the footpath surrounding Peel Castle, with access to the footpath reinstated in summer.

Manx National Heritage, in collaboration with the One World Centre Isle of Man, is pleased to announce the publication of a trail around the historic City of Peel to explore its links to the Transatlantic Slave Trade. The trail explores Peel's links with the Island's slaving past, using artefacts and resources from the Island's national museum collections and archives, based on a guided walk of the town that links buildings and past residents to what was known as 'the Guinea trade'. Copies of the Peel and the Transatlantic Slave trade tour can be found at the House of Manannan and the Old Bonded Warehouse in Peel or downloaded from www.manxnationalheritage.im

You may also be interested to know that the Manx National Art Collection is set to feature in the Art That Made Us Festival, a nationwide event celebrating creativity. The festival takes place throughout April to coincide with the broadcast of a major new BBC television series exploring how pivotal works of art, literature, design and music have helped shape our creative story. The first event is at 11am on Wednesday 13 April at which Katie King, Curator: Art and Social History, will deliver an informal talk at the Manx Museum exploring notable works from the national art collection. The talk is free to attend, and all are welcome. Book through the Manx Museum

Over the winter, we have been so lucky to be able to enjoy our FMNH members' talks, tours, workshops and the popular Quiz night, even if we had to do a bit of juggling with postponements! For those of you who missed Gareth Pugh's talk on the Atholl Papers project you will be able to catch up with him and Allison Fox at Castle Rushen on the 23rd April. "The Atholl Collections: The Short Reign of the Dukes of Atholl as the Lords of Mann". You will need to book through Manx National Heritage for this event. <https://manxnationalheritage.im/whats-on?>

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer - not just for gardening - we would love to hear from you. Please find the latest list at the end of this and let me know if you would like to do anything. Do also let me know if you have any specific skills that you think might help us.

Date for the diary. 8th – 10th July for the Isle of Man Flower Festival 2022, at St John's Mill. Two wonderful FMNH volunteers will kindly be doing our display, please do go along and have a look.

We will be out and about over the year at Tynwald, The Southern Show and The Royal Manx Agricultural Show. We love seeing our members so please do come and say hello.

We do receive a number of calls regarding parking at National Trust properties. We have been asked to point out that this is not part of the reciprocal agreement so payment will be needed.

Lastly, I would like to give a huge thanks to all those of you who have let us use your email address for correspondence. It really does save us an enormous amount on postage. If you are currently receiving your correspondence via post but would be prepared to receive it by email instead, do please let us know.

As ever, thank you for your continued support.

With best wishes,

Nicola

Members Events Programme 2022

May

Thursday 5th May

Foraging walk

Join Karen Griffiths and discover the vast range of wild edibles growing all around us. You will learn to identify a number of edible plants and how to turn them into a tasty dish. You can then take the opportunity to experience the wonderful flavours of foraging at Versa in Port Erin after the walk. Versa is a restaurant concept focused on sustainability. (Please let Nicola know if you would like to join Karen at Versa. She will be booking a table. Pay for meal direct to Versa).

There will be some walking on inclines etc, sturdy walking shoes and sensible clothing.

Time: 1030am Venue: Port Erin tbc Max 12 £15pp

Thursday 12th May

The Story of Derby Castle

Peter Kelly will enlighten us as to the tale of some barren land on the margin of Douglas shore that once belonged to the Duke of Athol, became the site of two new dwellings called the Derby Castle in the 1840's, was converted into a pleasure ground and entertainments complex in the 1870's, demolished in the 1960's to make way for the short-lived and infamous Summerland in the 1970's and now reverted to an empty, barren site.

Time: 11am Venue: Manx Museum SR1 Max 50 Free

June

Thursday 16th June

Laura McCoy, Curator Natural History

A talk through the Extinction exhibition linked with Manx Wildlife Trust, what problems we face and the potential solutions.

Time: 11am Venue: Manx Museum SR1 Max 50 Free

Saturday 25th June

Visit to Staarvey Farm

Join the Devereau family from Staarvey Farm for a guided walk around their farm. Since 2006 they have been growing organically certified herbs and vegetable plants. In 2007 they started to produce jams and jellies from the herbs that they grew. This has now expanded to a wide range of jams, marmalades, curds, chutneys, cordials, sauces and dressings. Followed by refreshments. Produce will be available to purchase.

Time: 11am Venue: Staarvey Farm - joining details on booking Max 40 Price: £10pp

July

Saturday 9th July

Cathedral Tour – enjoy a guided tour of the Cathedral gardens

Refreshments available tea / coffee / biscuits for a donation. Meet by Cathedral steps.

Time: 2pm Venue: Cathedral Peel Max 40 Free

Thursday 14th July

Exclusive out of hours tour with Andrew Johnson, Inspector of Ancient Monuments

A tour of Peel Castle with its curator Andy Johnson focussed particularly on the story of its preservation and conservation from 1858 to 2022.

Bring a picnic and enjoy the evening before the tour at 7pm

Time: 6pm Venue: Peel Castle Max 40 Price: £10pp

Saturday 16th July

Visit to The Centre for WW1 Internment, Knockaloe – It is 3 years since the Friends last visit to the Visitor Centre. Alison Jones (Charity Trustee and Director) has kindly invited us back to see how the project is going, view new exhibitions and find out what work has been done at the centre which specialises in Internee Database, collating and detailing information on the experience of enemy aliens interned in the British Isles.

Time: 11am Venue: Centre for WW1 Internment, Knockaloe, Patrick Corner, Patrick Village Max 30 £10 per person - to include refreshments.

Sunday 24th July

Billown Mansion open garden

Exclusive access to the beautiful gardens of Billown Mansion by kind permission of John Whittaker. Entrance via Billown Road – one way system will be in place.

Time: 12noon to 4pm Tickets £10 including tea and homemade cake. Raffle. Max 200

Thursday 28th July

Tony Pass - The Isle of Man Steam Packet in World War 1

1914 could have been the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company's peak year, exceeding the record achieved in the previous year when over two million passengers were carried over ten routes to the Island. But one week before Tynwald Day, an event in Sarajevo was the spark that led to the first global conflict. And by the end of 1914, ten of the Company's fleet of 14 ships had been called up for war service with their crews. Four ships were lost and a further three did not return. This is a story of tragedy and heroism with a few forgotten historical facts. The final sequence will show some hitherto undiscovered film footage of the German naval surrender with a familiar Manx vessel making a star appearance.

Time: 11am Venue: Manx Museum SR1 Max 50 Free

August

Thursday 4th August

Dave Martin - Bridges in the Landscape – bridges to the future / links to the past

With a few notable exceptions, we mostly pass over bridges without paying them much attention. Dave Martin will look at the range of bridges to be found on the Island and how they have evolved, and some of the threats they faced – from weather extremes to revolting residents with explosives!

Time: 11am Venue: Manx Museum SR1 Max 50 Free

September

Monday 5th September

Join **Emma Le Cornu, MNH's Library and Archives Conservator** – Tour of the Conservation Studio to see how the Archives are conserved

Time: 11am Venue: Manx Museum Conservation Studio Max 8 Free

Thursday 29th September

Secrets, myths and history of Malew Church – with Blue badge guide, Jane Hodson. Join her on a tour of the church and churchyard

Time: 11am Venue: Malew Church Max 25 £5pp

October

Wednesday 5th October

Lost and Found - Allison Fox, MNH Curator Archaeology - a talk about archaeological finds and their finders, to tie in with a new display in the Cabinet of Curiosities

Time: 11am Venue: Manx Museum SR1 Max 30 Free

November

Friday 4th November

'Fun Quiz Night' – back by popular demand! Not too difficult (not Mastermind!). Pictures, music, themed rounds, general knowledge, and fun - something for everyone.

Hot pot supper. Bring your own wine. Prizes, Raffle.

Time: 7pm **Venue: Ballasalla Village Hall** **Max 60** **£20pp**

Monday 7th November

MUSEUM 100: Join Exhibition Curator Katie King on a guided tour of the new exhibition - a major year-long exhibition celebrating our collections and our story (opening in October 2022). When the Manx Museum first opened its doors to the public on 2 November 1922 it sought to engage and inspire its visitors with its amazing artefacts. We continue to preserve and protect the diverse collections held in our care - from archives to art, archaeology, social history and natural history and to tell the rich stories of our Island, past and present.

Time: 11am

Venue: Manx Museum

Max 35 Free

Thursday 8th December

Christmas Celebrations - From the Chiollagh to the Chapel

Preparations for Christmas seem to start earlier every year, but what would Christmas have been like (and looked like) in the past on the Island? Discover how people would have celebrated Christmas at home, at church, at chapel and even out and about on the streets of Douglas and beyond. Find out how much fun could be had during *yn Kegeesh Ommidjagh* (the Manx 'Foolish Fortnight') by both young and old.

Time: 11am

Venue: Manx Museum SR1

Max 50

Free

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: **Assisting at FMNH events**

Sunday 24th July Billown Garden visit

☐ Help with setting up ☐ assist with food and clearing up ☐ car parking

Also, a request for raffle prizes for future fundraising events! Do you have any spare raffle prizes you don't need?

Assisting at MNH events and other opportunities Please let me know if you are interested in any of the following

- ☐ Saturday 30th April, Cregneash, Photographic extra
- ☐ Monday 2nd May - May Day, Cregneash – assisting with the event
- ☐ Friday 6th May, Manx Museum, seed paper making, Manx Museum
- ☐ Saturday 7th May, Manx Museum, seed paper making, Manx Museum
- ☐ Saturday 30th July, Nautical Museum, Inventors Day
- ☐ Monday 29th August, Rushen Abbey, Little People's Picnic
- ☐ Friday 30th September – Sunday 2nd October, Heritage Open Days
- ☐ Friday 7th October – Sunday 9th October, Heritage Open Days
- ☐ Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th October, Hop tu Naa
- ☐ Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th December, Castle Rushen, Snow Queen

☐ **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

☐ **Sewing Bees** – for future projects date to be confirmed.

Gardening at Rushen Abbey, the Grove and Cregneash.

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, on a Friday at The Grove, and Tuesday and Thursday morning with Karen at Cregneash. We would love to hear from you if you can help. ☐ Rushen Abbey ☐ The Grove ☐ Cregneash

☐ **Digital Volunteer: Communications and Marketing**
About the role

Manx National Heritage is currently looking for a Digital Volunteer to help share the charity's work with audiences around the world. This voluntary role will support the Communications Manager, primarily focusing on uploading and managing information on third party websites such as media releases, site information, exhibitions and events. This is a flexible role, which can be undertaken from home, or based at the Manx Museum, initially requiring a commitment of around 0.5 to 1 day per week for a period of approximately 3 months (an opportunity for long term voluntary work may be available). To apply, please email: lynsey.clague@mnh.im, detailing your skills, experience and interest in the role.



□ **Volunteer Heritage Open Days Co-ordinator**

About the Role

Within this role you will be working closely with the MNH Public Engagement Manager, members of the MNH team, Heritage Open Day event partners, volunteers and visitors on the planning, co-ordination, and delivery of Heritage Open Days 2022.

Heritage Open Days is the Island's largest free festival of heritage and cultural events, with over 80 events taking place over two weekends in late September and October. The ethos of the event is to open the doors to historic places on the Isle of Man that are not usually accessible to the public and to reveal the lesser-known stories of these fascinating places.

Volunteering 2 days per month from May to August and increasing to 10 days in September and October, you will be given the opportunity of a pivotal role in the planning, design and delivery of Heritage Open Days 2022 for Manx National Heritage and the Island's heritage community.

This involves supporting the Public Engagement Manager in planning the project from initiation to review; liaising with event partners to develop the programme, sourcing and training volunteers, briefing the programme design and associated marketing materials, organising ticketing, media communications, handling bookings and enquiries, supporting and delivering events, risk assessment and management, contingency planning and reviewing the visitor experience and event partner feedback.

You will need to be a natural organiser with a strong sense of service to both our visitors, our heritage industry event partners and internal colleagues. You will need to be computer literate and have access to a computer and the internet to support this role for which some elements can be completed remotely. If you enjoy working with people on a wide variety of tasks with tangible results this could be the voluntary role for you.

How to find out more and apply For more information, please contact Helen Ashcroft on 07624 218529 for further information or email helen.ashcroft@mnh.im to apply.

□ **Do you have spannering skills?** MNH have a sidecar outfit that visitors will be able to sit on and have their picture taken in the new TT gallery. The trouble is that it is currently in pieces! Do you have the skills to help with a certain amount of refurbishment, frame rubbing down re-spraying and reassembly? Please let Nicola know.

Friends of Manx National Heritage

Booking Form May 2022 - Dec 2022

Fill in the booking form and either email Nicola on nicola@fmnh.im or return with your cheque, made payable to FMNH, to: Mrs N Pemberton, FMNH, Ballachrink Mill, Santon, IM4 1HE. **Alternatively**, you can do a bank transfer to sort code 55-91-00, account 12756466. **Please ensure you add your name as the reference.**

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 5th May	Foraging walk	£15		
Thur 12th May	Derby Castle	FREE		
Thur 16th Jun	Extinction Exhibition	FREE		
Sat 25th Jun	Staarvey Farm	£10		
Sat 9th Jul	Cathedral Tour	FREE		
Thur 14th Jul	July Peel Castle	£10		
Sat 16th Jul	Knockaloe	£10		
Sun 24th Jul	Billown	£10		
Thur 28th Jul	Steam Packet WW1	FREE		
Thur 4th Aug	Bridges	FREE		
Mon 5th Sept	Conservation	FREE		
Thur 29th Sept	Malew Church	£5		
Wed 5th Oct	Cabinet of Curiosities	FREE		
Fri 4th Nov	Quiz Night	£20		
Mon 7th Nov	MUSEUM 100	FREE		
Thur 8th Dec	Christmas Celebrations Past	FREE		

