

Caisht sonney dhyt

Easter Greetings from Rushen Heritage Trust!

Welcome to the first newsletter of the year from RHT. We're excited to share our plans for the months ahead and news of what's happening this Spring.

Take a walk using the Isle of Man Walks app and snap your favourite view for a chance to win our competition!



WIN £100
OF ANY GIFT VOUCHERS IN OUR
PHOTOGRAPHY
COMPETITION

This spring, walkers all over Rushen will be snapping their favourite views as part of the Rushen Heritage Trust and Isle of Man Walks 2018 Calendar Competition!

All you have to do is download the free "iomWalks" app on your app store, take a walk along your chosen route from the app and when you get back home, send your favourite photo to us!

All entries will then be displayed on the Isle of Man Walks website, where people can vote for their favourite image. The winner will receive £100 in gift vouchers of their choice and a copy of the calendar, on which their image will feature on the front page. Eleven runners up will also receive a free copy of the calendar.

To enter, please visit www.isleofmanwalks.com to upload your image or you can send it to rushenht@gmail.com. Remember that images need to be in reasonably high resolution and in landscape format, and must be a view taken on one of the walks on the app.

The competition is open to all ages and residents of the island. The deadline for entries is Monday 17th April 2017 and voting will take place between 21st April to 2nd May, with the winner announced on Monday 8th May 2017. Calendars will be available to buy from 22nd May and all proceeds will go to future RHT and Isle of Man Walks projects.

Closing Date: Monday 17th April 2017

Please submit your entry on our website:

www.isleofmanwalks.com



Photo taken by Susie MacKenzie-Fidlin,
Story of the Land HAT Volunteer.

Look Inside...

- Find out about our new school resource packs
- Meet Pamela Tomlinson and find out her plans for the Friends of RHT
- Learn about the Pierrots and how we're planning their revival in Rushen
- Discover how you can help us to celebrate 100 years of Port St Mary

Welcome to RHT!

We're always looking for new members and this month we put the spotlight on two of our much appreciated volunteers!



Born in Southern Africa to a military family, Iain Mackenzie-Fidlin spent much of his childhood overseas. Graduating with a degree in Economics & Business Law, Iain's career mirrored his international upbringing with a 20 year stint looking after multinational company

accounts in the banking centres of London, Frankfurt and Hong Kong. After leaving banking in 2002, Iain stayed on in Hong Kong working on private start-up projects in China and elsewhere in the Asia Pacific region. When his wife Susie introduced him to the Isle of Man, Iain knew that the Island would be home. With a passion for history and the outdoors, the Isle of Man is the perfect place to pursue his favourite pastimes, which include hiking and photography. Like Susie, Iain is a member of our Story of the Land HAT and also volunteers with Manx Basking Shark Watch.



Doreen Moule grew up in the Black Country and then trained as a teacher in Birmingham, where she taught in a Primary school from 1970 to 1999. In 1999, she was fortunate enough to secure a

teaching position in Douglas, where she taught for almost 10 years. Doreen and her partner moved to Rushen in 2004 and four years later she retired, however still continues as a Supply Teacher, because she still enjoys working with children. Doreen has been a part of RHT since the very beginning and is the Chair of our WW2 Internment HAT. She has led her team through two very successful exhibitions, a book publication and is now working on a second book. She is also RHT's Education Officer and is currently developing resource packs for schools on the island.

Get Involved!

Visit www.rushenheritage.org to find out how you can join one of our Heritage Action Teams and be a part of our special projects that preserve the heritage of our community.

New education links for schools with Rushen Heritage Trust.

Last September, over 200 children from schools across Rushen Sheading and Douglas enjoyed a trip to Port Erin, where they walked in the footsteps of the 3,000 women and children who were interned during the second World War.



Led by our WW2 Internment HAT, classes from Arbory, Castletown, Rushen Primary and Schoill yn Jubilee arrived by steam train at Port Erin station - many dressed in outfits of the time - and were taken on a guided tour of the

seaside town by volunteers Doreen Moule and Ali Graham, who have developed special resource packs for teaching in schools. The resource packs, which will soon be available to schools across the whole island, include detailed teaching presentations, posters, notes for a Walk and Talk in Port Erin, wartime recipes, registration cards and a map. If you are interested in a school resource pack, please contact Doreen on 834826.

Meet Rory, our new IOM College placement student as he joins the Story of the Land



Rushen Heritage Trust are keen to develop strong links with education across the island and this year we're pleased to announce our second college placement with IOM College. Studying a two-year degree in History and Heritage, Rory Murphy hopes to bring the passion he has for heritage to his work placement and help spread the word of the beauty of the south of the island.

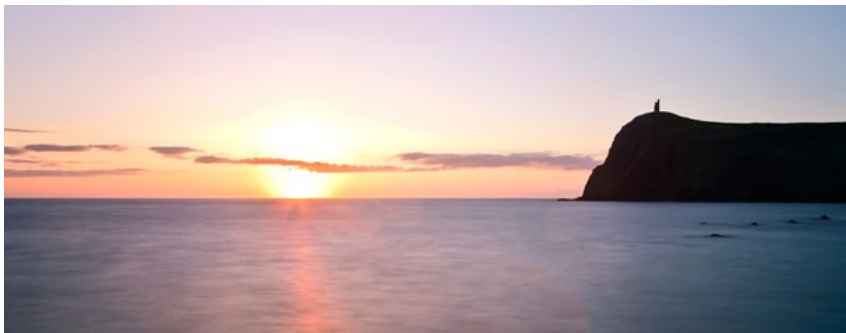
"I'm a keen walker too," says Rory, "so I'm also looking forward to the future development of the Isle of Man Walks app and being able to assist in any way I can with Rushen Heritage Trust's programme."

Rory will join the Story of the Land HAT from the end of April to early June to get involved with their major projects as part of his work placement.

Become a friend of Rushen Heritage Trust and get exclusive access to our special events!

RHT represents a new way for people to discover the South of the Island as well as bringing the community together through heritage.

There is a special beauty in Rushen, along the coastline, in the glens, on the beaches and pathways, the woodland and farmland. We must ensure that these areas are protected so that future generations can enjoy the peace and tranquillity as well as be able to discover their own rich heritage through the stories and memories of the generations before them.



For just £1 per month, you can become a “friend of Rushen Heritage Trust” and help us to tell the stories of the local community through our special events, exhibitions, publications and our interactive walking app.

As a Friend of RHT you will:

- receive our quarterly *Friends Newsletter*.
- enjoy discounts on tickets to our events and all of our publications.
- receive invitations during the year to exclusive *Friends Only* events.
- be part of our prestigious Christmas and Summer parties in special locations across Rushen.

If you join in April 2017 you'll become a Founder Member of the RHT Friends with special recognition on our website!

Please contact rushenht@gmail.com for an application form or you can find out more on our website: www.rushenheritage.org



Meet Pamela Tomlinson, the new coordinator of our Friends of Rushen Heritage Trust.

Pamela was born in Manchester and moved to Berkshire with her husband's business before settling in the Isle of Man. She has a long relationship with the island, having had a home here for over 25 years. Her background is in accountancy, specifically taxation.

Since taking early retirement, she has been involved with a number of charities both in the UK and on the Isle of Man in a fund-raising capacity. She was Chairman of the Thames Valley Air Ambulance and also Chairman of The Princes Trust in Berkshire.

Pamela is involved in a number of charities on the island and was part of the team that set up the Friends of St. John Ambulance.

With this knowledge and experience, plus her enthusiasm for organising and meeting people, Pamela is now launching the Friends of RHT and has many fantastic ideas for special *Friends Events* throughout the year, which we hope to see many of our supporters at.

Thank you Pamela for leading such a great initiative for RHT!

Bringing back the Pierrots with our Tourism HAT

Save the dates! Our Tourism HAT have announced plans to stage a traditional "Pierrot Show" in September, with two performances lined up in both Port Erin and Port St Mary.

By the nineteenth century the holiday industry was beginning to flourish and in France, pierrot shows became tradition having been developed from "Comedie del Arte". They were much admired by an English entertainer called Clifford Essex who created a troupe of English entertainers to perform in seaside towns such as Brighton, Southend and Blackpool. Traditionally dressed in white costumes with black pompoms and white painted faces, pierrot shows became an active part of entertainment between 1890 and 1960 across the UK and also in Douglas, Ramsey and Port Erin on the Isle of Man.



HAT Planning Meeting: Caroline Helps, Hugh Davidson, Margaret Galloway, Sylvia Jarrett, Susie Beswick and Michael Forrester in February.

Leslie and Dorothy Ford came to the island each summer with their pierrot troupe and "Leslie's" pierrot shows were performed regularly at *Leslie's Pavilion* - then situated adjacent to what is now the Erin Arts Centre - which was mysteriously destroyed by a fire just before the start of WW2.

This autumn, we're reviving the pierrot tradition by adapting their principles to showcase the considerable amount of talent we have locally and to honour and celebrate the heritage bequeathed to use by the pierrots of the past. If the shows are successful, the plan is to re-establish the pierrot experience as an ongoing tradition to acknowledge and develop this important part of our cultural heritage.

The Gough Ritchie charitable trust has kindly agreed to support the project and our artistic director, Susie Beswick, is now finalising the cast in what promises to be an exciting programme of entertainment for the whole family to enjoy.

Dates for your diary!

Friday 29th September, The Falcon's Nest in Port Erin
Saturday 30th September, Port St Mary Town Hall
Watch this space for our tickets release date!

Friend or Foe? 1940 - 1943

The WW2 Internment HAT are in the final stages of producing a second publication, celebrating their two successful exhibitions on internment in Rushen. The book is expected to be launched in the autumn. Here is a special preview of one of the internee profiles for you to enjoy...



"Edith Bach was a renowned soprano of her day in Germany and known as 'the Nightingale of Königs Wusterhausen' because she was one of the first performers to broadcast to London from the radio transmitter built there in 1905. However, when the Nazis came to power, Edith was forbidden to perform any more, simply because she was Jewish."

So writes Sandra Davidson in one of the profiles about internees from Rushen Women's Internment Camps during World War Two.



WW2 Internment HAT Members Sandra Davidson, Doreen Moule, David Wertheim, Ali Graham and Pam Crowe receiving flowers at the launch of their second exhibition last summer.

The book "*Friend or Foe? The Story of Rushen Camps W and Y - Women's Internment on the Isle of Man in World War 2*" is being compiled by HAT members Sandra Davidson, Pam Crowe, Alison Graham, Jane Saywell, David Wertheim and Doreen Moule and is based on their research about the internment camps in Rushen. Having mounted two extremely successful exhibitions in 2015 and 2016 about the camps, the group decided to publish their findings plus some additional material.

If you would like to read more about Edith Bach and other internees, local people and their everyday lives in the camps, please look out for the book in local shops or contact us if you would like to pre-order your copy on rushent@gmail.com

Celebrating 100 years and 160,000 artefacts about Port St Mary with our Story of the Land HAT

One of Rushen Heritage Trust's greatest friends and supporters, John W. Qualtrough from Port St Mary, has developed an astonishing collection of over 160,000 historical artefacts over the years which he is keen to share with the community so that they are not forgotten.

As part of an exciting new project led by our Story of the Land HAT, John has shared his library of materials to help build up a picture of Port St Mary across a hundred years in the town's history.

The team are planning a series of events during 2017 and 2018 which will capture the stories and memories of Port St Mary and the people who have lived and worked in the town over the decades, to see how things have changed - and how they may have also stayed the same.



HAT Planning Meeting: Andrew Foxon, Graham Hall, Staffan Overgaard, John W. Qualtrough and Hugh Davidson

Do you have stories or memories from Port St Mary that you would like to share as part of the project?

It could be memories of when you were growing up in the town, or stories passed along through the family from relatives. You may have once visited the town on holiday or you may remember some of the shops and the people, have photographs that you could share of the landscape or the times you have visited.

If you would like to help us tell the story of Port St Mary and help us to celebrate the history of the town, please contact staffan.overgaard@candordiagnostics.com and find out how you can be part of this special project.

Pull on your walking boots and get out and about in Rushen this Spring!

If you haven't had chance to download our free interactive walking app "Isle of Man Walks" yet, we think that this Spring will be the perfect time to dust off those walking boots and get out and about in Rushen!

There's three walks in Rushen to choose from and are suitable for all walking abilities. Perhaps you would like to wander around Port St Mary and learn more about how the high street has changed over the years, or walk from Bradda Glen Restaurant down to the old Marine Biological Station in Port Erin, perhaps stopping for a bite to eat or a drink along the way?



For the more adventurous walkers, there's the coastal path route from Port St Mary to the Sound - find out more about the French Sailor's grave or the site of the plane crash, and discover where the Beast of the Black Head comes from!

To download the app simply search for iomWalks on your app store and then head out on your walk!

For more info about the app and how it works visit www.isleofmanwalks.com

People of Rushen Sheading... WE NEED YOU!



What does “heritage” mean to you?

At RHT, we believe it's about remembering, understanding and celebrating the past; preserving and communicating stories and memories in order to learn from them, enhancing their legacy. Heritage builds our local and national identity, binds the community together through common memories and connects us all to the past through our collective identity. At Rushen Heritage Trust, all of our exhibitions, talks, walks and publications share one common goal; to preserve our local heritage for future generations with the community at the heart of everything we do. Now, we need you.

We need your help to share your family memories or help us to research and communicate the past so that we can preserve our heritage for future generations.

Getting involved with RHT doesn't mean you have to become a HAT member and come along to every meeting - there are so many other interesting ways that you can take part in our projects from simply sharing a story with us, showing us an artefact or photograph from your family album, helping out at one of our coffee mornings or learning how to put a heritage walk together on our interactive app!



“I joined RHT because I wanted to get to know different people and I thought it would be exciting to be part of a local project. I have loved meeting the people who have visited our exhibitions.”

- Sylvia Jarrett, Tourism HAT member

“I enjoy working with other enthusiasts to tease out the story of this lovely place and share it. Rushen Heritage Trust has really helped me to do that.”

- Andrew Foxon, Story of the Land HAT member



“It's hard to believe it's nearly 3 years since we met at Port St. Mary Town Hall for the launch of RHT! Since then we have formed a great team and have achieved so much with still much more to do!” - Ali Graham, WW2 Internment HAT member

WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP IN THESE ROLES:

HAT Chairperson

Lead a team of volunteers in a range of projects.

HAT Member

Join a HAT and get involved in one of our projects.

Researcher

Discover more about local history and heritage.

iomWalks Team Member

Find out how to put an interactive walk on our app.

Website Developer

Help to develop and expand our websites.

Photography and Film-making

Use film and photography to record special interviews and events, and provide materials for our publicity.

Event Supporters

Help us to serve tea and coffee, man one of our exhibitions or help out at a local show.

Social Media Contributor

Learn the world of RHT on Facebook and Twitter!

Storyteller

Share your story or expertise in an interview or live talk.

Special thanks to the volunteers of our Heritage Action Teams

We are always amazed at the dedication and commitment of our volunteers in our many events and projects throughout the year. We would simply not be able to do what we do without them!

Story of the Land Heritage Action Team

Staffan Overgaard (Chair)

Helen Ashcroft

Alan Clucas

Stan Clucas

Nigel Crowe

Andrew Foxon

Graham Hall

Lindsey Hook

Kerry Hudson

Iain MacKenzie-Fidlin

Susie MacKenzie-Fidlin

Hilary Peterson

John W. Qualtrough

Story of the Sea Heritage Action Team

Steve George (Chair)

Dave Ali

David Clarke

Michelle Heywood

Alan Jackson

Tourism Heritage Action Team

Laura King (Temporary Chair)

Susie Beswick

Hugh Davidson

Michael Forrester

Margaret Galloway

Caroline Helps

Sylvia Jarrett

Brian Trustrum

Kathleen Trustrum

Alison Watterson

WW2 Internment Heritage Action Team

Doreen Moule (Chair)

Pam Crowe

Sandra Davidson

Ali Graham

Jane Saywell

David Wertheim

If you would like to join one of our HATs, or if you are interested in any of our volunteer roles, please contact us on rushenht@gmail.com!



Could you be our new Heritage Coordinator?

Since August 2015, Laura King has been our Heritage Coordinator and continued to build up the momentum of Rushen Heritage Trust through a successful programme last year. After having a baby in October, Laura has decided to focus on being a full-time mum, so we are seeking a new coordinator.

The role of the Heritage Coordinator is to facilitate and be responsible for the overall planning of the projects that each HAT takes on within a yearly programme. A major aspect of this is to lead, advise and motivate volunteers, chair regular meetings with the HAT Chairs and recruit new, committed volunteers. The role also requires leading RHT's communications through various online and printed media.

Overall, the Heritage Coordinator encourages teamwork and ensures that being a part of RHT is fun and interesting, so enthusiasm for local heritage and wide community involvement is important, especially amongst schools and older people.

We require someone who can manage and motivate volunteers, be friendly and personable with good verbal and written communication skills. Integrity, the ability to make things happen, efficient organisation and teamwork are all vital elements of this role. In short, we're looking for someone who is smart, honest and committed. Location in the Sheading of Rushen and car ownership are advantages.

This is a self-employed contract with payment up to £16,000 per annum. Hours are flexible and suggested around 25 hours per week from May to October and 15 hours per week from November to April.

Closing Date: Monday 10th April 2017

For a full job description and application form please contact: Professor Hugh Davidson MBE, Baycliffe, Tower Road, Port Erin IM9 6PP or email him at hugh.davidson@mcb.net

2017 Events Programme



Isle of Man Walks and RHT 2018 Calendar Competition

Closing date for submissions: Monday 17th April

Vote for your favourite between 21st April and 2nd May online

Winner is announced on Monday 8th May

Search iomWalks in your app store and download the free app. Choose one of the routes on the app and as you walk along, snap a favourite view and enter it into our competition for the chance to win £100 in gift vouchers of your choice!



Isle of Man Walks Bank Holiday Weekend

Saturday 28th April to Monday 1st May

Get outdoors this bank holiday weekend and use the free Isle of Man Walks app to explore the heritage of the local landscape. Whatever your walking ability, you'll be able to find a route that's right for you from the streets of Port St Mary to the rugged Raad Ny Foillan and discover photographs, films and stories about the heritage of Rushen.



“A Year on Ballachurry Farm” at the Southern Agricultural Show

in partnership with the Isle of Man Southern District Agricultural Society

Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th July

Based on the book by Stanley Clucas, this exhibition is a wonderful way to explore the stories of farming life in the 1940s and a chance to discover the way life on a farm used to be.



WW2 Internment Book Launch: “Friend or Foe?”

sponsored by Culture Vannin

Coming this Autumn!

Based on two successful WW2 Internment Exhibitions, discover the stories of the women and children interned within Rushen Camp W from 1940 to 1941 and the landladies who shared their lives and homes with them.



The Pierrot Shows

sponsored by the Gough Ritchie Trust

Friday 29th September, The Falcon's Nest, Port Erin at 7pm

Saturday 30th September, Port St Mary Town Hall at 7pm

With a cast of talented local performers directed by Susie Beswick, our pierrot shows will be around two hours long and full of entertainment for the whole family with the opportunity to learn more about the pierrots of the past.



100 Years of Port St Mary

Coming this Autumn!

The first event of our exciting new project telling the story of Port St Mary. We're looking for people to help provide memories and stories - get in touch with us if you would like to be a part of this special project!

keep updated on event dates at www.rushenheritage.org