

HELLO MAY,



*The First of May*

*If I could stay up late no doubt  
I'd catch the buds bursting out;  
And up from every hidden root  
Would jump a tiny tender shoot;  
I wonder how seeds learn the way,  
They always know the day-  
The pretty, happy first of May;  
If I could stay up then, no doubt  
I'd catch the buds just bursting out.*

*By Annette Wynne*

May Day is a holiday celebrated for centuries all over the world on the first of May or May Day Eve. Also known as Beltane, May Day is one of the cross-quarter days, or festivals, that falls between the spring equinox and the summer solstice within the Wheel of the Year. Commonly, people celebrate the full return of spring on May Day. Like several other holidays, most of the May Day traditions celebrated today began in the early days of agriculture. Some of the most common May Day traditions include dancing around the maypole, crowning a May Queen, making flower crafts, and giving flowers to loved ones. So here is my flower gift to you this May.

midpoint sabbat



**Silvana Evans**

**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Tea Dance with Afternoon Tea**

On the afternoon of the 16th of March 40 members gathered at the Morton Hall in Castletown to enjoy a delicious choice of sandwiches, sausage rolls, scones with cream and jam, cakes, sweets, and fruit all supplied by Vanda Nicholson, Food 4 thought IOM. After which the music started and our DJ for the afternoon was Tony Brown who did a brilliant job taking us back to our teenage years with ABBA, Queen & Rolling Stones.

After everyone caught their breath back the raffle commenced organised by Jim and Ann Cottier.

A BIG vote of thanks was given to our hosts Ann and Jim Cottier for all their hard work.

A group photo was taken to record the event before everyone made their way home after a very successful celebration.

**Barbara Gibson**

**Oliver**

A visit to the Gaiety to see the Manx Operatic Societies performance of Oliver on their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

The set on stage was impressive and cleverly adjusted from each scene by changing the backdrop scene and foreground furniture.

The orchestras rendition of Lionel Barts music enhanced every scene. It was a large cast, and some scenes were very busy especially all the young boys, it was well choreographed and professional. Great show for costumes and music, many famous songs to enjoy.

Nancy (Victoria Mclauchlan) and Fagin (Mark Dougherty) both gave outstanding performances.

All the singing and dancing made a very enjoyable show, excellently performed.

Congratulations to all the children in the audience who behaved well.

**Eunice Evans**

## MRA – NEW MEMBER(S) ALERT

A warm welcome to our new members Chrissie and Dennis Bunning and Pat Weldon.

Silvana Evans

## 200 CLUB WINNERS – Be in it to Win it!

Our lucky winners for March all received £25, and they were:

Sandra Hogarty 104; Adele Towns 94; Margaret Sanders 99.

April lucky winners were Sylvia Evans 151; Pauline Duggua-Hulme 83; David Farrell 196

Please contact Sylvia to apply for any of the remaining 200 club numbers.


Sylvia Evans

## APRIL LUNCH AT THE TALK OF THE TOWN

After an excellent lunch of Turkey, Salmon, and yummy puddings we welcomed our guest Speaker **Mr Joe Cant** an ex-Army Veteran and Probus member to give us a thought-provoking talk entitled **The Formation of Character by Humour**.

He began by telling us about the important influences passed on by our Parents, Peers, and Teachers on the use of good English language. Most of us present would remember the clean humour of comedy stalwarts such as Spike Milligan, Les Dawson and Peter Sellers, the Navy Lark, and the Goons on the radio. They had a great influence on how we perceived our innocent and uncomplicated lives. Accents played a great part of how working-class people were perceived through humour. Sadly, today's humour shocks our generation with its many innuendos, swearing and suggestive topics. Joe's vocal interpretation of his favourite comedians was excellent with recognisable faces appearing in your mind's eye.

Being an ex-Army wife myself the subject matter he described was not always suitable for a mixed audience.

**Caution** ...Beware the man who turns up with a blue clipboard. 

Ann Cottier

## A NOTE FROM THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

### Coffee Mornings

Attendance to Coffee Mornings across the Island vary. Do you enjoy coming to the Coffee Mornings? Can we do anything differently? Your views are so important to us, please let us know what you think.

### Postage

Unfortunately, we have received cards from the post office asking us to collect post, due to incorrect stamp values applied to letters. The post office charges us an admin charge £1.35 plus a further charge for the shortfall of the stamp value. Please ensure you apply the correct postage.

### Thank You

I am sure you are with us in thanking our committee members who are not seeking re-election. This term we say farewell to Barbara our Deputy Director and Events coordinator, and Alan Franklin our 200 Club master. They both will be missed, thank you so much for your hard work.

Management Committee

## JUST FOR FUN

1. Towel Day, celebrated on 25 May each year, is a tribute to which popular British science fiction and comedy author who died in 2001?

2. "Maggio" is the word for May in which language?

3. Who wrote the line, "Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May"?

### April Answers - ANAGRAMS

Famous Footballers	Sweet Treats or desserts
Ham dived back (5,7) – Man Utd, Real Madrid & LA Galaxy – <b>David Beckham</b>	See ace heck - <b>Cheesecake</b>
Go get beers (6,4) – Man Utd, Fulham, Los Angeles Aztecs- <b>George Best</b>	Is it a rum - <b>Tiramisu</b>
Adiana groomed (5, 8) - Boca Juniors, Barcelona, Sevilla, Napoli – <b>Diego Maradona</b>	Elm lie flu lie – <b>Petit Feuille</b>

Silvana and John Evans