



RUSHEN
Heritage Trust
the beautiful south

Winter Newsletter
2016

Happy New Year from RHT!

The countdown begins...

On Saturday 30th April 2016, RHT will make history when we launch **Isle of Man Walks** - the island's first interactive outdoor heritage walk using iBeacon technology and possibly the first of its kind in the whole world!



Led by our **Story of the Land HAT**, the app will bring to life the outdoor walking trails of the Isle of Man, preserving the rich heritage of the communities on the island by sharing the memories of people, places and past events.

Working in partnership with **Fuzzellogic Solutions** in Douglas, the project will be initiated by the development of a pilot trail of 15 stations from Port St Mary to the Sound. An interactive beacon will be attached to each station and will broadcast signals, activating the app on your mobile phone with images, film and audio about the heritage of the landscape you are walking through.

Our Vision is to become internationally recognised as an interactive walk, supported by local organisations to share cultural and heritage information with residents and tourists, generating significant economic benefit for the Isle of Man.



Zak Hoosen from Fuzzellogic Solutions with Story of the Land HAT Chair Staffan Overgaard and Laurence Skelly MHK.

"The new app perfectly highlights the ethos of Rushen Heritage Trust promoting virtual museum and local history together," says Rushen MHK and Board Director Laurence Skelly. "I expect both visitors and local residents alike will enjoy this new tool to appreciate our deep and rich heritage."

Join us from 10am on Saturday 30th April 2016 at the **Sound Café**, where we will be launching the app with demonstrations and you can meet the Heritage Action Team and developers who have built this wonderful piece of new technology for our community to share.

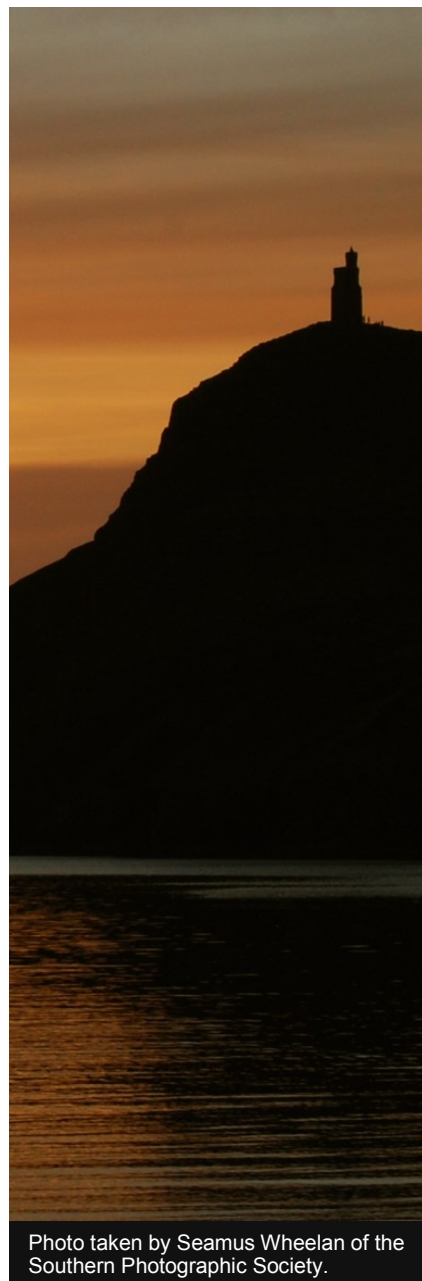


Photo taken by Seamus Wheelan of the Southern Photographic Society.

Look Inside...

- A great big thankyou from RHT
- Competition time for everyone in Rushen
- £2k advertising win for RHT with 3FM
- Story of the Sea HAT is ready to set sail
- See our updated 2016 Events Programme

WIN £100 in gift vouchers!

We're looking for entries for our 2017 Calendar Competition - open to all residents of Rushen Sheading in any age group.

It might be an old photograph found in an attic or one you have taken this morning. It could be a poem you've written yourself or even a picture your grandchild has drawn. Whatever it may be, if you think it's a part of heritage in Rushen Sheading then this competition is perfect for you!



What does “heritage” mean to you?

Entries can be any image, story or poem based on heritage in Rushen. The competition will be judged by public vote during August and the winner will receive £100 in gift vouchers of their choice, plus their entry will feature on the front cover. Eleven runners-up will each receive a copy of the calendar.

The deadline for the competition is Friday 29th July 2016 and there is a £3 entry fee. To enter, please go to our website: www.rushenheritage.org/competition

Did you know?

We are all aware that we live in the diocese of Sodor and Mann, however “Mann” was only added in the 17th Century.

Until 1458, we fell not under the Archbishopric of York as we do now, but under the Archbishopric of Trondheim due to its foundation under the Viking Kingdom by Pope Gregory IV in 838AD.

If you have any memories, interesting facts or stories you would like to share in our newsletters, drop Laura a line at rushenht@gmail.com!

A Year in the Life of Ballachurry Farm

RHT are set to publish three books in 2016 and “*A Year in the Life of Ballachurry Farm: 1943-1944*” written by Stanley Clucas is one of them. We hope that you will enjoy this short preview!

The weather comes in like a lion; windy and cold but fortunately dry. There is a real flurry of activity on all of the farms in the Parish as the dry spell allows the field work to press ahead. The yards have been emptied of the middens' and the ley and stubble fields have been ploughed; the work is well in hand. At Ballachurry Farm, the tractor that was purchased last year has been a boon! The Boss, wrapped up in his army coat and his pipe near smoking as much as the machine he's sat upon, is ploughing furrows straight and true that gives him a satisfaction that only a countryman would understand.



This steed he rides needs only water and paraffin to get through the day and can work into the late evening without tiring. The only care needed after a day's work is to close the shed door and go for tea. Many of his fellow farmers agree that it's the start of the end of the proud Clydesdales and the men who have worked the land for past generations. The early and main crop potatoes are in the ground and the spring wheat sown, so they can relax a little and tend to the other essentials. More of the fat stock are reaching maturity and need preparing for market while the younger stock, sensing the longer days approaching, are restless to get out to new grass.

Visit the *Ballachurry Farm* exhibition at Port St Mary Town Hall from 9th to 31st July 2016, where you will also be able to buy the book.

Find out more online: www.rushenheritage.org

£2k win for RHT with 3FM!

We are excited to be the lucky winners chosen to share a prize of £10,000 with 3FM and local company Pokerstars.

The money will be used to advertise our new interactive walk across the island.

"I was truly impressed by Rushen Heritage Trust's passion and imagination in bringing island history to life," says breakfast DJ Kevin Ford. "I wish them all the best for 2016!"

Listen out for our new advert on 3FM from March onwards!



3FM Breakfast DJ Kevin Ford presents a winning certificate to Laura Cuthbertson, RHT's Heritage Coordinator.

Get involved with Rushen Heritage Trust!

There are many ways you can get involved with RHT from helping out at one of our exhibitions or even just "liking" us on Facebook!

If you enjoy researching your local heritage or would like to meet new people - join a Heritage Action Team!

For more information speak to Laura on 321847 or email rushenht@gmail.com



Celebrations at our Annual November Meeting: Heritage Action Team Chairs with Hugh Davidson
From left: Staffan Overgaard, Story of the Land; Jonathan Latimer, Tourism; Hugh Davidson, Co-Founder of RHT; Steve George, Story of the Sea and Doreen Moule, WW2 Women's Internment.

A great big thankyou from RHT

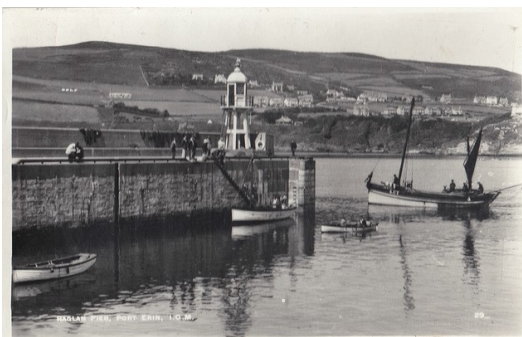
Over fifty people joined us on a wet and windy night in November for our Annual Public Meeting, where we unveiled our three year plan plus our new interactive walking app. We also had the opportunity to thank all of our volunteers and supporters - particularly our Heritage Action Teams and their Chairs. 2016 is set to be another exciting year for the Trust with three exhibitions and book publications planned, the launch of Isle of Man Walks and the many events and shows we will be appearing at across the island. We couldn't do any of it without the hard work and commitment of our curators - volunteers from our local community who meet every month to share ideas and put these projects in place, preserving the memories and stories of Rushen for generations to come.

Our Story of the Sea Heritage Action Team is ready to set sail!

Chaired by Steve George - who is also one of RHT's Board Directors - our Story of the Sea HAT are currently planning their first project. The group are our fourth Heritage Action Team and hope to stage a series of talks related to the sea in Autumn 2016.

We're always looking for new volunteers to join in with our projects but if you have a particular interest in our Story of the Sea HAT the next meeting is on **XXXXXXX** at **XXXXXXX**.

Find out more at www.rushenheritage.org



2016 Events Programme



Isle of Man Walks: Launch Weekend

Saturday 30th April at the Sound Café from 10am

Download the free app and immerse yourself in the beautiful landscape between Port St Mary and the Sound with our interactive heritage walk.



Tourism Exhibition: A Diary of the Glory Days of Southern Tourism **St Catherine's Church in Port Erin from Saturday 28th May to Friday 17th June**

Read the diaries of holidaymakers and local residents across a range of decades - a wonderful opportunity to reminisce about the Glory Days!



Tourism Book Launch: "The Glory Days of Southern Tourism" **St Catherine's Church in Port Erin on Saturday 28th May, 1pm**

Looking back at Tourism in the "Glory Days" from our 2015 exhibition with a stunning collection of images, stories and memories from five famous places and their people across the south of the island.



WW2 Internment Book Launch: "Friend or Foe? 1940 to 1941" **St Catherine's Church in Port Erin on Sunday 29th May, 1pm**

Discover the stories of the women and children interned within Camp W from 1940 to 1941 and the landladies who shared their lives and homes with them.



Story of the Land Book Launch: "A Year on Ballachurry Farm" **Port St Mary Town Hall from Saturday 9th July, 1pm**

A wonderfully humorous account of the farming year, written by Captain of the Parish, Stanley Clucas, about the farm that has been in his family for almost a hundred years.



Story of the Land Exhibition: "A Year on Ballachurry Farm" **Port St Mary Town Hall from Saturday 9th to Sunday 31st 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.



Family Beach Games at the Port Erin Beach Festival **Port Erin Beach on Saturday 16th July**

Enjoy the games your grandparents and their grandparents played on Port Erin beach as part of the annual Port Erin Day celebrations!



WW2 Internment Exhibition: "Friend or Foe? 1941 to 1942" **St Catherine's Church in Port Erin from Thursday 28th July to Thursday 25th August**

Our second instalment of this unmissable exhibition, exploring stories of Rushen Camp W and the creation of the world's only Married Camp in WW2.

keep updated on event dates at www.rushenheritage.org