

Manx Notes 208 (2015)

“‘WHO IS MONA DOUGLAS?’” (8)

NY MANNINEE AEGEY

(I)

Ny Manninee Aegey
Rules and Notices

- I. On joining Ny Manninee Aegey each boy or girl makes three promises on their honour. These promises are:—To be loyal to God and to Ellan Vannin; To be helpful to others; And to help their country by trying to fit themselves for serving her when they are grown up; To keep the laws of the club. They then become members, and own the title of Manninagh.
- II A Manninagh’s honour is to be trusted absolutely.
- III A Manninagh obeys orders smartly.
- IV A Manninagh is tidy.
- V A Manninagh is cheerful under difficulties.
- VI A Manninagh does a good turn to someone each day.
- VII A Manninagh is a friend to animals.
- VIII A Manninagh attends the meeting of his or her Cheshaght regularly punctually.
- IX A Manninagh is observant—notices things which other people pass by.
- X First, last and always, a Manninagh is patriotic, which means putting one’s country first of all things on earth, loving it with all one’s heart, and being always on the watch for chances to serve it.

Ellan Vannin Dy Bragh!

Source: “Ny Manninee Aegey | Rules and Notices.” Undated typescript [1918]. MNHL, MS 09545, Mona Douglas Papers.

(2)

[3] Under the name of *Ny Manninee Aegey*, a small but vigorous society for Manx children has been started, and has affiliated to our society, from which it is more or less a junior off-shoot. This society aims at awakening high national ideals in our boys and girls, teaching them to speak and love their mother-tongue, and generally making good Manx men and women of them. The children are taking up the idea very well, and showing initiative. The Dhoon Cheshaght recently held a successful “Cruinnaght” (or assembly), consisting of competitions, musical items, etc., partly in Manx and partly in English, for which the young members were almost entirely responsible. We trust that this little society will grow and prosper.

Source: Mona Douglas. “Annual Report, 1918.” *Nineteenth Annual Meeting held in the Town Hall, Douglas, on Hollantide Day, 1918*. n.p.: Manx Language Society, 1918. 2–3.

(3)

NATIONAL RECITAL AT THE DHOON

Under the auspices of the Dhoon Cheshaght of *Ny Manninee Aegey*, the new Manx children’s club, a very charming and successful Manx evening was held in the Dhoon Church Hall on Thursday of last week. Mr W.B. Meyrick, of Douglas, very kindly took most of the programme on his shoulders, and delighted his audience with a series of recitations from the Manx poets, given in his inimitable style. During the evening there was also given a display of Morse signalling by four children, a short speech explaining the work of the Cheshaght by Gilbert Corteen, and a Manx Gaelic spinning-wheel song by Florence Mylecharane in costume. Towards the end of the evening a pretty little Manx sketch, “The Fairy Dog,” by “Cushag,” was rendered by Mr Meyrick and some of the children, and was highly appreciated. The parts were taken as follows:—“Daa,” Mr W.B. Meyrick; “Mammy,” Ada Caveen; “Children,” Daisy Scarffe, Lena Lowey, Mary Mylecharane, Elsie Scarffe, Jack Faragher, and Edward Faragher. Mr W. Cubbon, of Douglas, made a very “gennal” chairman, and gave a most interesting address on the patriotic work of the club and some Manx patriots and martyrs belonging to Maughold parish. The evening concluded with a hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr F.B. Douglas, and seconded by Mr Caveen: to Mr Ferguson and the friends at the Dhoon Church who have given splendid help to the Cheshaght since its inception, and kindly allowed the use of the hall for the entertainment: and the singing of the Manx National Anthem. At the conclusion of the meeting the children and friends partook of supper, which was generously provided by the ladies of the church. The proceeds, which are in aid of the Cheshaght’s fund for buying uniforms, amounted to £3.

Source: "Laxey [...] National Recital at the Dhoon." *Isle of Man Examiner* 4 May 1918: 3*.

(4)

THE DHOON

In connection with *Ny Manninee Aegey*, an organisation which is carried on among the young people of Lonan and the southern end of Maughold by Miss Mona Douglas, the well-known young Manx poet, a "Chruinnaght," or gathering, and sale of work was held at the Dhoon Church Hall last week. The objects of the organisation are very similar to those of the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides, but a special effort is made to inspire the children with a love of the Manx nation and a reverence for its language. The proceedings consisted of the exhibition and sale of articles made by the members, and number of literary and other competitions, and a selection of musical items given by the children, under Miss Douglas's instruction. Mr Robt. Kerruish, captain of the parish, presided over a crowded audience; and financially and otherwise the effort was highly successful. The adjudicators in the various classes were Mrs J. Royston, Miss M. Royston, Mr W.B. Meyrick, Mr & Mrs W. Cubbon. Mr Nelson Cubbon, and Mr P.W. Caine. During the proceedings Mr J.J. Kneen (Port Erin), whose reputation as a Manx scholar scarcely needs mention, read a message in Manx from the Rev. W. Cooke, of St Helens, who is a native of Peel. Miss Mona Kerruish efficiently discharged the duties of accompanist.

Source: "The Dhoon." *Isle of Man Times* 21 September 1918: 7*.

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