

THE SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS IN BALLAUGH
(1935) *



The Celebrations in Ballaugh were of an interesting and historic character. They commenced with a thanksgiving service in the School-yard which was attended by the schoolchildren, rovers, scouts, and parishioners, and was conducted by the Rev. K.G. Gates, Rector of Ballaugh, assisted by Mr Walker, of the Bishops-court Theological College. After the service, which was very impressive indeed, a procession was formed and proceeded to a field, kindly lent by Mr George Wade, where sports were held for the children. These resulted as follows:

Flat Races—10 to 12 years—1, J. Caley; 2, D. Crowe; 3, H. Kermode. Girls—1, Joan Moughtin; 2, May Gill; 3, May Boyde.

8–10 years (boys)—1, G. Gill; 2, R. Corlett; 3, T. Cain. Girls—1, Flora Kermode; 2, Doris Gill; 3, Betty Corkhill.

6–8 years (boys)—1, G. Corlett; 2, D. Caley; 3, A. Crowe. Girls—1, Alice Boyde; 2, Kathleen Wade; 3, Mona Boyde.

Under 6 years —1, Archie Corkill; 2, Barbara Sayle, 3, Billy Goldrop.

12–14 (boys)—1, J. Caley; 2, T. Gill; 3, H. Teare. Girls—1, M. Gill; 2, J. Corlett; 3, B. Corkish.

14–16 years (boys)—1, Brydon Radcliffe; 2, J. Cowell; 3, T. Skinner. Girls—1 (tie), C. Bridson and E. Teare; 2, L. Corkish.

Potato Race (boys)—1, J. Kermeen; 2, T. Gill; 3, T. Boyde. Girls—1, Joyce Corlett; 2, M. Gill; 3, J. Styles and M. Boyde (tie).

“Jubilee” Race—1, Mona Boyde; 2, Geo. Corlett; 3, W. Corkish.

Adult sports followed later and these resulted as follows:

120 yards flat race—1, T. Corlett; 2, J.J. Radcliffe; 3, N. Mylrea.

Three Legged race—1, S. Corlett and Miss B. Corlett; 2, T. Corlett and Miss M. Cowell.

One Mile Cycle race—1, J.J. Radcliffe; 2, A. Brew; 3, W. Kermeen.

Relay race—1, J. Radcliffe, E. Skinner and J. Mylrea; 2, T. Corlett, W. Kermeen and W. Corlett.

Ladies’ Envelope race—1, M. Cowell; 2, A. Kermeen; 3, O. Corlett.

During the afternoon His Excellency the Lieut. Governor and Lady Butler spent a few minutes at the scene of the celebrations and their visit was very greatly appreciated. About the same time the Jubilee medals and flags were being distributed by Mr J.W. Harrison, Captain of the Parish and Mrs Harrison. The Governor before

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leaving called for cheers for Their Majesties which were lustily given. After tea, the happy youngsters received their Jubilee mugs, and souvenir chocolates, the latter being presented by Mrs Harrison. Another visitor who received a great ovation on arrival was the former Rector of Ballaugh (the Rev. T.R. Kneale) and later the Lord Bishop put in an appearance and addressed the children on the significance of the occasion. At 7 o'clock trees were planted in the Church-yard in honour of the occasion. Mr J.W. Harrison, C.P., planted the first, and in planting the second Mr J.T. Corkill gave an earnest address expressing loyal sentiment. The third tree was planted by Mr T.H. Kneen, M.H.K., on behalf of Lieut.-Commander Parkes, and fourth tree was planted by Mr J. Skinner on behalf of the Rev. T.R. Kneale, former Rector. At 8 pm. came over the ether clearly the broadcast of the King's Speech and the large gathering of parishioners listened most attentively. The broadcast was provided by Mr J.C. Bridson.

There followed an entertainment by Miss F. Gawne's "Bluebird" concert party consisting of miscellaneous variety items and the cantata "The Yarn of the Nancy Bell."

Supper was afterwards served bringing to a close an eventful day.

The tea tables were presided over by Mrs R. Keig, Miss J. Corlett, Mrs Callister, Miss Cowell, Mrs A. Teare, Mrs E.C. Kneen, Miss Mundell, Mrs J. Teare, Miss Anderson, Mrs Gee, Mrs T. Callister and Mrs E. Cannell, with Mrs Halsall and Mrs Bridson as tea makers.

The principal officials were: Chairman, Mr J.W. Harrison, C.P.; treasurer, Mr C.C. Caine; secretary, Mr William Cain.

"Ballaugh." *Isle of Man Examiner* 5 October 1935: 8e.¹

King George V celebrated his Silver Jubilee in 1935, and here is the account from the *Isle of Man Examiner* of the celebrations that day in Ballaugh. The day itself appears to have been an exhausting one, with an emphasis on activities for the children of the parish in the form of athletic competitions. This celebration has that familiar feel of such days, with tree planting and speeches, flying visits by the Governor and the Lord Bishop, and the handing out of Jubilee medals, mugs, a concert in the evening and the welcome refreshment of tea being served. There were also souvenir chocolates, just for the children, which after an arduous day such as this one no doubt soon disappeared into hungry mouths. This was a parish assembling, as did others in the Island, to celebrate the Silver Jubilee and hearing the King's Speech broadcast live to them, reminding them that no matter how Manx they may have felt on the day there was also a claim on them as members of the British Empire.

STEPHEN MILLER, 2018

¹ Anon, "Ballaugh," *Isle of Man Examiner* 5 October 1935.

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REFERENCES

Anon. "Ballaugh." *Isle of Man Examiner* 5 October 1935: 8e.

