



**Annual General Meeting of the Manx Branch of the Celtic Congress
held in the Guild Room, Atholl Street, Peel at 4.00pm on Saturday 5th December 2020.**

1. Failt liorish yn Eaghtyrane - Eaghtyrane's Welcome

Brian Kerwin welcomed members in his capacity as Eaghtyrane/President and officially opened the meeting. The meeting had been delayed and apologies were extended to Mrs A Kaye, Mrs J Caine, Mrs W Callister, Mrs D Costain-Blann, Mrs C Glen and Mrs J Lace.

2. Leshtalyn - Apologies

Apologies for absence had been received from Mrs C M Christian; Helen Robinson and Bill Corlett; Robin and Tina Callister; Mr E & Mrs E Crebbin; Mr S & Mrs J Crebbin; and Maralyn Crellin.

It was also noted that, subsequent to announcing the date for the AGM, the IOM Natural History and Antiquarian Society had circulated its dates, including a meeting on the same afternoon, which it was known would involve certain other members.

There were also many other events which took place at the start of December, and it was resolved that in future an event should not be programmed at that time.

3. Fograghyn baaish – Obituary notices

The deaths of former Eaghtyrane, Brenda Bridson, and of committee member, Pat Skillicorn, were noted, as was the death of George Davison, a former member who had sung at a number of Celtic Congress events. It was resolved that a minute's silence should be observed at the opening of the meeting on Saturday 9th January 2021.

4. Giare-hennaghys y CCB 2019 - Minutes of the AGM 2019

It was resolved that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 2nd November 2019 be agreed as a correct record of proceedings. Matters arising were dealt with during the course of other items on the agenda.

5. Tuarastyl y Tashteyder Onn - Tashteyder Onn's Report

The Tashteyder Onn/Hon Treasurer had circulated the accounts. They had been prepared in anticipation of the end of the month, but a generous donation of £50 had been received and paid in before the end of the month. It had also been confirmed that the branch also had a deposit account amounting to 6p. The accounts as circulated did not include this £50.06. With this proviso, it was resolved that the accounts be approved.

The accounts included payment of £100 annual affiliation fee to the International Celtic Congress. It was explained that the ICC made a donation to the host country each year, so branch subscriptions paid towards that as well as for other overheads.

Consideration was again given to holding other fund-raising events during the year. It was suggested that coffee mornings continued to be well-supported, so that might present an opportunity.

Accounts were held at the Peel branch of the Isle of Man Bank which was to close from 7th January 2021. In future, cash and cheques will have to be paid in either through the Isle of Man Bank's mobile branch or through the branch in Douglas, Ramsey or Port Erin. Consideration was given to applying for online banking, but this would not alleviate the main difficulty which was associated with paying in. Mr Callister and yn Tashteyder were the only two signatories, following the death of Pat Skillicorn.

6. **Tuarastyl y Screeudeyr Onn - Screeudeyr Onn's Report**

The Screeudeyr Onn/Hon Secretary had circulated his report outlining the successful programme for 2019-20. His report also touched on the International Celtic Congress which had been due to be held in Aberystwyth, Wales in July 2020, but had been cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions (see item 9). It was resolved that the Report be approved.

7. **Reihys jeh oaseiryn – Election of officers**

It was resolved that the following officers and committee members, who had indicated their willingness to be nominated, be elected –

Eaghtyrane - President : Brian Kerwin

Lhiass-Eaghtyrane - Vice-President : Stewart Bennett

Screeudeyr Onn – Hon Secretary : Robard y Carsalagh

Olteynyn y Ving - Members of the Committee :

Judy Bennett, Sandra Caley, Maralyn Crellin and Mairead Kerwin

8. **Claare dy haghyrtyn 2019-20 – Programme of Events 2019-20**

The Screeudeyr Onn/Hon Secretary circulated a list of events for 2019-20.

Following today's talk :

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| | Professor Angela Little : |
| | Education for All... and the Few: <i>schooling in Port St Mary 1829-1979</i> |
| 9th January 2021 : | Dr Fenella Bazin : |
| | Re-discovering the Island's story : <i>The extraordinary flowering of interest in the Island's past at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries</i> |
| 6th February 2021 : | James Franklin, Online and Educational Resources Officer, Culture Vannin : |
| | Manx Dialect Plays : <i>Manx dialect theatre was one of the most important creative expressions from the Isle of Man for over 50 years</i> |
| 6th March 2021 : | Dr Chloë Woolley and Bree musicians : |
| | Manx Music : <i>the Manx Music Development Officer for Culture Vannin tells us about Bree and gives us a flavour of the background of music performed by some of the Island's young traditional musicians</i> |
| 3rd April 2021 : | Steve Wright, photographer, film-maker and tour guide : |
| | Manx Wildlife Watching : <i>Steve presents some of his own films and images and explains aspects of the Island's natural world</i> |
| 1st/8th May 2021 : | Excursion – tbc |

In addition, the Centenary Centre in Peel had been provisionally booked for Friday 14th May 2021, two days after Shenn Laa Boaldyn, for a joint concert with Culture Vannin. Culture Vannin had held a competition for new songs, tunes and dances for Boaldyn. Culture Vannin had been enthusiastic about featuring these in the concert, together with pieces from other Celtic countries. The Michael Players had been asked about a dialect play for the concert, but confirmation was awaited. If that was not possible, James Franklin had been in discussion with Annie Kissack about preparing a dialect play, as she had previously done for Perree Bane some years ago.

With regard to an excursion in May, it was suggested that enquiries be made with Manx National Heritage to visit their behind-the-scenes stores or the restoration of the *Peggy*.

9. **Cohaglym Celtiagh Eddyr-Ashoonagh 2020 International Celtic Congress**

The 2020 ICC was to have been held 20th-25th July in Aberystwyth, Wales with the theme *How to be successfully Celtic in a modern business world*. However, restrictions because of Covid-19 had led to its cancellation. Following discussion between the Welsh branch and the Irish branch (who were to have been the hosts in 2021), it had been agreed to defer everything for a year so that the ICC would proceed in Aberystwyth in 2021 as planned for 2020.

In view of ongoing difficulties, the Welsh branch had announced in September that it was now planning for an online ICC in 2021. That was the situation currently envisaged, whatever changes might possibly be proposed in the event of a successful programme of vaccination. If the ICC were to be online, it was noted that the Centenary Centre had wi-fi, so that members could meet to take a live stream as a branch event, rather than as individuals at home.

10. **Cohaglym Celtiagh Eddyr-Ashoonagh 2023 International Celtic Congress**

The ICC would now potentially return to the Island in 2023. A suggestion had been made for a theme : *The connection between language and place*. There would be time to consider any further proposals for a theme before it would have to be announced at the ICC 2022 hosted by the Irish branch.

11. **Dooney y çhaglym - Closure of Meeting**

The meeting was officially closed by yn Eaghtyrane/President.

Eaghtyrane Date