

CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT THE MASONIC HALL, DOUGLAS

Another year has almost ended and over a hundred of us were back at the beautifully decorated Woodbourne for our Christmas lunch. As we all made our way into the dining room, many people took this as an opportunity to catch up with friends and new acquaintances – an essential and very social part of our lunches.

Every table had copies of the 2022 quiz, which Howard Parkin prepares for us each year (thank you Howard and delighted to see you getting back to your normal, active self). Our table largely did ours as a group and a lot of discussion and fun was had reaching, well most of the answers.

The meal itself was all served at table and most people enjoyed it. The staff were all pleasant and worked hard to get our food out to us.

Our tables were quickly cleared and then came the raffle and though we didn't win (shame!!) there were lots of lovely prizes. Then came the fun of the quiz. I won't tell you our score, suffice to say we didn't win, but we had a good time.

Thank you to Barbara, Eunice and all those involved in organising this ever-popular event.

Sally Farrell

.....
NEW MEMBERS

Latest new members to join the Association are as follows :

Susan (Sue) Allen (South) Vanda Parkes Murray (Central)

Please give them a very warm welcome!



200 CLUB WINNERS – DECEMBER 2022

Joan Daniels (44) David Moore (112) Daxa Patel (147)

Vicky Waterson (82) Judith Wheeler (117)

Each wins £50.

Remember you have to be in it to win it!

If would like to take up a number, please contact me via mobile 413767, email frankja@manx.net or via the MRA office. All participants are reminded that a new financial year started several months ago, so the fee of £10.00 per number is now due for the remaining 8 months. New members are always welcome.

Alan Franklin

.....
MANX MUSEUM 100th ANNIVERSARY

The Manx Museum is somewhat unusual in that its emphasis is on showcasing and recording the unique life and culture of our island and its people, and not the wider world. It is home to an extraordinary collection of material, artefacts and archives that help tell the story of our island. To celebrate its 100th birthday, the museum has opened a new "MUSEUM 100" exhibition which incorporates a selection taken from its various collections - including photos, paintings, sculptures, natural history, historical artefacts etc. Each section includes a booklet providing information on the various exhibits. It is a fascinating story and well worth a visit. The exhibition is available during normal visiting hours, whilst explanatory escorted tours are also available fortnightly as follows :

Thursday 2 February 11am-11:45am

Thursday 16 February 11am-11:45am

Thursday 2 March 11am-11:45am and fortnightly thereafter as well.

Please check with the museum for tickets.

.....
Winston Churchill's definition of a parliamentary candidate : "He wants to stand, he is asked to sit, he is expected to lie...."

MRA MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

A reminder that your MRA annual membership fees were payable on 1st January. If you've not renewed because of an oversight, please send your remittance into the office as soon as possible, giving you another twelve months of friendship and social activities.....

IOM GOVERNMENT TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE

You will all be aware that one of the MRA activities is a "technology group" hosted by Ken Horsley and intended to help members with their mobile phones, tablets and computers. The group meets regularly every month and it has proved a popular opportunity to learn digital skills and to resolve any problems members may be having with their devices.

The IOM Government is now offering a similar service with the opening of a new "Get Online Centre", located in the Sea Terminal and open since the 9th January.

The new centre sets out to ensure everyone has the opportunity to get online by providing learners with a dedicated facility to develop digital skills, confidence and awareness to be able to use their devices, browse the internet and embrace digital in their life. The training and support will be provided by a team of Digital Champions, helping learners understand the benefits of being online and showing them how to complete a range of simple activities that can make a huge difference to those who cannot or do not use the internet.

The Digital Champions are equipped with the skills and enthusiasm to deliver training and guidance – both one-to-one and group sessions - to those wishing to get online, helping them get the most out of using the internet, for example :-

- Using the internet
- Keeping in touch using email, messaging apps and internet telephone calls
- Shop online with confidence
- Computer basics
- Social networking using Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and more
- Internet security

The centre invites people to bring their own devices to undertake training or browse the internet, whilst there will also be a small selection of iPads provided and available to use. The opening hours are 10am - 4pm Monday to Friday and closed on Bank Holidays.

Please contact the "Get Online Centre" at GOC@gov.im or call 01624 685224 for further information.

The Government has asked us to publicise this as a positive step towards ensuring digital inclusion for all on the island.

ANDRE RIEU ORCHESTRAL CONCERT

Ten people enjoyed a trip to see the recorded screening of Andre Rieu and his Johann Strauss orchestra from Dublin. This concert was attended by 9,000 people and introduced to the cinema audience by Charlotte Hawkins. It was the first concert recorded in Dublin for more than 20 years. The orchestra and singers, 3 tenors and 3 sopranos, included people from 14 nations and have been travelling together for 17 years.

The concert included songs such as "The Wild Rover", "You Raise Me Up", "Let's Have Fun", "You'll Never Walk Alone" and "The Blue Danube" waltz. All of which prompted audience participation, lots of emotion and appreciation and was thoroughly enjoyable. An outing full of delight.....

Sheila Dove