

# AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER ISLANDER



## Hello members, Welcome to the August and September Islander

August, I believe is the midpoint of summer, I think you can all agree it doesn't feel like we have had many sunny days so far this year, maybe September could bring us a few surprises!

It would be lovely to spend some time outdoors and enjoy our beautiful island and all its splendid flora and fauna. In this bimonthly Islander we have so many activities and events for you to enjoy. Please keep your booking forms safe, however don't worry if you lose them call the office on 817007 or my mobile 484735. I will help if I can. Its lovely to remember everyone's birthday or a special Anniversary. What are your thoughts about letting us know? If you want us to celebrate your birthday or any significant anniversary or even send a message via the Islander to another member friend, please let me know and we will try and sort something out.

**Silvana Evans**



## LUNCHES

### May – The Palace

After a delicious lunch at The Palace, we enjoyed a talk given by Sir David Phillips. Sir David served for 40 years in the police force, eventually becoming Chief Constable in Kent. He said that many people have the concept that policing is a little like Dixon of Dock Green, which is not the case. Crime is a business for some people and intelligence is essential to find out what these people want to keep a secret. He explained that intelligence was important in the war and that the British army used tactics to make the Germans believe there was more radio activity and many more planes than was the case. He finished by saying that internet fraud was the biggest problem to be tackled today, so everyone keep being careful!

**Elaine Williamson**

### June – Douglas Golf Club

The June monthly lunch was held at Douglas Golf Club on Wednesday 19th June and 60 members and guests had a delicious carvery lunch that was both plentiful and enjoyable. After the lunch we had a real treat one of our own, long standing members Peter Maillard gave us a fascinating illustrated talk entitled "From a Pioneer to the shed". It was all about his time serving in the RAF in Borneo in the mid 60's. Peter was a Flight Lieutenant at the time and flew a variety of aircraft including fast jets and propellor driven aircraft. Throughout his career. By his own admission the difference between jets and prop planes was quite dramatic His talk focused on the RAF's presence in Borneo, and he recounted the types of missions and aircraft he flew.

He regaled us with some amazing stories. One in particular stuck in my mind. He was flying his aircraft and was landing his prop driven plane onto the Arc Royal the flagship of the Royal Navies fleet. As he was approaching the Arc Royal, he noticed that the carrier was going too fast for him to land, and so he had to ask the captain to slow down for him! You could not make it up. He went on to tell us about lining up to land by noting a particular tree branch and about landing on the wrong airfield and having to quickly take off again. The vote of thanks was given by John Evans, and all who heard Peters talk went away in awe at his exploits and tales.

**Howard Parkin**

### The Jersey Boys

26 of our members had a fabulous afternoon at the Matinee. We were all on our feet dancing at the end. Thank you, Two Feathers Productions.

**Adele Towns**

### Treasure Hunt Challenge

A pleasant afternoon, not too hot and not raining, a social activity, a bit of a quiz, the option of a leisurely walk of about an hour around Castletown or a drive for those preferring it..... and a cream tea as the reward. What's not to like! So, 25 or so members gathered in the Morton Hall for their instructions and questions carefully prepared by Jim and Ann Cottier - and thankfully, very well constructed with some easy and some rather more searching questions. Who knew, for example, that the Old Police Station next to the castle was once known by the nickname of "the Pepper Pot" (because of its shape!)? And did you know that Major Robert Cain (the island's only VC winner) was Jeremy Clarkson's father-in-law? Many thanks to Jim and Ann for a very enjoyable afternoon

**Chris Blyth**

## MRA – NEW MEMBER(S) ALERT

A warm welcome to our new members: Alan & Christine Lowe, Rick and Hilary Kramer, Sonia Faragher, May Bullough, Jenni Quiggin, Irene Bridson, Avril Yates, Janice Bridson, Brenda Kinnish, Pat Andrews, Anne Faragher and Barbara Dean, *a whopping 14 new members!!*

Silvana Evans

## 200 Club

Members, its renewal time for the 200 Club. Don't miss out on winning £25 each month by remembering to renew your numbers. Non-members, for an annual payment of £15 per number you will get a chance to win, and you may subscribe to multiple numbers if you wish. Remember *you have to be in it to win it*. Please contact Sylvia Evans on 485474 for all remaining available numbers and any further questions. Junes Lucky Winners were Anne Murray (171) Brenda Saunders (163) and Vicki-Upton-Jones (137). Renewal/Joining Form Included.

Sylvia Evans

## MAH JONG

Mah Jong will re-commence on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September (a week earlier than normal) at the new venue at Mayfield Apartments (near to Ramsey bus station) and at the new time of 1.30pm to 3.30pm, after which we have refreshments. The next September meeting will be on Friday 27 September, afterwards it will be on the second and fourth Friday of the month.

Brenda Glover

## VISIT TO RAMSEY RNLI LIFEBOAT STATION

21 of us enjoyed a fascinating tour of the Ramsey Lifeboat station, in this the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the setting up of the RNLI by Manx resident Sir William Hillary. The cost of their Shannon Class boat, the Ann and James Ritchie II, number 13-42 (13 meters long, and 42<sup>nd</sup> off the production line), together with its mega tractor, and alterations to the boathouse, cost £5 million, all raised by public donations and legacies. It will travel at 30 knots powered by water jets. We sat in the crew seats, each with its own screen to enable us to chart the course and check the engines etc. The technology is amazing, and the dedication of all those involved is impressive indeed. If you fancy signing up, it will take three months to do initial training which will enable you to go to sea, but about 18 months to become Competent Crew. If you aspire to become a Navigator, or Coxswain, you will need to progress further. If you missed this visit, it is recommended that you join the second visit on Wed 4th Sept.

Celia Marshall

## A NOTE FROM THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

**Office Move:** we are currently negotiating terms and conditions for a potential office move and will update you as soon as we can.

**Membership:** for those of you who enjoy social media please follow our Facebook Page, Instagram and X, if you can share posts to your friends that would be great. We have recently welcomed a further 14 new members over the last month by using it! Please share posts.

**Coffee Mornings:** At our last meeting the Committee agreed on opening all our coffee mornings to friends, so please let your friends know. They may see how lovely we all are and choose to join.

**Raffle Prize Donations:** If any members have raffle prizes, they wish to donate they will be welcomed we are running low, search your cupboards, any unwanted gifts, what do they say your unwanted items could be someone's welcomed treasures. Gift and Bottle Bags, baskets, small gift boxes also needed.

Management Committee

## IN REMEMBRANCE - PAT MOODIE

Our Queen of the Douglas Coffee morning and fabulous member Pat Moodie sadly passed last month. Pat was an amazing lady who was always full of enthusiasm, fashion and joy. She will be sadly missed by us all. We will remember the laughter, love and joy she brought into our lives. May her memory continue to inspire and uplift us.

Silvana Evans

## Just For Fun - June and July Answers

1. Which fast-food franchise opened its first restaurant in 1952 in Salt Lake City, Utah? **KFC**
2. The 1950s saw the astonishing rise in popularity in which kind of heeled shoe? **Stiletto**
3. What was the name of the global 1951 hit for Nat King Cole? **Unforgettable**

Silvana and John Evans