

### **Indoor Ten Pin Bowling at the Fun Barn Onchan.**

Seventeen members enjoyed an afternoon of Ten Pin Bowling at the Manx Fun Barn. There were cheers as spares and strikes were scored and groans as the bowls rolled down the gutters. There were prizes to be won so it was serious stuff. Jim Cottier was the overall Men's winner and Margaret Campbell the Ladies. There were lane prizes and a consolation prize of a lime (supply your own gin) for the person with the lowest score. The afternoon was rounded off with tea, coffee and tasty cake. Thanks go to Chris Blyth for organising the event and to Celia Marshal for hosting.

**Margaret Campbell**

### **Flat Green Indoor bowls at the NSC.**

Our 2024/25 season ended with a prize presentation and a lovely lunch at Pulrose Golf club. We successfully completed two 10 week sessions with an average of 20 members taking part in each session. Prizes were awarded for each season, with the overall prizes awarded to the Ladies 1<sup>st</sup> Margaret Hardhill, 2<sup>nd</sup> to Irene Lindsay 3<sup>rd</sup> place to Margaret Campbell. John Levitt took 1<sup>st</sup> prize for the men 2<sup>nd</sup> to Jim Cottier and 3<sup>rd</sup> place to David Farrell. Well done to everyone who took part. The next session begins on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October. Thanks to Neil Corlett for organising this.

**Jim Cottier**

### **April Lunch at the Hawthorn in Greeba.**

This was a new venue for the MRA. We were warmly welcomed by the staff on a lovely sunny and warm day.

Everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch. Our Guest speaker Mr Dudley Butt a retired policeman and former MLC talked about his work with the police and especially during his time of the Summerland Fire and the sinking of the Solway Harvester. Thank you to all those who helped to put on a most enjoyable luncheon. 200 club winners were:

Jane Franklin and Margot Naylor

**Jim Cottier**

### **Manx Retirement Association - Annual General Meeting.**

This took place on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 10am in Onchan Pensioners Hall Onchan. Sadly only 35 members were present. Director Mr Howard Parkin MBE welcomed everyone there and we all observed a minute's silence for all members who had sadly passed away since our last AGM. Currently we have 272 members and hope that through all our forthcoming events we

will attract new members. We are slowly building up our funds through good housekeeping and the extra fund-raising events Ann and Jim Cottier are putting on. The Co-op Community Grant will generate an extra £1000 for our funds too this year. **The Islander** will be going back to a monthly issue as from August 1<sup>st</sup> and it is planned to go online for members by 1<sup>st</sup> January 2026. Paper copies will still be available for members if they so wish. You will be glad to hear that the annual subscription is remaining the same for another year. Our Director Mr Howard Parkin MBE has stepped down after 10 years tenure and we welcome Mr Jim Cottier as our new Chairman. Howard will be staying on the committee as Vice Chairman.

**Legends of the American Country Show** – A group from the MRA enjoyed an evening at the Gaiety Theatre on 29<sup>th</sup> April. The Legend of the American Country Show were the singers Kelon Browne, Tracey McAuly and Anthony Mc Brien paid tributes to Dolly Parton, Johnny Cash, Don Williams, Patsy Cline, Tammy Wynette and Willie Nelson to name but a few. Recreating a Grand Ole Opry atmosphere which will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday this year. Thank you to Celia for organising the tickets.

**Barbara Gibson**

**A Visit to Manx Radio** took place on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April at 5pm. 14 members were escorted around by Lauren and in Studio One Howard Cain explained the intricacies of broadcasting while we enjoyed the spectacular views of Douglas enhanced by the perfectly sunny evening. Lauren then showed us the Vision Room where the TT reporting occurs, and the Programme Room used to show presentations. We learnt that the building was erected bomb proof, as from 1941, it was the Royal Navy's main Radar Training school 'HMS Valkyrie'. Thank you Celia for organising this fascinating tour.

**Fay Manners**

**Gaiety Theatre Visits-** Agatha Christie '**Murder is Announced**'

June 26<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm Tickets £20.

Musical **Little Shop of Horrors** 17<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm Tickets £29.

**Dates for your diaries – Forthcoming events:**

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> June an extra Rummykub session at Onchan Methodist Hall at 2pm**

**A Games Evening on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm** in Ramsey Golf Clubhouse Ramsey. Come along and enjoy taking part and test your skills in Darts, Snooker, Rummykub, Dominoes and Scrabble. A Buffet Supper is being provided as well as a Raffle.

**LUNCHES - June 25<sup>th</sup> at Oceans View Onchan.**

**July - Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July at 12.30 in the Barovian Hall at King Williams College Castletown**

**August 13<sup>th</sup> at the Hawthorn Greeba at 12.30pm.**

**Walking Treasure Hunt around Peel** Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> June at 2pm to 4pm - open to family and friends. Cream tea, Raffle and Treasure Hunt details Meet outside Peel Cathedral. Hosts the **Cottier** Family. *Note change of date due to **Armed Forces Day** taking place in Douglas on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June.*

**Mega Manx Ceili at Peel Cathedral Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm** contact *Celia Marshall for more details on 460965*

**Trade Stalls on Tynwald Day 7<sup>th</sup> July and at the Southern Ag Show 26th/27th July.** If you are free to man the stalls please let me know. Ann Cottier 472742

**Front cover photo is of our new Chairman Mr Jim Cottier presenting outgoing Director Mr Howard Parkin MBE with a certificate of appreciation for his 10 year tenureship.**

# Manx Retirement Association

Founded in 1998 by John & Margo Naylor

## THE ISLANDER

June and July 2025

## EVENTS PROGRAMME



**GARFF COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE**

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