

The
MYLREAs
of
DOUGLAS
&
district

1600-1900



<http://www.mylrea.com.au>

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Diana Banks is a Mylrea through her mother's family. Several years ago, she began writing the biography of her great great grandfather, John Mylrea, who was born on the Isle of Man in 1823, and in the course of researching John's story, she became an accidental authority on the various Mylrea strands. The result has been a series of short histories about these Mylrea families/clans, partly to celebrate their lives but also to look for the links that might bind them together. These histories are showcased on the website <http://www.mylrea.com.au>

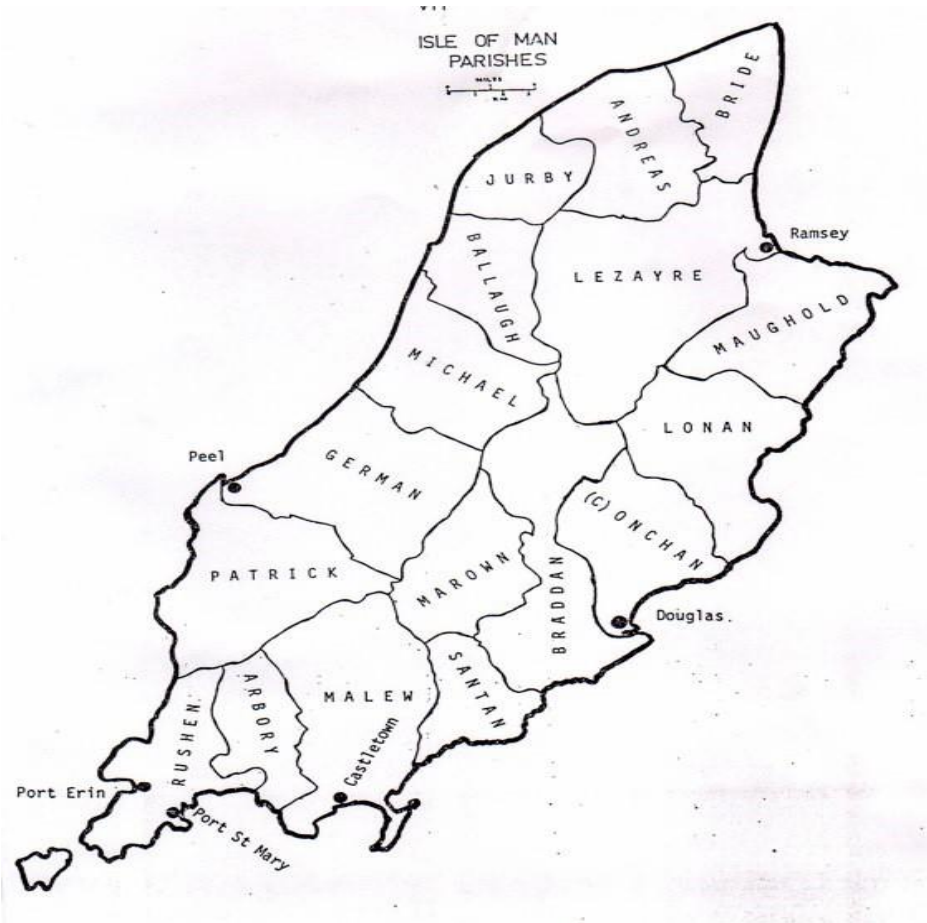
The online collection (all works-in-progress) is regularly updated when new information comes to light. Today, the following histories can be found there:

- Early Mylreas in KK Michael 1500-1700
- William Mcylrea (Ballaugh) 1627-1692
- The Fatally Flawed Family of *Fildraw* 1600-1800
- The Mylreas of Douglas & district 1600-1900
- Fathers & Sons: One Mylroie Clan (Lonan) 1653-1900
- Edward Mylrea snr (Lonan) 1743-1784
- Nicholas Mylrea jnr, Farmer (Ballaugh) 1747-1823
- Three Daniels & a Thomas 1761-1934
- Thomas Mylrea, Farmer & Preacher (Braddan) 1788-1860
- Basil Mylrea, Mariner & Publican (Peel) 1791-1865
- Philip Mylrea, Stone Mason (Douglas) 1793-1861
- Frederick Thomas Mylrea, Military Man (London) 1803-1862
- John Mylrea 1852-1921
- The Brushmen of Bethnal Green
- Mylreas in 19th Century Lancashire
- The Mylreas of Canada (1900 -)

The Mylreas who lived in and around Douglas were a disparate group, quite unlike their counterparts in other parishes on the Isle of Man. Some in Douglas were "locals" while others were immigrants starting afresh away from their ancestral roots, most were urban dwellers suggesting that their backgrounds might have been as mariners and not tied to the land as those in other parishes were. Detecting the earliest Mylreas in this region owes much to the work of Nigel Crowe to whom heartfelt thanks are extended.

Diana began her professional life as a teacher in central Queensland, went on to become a scholar at several Australian universities, and later a senior bureaucrat in Federal government circles. She has postgraduate qualifications from both Melbourne University in Australia and Harvard in the United States and is an experienced writer and researcher, although the Mylrea narratives are her first foray into biography. Her book about her great great grandfather is published in the USA with the title: *On Some Lonely Shore: John Mylrea in Australia*¹.

¹Publisher: <http://www.lulu.com>



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17th Century

The first mention of a Mylrea in Conchan is in the land records for 1610 when a Thomas Mylrea was a tenant of cottage allotment #76. He paid an annual rent of 1d and shared the tenancy with Thomas Dawson who paid 4d rent. Thomas remained a constant on that allotment until 1648 after which his name disappeared altogether from the Manorial Roll.

Manx Records

Liber Assedationis and Liber Vastarum in particular were the key land records for the Isle of Man. They contained detailed information about the location of the Lord's tenants, the annual rent they paid, and for what, and it is to these records that the historian must turn in their search for the early Mylrea residents in and around Douglas. Unfortunately, not everyone was a tenant, instead living in crofts and tholtans, and so their names do not appear in these lists.

One of the earliest land records, the 1511/15 Manorial Roll (also called Liber Assedationis) for Conchan (including Douglas) has not one Mylrea tenant; nor does the Roll for Braddan. In fact, the majority of Mylreas at that time were found in the parish of Michael, with lone Mylreas in Ballaugh and German, all of the west coast of the island, an island that was primarily farming land; most holdings small, and providing a subsistence living rather than enterprise.

Parish records of the early days suffer from different challenges. Not all have survived intact, the first available baptism is 1626, burial 1624, and marriage 1685 but the lists are probably far from being a complete anyway. Perhaps more significantly, entries for the parishes of Braddan and Conchan [which include the town of Douglas] have been bundled together under the heading of Braddan, which makes it impossible to distinguish the residents of Douglas from those in the surrounding countryside².

Their problems notwithstanding, the parish records show several Mylreas : William McLarie was buried in Braddan in 1628, perhaps the infant son of George (McLarye) and baptised two days previously. Over the next decade or two, John McLery was buried there in 1656³ and his wife Mariod M'Lerea als Cunery in 1659; a Gilbert Mclerye was buried in 1657 and Issable Malerye in 1661 (a child); Bell Jnera in 1671⁴, Katherine Coule or Mclarye in 1676; Ann Quaile or Mallery in 1680; a child of David Mallereigh was buried in 1684; and an Ellin Mallera was buried 1691.

Several Mylreas also left wills during that time - Robert Mallirea (1624), John McLeroy (1656) and Isabel Ineray 1671 - only John offering up the meaningful information that (a) his wife was Mariod McLerea als Cunery, (b) he had a son John, and (c) there were two grand-children named Rich

² Online searches for Douglas baptisms & burials produce listings for St Ann (Santon)

³ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/john-1656.html>

⁴ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/isabel-1671.html>

and Isabel. John's will also mentions a son Henry but the document itself is so greatly degraded that it is unreadable in part, and so Henry might have been the couple's offspring or he might have been Mariod's son from a previous marriage.

While the economy of the day could best be described as static and largely agrarian, Douglas, as one of the four seaports on the island, would have attracted those involved in port activity. Thus it is reasonable to assume that the Mylreas of early Douglas probably found work predominantly as mariners, porters, or fishermen. Perhaps it was those with the skills of the sea or those for whom farming was not viable who became seafarers, and gravitated towards the seaports.

Piecing the Records together

It is noteworthy, and disappointing, that Thomas the early tenant on cottage allotment #76 in Douglas never made an appearance in the parish registers, and nor did he leave a will – or at least, those records have not survived. The incompleteness of information in relation to Thomas is salutary for it warns the historian to go beyond the most common source, that is, the parish records (with their curious bouquet of spellings such as MALOWEE, MOLLEROY, McLARIE, MOLERIE, MOLLERA), to examine the land records and other documents of the day.

The following is an interesting example of how on occasion, the various sources converge to tell a story, at least partially, of a single family:

- **land records** show Jon Mc yloy was briefly a tenant on **Tremode** treen⁵, just south of Douglas, with John Kewley and Robert Waterson. In 1698, Jon & wife Issable purchased half a quarterland from Jon Coultrey (rent = 8s 6d) and subsequently sold one third (rent = 2s 9d) to John Oates, and the other two thirds to Rob & Thomas Waterson (rent = 5s 9d)⁶. Manorial Rolls were not always up to date, and the entries for this **Tremode** quarterland did not show the Mc yloy tenancy until 1702 by which time, Mc yloy had sold his holding. He did not compose for the lands in 1704 and by 1706, the Mc yloy name was no longer entered in Lib Assed. The family was never found in the land records again.
- **parish records** show a Margrett Mallereay daughter of Jo(hn) baptised 1681, Jony Mollereigh baptised 1685 (father Jo), William Mallereigh born to John Mallereigh in 1690, and Issabel Mallerey (father Jo) baptised 1693. Burial records show a Robert, son of Jo, born and died in 1684⁷. These children – Margrett, Robert, Jony, William and Issable- might have been siblings.
- **will** for Isabel Mc yloy als Joyn who was buried in Braddan January 27, 1713, made bequests to her children Isabel, Margaret (Brew)⁸ and William, and designated her husband **John** as executor of her will⁹.

⁵ Lib Assed 1702

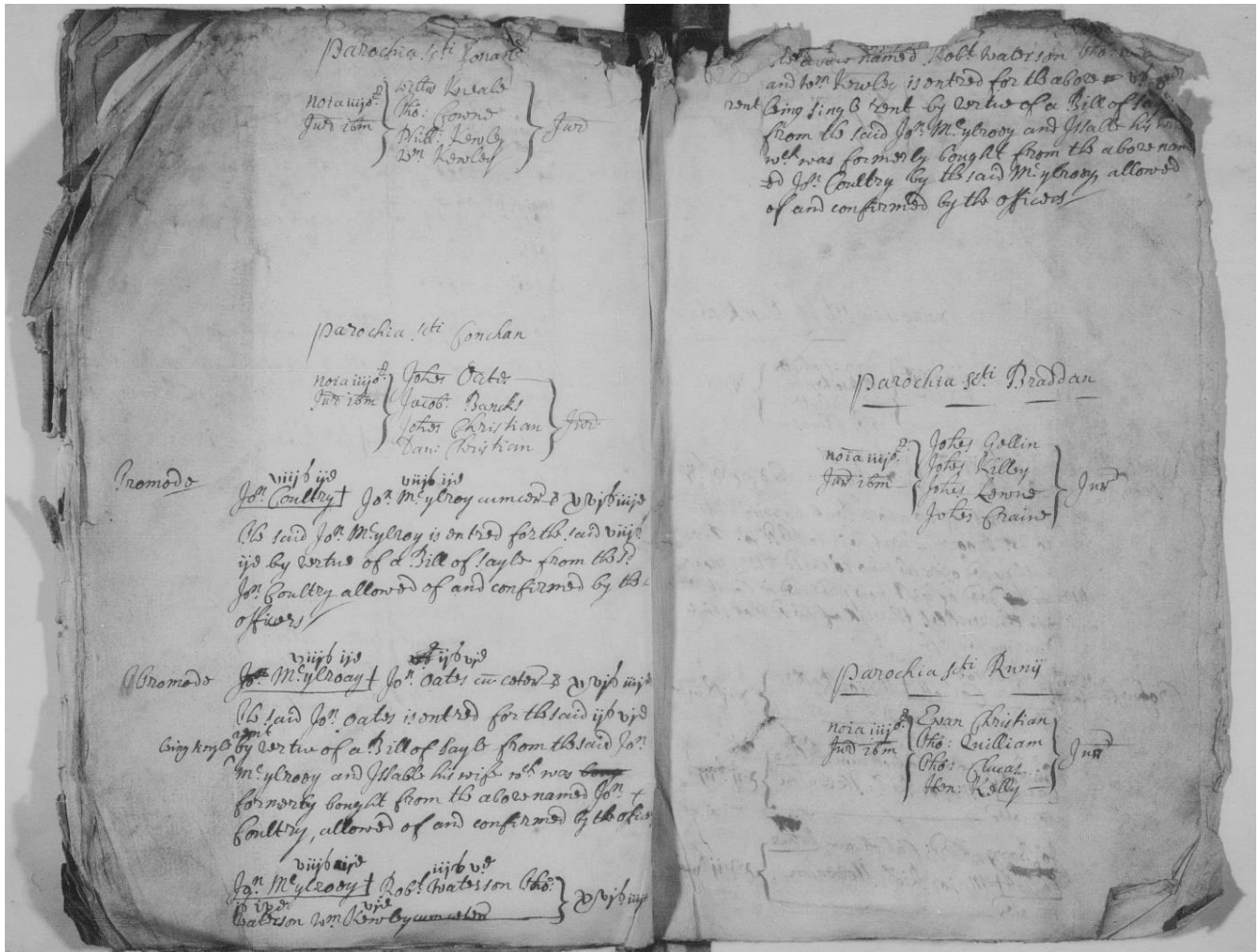
⁶ Lib Vast 1698

⁷ LDS IGIs

⁸ No record of this marriage survives

⁹ This is the summary of Isabel's will taken from the Manx Notebook, and is misleading because of its mis-translations:
1713 A 7 McYLROY Isabel?quine d 29 jan 1713; dau Isabel, Margt Brew als myylroy; son Wm;
husb wm exor

When combined, these three collections – the land records, parish records and a will – probably reveal a Mylrea family in rural Conchan in the mid to late 1600s, and early 1700s. Headed by Jon and Issable, and with three surviving children, the family was lost to posterity after John did not leave a will, did not occupy land or cottage in the parish after 1702, and when none of his children had confirmed marriages or burials. A best guess is that Issable’s surname Joyn (Joyner?) points to her being a native of Conchan or Braddan. John’s Mylrea family is uncertain, although he was born perhaps in the 1650s.

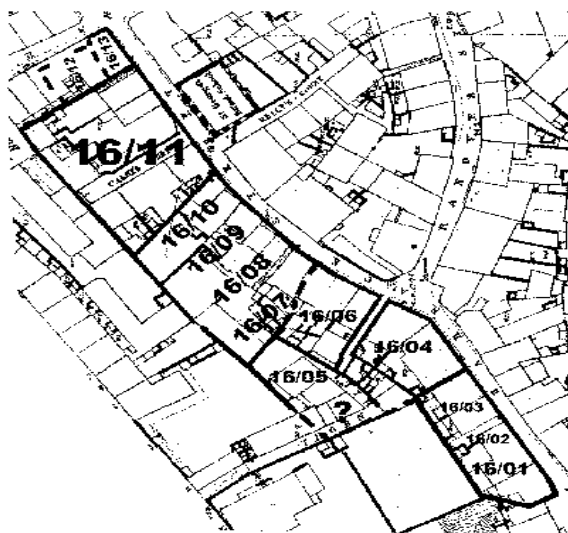


LIB VAST 1698 showing John Mc ylroy on Tremode quarterland

The land records also have geographic specificity which in itself is a valuable and quite unique quality amongst the Manx collections. For example, they show that (a) a Thomas Mylrea occupied a particular cottage allotment in Douglas from about 1610 to 1648, and that he was the only Mylrea in town, and (b) soon after Thomas’s disappearance from the records, Hen, Thomas and John Mylrea were listed in Douglas from about 1655 onwards. This trio were tenants on two cottage allotments: Thomas & Hen (with others) on a 12d rent numbered 61, and John and Hen on a

3d rent numbered 90¹⁰. These men might have been brothers, or cousins, or a man and his sons – or no relation at all¹¹.

Skip forward about 50 years, and the work of Nigel Crowe sheds further light on these three Mylreas, or at least their possible descendants, by applying the results of a 1705 Survey of Douglas tenants. Crowe mapped the cottage allotments onto a graphic depiction of the town's terrain and showed that the allotments lay along the harbour foreshore, west of where the ferry terminal is today, and were bordered on the east by what is now known as Barrack St, but simply referred to in early documents as the Common Street. All are designated with a prefix 16 in Crowe's graphic.



- 04 John
- 05 John
- 06 Hen
- 08 Thomas
- 10 John

1705 Survey: Source <http://www.manxroots.com/dgls/16infram.htm>

Crowe's work implicitly supports the idea of a connection between these three men, despite the various surname spellings they enjoyed over the years, partly because it shows that they held adjoining allotments in the 1600s. But more importantly, these allotments were in the hands of their likely descendants in the early 1700s.

By 1705, allotments 16/04, 16/05, and 16/10 were tenanted by the families of two women whose father was John Mylrea, a man who mysteriously disappeared around 1700, while 16/06 was tenanted by another women whose father was Hen Mylrea. The third Mylrea family in the neighbourhood was that of Thomas Mylroy on 16/08 whose father might have been either Thomas or Hen, probably Thomas. Each of these families would make their mark in the 18th century.

As well as John, Thomas and Hen Mylrea in Douglas in the late 17th century were two other Mylrea men who had no obvious connection whatsoever to those on the section 16 cottage allotments. One

¹⁰ Cottage Allotment numbers changed over the years as Douglas expanded and by the 1690s, the cottages were #63 and #91 – but their rents did not change, nor did their neighbours

¹¹ See Attachment 1 – Mylrea LA in Douglas

was a native son while the other had migrated from the parish of Michael. Each had gone from Douglas by the dawn of the 18th century, one had migrated and the other had died:

David Mallereigh & Margaret Cowne

It is likely that David was a native of Douglas. He married Margaret in 1680 in Braddan, and their children were born there. Children with baptism records for David and Margaret: Hen (MOLLEREIGH) 1685, Jo (MALLEREIGH) 1686, and Richard (MALAREIGH) 1690, as well as a burial in 1684 for "a child of David's".

David's parentage is uncertain, although his mother's name was Christian Cowne, information taken from his Articles of Marriage¹². The most promising option for his father was Henry MALLEREAY who died in 1675 and whose will mentions sons, David and John¹³, although these boys do not have records of baptism. Given how rarely the name David is used in the Mylrea clans, Henry has good prospects as David's father, more so because David's subsequently named his first two children Hen and John. Hen the senior was buried in Braddan and logically, his home was there.

A note of caution however: This Henry should not be confused with the Hen Mylrea who was a tenant on a cottage allotment in section 16 in Douglas, because if he were one in the same, then David as his son would have inherited the tenancy after his father died in 1675 – but he did not. In the late 1680s and early 1690s, David's name did not appear in either the Lib Assed or Lib Vast and in the early 1700s, Hen's name was replaced by that of his daughter, Jane.

David was probably born in the 1650s to be marrying in 1680. His wife, Margaret, died in 1723, leaving a will that gave some meagre clues to their offspring "*son John Mc yloy sole administrator the rest of the children having had contract/ bargain who being out of the Island, the brother and sister Richard and Margaret are sworn in Court*"¹⁴. There are no records to tell of the baptisms of the "rest of the children" nor of their fates but at least their mother's will gave a good indication that some of them had left the Island.

This couple was a little more mobile than many Manx families. They were evidently in Braddan for at least a decade after their marriage while their children were born. However, in 1704, the family suffered two presentments in Maughold, because their children Richard and Margaret had not learned their catechism. They were still residents in Maughold in 1709 when their daughter contracted in marriage to Dan Cowin of Lonan. Previously, in 1702, David had been involved in a dispute over fences which was heard by the Great Enquest¹⁵.

Lonan was the parish in which David and Margaret both died. It is unclear when they left Braddan, how long they remained in Maughold, and when they arrived in Lonan. The land records do not show that David as a tenant in Lonan, although his 1730 burial record noted

¹² <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/david-marriage-1680.html>

¹³ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/henry-1675.html>

¹⁴ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/margaret-cowen-1723.html>

¹⁵ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/david-enquest-1702.html>

“David Molleyrey of Brondal buried March 20”. The connection to the land might be through their daughter Margaret who married Dan Cowin in Lonan in 1709. Dan was given the family lands in the treen of **Brondall** and in his daughter’s Marriage Contract, David had made the provision for him and his wife to live with the young couple at a time that suited them and it would seem that this is how David found his way to that parish.

Their son Richard also made his home in Lonan. He married Isabel Moore in Onchan in 1714 and purchased half of the Cowin estate in **Brondall** soon afterwards¹⁶. He married three times and was father to nine children, the descendants of whom mostly remained in Lonan for the next two centuries, the majority as farmers initially but later working in the mines of Laxey or as skilled drapers and shoemakers.

The surname of this clan morphed into Mylroie, and recent DNA analysis revealed that members of this family had very different profiles to the Mylreas of Ballaugh. The Lonan Mylroies are Viking in their origins and the Mylreas are Celtic – that is, David was not Mylrea at all.

William Mcylrea & Margaret Kinish

William lived only briefly in Braddan. Towards the end of the 1600s, he arrived in Douglas from the parish of Michael. He married Margaret Kinish in Braddan in 1690¹⁷ and died in 1699, naming four children in his will (although baptismal records for only three can be found) - John (1691)¹⁸, Margaret (1693)¹⁹, Ellin (1695), Ann (169*). Ellin’s record of baptism noted that the family was from Nunnery Howe, lands to the south across the river from the town of Douglas which suggests that William might have worked either as a porter, loading and unloading ships on the South Quay, or on the nearby farmland.

Mary Cannell als Mc ylrea was mentioned in William’s will and through that brief allusion, William’s family was revealed. The Michael baptismal register shows a Catherine (1656), Mary (1659) & William (1663) born to Hu MACHLERA. Other parish records show that Mary was married to Ric Cannell. Ric Cannell was a tenant on *Ballnareenny* quarterland in Michael, and Mary and her unmarried sister Catherine were buried within days of each other in 1723. The burial register notes their residence as *Ballnareenny*. The dots joined the pieces about William.

William, the Mylrea from Michael, was about 36 years of age when he died. By the time his widow, Margaret Kinish, died nearly 40 years later, she had married two more times and had three more children. Only two of William’s children were alive by then (John and Ann) according to her 1736 will²⁰; John had apparently left the island in about 1717 and Ann died a spinster in 1738 in her forties²¹

¹⁶ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/richard-purchase-1717.html>

¹⁷ MACYLEREA

¹⁸ MALLAREAH

¹⁹ MOLLERA

²⁰ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/margaret-kinish-1736.html>

²¹ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/ann-1738.html>

Sadly, the footprint of this Mylrea immigrant was brief and light, and William left no traceable male descendant.

The Unattached

There are always individuals who seem to lack a past – no marriage, birth or death entries to locate them in Manx family history – yet evidence that they lived exists.

Two at least marked their presence in the area and their Mylrea connections, through their wills:

→ 1689-2 A w CRELLIN Margaret TEAR dated 17 jan 1689/90; gch Margt + Jony Macleriegh; son Philip, Wm Crellin (6d ea); dau Isable Maclereigh exex²²

*Braddan baptisms for a Margaret Mallereay in 1681 and Jony Mollereigh in 1685 list their father as John. Could Margaret Crellin's daughter Isabel have been the woman who was buried in Braddan in 1713 (Maclereigh als Joyn?), wife of John and briefly a tenant on a **Tremode** quarterland, and mother of two daughters born before 1689 – Margaret ∪ Jony²³?*

There was a John Mc yloy who died in 1731, nominating his wife named Margaret and his daughter Isabel (married to Robert Killey) as his legatees²⁴. One of John's bequests referred to "lime burned and unburned" giving a clue to his occupation. Could this John Mc yloy have been the husband of Isable who died earlier in 1713, and perhaps whose other children had died, leaving only daughter Isable and a second wife named Margaret? Or were there two John Mylreas with daughters named Isabel in Braddan at much the same time???

The Disappeared

John Mc yloy was the husband of Cath Moore, and the father to Margaret (Joyner) & Jane (Killey). His fate was not recorded, and Court papers dealing with Cath's legacy simply noted that he was presumed dead²⁵. Perhaps, if he was a mariner, he was drowned at sea, with no word ever coming back to his family about his fate or perhaps he created a new life in the UK, Ireland or Scotland and without literacy, lost contact with his Manx family. Maybe he simply ran away.

John Mc yloy, husband of Isabel Joyn, and tenant on **Tremode** treen in the late 1600s disappeared in the early 1700s. Did he return whence he came, from some other part of the island? No records survive that confirm his fate although he might have married a second time, and died in 1731.

These would not be the only men named John Mylrea to be lost from his family. John Mallereigh named in his mother Margaret's 1723 will as executor was never found in parish or land records; John Mylrea son of William left the island before his mother Margaret's death in 1736. The most logical explanation for these disappearances was that they were mariners who died during their exploits at sea.

²² Will Summaries. A Manx Note Book

²³ In Isabel's will, two more children were identified, both born after 1689 which would explain why they weren't mentioned by Margaret Crellin in her will (if indeed these families were connected)

²⁴ Isabel Mcylroiy & Robert Killey had children John 1723, Isabel 1725, Jane in 1735 (Ballaquayle); 1751-1 A 6 KILLEY Robert dated 19 Mar 1750/1; ch John, Robt, Philip, Isable, Elinor + Jane (last 3 jt exexs); pledges Ewan Keruish + Christopher Fitsimmons (also witnesses);

²⁵ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/catharine-moore-1698.html>

18th Century

As the new century dawned, the resident Mylrea families of Douglas and surrounding area found newcomers in their midst. By 1705, a clear picture of early Douglas had emerged, as its functions - residential, market, and military - grew in importance alongside the port facility. The ensuing decades saw the town thrive and, as a result, imposing merchants' houses, large warehouses, quays and a pier were constructed²⁶.

In the 1730 [List of Householders](#), there were 211 households in Douglas, eight of which had a known Mylrea connection:

Widowers of the two daughters of John Mc ylroy & Cath Moore

- * Robert Joyner and Richard Killey (the latter with one child & one servant)

Daughter of Henry Mc ylroy & Amy Joyner als Watson

- * Jane and Philip Higgin with one child

Daughter & widow of William Mc ylrea & Margaret Kinish

- * Ann was probably living with her mother Margaret, and step-father Dan Cain. She was not listed separately in the survey, so she might have been recorded as a one of the 4 children of Margaret and Dan (or been a nameless servant in another household)

Son of Jane Mc ylroy & Richard Killey

- * Charles, unmarried, with four servants

Newcomers

- * Thomas & Margaret (als Lewn) Mylrea with two children
- * Hugh & Margaret (als Cain als Kinnish) Mylrea with three children
- * John & Mary Mydwrath (soon to be styled Mcylwrath) with three children, four servants and a lodger

The Family Group

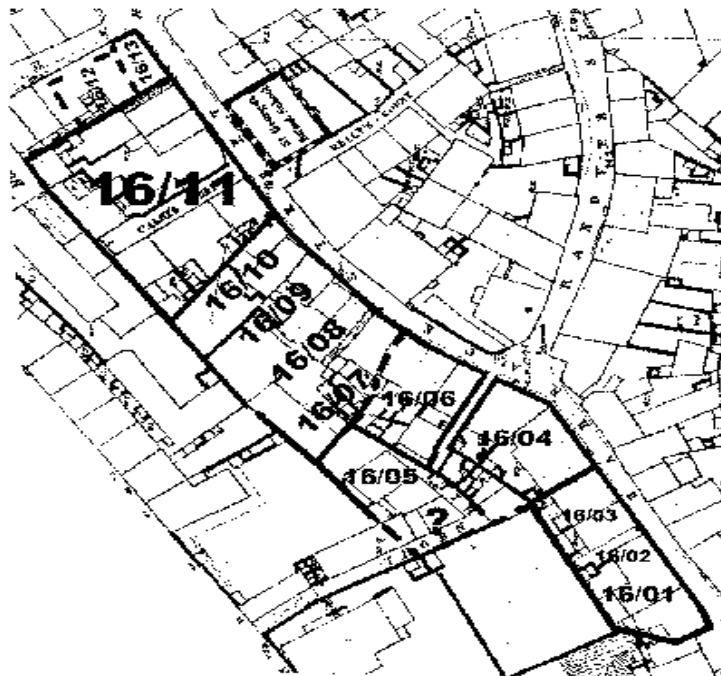
There was a connectivity, not well-defined, between four of the couples identified in the 1730 Survey:

1. Robert Joyner and Richard Killey were married to **Margaret** and **Jane**, daughters of John Mc ylroy and Cath Moore
2. **Jane** Higgin was the daughter of Hen Mc ylroy and Amey als Joyner als Watson (and also the half-sister of Robert Joyner)
3. **Thomas** Mylroii, living amongst the families of these three women, might also have been connected to them. The cottage allotment on which a Thomas lived in the early 1700s was one that had been previously tenanted by John and Hen Mcylvorrey since 1658 (16/08, allotment #113).

²⁶ Adapted from Wikipedia's material on Douglas

They all had adjoining allotments, and two of the three husbands were mariners - Philip Higgin and Robert Joyner had been listed as crew on the *Henrietta* in 1712,²⁷ and Philip was later recorded as the master of the *Prosperous* in the 1720s²⁸. The fathers of the women, John & Hen Mc yloy, were also likely to have been mariners although any familial link between the two men has never been firmly established.

Returning to Crowe's depiction of a part of Douglas known to have been tenanted by Mylreas early in the 1700s, the graphic below now shows the allotments, the earlier tenant and the tenants in 1707-1708:



- 04 John - Jane & Richard Killey
- 05 John - Margaret & Robert Joyner
- 06 Hen - Jane & Philip Higgin
- 08 Thomas - Thomas Mylrea
- 10 John - Jane & Richard Killey

Perhaps coincidentally, in 1643, a woman named Kath Moore compounded a Douglas cottage allotment with a 12d rent²⁹, nominating the obligatory three lives as Kath, her son John, and James Moore, the son of Phil. Over 30 years later, the 1679 Composition Book records for that cottage allotment "*now Phill Moore & [Phill?] Xpin, lives James Moore son of Phill Moore of Douglas.*" In other words, Kath Moore and her son John were both dead. Clearly the Kath Moore who compounded a cottage in Douglas in 1643 could not have been the mother of Margaret and Jane, nor could her son, dead by 1679, be their father if their mother's 1741 court hearing is to be relied on. Nevertheless, the 1703 Composition Book records:

²⁷ Wilkins, Frances. (2000). *2,000 Manx Mariners: An Eighteenth Century Survey*. Wyre Forest Press.

²⁸ Wilkins, Frances. (2000). *2,000 Manx Mariners: An Eighteenth Century Survey*. Wyre Forest Press.

²⁹ KK Conchan - 1703/4 Composition Book - Douglas Cottages

http://www.isle-of-man.com/manxnotebook/cd_only/cbook/do/176ocb.htm

- **Richard Killey (#109 + intack/garden)**

For three houses and two gardens rent 12d compounded for in the year 1643 by Kath Moore fine then was 3s Lives dead so to pay 00:03:00

Crowe also attributes a small garden to Kath Moore's original composition:

- **Ro Joyner (#75)**

For his dwelling house, brewhouse, backside, chamber and garden over the way rent 3s 9d compounded for in the year 1643 by Ro Joyner fine then was 10s Lives dead so to pay 00:10:00
Itm for a garden near Richard Killeys rent 1d not compounded fine 00:01:00

As well, from 1674 to 1702, another Kath Moore held 1d share of a 12d cottage rent (#62) also tenanted by a John (and later Thomas) and Hen Mcylvorrey at the same time. Then in 1705, Richard Killey replaced John/Thomas and Philip Higgin replaced Hen as the tenants of the allotment.

So, the land records hint at a tale that began with Kath Moore in 1643, and continued over many decades before arriving with sisters Margaret and Jane Mc ylroy in the early 1700s. A major stumbling block to finding the link is that registering changes in tenancy was not compulsory and in the case of these Douglas Mylreas, seem to be non-existent! Without the records, it is impossible to tell who replaced the previous tenant or when – was the previous tenant dead or did they sell the allotment? Was the next tenant a son, daughter, sister, husband etc?

Thomas Mylroii was the outlier in the family group. He seems to have come into possession of the 4d rent via the Mc ylroy husbands (Killey and Higgin) in 1707-1708, but no Lib Vast entry tells why. And when this Thomas died in 1717, he bequeathed his tenant's right to his cottage to his wife Ann and step-daughter Jony, both of whom who immediately passed that right on to Henry Caine, the husband of Thomas's older step-daughter Ellinor. In other words, it is reasonable to assume that he had no children of his own who could assert a tenant's right.

Margaret Mc ylroy & Robert Joyner

Oldest of the three Mylrea women, Margaret MALLEREIGH, married Robert Joyner 3rd November 1685 in Braddan, suggesting she was born in the 1660s. The couple had three children: Margaret (1686), Charles (c1693), Emma (1700) and there might have been a fourth, Robert, although he does not have an entry in a baptism register. In 1715, a mariner named Robert Joyner died off the Guinea coast, naming siblings Margaret, Charles and Amy. If, given his name and the names of his nominated siblings, he was not the son of Margaret and Robert, then this is an enormous coincidence.

The Joyners might have been relatively comfortable. Robert inherited several cottage allotments in Douglas from his father, who died in 1674 and who inherited the land from his father Robert who died in 1669³⁰. According to Crowe, Margaret also enjoyed a legacy of a 1d garden from her parents John and Cath³¹. Robert Joyner inherited what became known as cottage allotment #75

³⁰ http://www.mannincloud.info/docs/1660-64_Arch_0106200.pdf. p261

³¹ 1705 Survey of Douglas allotments [12/15, 13/09, 16/05] Source <http://www.manxroots.com/dgls/16infram.htm>

(also numbered #72 and #74 in previous Lib Assed), described in the land records as “*a dwelling house, brew house, backside, chamber and garden over the way* (rent = 3s 9d) and *garden near Rich Killey’s* (rent=id), the latter presumably the legacy from Margaret’s parents.

Margaret and Robert made settlements on two of their children in 1722 (Margaret) and 1727 (Charles) that involved houses and presumably this is how the legacy from Margaret’s Mylrea family and Robert’s was passed on to the next generation. Paradoxically in 1730 however, Robert Joyner and his widowed daughter-in-law both received charitable handouts, suggesting that as time went on, things had not gone well for this family.

Although Margaret left her part of the house and garden to their third child, Emma, “*in case he (Robert) had it to spare*” either Emma died or she was simply excluded from her share of the family house when her father died in 1744. She was referred to in her mother’s will as Emma McClaire, and a search of the marriage records shows that if Emma was married, it must have taken place off-island.

Robert lived until he was about 90, but early deaths plagued this Joyner family:

- (perhaps) Son Robert born c1685 died in 1715 off the Guinea coast, a mariner far from home
- Daughter Margaret born 1686 married Robert Quillin in 1717 but he was dead by 1722, leaving Margaret with four small children³²
- Son Charles born c1693 married Joney Clucas in 1721 but he died in 1729, the same year as his mother. He was about 36
- Daughter Emma born 1700 disappeared without a trace (could her name have been Amy, as in Robert’s mother?)
- Joney Clucas, wife of Charles jnr, died in 1743 leaving four underage children
- Grandson Robert Joyner born 1724 died in 1754, off the coast of Africa, another mariner to perish far from home

In 1746, after both Charles and Joney had died, the tenancy rights to about half of #75 that had been gifted to Charles by his parents in 1727, passed to his children. In 1754, the remaining two children John and Charles jnr sold off part of the allotment to the Kissacks, retaining for themselves only a comparatively small share of the allotment. What had once been a 3s 10d rent occupied solely by Robert Joyner and his family was still a 3s 10d allotment but the Joyners held only 3 1/2 d share while four other tenants, none connected to the Joyner family, were listed against #75. Some time after 1786, these two relinquished their share to John Joseph Bacon esq.

Jane Mc yloy & Richard Killey

Jane was also the daughter of John Mc yloy and Cath Moore. She married Richard Killey, a weaver in 1689. Thus, she was most likely also born in the 1660s. Jane and Richard had five children: Charles (1693), Richard (1699), John (1701), Katherine (m John Cottiman 1724), and Esther (m Peter Moore 1730, Richard Joyner 1742).

³² She married Charles Cosnahan 1724 and lived a long and fruitful life

By the time the 1730 household survey of Douglas was conducted, Jane had died and Richard was recorded with one child living with him, probably their youngest, Esther. Their oldest son Charles was also listed as a neighbour in the survey, with no children, and five servants, the same year he married Dorothy Gawn. The servants were probably his staff since Charles was already established as a successful merchant/ shopkeeper.

Nothing in the land records suggest that Richard Killey brought anything to his marriage to Jane, but Jane had the cottage allotment #104 (later #109), which was described in Lib Assed as *three houses and two gardens* (rent = 12d), and *another little house and a house and garden on the sand side* (rent = 2d). They sold the 2d rent to Thomas Cannell in 1707³³, and gifted a house on their 12d rent to their son Charles in 1723³⁴. What remained of the 12d cottage allotment inherited by Jane went to their daughter Esther when Richard Killey died in 1744 and then to her son Richard Moore in 1762, after Esther's death.

The Killeys too endured the grief of too many early deaths. In the decade 1730-1740, their son Charles became the father of 5 children, only 2 of whom outlived their father. His first wife Dorothy Gawn died in 1735 after the birth of daughter Jane, and Charles himself died tragically in January 1741 off the coast of England when the ship carrying him and his brother-in-law Peter Moore sank. By then, Charles snr had remarried and had had a daughter, Elizabeth.

The life of Charles's only surviving son, Charles jnr, must have been difficult. He lost his mother at age 2, and his father at age 7, and although he inherited a significant fortune when he came of age, four his five children predeceased him and he (Charles jnr) died in his mid-30s, apparently in serious financial trouble: Philip Moore, his brother-in-law, in correspondence with his father Sir George wrote "*I am sorry to hear Charles Killey's affairs are in so disagreeable a situation*", dated 25th July 1768 and written from Halifax in Nova Scotia³⁵.

Charles jnr had initially given the impression that he was following in his father's footsteps, expanding the already valuable property portfolio and business passed on from Charles snr. However he might have met his financial ruin when in 1760 he purchased back the ¼ share of the Killey properties from his half-sister Elizabeth (in reality, her step-father Robert Kennedy, for Elizabeth had died in 1758). As a child of Charles snr, Elizabeth was entitled to half of her father's estate only, while Charles jnr was entitled to half of his father's estate and all of his mother's half since he was the only one of her children to survive. The transactions from Kennedy to Charles jnr numbered 13, and involved quarterland, intack and cottage allotments mostly in and around Douglas.

The properties that Charles snr had skilfully acquired and passed to his son Charles jnr were subsequently sold to father-in-law Sir George Moore in 1768 but this apparently was not enough to save Charles's financial ruin. It is impossible to know whether Sir George found a bargain basement opportunity or whether his purchase of the properties was an attempt to rescue his daughter's husband.

³³ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/richard-sale-1707.html>

³⁴ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/richard-gift-1723.html>

³⁵ MNHLA MS 2860c

Like his father, Charles jnr died young, in 1768 at the age of 35. However, he died intestate, unlike his father who had left a detailed will for the distribution of his lands³⁶. The Court dealing with his estate observed that *none of the next of kin by the father's side came forward to administer the goods of the deceased* (there were none) and awarded guardianship of his only surviving child, 5 year old John, to his grandfather, Sir George Moore. Charles's widow, Barbara, married William Maxwell, a Scot, in 1779

Sadly, a letter from George Moore jnr, another brother-in-law, writing to his father and dated 18th March 1783, tells of the death of Charles's remaining child: *I am very sorry to find the report of John Killey – Death is confirmed. Poor Bab will be in great affliction on this unfortunate event.*³⁷.

The two Mc yloy sisters left only a light footprint, and those were largely through their daughters' children. Jane Killey als Mc yloy died in 1725, aged in her 60s, while her husband Richard died in 1744 at the age of 90. Ironically, his brother in law, Robert Joyner, also died in 1744 and also aged about 90. After two generations, there were no male heirs to carry on the Killey legacy and Jane's inheritance from her mother passed into Moore hands.

JOYNER		Children	KILLEY		Children
Robert?	c1685-1715	None	Charles	1693-1741	Richard Thomas Charles jnr Jane Elizabeth
Margaret (Queeling, Cosnahan)	1686-1784	Robert Richard William Susannah Charles Margaret Frances Ann	Richard	1699-1758?	?Ellinor
Charles	c1693-1729	John Robert Margaret Ellinor Charles	Catherine (Cottiman)	1700-?	Jane John A son
Emma/ Amy	1700 - ?	?	John	1701 - pre1744	None
			Esther (Moore, Joyner)	1704-1761	Richard Esther Peter Isabel

³⁶ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/charles-killey-1741.html>

³⁷ MNHLA MS 2708c

					Margaret Catherine
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Jane Mc yloy & Philip Higgin

Jane was the daughter of Hen Mc yloy and Amy Joyner als Watson. She married Philip Higgin, a mariner, in 1703 so she was probably born about 1680. They had four children: Margaret (1704), William (1706), Jane (1708), and Philip (1711), although only Jane and Philip were alive when their mother died in 1736. Daughter Jane married Edward Fletcher in 1733 and son William died unmarried in 1734³⁸.

The Higgin family was comfortable. Philip had received Douglas allotments from his father, Thomas, who died in 1700³⁹ and Jane too received an allotment from her parents which was a house and garden with a 4d rent (#110), while Philip's was a tholtan with a 3d rent although a tholtan was technically a house in ruins. Jane's 4d rent had been occupied by John Mcylvorrey and Hen Mcylvorrey from about 1650 onwards⁴⁰.

In 1713, Philip Higgin purchased tenancies in cottages #48 and #54, both with considerably higher rents than the inherited allotments #110 and #111, so presumably Philip and Jane had "moved up in the world". The original 4d rent was sold in 1715 for about £5.

Philip snr died 1741 and did not leave a will. Instead, he had gifted allotments #48 and #54 to son Philip jnr soon after Jane died in 1736⁴¹. Philip jnr retained his connection with the mariner profession, appointed pier master in 1759 to keep a track of vessels in and out of the Douglas harbour⁴². He was also a barber and wig maker, according to documents prepared for his many land transactions.

Philip jnr enjoyed the good fortune, not only of the bequest from his father in 1736, but also because two cottage allotments were left to him by two (elderly?) single women – Margaret Kelly (#6 = 4d rent) and Mariot Smith (#128 = 2d rent) – who did not appear to have any familial connection with Philip jnr. However, for all his material good fortune, Philip jnr did not enjoy a happy life. He married three times, and had four children of whom only one – his last born daughter - survived their father.

Thomas Mc ylrea

Thomas Mcylrea might have been a new arrival in Douglas or he might have been a son of one of the Mylrea men in Douglas in the 1600s – his origins have never been firmly established. He was probably born in the early 1680s, married twice and lived well into his 90s, as did Robert Joyner and Richard Killey. He was an urban dweller for all of his adult life.

One line of thinking about Thomas's origins is that he might have been associated with the Thomas Mylroii who lived on cottage allotment 16/08. The adjoining allotment (16/07) was in the hands of Robert Lewn snr, and Robert was the father of Margaret, Thomas's first wife.

³⁸ Philip has no will but William does (yet to be transcribed)

³⁹ 1705 Survey of Douglas allotments [13/01, 13/13, 16/06] <http://www.manxroots.info/dgls/openme.htm>

⁴⁰ See Attachment 2

⁴¹ The document seems not to have survived but is mentioned in LV 1743

⁴² Wilkins, Frances. (2000). *2,000 Manx Mariners: An Eighteenth Century Survey*. Wyre Forest Press.

What tends to dismiss the “neighbour” theory is that when Thomas Mylroii died in 1717⁴³, he did not mention any Mylrea children in his will, only his step-daughter – and after his death, the tenancy of cottage 16/o8 passed to another step-daughter and her husband.

Another possible Mylrea connection for Thomas is as the son of Thomas Mylrea of *Ballacooiley* estate in Ballaugh. This child was baptised on 23rd January 1680/1 but that hypothesis can be ruled out, even though his age and name are ideal. Recent DNA testing of several Mylrea men shows that the genetic profile of Thomas’s descendants is different to that of the Ballaugh descendants.

A third possibility, raised by the DNA analysis, is that Thomas came from Michael, from where at least two other Mylreas had come in the late 1600s early 1700s⁴⁴. Land records confirm that Hugh Mc ylrea, a resident of Douglas, had his origins in Michael and so Thomas could have been his brother, in which case Thomas’s parents would have been John Mc ylrea and Kath Corjeag.

Hugh Mc ylrea had a living brother (who might or might not have been Thomas) in 1717 when Hugh’s mother died. LV records the transfer in tenancy of their Michael cottage, noting: *The mother is dead and the son entered, reserving nevertheless the right of his brother if he be alive*⁴⁵ - although it would be unusual for Hugh not to know if his brother was a resident in the same town in 1717, the year Thomas married Margaret Lewn. As well, Thomas’s son Philip and (probably) Hugh’s son Hugh jnr were in business together in the 1750s.

What tends to undermine the “brother” theory is

- a) the 1688 will of of John Quayle, who left:
*Kath: Corjeag one sheep and to her son **Jo: M cylreia** one yearling; and to her son Hugh one lamb*

- b) the names of the sons of Thomas and first wife Margaret Lewn – Robert (after Margaret’s father) and Thomas (after his father) – and with second wife Margaret Cowin – Philip (after Margaret’s father), Edward and William (after whom?) before naming an 8th child John - is not what would be expected if Thomas’s father was John.

Margaret Lewn

Thomas married Margaret Lewn in 1717. She had been baptised in 1686 in Douglas, the daughter of Robert Lewn and Ann Cannell. Thomas and Margaret had three children: Robert baptised 1718 who died unmarried in 1749 at the age of about 31, Thomas baptised 1720, and another Thomas baptised 1721.

Like many Manxmen, both sons of Thomas & Margaret were sea farers - Robert was serving in the British navy, aboard the *Worcester* when he died, and Thomas jnr had also been in the *Worcester*’s complement in 1744/5.

⁴³ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/thomas-1717.html>

⁴⁴ DNA analysis reveals a strong connection with the Irish McElrea clan. This might be a pointer than Thomas’s origins were in Michael.

⁴⁵ LV Oct 1717

Evidence points to second son, Thomas jnr, not returning to the Isle of Man for any length of time. In Deeds of Sale for the disposal of a Douglas property left to him by his aunt Ann Harrison als Lewn in 1749, Thomas jnr stated that he resided in Liverpool and was married to Mary. While not conclusive but strongly possible nevertheless, is that in 1748, a Thomas MULRAY, sailor, married a Mary Norton (23rd February) in Liverpool. These circumstances "fit" Thomas Mcylrea jnr, the vendor of his aunt's Douglas property.

The property in question was cottage allotment #112 on (now) Barrack St, which had been in the Lewn family since the late 1600s. The major share of the allotment had been progressively inherited by Thomas's mother, Margaret Mc ylrea als Lewn, after the deaths of her father Robert Lewn in 1714, her mother Ann Lewn als Cannell in 1724 and her sister Marriot Moore als Lewn in 1728. In 1828, Ann Harrison als Lewn, Margaret's remaining sister, purchased a minor share in the tenancy of the allotment⁴⁶ and it was this tenancy that she left equally to her nephew Thomas Mc ylrea jnr and her niece Ann Corlett als Lewn in 1749.

Thomas Mc ylrea jnr immediately sold his share of his aunt's legacy to his co-executor, cousin Ann Corlett als Lewn⁴⁷, gave half of his share of his mother's part of cottage allotment #112 to his father in 1753⁴⁸, and sold the other half to Paul Quirk in 1756. Having sold or given away his entire legacy from the Lewn family, Thomas left the Isle of Man and it is highly likely that he and Mary were already living in Parkgate in Cheshire⁴⁹. This Thomas MULRAY was a mariner who had at least seven children with Mary⁵⁰ and after Mary died, another four with Hannah Briscoe whom he married in 1768⁵¹.

Margaret Cowin

After the death of Margaret Lewn in 1738, Thomas Mc ylrea snr married Margaret Cowin, from Lonan, the daughter of Philip Cowin and Mary Clague. No entry for the marriage has been found in the parish records, but evidence supporting the assertion of a second marriage for Thomas snr, the widower of Margaret Lewn:

- In 1753, Thomas Mc ylrea jnr gave his father half of his mother's legacy in cottage allotment #112. Thomas snr and Margaret Cowin sold half of that share a few months later to the husband of Ann Corlett als Lewn and mortgaged the remaining share in coming years. After Thomas died in 1773, land records show the share in the hands of the mortgagor
- In 1763, Margaret's mother, Mary, made a bequest to her grandson, Edward Mylrea who was Thomas's son
- In 1773, the will of Thomas snr made bequests to each of his children, the first identified as Thomas, although there was no record of baptism if he were born in the same time frame as his children with Margaret Cowin, all of whom have baptism records

⁴⁶ 1728-2 E d MOORE Marriot LEWN d 6 Oct; sibs Robt Lewn, Margt Mcylrea als Lewn, Ann Harrison als Lewn jt admrs; husb alive - Marriot Lewn (Moore) baptised 1688

⁴⁷ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/thomas-sale-1749.html>

⁴⁸ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/thomas-thomas-settlement-1753.html>

⁴⁹ Parkgate was a port for Chester, as well as a ferry point for crossing to Flint in Wales but it was particularly important as an embarkation point for Ireland.

⁵⁰ Robert MULRAY (1749) Margrtt MULRAY (1751), Thomas MULRAY (1755), John MULRAY (1757), Mary MULRAY (1760), Thomas (1762), Mary (1764), Margaret MULRAY (1766)

⁵¹ Peggy (1768), Kitty (1771), Robert (1777), Hannah (1780)

Margaret Cowin was considerably younger than Thomas and indeed was probably born about 1720, making her much the same age as Thomas's sons from his first marriage. Thomas snr was a weaver according to the 1749 baptism of his son William. In all, Margaret and Thomas snr had seven children, their three surviving sons remaining in or near Douglas to bring the next generation of Mylreas into the world. Their daughter Ann did not marry and lived well into old age, leaving a will that has been a veritable goldmine of family information⁵²

1. Philip b1741, a stone carrier, married and had three children, two of whom might have died in infancy, his wife died 1804. Philip has no burial record
2. Edward b1743, a tailor, moved to Lonan, married and had three very capable sons, two of whom returned to Douglas to live
3. Margaret b1746, married and had several children (Crow)
4. William b1749, married and had several children
5. John b1753 & died 1753
6. Mary b1754, married and had several children (Cottier)
7. Ann b1758

Even though many of his grandchildren would not survive infancy, Thomas Mylrea snr left a legacy of about 30 grand children from his 4 sons, and several more from his daughters.

Thomas & Mary Norton	Philip & Margaret Lewn	Edward & Dorothy Fargher	Margaret & John Crow	William & (Jane Taggart)	Mary & John Cottier
mariner	stone carrier	??		porter??	
M 1748	M 1772	M 1766	M 1778	M 1776	M 1786
Robert '49 Margaret '51 Thomas '55 John '57 Mary '60 Thomas '62 Margaret '66 Peggy '68 Kitty '71 Robert '77 Hannah '80	Thomas '73 Philip '75 Margaret '76	Edward '67 Elinor '67 Ellinor '70 Catherine '72 Thomas '74 Isabel '77 William '80	Robert '78 Thomas '84	Ann '77 Margaret '79 William '81 Elinor '83 Thomas '88 Daniel '95 John '92 Philip '93	

Some in the Mylrea men of Douglas were engaged in the business of transporting stone. In 1765, a Hugh Mc ylrea and Thomas's son Philip were recorded as "*boatmen who transported stones*"⁵³. Douglas was flourishing at that time, so its need for infrastructure grew. Stone was in great demand as the basic building material and required in "commercial" quantities for churches, houses, and other buildings. Transporting the stone by boat was the only way to move large quantities to Douglas, the roads being nothing more than tracks and thus, the sea the main highway for the Manx people.

⁵² <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/ann-1838.html>

⁵³ Wilkins, Frances. (2000). 2,000 Manx Mariners: An Eighteenth Century Survey. Wyre Forest Press.

How might the involvement of the Mylreas in the stone business have begun? It is possible that someone in the family simply spotted the opportunities. In what was probably a natural progression, Philip Mylrea born in 1793 (the grandson of Thomas & Margaret via their son, William), and his son Philip jnr born in 1819 both became stone masons. This change of business might suggest that this branch of the Mylrea family started to make greater use of their talents to become master craftsmen in a trade in which they were once little more than labourers.

In the final analysis, the parentage of this Thomas Mylrea, father of the Douglas dynasty that spread well beyond the island, must remain unresolved. Whatever his origins, he became the patriarch of a large and dispersed clan that today survives in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and the United States. The story of this family is told in [Edward Mylrea \(Lonan\) 1743-1784](#), [Thomas Mylrea, Farmer & Preacher \(Braddan\) 1788-1860](#) and [John Mylrea \(1850-1922\)](#).

Hugh Mylrea & Margaret Cain als Kinnish

Hugh was an immigrant from KK Michael where the first name Hugh was quite a common. He was too young to have been the brother of William who died in 1699 in Braddan and was instead, the son of John Mylrea and Cath Corjeag. The land records show how in 1703, Hugh and his mother sold land in Michael⁵⁴, and in 1718, after the death of Cath, Hugh and his wife Margaret sold a cottage in Michael⁵⁵.

Hugh was probably about the same age as Thomas Mylrea snr. From his marriage in 1716, Hugh's birth was likely to have been in the late 1680s or early 1690s. Hugh had a brother, probably named John (John Quayle's 1688 will mentions a son of Cath named John), but if so, here is yet another John Mylrea who disappeared from the Manx landscape, probably a mariner, and probably dying far from home.

Hugh was recorded in Braddan in 1703⁵⁶ but did not marry until 1716, when he wed a widow named Margaret Cain als Kinnish. The couple had five children:

- Hugh⁵⁷ 1716
- Cath 1719
- Margaret 1722
- Ann
- John⁵⁸ 1727

Hugh snr was never entered in the land records of the day in Douglas. Thus he must have been a farm worker all of his life or perhaps a mariner. Hugh jnr married Margaret Tear in 1761 but he too was not mentioned in the land records, which is surprising for such long-term residents. When Ann died in 1759, she mentioned "two sisters" in her will and nominated her brother, Hugh jnr, as her executor. Presumably brother John had died some time between 1739 when their mother Margaret died and 1759 when Ann died. Or was this the case of another John Mylrea disappearing from the Island?

⁵⁴ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/cathhugh-sale-1703.html>

⁵⁵ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/hugh-sale-1718.html>

⁵⁶ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/cathhugh-sale-1703.html>

⁵⁷ LDS IGI - MYLEREA

⁵⁸ LDS IGI - MYCLREA

The following entry in the Braddan parish record probably tells the fate of their oldest son, Hugh Mc ylrea jnr who married Margaret Tear:

1778 — *Hugh Mylrea, falling into Douglas Pier, was unfortunately drowned*⁵⁹.

Ann died a spinster in 1759, and named her two sisters Cath and Margaret, and her brother Hugh but not brother John yet he was named in his mother's 1739 will when he was about 12 years of age. This family seems not to have left any descendants after three generations in Douglas.

John Mcylwrath & Mary als ??

John Mcylwrath came and went in the story about the Douglas & district Mylreas in a brief window of time. He and wife Mary had two daughters Margaret (b1720) and Rebecca (b1724). In 1730, he was a cooper in Douglas, but a man of entirely unknown origins so he might not even have been of Mylrea kinship. At various times he was also described as a merchant. He must have led a reasonably comfortable life for he employed four servants who might have been apprentices or employees rather than household workers.

The story of John's family is a sorry one. Official records tell:

- 1724 John Mcylwrath denied allegations of fornication
- 1741 daughter Margaret Mylwrath married Charles Wattleworth 19th April⁶⁰. They had four children Margaret 1741-1756, Charles 1746-1764, John 1747-1764 & Richard 1749, most of whom died
- 1741 John Mcylwrath committed suicide about six weeks after his daughter's wedding "*John Mcylwrath, Cooper, who laid violent hands on himself was interred without the church-yard fence and without Christian burial notwithstanding the verdict of the Jury June 4th*"⁶¹
- 1746 Henry Woods died, declaring that Rebecca Mucklewrath (sic) had had an illegitimate child with him⁶². A baptism record for Hannah, daughter of Woods & Mc Lewrath, in 1746
- 1752 Margaret (transcription error – should be Mary) Mylwrath died in Braddan⁶³
- 1753 daughter Margaret Wattleworth als Mcylwrath died in Patrick aged 33, leaving four children aged from 4 years to 12 years
- 1754 Rebecca married Robert Cobham (probably good news)
- 1756 Margaret, the fifteen year old daughter of Charles & Margaret, died in Malew
- 1758 Charles Wattleworth died in Malew, leaving three young sons Charles, John & Richard aged 9 years to 12 years. Oldest son Charles subsequently accused his supervisors

⁵⁹ Parish Burial Register for Braddan

⁶⁰ Lib Vast shows that in September 1714, Charles Wattleworth (clerk) purchased an estate known as *Knockaloe* in Patrick, the estate mentioned in the Marriage Contract for Charles and Margaret. In the Contract, John Mcylwrath specifically engaged Wattleworth to work for him in Douglas and to not sell *Knockaloe*, an odd thing to do to a prospective son-in-law. *Knockaloe* was, nearly two centuries later, an internment camp during WW1. Birth records for the children reveal that the Wattleworths must have decamped to Patrick soon after John's suicide.

⁶¹ Braddan Parish Register

⁶² 1746-2E d WOODS Henry perished by sea beg Mar 1745/6; mariner late of Liverpool; prin creditor Rebecca Mucklwrath (she having fathered an illeg child on him); pledges Wm Oates (Douglas) + Nichs Bridson (Arbory)

⁶³ In 1753 states accepted as will of Mary Mcylwrath; Rebecca Mcylwrath claims agnst estate of Mary Mcylwrath and appears to be disputed by Charles

(his uncles William Farrant & Robert Wattleworth) of being dishonest over his father's legacy⁶⁴

- 1764 Two of the Wattleworth boys died, John in Malew and Charles in the West Indies having fallen overboard, leaving only teenage Richard of the four children in the Wattleworth family

Thomas Mylrea & Jane Karran

Thomas was a tenant of quarterland in Braddan, but it is doubtful that he was a native of the parish. He married Jane Karran and while there is no surviving record of their marriage, it was presumably in the early 1730s⁶⁵. They had two children in Braddan, Isabel in 1734 and Edward in 1738. Edward died in infancy and Isabel married William Cain of KK German in 1753 when she was about 19 years of age. This Thomas was about 10-15 years younger than the Thomas Mc ylrea who married Margaret Lewn in Braddan in 1717, if the dates of marriages for the two men are considered.

His personal attributes – prosperous, charitable, peripatetic - hint that he might have come from the Deemster/Archdeacon clan of Ballaugh Mylreas, quite possibly one of the sons of William Mylrea & Ellinor Quayle whose children were born in Ballaugh in the early 1700s. William was possibly the third son of William Mc ylrea & Ann Christian⁶⁶, founders of the influential branch of Mylreas that spawned Deemsters, Attorneys General and Archdeacons in every generation for well over a century. This son was baptised in 1667 and alive in 1692 when his father bequeathed *as much cloth as will be a (suit?) if he comes for it* and the following year when his mother bequeathed him *four yards of fine linen if he came for the same*. This son would have been in his early 30s at the turn of the century.

Unfortunately, the family of William & Ellinor (Quayle) has few verifiable records to shed light on their lives. The main instruments are

- Ellinor's 1733 will which lists her six children William, John, Thomas, Edward, Margaret & Mary Mylrea, and
- the Ballaugh parish registers which record five baptisms for children of a William Mylrea, namely William (1701), Margaret (1703), John (1706), Thomas (1708), and Edward (1711) There is none for Mary.
- the will of Mary, the youngest child who died in 1759, in which she nominated her four brothers - William, John, Thomas, Edward - as supervisors of her children, confirming that they were all still alive and well into adulthood. Moreover, the order in which they are listed remains the same in both wills, suggesting their birth order which is reflected in the Ballaugh baptism register.

The dilemma for the family historian is that a second William Mylrea was also having similarly named children at much the same time in Ballaugh. This William was the second son at the Ballycooiley estate born 1682, and who married Katherine Cowle in 1707. Perhaps the distinguishing feature of the baptisms of children from both Williams is the annotation **WILLY**

⁶⁴ See Attachment 3 – Wattleworth wills

⁶⁵ An annotation in the Braddan parish register notes:*We find that two or three pages have been totally lost or torn out by which means a great number of marriages are missing* John Moore, Vicar of Braddan. The missing years are 1730-1733

⁶⁶ [William M cylrea \(Ballaugh\) 1627-1692](#)

CURRY, which is attached to several of the children, namely William, John, Edward and Daniel, the first two born before William of *Ballacooiley* married Katherine. This annotation **WILLY CURRY** was not made against the baptism record for Nicholas (1716) who was irrefutably the second son of William of *Ballacooiley*.

As early as 1742⁶⁷, Thomas was recorded as a resident of Braddan although his land dealings there did not appear until 1746. He engaged in several transactions in 1746, 1747 and 1748 in **Castleward**⁶⁸, the treen lying along the south side of the River Glass, opposite the treen of Onchan, which lay along the northern bank of the River Glass and which included the town of Douglas. In 1753, he gifted the Braddan lands to his daughter Isabel in her Marriage Contract⁶⁹, as had the groom's parents gifted their lands in German. The difference was that the German estate was mortgaged and so in 1755, Thomas paid off the mortgages against the estate in the quarterland of *Moaney Moar (Scarsdale treen)*, and then installed his daughter and her husband on one half of the estate while he and Jane took up the other half. Thomas shifted his attention to the parish of German⁷⁰ and he sold out of the **Castleward** lands in 1757. Thomas and Jane remained on *Moaney Moar* until their deaths, Thomas in 1774 and Jane in 1785.

In the 1750s, a slightly younger Thomas Mylrea was also in residence in German. Unlike Thomas the husband of Jane Karren, this second Thomas was an urban dweller, living in Peel, a merchant in the Manx import/export business. He was the second son of Daniel Mylrea a Deemster, thus the two Thomas Mylreas now in German might have been cousins. Daniel's third son, the Rev William Mylrea, was also living in the parish at the same time.

In 1783, William Cain, his wife Isabel Mylrea and mother-in-law Jane Karran made a charitable donation to the Church Wardens of German in the form of land for the establishment of an English school in Peel. This public gesture resonated with a similar donation from Rev. William Mylrea who in 1776 had gifted a small house and grounds to the Mathematical School in Peel. The school had been established not long before by Rev. James Moore to give ten poor students a free education in the maths and sciences (navigation?), no doubt a significant contribution to a nation of seafarers such as the Manx. And Sir George Moore donated in his last will and testament a cottage for the master of the Mathematics School, the change in tenancy noted in the 1789 Lib Vast with the additional information that the school was called "Moore's School". Sir George was the head of a great Manx trading house, so the gift made by Jane Mylrea with her son and daughter in law suggests that Thomas too belonged to the upper social echelons.

Margaret Mc ylrea & William Clague

Early in the 1700s, living in rural Braddan, was Margaret Clague als Mc ylrea. She was an immigrant from Ballaugh, and had married William Clague, heir to the *Ulikan* estate, in 1701.

⁶⁷ he agreed to a mortgage with another Thomas Mylrea (2) in Ballaugh for a parcel of land on *Ballacooiley* estate, and the documents noted that he was from Braddan

⁶⁸ LV Oct 1749 Braddan; May 1752 Braddan,

⁶⁹ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/Isabel-william-marriage.html>

⁷⁰ LV May 1761 German

Margaret was the younger daughter of Thomas Mylrea and Margaret Craine of the *Ballacooiley* estate and baptised c1684 (although there is no record of baptism). She died in 1724 and a Thomas Mylrea was a signatory to her probate papers. The only known Thomas Mylrea in Braddan of a suitable age would have been Thomas, the husband of Margaret Lewn. However, while Margaret had a brother named Thomas born 1680, the evidence does not support the idea that Thomas husband of Margaret Lewn was a *Ballacooiley* Mylrea. Indeed, had this Thomas survived he would have been heir at law of the estate but it was his brother John who took over when his father died in 1711.

Catherine Mylrea

In 1789, Catharine Mylrea died in Douglas. She was a spinster and, in her will, she mentioned the wives of Robert Cain, Thomas Quirk, John Quayle and William Callister, as well as several women - Elizabeth Quirk (presumably wife of Thomas), Catherine Quayle (the wife of John?), Margaret Callister wife of William, Ann Fell and Mary Croughan. Clearly, the women mentioned in Catherine's will were not all her sisters.

Was she the daughter of Hugh Mylrea and Margaret Cain born 1719 in Douglas, and Margaret (Callister) her younger sister born 1722? If indeed they were still alive, these two were all that remained of the family, although they might also have had a nephew John Mylrea, son of her brother Hugh jnr. Since Margaret married William Callister in 1779, the sister of Catherine named Margaret would have been nearing 60 years of age when she married.

Was she the daughter of William Mylrea and Jane Tear, and baptised 1739 in Ballaugh. They had daughters Jane (1729), twins Margaret & Ellinor (1736/7), and Catherine (1739), also Mary who has no baptism record but was mentioned in both her parents' wills. Jane married a Robert Caine which "fits" with Catherine's will but Margaret married Charles Kewish. As well, this Catherine was the mother of two illegitimate children, William, born in 1773, and Elizabeth in 1776. Their father was William Crinolt, and the children were both born in Bride, a parish where Catherine's family lived at the time. However, her will makes no mention of surviving children.

A clue to Cath's family lies in Philip Teare's 1779 will - he had sisters Margaret, Mary and a brother James.

1779-1 A 6 TEARE Philip Douglas: sister Margt Mylrea als Tear (md Wm Callister by Feb 1780), wife Ellinor Tear; bro James Tear; sister Mary Croughan (daus Betty Crohane, Ann Crohane), cousin Thomas Corlet in Castletown

The Marriage register for Braddan shows that Mary married John Croughan in 1744, and the only Margaret Teare who married a Mylrea was the widow (presumably) of Hugh Mylrea jnr if he was the Hugh Mylrea who fell off Douglas Pier and drowned in 1778. So Margaret Mylrea als Teare might well have married William Callister in 1780. This being the case, then Margaret Callister was Cath's sister-in-law.

On balance, Catherine Mylrea was probably the unmarried daughter of Hugh Mc ylrea snr and Margaret Kinnish als Caine, but the identity of the other mentioned in her will remains a mystery.

Daniel Mylrea & Leonora Heywood

Perhaps the youngest and latest addition to the Mylreas of Douglas was Daniel, for all intents and purposes a young man about town. He was baptised in Peel in 1750, the older son of Thomas Mylrea and Rose Savage and enjoyed a privileged life as a member of the influential Deemster/Archdeacon line of Mylreas, who held *inter alia* the estate known as the *Dollough* in Ballaugh. Daniel married Leonora Heywood in 1776 in Douglas, Leonora from an equally influential Manx family, the Heywoods of *The Nunnery*. No children came from the marriage, and a decade after they were married, Leonora died.

When Daniel was just a boy, he inherited a degree of wealth from his father, a merchant, who died in 1759. However, when his bachelor uncle (Daniel Mylrea, a Deemster) died in 1775, twenty-five year old Daniel became seriously wealthy. He inherited the *Dollough* estate that had been in Mylrea hands since the earliest surviving land records (1495), and passed from father to oldest son down through the generations. Daniel immediately sold off the land in lots, netting over £3,000 in the process. Perhaps because he had never lived a rural life, Daniel had neither an attachment to the land nor had an inclination to his family's tradition as land owners. It was around this time that he went into business in Douglas with Robert Heywood (Leonora's brother) and John Taubman snr, Taubman also from an influential Manx family of Deemsters, Attorneys General, and so on.

For all of the advantages given him, Daniel was always in a parlous state financially. Records show that he was constantly borrowing money, and his banker was John Taubman snr his future business partner. For example, in 1774, he'd borrowed £60/0/0, and months later £12/12/-. By early 1775, those debts had risen to £220/-/- and two years later to £730/-/- as this page from the Taubman ledger shows⁷¹.

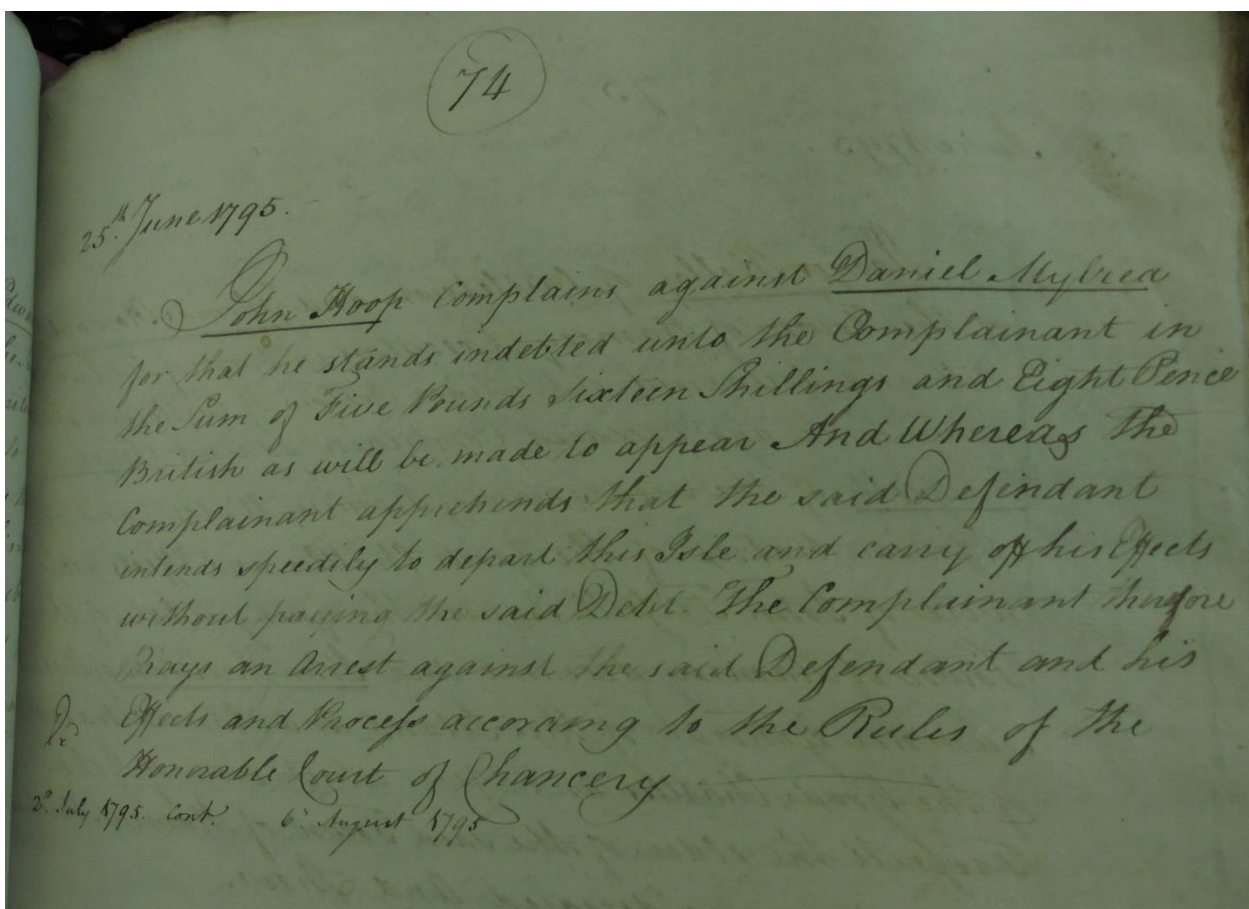
⁷¹ Taubman Papers, MNL MS 09591

39. Mr. Daniel Myhrae of Castlewillen Ireland Dr		Dr
1774 Feb. 4.	To cash lent as £ . your note pay. w th Introd. - being my bill on Mess ^{rs} W ^m . Smith & Comp ^{ys} a ^{co}	60:0:0
1774 Nov.	To cash you rec ^d from James Watson on my acc ^t . Twelve guineas	12:12:0
1775 Apr. 4.	To three bills given you on Mess ^{rs} W ^m . Smith & Comp ^{ys} a ^{co} for £ 220. as £ your note pay.	220:0:0
	with Introd. - - - - -	9:15:0
	3:3. Introd on the £ 60. to 4 th May 1777. at 5. p ^{er} cent	1:11:3
	2:6. Do on the £ 12:12:0 to Do. - - - - -	22:18:4
	2:1. Do on the £ 220. - - - - -	
1777 Mar. 20.	To cash paid £ bill on London - £ 100.0:0	100:0:0
	0:7:15. Introd thereon to 4 th May 1777 - 12:6	100:12:6
Apr. 5.	To cash £ bill - - - - -	300:0:0
	one month Introd to 5 th May 1777 - 1:5:0	301:5:0
	To cash on £ bond & security dat. 5 th May 1777 - £ 730:0:0	730:0:0

Extract from the ledger of John Taubman snr

Daniel juggled his financial obligations by (a) selling all that he had inherited from his uncle in 1775, and (b) mortgaging what he had been left by his father. However, it was never enough and, in the end, he lost everything and left the island in about 1795, owing money to many of the small traders in Douglas⁷².

⁷² Lib Canc 1795 #65, #69, #74.



John Hoop vs Daniel Mylrea, Lib Canc 1795 #74

Daniel had been obliged to join the Manx Fencibles, the local militia force, in the early 1790s, in order to achieve some level of income and it remains a matter of conjecture as to why Daniel had such difficulty managing money. However, things changed remarkably for Daniel when he left the island and joined the 42nd Brigade of Foot (the Black Watch) on 6th September, 1795, as an ensign⁷³.

By 1798, he was living in London, an officer in the British Army stationed at the Tower of London; he had married Mary Bosley; and the first two of his six children had arrived. In 1804, he set sail to Canada, now with four children, as part of the Royal Veteran's battalion. Two more daughters were born to the family whilst he was stationed there.

Tragedy struck on their return journey in 1816 when their troop ship the *Harpooner* struck rocks not far off the Canadian coast. The ship foundered and sank, and Daniel was hailed a hero for he was credited with being the saviour of a good many lives, although the lives he couldn't save included those of his wife Mary and two of his daughters, Rose and Sophia. His oldest son Daniel had already died at Sandhurst while his parents were in Canada and one of his daughters

⁷³ London Gazette, 9/6/1795

born in Canada died in that country when she was three years old. Surviving the shipwreck were 18 year old Mary Ann and 13 year old Frederick Thomas.

Daniel's bravery might have gone some way to redeeming his reputation from the feckless individual he had been earlier in his life. His daughter stayed with him until his death six years later in France, after which she went to live in Livorno with another of the survivors of the *Harpooner* calamity. His son joined the Commissariat division of the British Army and lived a long and honourable life in many of the Empire's outposts, before arriving in Melbourne where he caught pneumonia and died in 1862.

The family property that Daniel had mortgaged in Peel was sold, after his death, to Mr John Gell. The family's dwelling house became the Peveril Hotel, which stands today.

For all of the misadventure that tainted Daniel Mylrea throughout much of his life, he nevertheless became the patriarch of a group of extraordinary people who descended from his only surviving son [Frederick Thomas Mylrea](#). Neither he nor his descendants ever returned to the Isle of Man,

The Unattached

Records in the 1700s occasionally reveal individuals with the Mylrea surname who had no confirmed links to any Mylrea families; thus, they stand as tiny islands in family history for the time being.

1. *Baptisms in Onchan/Conchan*

FATHER	MOTHER	YEAR
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2. *Baptisms in Braddan*

FATHER	MOTHER	YEAR	dob?
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William	John Kewley	Isab Mylroi	1756	1720	d/o Richard, b1721? Lonan Or did that Isabel marry Wm Cain ?
Alice	John Kewley	Isab Mylroi	1757		
Margaret	John Kewley	Isabel Mylvorrey	1762		
Isabella	Robert Cottier	Ann Mylrea	1794	1765-70	Married Malew 1794
Ann	Robert Cottier	Ann Myldrea	1798		
Jane	Robert Cottier	Ann Mylrea	1802		

3. *Marriages in Onchan/Conchan*

BRIDE	GROOM	YEAR	dob?	
Cath	Jon Moore	1706	1680- 1685	d/o Thomas, <i>Ballacooley?? b1678</i> - not mentioned in his will

Cath Meylrea	Gilbert Cowley	1721	1700	
Margaret	Thomas Creer Ch: Margaret, Robert, Philip, John, James, Jane, Mary = b Douglas	1797	1770- 1775	d/o William Mylroie, b1772? d/o Philip b 1776?

4. Marriages in Braddan

BRIDE	GROOM	YEAR	dob?	
Ann Mylrea	Thomas Cain Ch: Ann, Thomas, Margaret, Joney = b Malew	1725/6	1700- 1705	Malew d/o John Mylrea & Elizabeth Shimmin b1694
Margaret Mylroiy	Thomas Cottier	1748	1720	d/o Richard, b1718, Lonan (see his will 1749 ⁷⁴)
Kath M cylroy	Nicholas Clarke Ch: Charles, Robert, Henry, Thomas, John = b Malew 1784-1 E d CLARKE Catherine Mylroie d 20 may 1784; ch Henry, Thos + Charles	1755	1730- 1735	Malew??

5. Wills

MYLREY Jony als ?? als GELLIN	ch Patrick, Ellin + Isabel Gellin, Jane M cylroi jt admrs - all at age; husb alive	d 15 Feb 1701/2	<i>Joney was buried in Braddan 4th Feb; no amount of "slicing and dicing" will show up the births of these children, the name of Joney's Gellin husband or Joney's Mylrea husband</i>
SMITH Elinor McYLREY ⁷⁵	ch John, Ellinor	1731	<i>No record of Ellinor's burial survives nor any information that might point to her Mylrea parents.</i>
McYLROY Margaret als CORKILL ⁷⁶	ch Wm Kewley (eldest son - Onchan), Gilbt(+ wife, Kk Braddan) exor; gch Robt Kewley, Esther Kewley [assumed gdau]; 1739: Robt Kewley acks uncle Gilbt;	1734/5	<i>The only relevant burial is for a Margaret M cylroy on March 16th 1734/5 Esther Kewley b 1726 fa = Gilbert</i>

⁷⁴ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/richard-1749.html>

⁷⁵ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/ellinor-1731.html>

⁷⁶ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/margaret-corkill-1735.html>

			<i>Robert Kewley b1731 fa= Gilbert OR 1716 fa= William</i>
CLAGUE Ellinor McYLREA ⁷⁷	ch Jane exex, Margt; husb alive; names Cath Clague	d 7 Apr, 1762	<i>d/o Thomas of Ballycooiley Ballagh? b1689</i>
AGER, Ann als MYLREA ⁷⁸	dau Ann; husb John (off isle) + dau Jane jt exors	1798	<i>She married James Eager in Santon in 1760. He was probably an English mariner and she a Manx woman. Four recorded baptisms for this couple – Jane (1762), James (1764), John (1766) and Ann (1772) but only three mentioned in her will (James was not). b1735-1740?</i>

⁷⁷ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/ellinor-1762.html>

⁷⁸ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/margaret-corkill-1735.html>

19th Century

Two hundred years after the earliest Mylreas were recorded in Braddan, few of the original stock remained. The male descendants of

- Margaret Mallereigh & Robert Joyner
- Jane Mcylrea & Richard Killey
- Jane Mcylroy & Philip Higgin
- Hugh Mylrea & Margaret Cain als Kinnish
- Thomas Mylrea & Margaret Lewn, and Margaret Cowin
- Thomas Mylrea & Jane Karren

had either died, migrated or disappeared. In fact, the sole survivors of the 18th century Mylreas in Douglas and surrounding district were the descendants of Thomas Mylrea and Margaret Cowin whose children were born during the 1740s & 1750s.

The new century brought new families from the Mylrea clans to Douglas as it became increasingly the centre of the island's commerce.

Thomas Mylrea & Ann Cannon

This pair presents as something of an enigma. Thomas was most likely the youngest son of John Mylrea and Jane Clark of the *Ballacooiley* estate. Their child was baptised in 1781. Known "facts" about this Douglas family are:

- * Thomas was born 1770-1780 in Ballaugh⁷⁹
- * He worked as a gardener/labourer⁸⁰
- * Ann was born about 1781 in Conchan (Douglas)⁸¹
- * They married in Braddan in November, 1811
- * four children with baptismal records in Braddan 1812-1825 : Catherine (1812), John (1817), Margaret (1821), Charlotte (1825); a fifth Ann (c1816) was living with her mother in the 1891 census
- * family always lived in Senna Lane, adjacent to Villa Marina
- * daughter Catherine married James Hall and had a daughter named Louisa⁸² in 1835⁸³; Catherine⁸⁴ was later married to John Cain in 1840 and had a son George the same year
- * only son John died in 1844 when he was 27; he might have married Margaret Fitzpatrick (Irish) and died a month later; had a daughter Sarah in 1845; her baptism was listed as Dissenter

⁷⁹ 1841 (UEGLIEA), 1851 census

⁸⁰ 1841, 1851 census

⁸¹ 1841 census

⁸² Louisa married John Kennah in 1859 in the UK. She had a large family and died in 1895

⁸³ 1841 census (UEGLIEA)

⁸⁴ George's baptism record (Catherine MULREA)

- * Margaret might have married a King/Keig
- * daughter Charlotte died in 1849 when she was 23
- * in the 1841 census, two grandchildren were living with Thomas & Ann; Louisa Hall (4) and George Cain (1); in the 1861 census, granddaughter Emma King (might be Keig) aged 8 (presumably daughter of Margaret) was living with Ann in Senna Lane
- * Thomas died 1851-1861⁸⁵
- * Ann died 1872 at the age of 91

A curious item that might relate to Thomas and Ann is a report from the Deemster's Summary Court in the Manx Liberal newspaper of 1st December 1838:

And Thomas Mylrea and his wife, who keep a public house in Sand Street, were fined 40s or in default of payment a month's imprisonment, for a furious attack on a Mrs Sayle and breaking her arm with a poker at two o'clock on Sunday morning when inquiring for her husband who was in the habit of frequenting Mylrea's house at unseasonable hours. His Honour gave notice to the Mylreas that they need not expect to have their license renewed⁸⁶

The other Thomas Mylrea in the district at the time was Thomas, the husband of Margaret Cowin. This man worked on a farm and was not a publican, so he seems an unlikely candidate for the fracas and ensuing legal action in 1838. On the other hand, having lost the liquor license might explain why Thomas, husband of Ann, was listed as a gardener in the 1841 census of the Isle of Man.

Thus, the footprint of Thomas Mylrea & Ann Cannon was relatively brief, and they left no male descendants. There is no burial record for Thomas, nor any sign of a will (not for Ann either) on the Isle of Man.

Daniel Mylrea & Mary Stephenson

Daniel Mylrea was from Ballaugh where his family's origins were firmly rooted at *Ballacooiley*, the estate long held by the "farmer" Mylreas of the parish. Thus Thomas Mylrea who married Ann Cannon might have been his uncle, and Thomas Mylrea who married Margaret Lewn his great uncle (the latter unlikely). Daniel was the second son of a second son which meant that his father, Daniel snr, inherited little from his father's death and had to make his own way in the world. Daniel jnr also had to make his own way in the world and this he did as a publican in Douglas.

Daniel jnr was born in 1799, and married Mary Stephenson in Ramsey in 1826. He was soon the manager of the Injebruck Hotel in Douglas and later landlord of the Ramsey Inn also in Douglas. They had eight children, four dying in infancy. Daniel jnr died in 1839 and his wife Mary remarried almost immediately, dying in 1848 not long after the birth of the fourth child of her second marriage.

The blended family of Mylreas and Buchanans (Mary's second marriage) soon decamped from Douglas to Ramsey. Thus Daniel's footprint in Douglas was light and his family's time there brief. Nevertheless, Daniel and his wife Mary, two children who had died in infancy, and their oldest son

⁸⁵1861 census

⁸⁶Manx Liberal, 1 Dec 1838, p3

Daniel who returned to the island in his later years, were all laid to rest in the Onchan cemetery. Their story is told in [Three Daniels & a Thomas 1761-1934](#).

William Mylrea & Isabella Corkhill

William came from Ramsey, the grand son of John Mylrea and Ann Howland. Perhaps he was also the nephew of Margaret Callister als Mylrea, mentioned in the 1789 will of Catherine Mylrea. His grandfather was the third son of William Mylrea & Catherine Cowle of *Ballacooiley* and went off to Ramsey to earn a living as a cooper, a tradition his son and grandson also followed. Isabella was a young widow from KK German, and her father too was a cooper.

William and Isabella married in 1818 in Douglas and had four children: John 1819, Thomas 1822, John 1823, and Isabella 1825. The two little boys named John died and soon the family was living in Liverpool where William worked as a cooper for the herring curers Henry Holmes & Co who also had a factory in Douglas. Like his distant cousin Daniel the publican, William left only a light footprint in Douglas for his stay was brief. The family migrated first to Liverpool where William died, and then Isabella took her youngest son Edward and daughter Jane to Australia. None of William's children (more had been born during their stay in England) returned to the island although the widow of their son Thomas (Elizabeth Catherine Christian) lived her last years in Douglas.

Grand sons of Thomas Mylrea & Margaret Cowin

The records show that Thomas and Margaret had eight surviving grandsons, sons of Philip (2), Edward (3), and William (3) – or rather the registers do not record their deaths in infancy.

The fates of Philip's two sons - Thomas (1773) and Philip (1775) - are unknown.

Of Edward's three sons, two eventually left Lonan where they were born and went to live in Douglas while his youngest remained there.

1. Edward Mylrea (& Margaret Christian)

Edward was the oldest son of Edward Mylrea and Dorothy Fargher. He was born in Lonan in 1767 but spent his adult life in Onchan (Castle Street). He was ship's master with vessels named *Three Friends*, *Ally & Nancy*, and *Three Sisters*, all plying their trade at various times to Whitehaven and later to Scotland. His only son, also named Edward, went to live in Liverpool.

2. Thomas Mylrea (& Elizabeth Cowin)

Thomas was the second son of Edward Mylrea and Dorothy Fargher. Born in 1774, he was a tailor in Lonan where his four sons were born. In about 1820, Thomas and his wife Elizabeth made their way to Douglas where they lived in Factory Lane and where Thomas continued his trade as a tailor. Three of their sons went to the UK and did not return. The fourth, John, was the well-known book seller and publisher in Douglas and John's only son was the renowned barrister and politician, John Allan Mylrea.

William had four sons with a baptismal record, and a fifth whose record has not survived but who was demonstrably alive and well in Braddan well into adulthood. Son Daniel born in 1785 did not

survive infancy and the fate of son John born 1791 is unknown. He joined the ranks of the “disappeared” John Mylreas.

3. William Mylrea (& ??)

The oldest son of William and Jane, named William, was baptised in 1781 and died 1838. However, in Braddan at the start of the 19th century were two Mylrea families headed by a William who married around the same time and who might reasonably have been of similar age – which one was the son of William and Jane?

William (+ Elizabeth Clague)

married Lonan, 1802

- * ~~William (1802, Lonan)~~
- * Thomas (1804)
- * ~~Elizabeth~~
- * Eliza (1810, Braddan)
- * ~~John (1812)~~
- * Catherine (1814)
- * ~~John (1819)~~
- * William

William (+ Jane Kewley)

married Marown, 1805

- * Mary Ann (1806)
- * ~~Jane (1808)~~
- * William (1810)
- * Ellinor (1813)
- * Thomas (1813)
- * John (1818)
- * Catherine (1821)
- * John Robert (1823)
- * Edward James (1823)
- * ~~Sarah (1828)~~

The key information that tends to weight the argument towards their son marrying Jane Kewley is that she was born in 1784, and he in 1781. This seems a more likely mix, since Elizabeth Clague had been born in 1771. Earlier in this document, the idea was put forward that the William who married Elizabeth was the illegitimate son of Catherine Mylrea, the daughter of William Mylrea and Jane Tear.

4. Thomas Mylrea (& Margaret Cowin)

This Thomas was a farmer and a Methodist preacher. While his parents and siblings were essentially urban dwellers, living in the town of Douglas, Thomas resided on *Ballaotes* farm in 1841 and at *Ballagarree* in 1851. This is the son of William and Jane who lacks a record of baptism but his birth year, 1788, would make him their sixth child. Thomas’s sons - Thomas, Philip and William - made their marks in very different ways in other parts of the Isle of Man. Thomas became the miller in Glen Wyllinat Michael, Philip was the teacher at St Marks in Malew, and William was the blacksmith in Andreas. In turn, several of *their* children chased their dreams even further afield, in the UK, USA, South Africa and Australia. The story of this family is told in [Thomas Mylrea, Farmer & Preacher \(Braddan\) 1788-1860](#).

5. Philip Mylrea (& Jane Moore)

Baptised in 1793, Philip was a master craftsman, a stone mason. He is credited with having worked on the Tower of Refuge in Douglas Harbour. He married Jane Moore of Lonan in 1818 and they had at least 11 children although just six survived infancy. The family lived in Cattle Market Street and later in Bucks Street. They had two sons, Philip and John James, of whom John James did not marry, and the life of their older son, Philip, was blighted with tragedy. Philip jnr left not male descendants, dying in New Zealand in 1878. After what might have been several centuries in Douglas, the chain of descent was over for this line of Mylreas. Their story is told in Philip Mylrea, Stone Mason.

The fate of the daughters of Philip and Jane is not always clear. It would certainly appear that three and perhaps four of them died between 1832 and 1834 – Sophia (x 2)⁸⁷, Elizabeth, and Sarah Ellen. Daughter Sarah married John Sutton and migrated to the UK but for Mary Ann (b1821), Jane (b1823), and Elizabeth (b1840), no clear history can be found:

- Mary Ann (b1821) might have married Thomas Smyth in 1847;
- Jane (b1823) might have married Thomas Horridge, a clog maker, in 1844, and migrated to Lancashire ; or John Thompson in 1846; or she died in 1847 aged 26 sic.;
- Elizabeth (b1830) has left not trace after the 1851 census when she was living with her parents and was a domestic servant

Thomas & Joseph Mylrea (Mylroie)⁸⁸

These two brothers lived in Douglas most of their lives although their family origins were the parish of Lonan. Their father, James, was the oldest son of David Mylroie, a family that reached back over a century in Lonan. Thomas had been born in Lonan in about 1830 yet his younger brother, Joseph, was perhaps born in Douglas around the time of his father's death in 1839. Their mother was Margaret (Teare) and she was born in Patrick.

Thomas was heir to the Mylroie family estate of *Close Moar*. However, after his father's demise, the estate quickly passed out of the family's hands and moved to Douglas where Thomas grew up to become a joiner. He married Mary Clague in 1860 and they lived in Dalton Terrace. None of their three children married and with the death of Eliza Ann in 1943, Thomas's line, which stretched back to the mid 1600s came to an end.

Joseph was a baker (he had many occupations and many residences over his lifetime) and married Louisa Stowell in 1772. Joseph and Louisa had nine children, most of whom migrated away from the place of their birth, their oldest son James to Australia. Their sister Margaret, also born in Lonan, married Robert Morrison and he too was a baker. They also lived in Douglas.

The Locals

Many of the descendants of the original Thomas Mylrea & Margaret Cowin remained in Braddan and continued their family's line:

Marriages

Edward & Margaret (Christian)	Edward Mylrea	Eleanor Curphey	1822
	Margaret Mylrea	James Wilson (widower)	1834
	Jane Mzlred	William Moore	1838
Thomas & Elizabeth (Cowin)	John	Jane Cain	1844
	John (widower)	Jane Allen	1848
William & Jane (Taggart)	Philip Mylrea	Jane Moore	1818

⁸⁷There's a death record for a Sophia Mylrea being born and dying in 1832. In another source, there's another Sophia Mylrea being born in 1830 and dying in 1832. This latter one might be a typographical error

⁸⁸See [Fathers & Sons: One Mylroie Clan in Lonan](#)

William & Jane (Kewley)	Jane Mylna	Thomas Horridge OR John Thompson	1844 1846
	Thomas & Margaret (Cowin)	Catherine Mylman	Thomas Parker
	Jane Mylvia	James Kissack	1835
	Thomas Mylnea	Mary Elizabeth Caine	1839
	Mary	James Shimmin	1845
	Elizabeth	William Colwell	1847

Burials

And of course, there were always deaths in these families. The following is an attempt to establish the fate of many of the members of these Mylrea families who were resident in Douglas and surrounding parishes.

Braddan	
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Onchan	
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1. Thomas Mylrea & Margaret Cowin (BRADDAN)

→ Philip Mylrea & Margaret Lewn

<i>died</i>		<i>born</i>	
1804	Margaret Mylrea	c1750	d-i-l Margaret Lewn (wife of son Philip)

→ Edward Mylrea & Dorothy Fargher (LONAN)

<i>died</i>	<i>born</i>	<i>age</i>		
1857	1780	77	Elizabeth Mylreaals Cowin	g/d-i-l, wife of Thomas the tailor [buried Lonan]
1853	1774	79	Thomas	Son, tailor [buried Lonan]
1810	1810	0	Thomas Mylrea	gs, s/o Edward Mylrea & Margaret Christian
1839	1767	71	Edward	Son, ship's captain
1847	1821	26	Jane Mylrea als Cain	g/d-i-l 1 st wife of John Mylrea the book seller
1849	1769	80	Margaret Mylrea als Christian	d-i-l, wife of Edward
1858	1845	13	Elizabeth Jane Mylrea	ggd d/o John Mylrea & Jane Cain
1881	1817	64	John Mylrea	g/s, book seller
1882	1815	67	Jane Mylrea als Allen	g-d-i-l 2 nd wife of John Mylrea, the book seller

→ William Mylrea & Jane Taggart (BRADDAN)

<i>died</i>	<i>born</i>	<i>age</i>		
1785	1785	0	Daniel Mylrea	s/o William Mylrea & Jane Taggart
1822	1821	1	John Mylrea	s/o Thomas Mylrea & Margaret Cowin
1822	1754	68	Mary Cottier als Mylrea	d/o Thomas & Margaret (Cowin); married John Cottier 1786
1824	1822	2	Edward Mylrea	Edward James? gs s/o William Mylrea & Jane Kewley?
1832	1830	2	Sophia Mylrea	gd, d/o Philip Mylrea & Jane Moore
1832	1808	24	Jane Mylrea	gd, d/o William Mylrea & Jane Kewley; South Quay

1832	1832	0	Sophia Mylrea	gd, d/o Philip Mylrea & Jane Moore
1833	1778	55	Jane Mylrea	d-i-l Jane Kewley, wife of William jnr?
1833	1825	8	Elizabeth Mylrea	gd, d/o Philip Mylrea & Jane Moore
1834	1827	7	Sarah Ellen Mylrea	gd, s/o Philip Mylrea & Jane Moore
1835	1750	85	Jane Mylrea	Jane Taggart, William (1) wife? (DRYHEA); Strand St
1838	1781	57	William Mylrea (1)	Son; h/o Jane Kewley; South Quay
1838	1758	80	Ann Mylrea <i>Will</i>	gd, d/o Thomas Mylrea & Margaret Cowin
1842	1777	68	Ann Mylrea <i>Will</i>	d/o William Mylrea & Jane Taggart
1860	1788	72	Thomas Mylrea (2) <i>Will</i>	Son; husband of Margaret Cowin
1860	1788	72	Margaret Mylrea	Margaret Cowin (w/o Thomas Mylrea)??
1861	1793	67	Philip Mylrea (3)	Son; h/o Jane Moore
1875	1834	41	John Mylrea	John Joseph? gs s/o Philip Mylrea & Jane Moore?
1879	1797	82	Jane Mylrea als Moore	d-i-l, wife of Philip
1888	1817	71	Philip Mylrea	s/o Thomas Mylrea & Margaret Cowin; h/o Margaret Crebbin

2. Daniel Mylrea & Mary Hughes (BALLAUGH)

→ **Daniel Mylrea & Mary Stephenson**

<i>died</i>	<i>born</i>	<i>age</i>		
1839	1799	40	Daniel Mylrea	Son
1833	1831	2	John Mylrea	gs s/o Daniel Mylrea & Mary Stephenson
1833	1833	0	Ellen Eliza(beth) Mylrea	gd d/o Daniel Mylrea & Mary Stephenson
1836	1834	2	John Mylrea	gs s/o Daniel Mylrea & Mary Stephenson
1838	1836	2	Jane (Elizabeth?) Mylrea	gd d/o Daniel Mylrea & Mary Stephenson?

3. John Mylrea & Jane Clark (BALLAUGH)

→ **Thomas Mylrea & Ann Cannon, Sand St & Senna St**

<i>died</i>	<i>born</i>	<i>age</i>		
1844	1817	27	John Mylrea	gs, s/o Thomas Mylrea & Ann Cannon??; no 1841 census
1849	1826	23	Charlotte Mylrea	dd, d/o Thomas Mylrea & Ann Cannon
1872	1781	91	Ann Mylrea	d-i-l Ann Cannon wife of Thomas

4. Robert Mylroie & Mary Gawn (LONAN)

→ **William Edward Mylroi & Eleanor Christian Fargher, 8 Falcon St**

<i>died</i>	<i>born</i>	<i>age</i>		
1885	1884	1	Alice Eleanor Mylroi	LonanMylroie family, d/o William Edward Mylrea & Eleanor Christian Faragher
1894	1886	6	Walter Mylroie	LonanMylroie family, d/o William Edward Mylrea & Eleanor Christian Faragher
1895	1892	3	Eleanor Mylroie	LonanMylroie family, d/o William Edward

				Mylrea & Eleanor Christian Faragher
1896	1892	4	Agnes Mylroie	LonanMylroie family, d/o William Edward Mylrea & Eleanor Christian Faragher

5. James Mylroie & Margaret Tear

→ Thomas Mylrea and Mary Clague

<i>died</i>	<i>born</i>	<i>age</i>		
1926	1861	65	Joseph	
1943	1864	79	Eliza Ann	
1929	1870	59	Elizabeth	

→ Joseph Mylrea & Louisa Stowell

<i>died</i>	<i>born</i>	<i>age</i>		
1889	1887	2	Margaret Mylrea	d/o Joseph, 45 Strand Street
1899	1885	14	Anna May Mylrea	No baptism. Father Joseph, 29 Demesne Rd
1905	1840	65	Joseph Mylrea	
1960	1882	78	James Mylrea	Son, died in Australia

6. Thomas Mylrea & Margaret Gell (GERMAN)

→ John Mylrea & Louisa Shimmin

<i>died</i>	<i>born</i>			
1878	1859		Eleanor Jane Mylrea	From Peel, d/o John Mylrea & Louisa Shimmin. Perhaps working as a domestic in Braddan

7. William Mylrea & Isabella Corkhill

<i>died</i>		<i>born</i>	
1822	John Mylrea	1819	s/o William Mylrea & Isabella Corkhill
1824	John Mylrea	1823	s/o William Mylrea & Isabella Corkhill
1897	Elizabeth Catherine Mylrea als Christian	1830	d-i-l, wife of Thomas Mylrea

8. Parents unknown/uncertain

→ William Mylrea & Elizabeth Clague

<i>died</i>	<i>born</i>	<i>age</i>		
1803			William Mylrea	s/o William Mylrea & Elizabeth Clague
1811			Elizabeth Mylrea	d/o William Mylrea & Elizabeth Clague
1813			John Mylrea	s/o William Mylrea & Elizabeth Clague
1819	1819		John Mylrea	s/o William Mylrea & Elizabeth Clague
1834	1771	63	Elizabeth Mylrea	Wife; als Clague

Yet to be assigned

<i>died</i>	<i>born</i>	<i>age</i>		
1809	1809	0	Edward Mylrea	gs, s/o John Mylrea & Elizabeth Cowley ⁸⁹

⁸⁹Ballaugh marriage John Mylrea & Elinor Cowle 1805? Is this them? Burial was in Braddan

1834	1769	65	Mrs Elizabeth Mylrea	Sand St
1847	1759	89	Elizabeth Mylrea	Might be Elizabeth Halsall als Miller; w/o Charles Mylrea, Malew
1848	1784	64	Elizabeth	“awful sudden” notation in burial register; Sand St
1849	1809	40	William	Ostler; s/o William & Jane (Kewley?); South Quay
1850	1782	68	William	Husband of Elizabeth Clague?

The Visitors

Other members of the Mylrea clans married in Braddan although their ancestral roots were in other parishes:

		MYLREA PARENTS	PARISH
1800	Esther Mylroie & James Garrett	William & Elizabeth (Callow)	Lonan
1826	Daniel Mylrea & Emma Crebbin	Daniel & Susannah (Curghey)	Andreas
1829	William Mylerye & Jane Gelling	David & Catherine (Quayle)	Lonan
1840	John Mylrea & Esther Carin	John & Catherine (Quilliam)	Rushen
1840	Mary Mylrice & William Henry Buchanan	Widow of Daniel Mylrea	Ballaugh
1843	Cathrin Mylna & John Quirk	John & Elizabeth (Garrett)	Andreas
1844	John Mybray & Ann Quilhart	Thomas & Jony (Judith Camaish)	Lonan
1845	William Mylrea & Ann Killey	William & Jane (Plaice)	German
1846	John Mylrea & Margaret Barre (Brew?)	John & Isabella (Quayle)	Michael
1847	Thomas Mylrea (widower) & Ellen Halsal	William & Jane (Plaice)	German
1860	Philip Mylvea & Eliza Muncaster	Basil & Jane (Garrett)	German
1864	Mary Ann Mylrea & Henry Kelly	Joseph & Margaret (Kinread)	Lonan
1870	Susan Mylrea & John Craine	William & Ann (Killey)	German
1878	Thomas William Mybrea & Eleanor Jane Cottier ⁹⁰	Thomas & Ann (Quayle)	Ballaugh
1883	Emma Mylrea & Daniel Kneen (widower)	John Mylrea & Margaret (Brew)	Michael

6. Births in Braddan

	FATHER	MOTHER	YEAR
Ann	Charles Gell	Margaret Mylrea	1805
Elizabeth	Charles Gell	Margaret Mylrea	1807
Thomas	Charles Gell	Margaret Mylrea	1809
Charles	Charles Gell	Margaret Mylrea	1809
Eliza	Charles Gell	Margaret Mylrea	1811
Mary Ann	Thomas Mylrea	Eleanor Kelly	1830 ⁹¹
William	Robert Cardy	Eleanor Mylrea ⁹²	1834
Joseph Hunt (gardener)	Margaret Mylrea	1842

- Charles & Margaret married 1804 Braddan

- Might be Margaret, d/o Thomas Mylrea & Margaret Cowin whose daughter married Charles Gale

⁹⁰Both of these young people were dead within two years of marriage, Eleanor in 1878 & Thomas in 1880

⁹¹The child was illegitimate. The only two Thomas Mylreas in Braddan of an age to father a child were Thomas Mylrea, married to Ann Cannon (he would have been about 45-55 years old), or Thomas, son of William Mylrea and Elizabeth Clague, who would have been 26 years of age.

⁹² Married in Malew 1819

- *Dissenters*

	FATHER	MOTHER	YEAR
James	Edward Guilfoyle	Ellen Mylrea	1841
Cath	Edward Guilfoyle	Ellen Mylrea	1847

6. *James was located in a House of Industry in 1851*

7. *No sign of the rest of the family. Not sure mother's name was Mylrea (she was born in Ireland according to 1841 census)*

	FATHER	MOTHER	YEAR
Sarah		Margaret	
(South Quay)	John Mylrea	Fitzpatrick	1845

8. *Sarah is in the 1861 & 1861 census collections, living with her mother*

9. *Hypothesis is that her father was John (a) son of Thomas Mylrea & Ann Cannon OR (b) son of William Mylrea & Jane Kewley*

10. *God parent was James Laneghan (cf Thomas Mylrea & Esther Laneghan m1837)*

Attachment I–Manx Resources

On the Isle of Man, systematic record-keeping was well-established by the 17th century. These remarkable resources are available today, the result of (a) the early imposition of bureaucracy – the island has the oldest continuous parliament in the world; (b) the island being a fiefdom, ruled by the Stanley family for generations; (c) the Isle of Man being such a small and relatively isolated community; and (d) the magnificent work of the Manx National Library and Archive who have collected and preserved these records. It must also be said that since not all records have survived, researchers are never dealing with a comprehensive set of data and must make what they will of the gaps.

i. Land Records

All land on the Isle of Man were once “owned” by the Lords of Mann. Thus, it is not surprising that their emissaries kept a close eye on the income due from the farmers and other occupants of land. Money was involved after all and, as a result, a most intact set of records (as yet largely untranscribed) is the collection relating to Manx property. The earliest can be dated to about 1495⁹³.

Over time, different legal arrangements for the occupation of land were formulated, and so different types of records were maintained - Manorial Rolls, Abbey Books, Composition Books, Libri Assedationis and Libri Vastarum. There were as well Marriage Contracts (usually registered as Sales), and Sales and Mortgages. While a remarkable quantity of these documents survives, it is worth noting Crowe’s warning to not “*venture on these books unless you have plenty of time, patience [and for the early records the ability to translate dog latin and read early script]*”.

In broad terms, the entries in Lib Assed were by parish, then by treen, then by quarterland within a treen, followed by a listing of intacks (land not suitable for agriculture), mills and a small number other land types. The entries tended to follow the same patterns over the centuries, which made tracking family groups relatively easy in some parishes. However, occasionally, the entries were reordered and previous continuity was broken. In some respects, this is exactly the challenge that Crowe was alluding too. An expert in Douglas itself, Crowe was no doubt also referring to the numbering of cottage allotments which changed significantly as the town expanded, and allotment tenancies were reassembled so that (a) a cottage numbered 52 with a rod rent, might several decades later have a different number but the same rent and often the same tenant, or (b) tenancies themselves were broken up so that one cottage allotment might be separated into several tenancies in later Lib Assed OR tenancies for the same individual might be gathered under the same cottage number even though several disparate holdings were involved.

Interpreting the family lines in Douglas cottage allotments is not for the faint-hearted!!

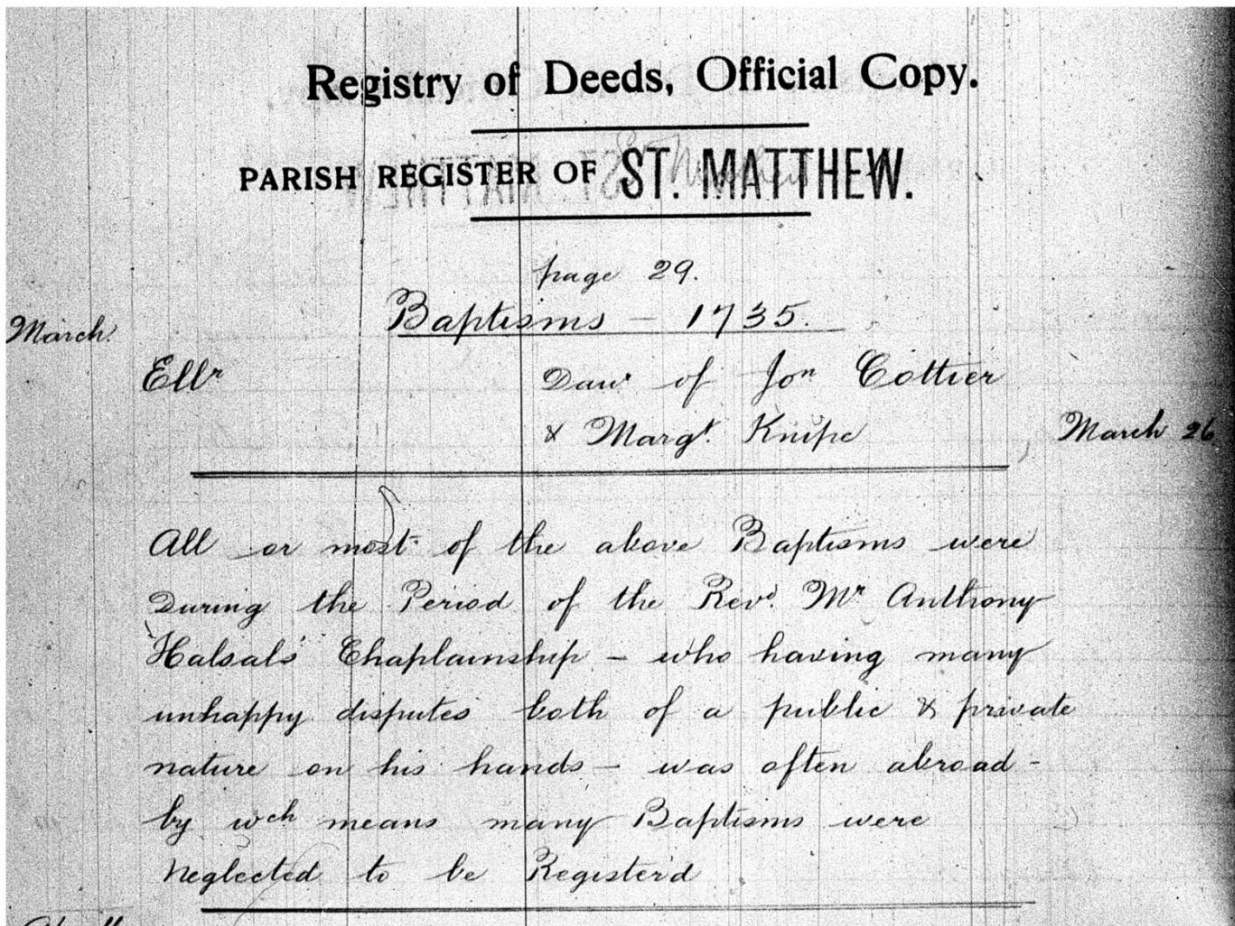
⁹³ See Robert Cannell’s site [The Manx Manorial Roll](#) for an insight into the complexity of land records of the early days and also to view images of those records

2. Parish registers

The registers were the basis for documenting all baptisms, marriages and burials on the island. They were mandated around 1600 and as might reasonably be expected, many entries have not endured (intact, or at all). Adding to the problem of incomplete records was the questionable literacy skills of the vicar/notary of the day - he who recorded the baptisms, marriages and burials as well as any contractual arrangements his illiterate parishioners needed to make - which led to a wide variety of spellings of the surname, often local, so that at much the same time, in Malew there was *Mcylleriah*, in Michael *McGilrea*, and in Ballaugh, *Mcylrea*. Particular spellings often reflected the tour of duty of the vicar/notary - for example, Thomas Parr was vicar in Malew for about 50 years so *Mcylleriah* can be consistently found over that long period. Variations for *Mylrea* in the registers for Douglas and the surrounding parishes include:

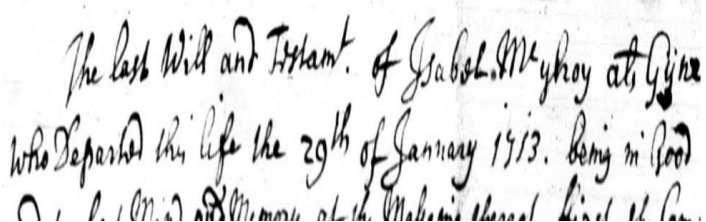
- Mollera
- Mallery
- Maelereigh
- McKilroy
- McLarye
- Mallereigh
- MacYlrea
- McLery
- Maclereigh
- Mcyloy
- Mcyrea
- Malerye
- Mollerie

It was not only the passage of time and the talents of the vicar that eroded the quality of Manx parish records. There was also the remarkable circumstance where, on some occasions, entries were never made at all, as the following entry from Braddan explains.



Reverend Anthony Halsal was not alone in his dereliction. Sixty years later, in 1797, the vicar of Lonan, Samuel Gell, was “presented”⁹⁴ for not entering baptisms and marriages into the Register. Problems for the Lonan records did not end there however when, the following year, curate John Gill was presented for cutting paper out of the Lonan Register!

A hurdle for any modern researcher, not only with Manx records, but with ANY records, is the ability of the transcriber to accurately report what is contained in an old, hand-written entry. Take the following example in which the date of burial on original Court records differs from the transcript.

Original	LDS Site
 <p>The last Will and Testament of Isabell Meylroy at Gine who departed this life the 29th of January 1713. being in Good O. L. M. and Memory of the Mahon's Chapel. Linc. of Lon.</p>	<p>Name: Isabell Meylroy Alias Joyn Event Type: Burial Event Date: 27 Jan 1713 Event Place: Braddan, Isle of Man Gender: Female</p>

And finally, when an individual, demonstrably existing at some stage, but has no baptism, marriage or burial (ie. covering a lengthy period of time), the explanation might be that events took place in a particular church the registers of which have been long lost.

3. Wills, Letters of Administration and Memorial Inscriptions

These documents/carvings put flesh onto the bare bones of an individual who has died. For example, from the brief will of John McLeroy who was buried in 1656 in Braddan comes a wealth of information about his family. He mentioned a wife named Marriot alsCunnery, a son John, and two grandchildren named Richard⁹⁵ and Isabel.

Even silence can speak volumes, in the case of the next surviving will from Braddan which belonged to Issabel Ineray (parish burial register = Bell Jnera) who died in 1671. In some respects, the contents shed no light whatsoever onto her family, past or present - other than the fact that her Moore relations were to get only 6d if they tried to claim her estate! One might guess however that she was either a single woman or had no surviving husband and children to whom she could leave “*all the rest of her goods moveable and immoveable whatsoever*”.

The Memorial Inscription for Robert Joyner who died in 1744 in Malew provides vital clues not found elsewhere: *Robert Joyner, mariner, buried Braddan*– From this brief inscription, the researcher finds out for the first time that Robert was a mariner, and that he died in Malew even though he had lived all his life in Braddan so perhaps he was visiting his daughter in Malew or perhaps, challenged by old age, he had gone to live with her.

⁹⁴ Presentments were accusations that an individual had breached Ecclesiastical law, and he/she was brought before a Church Court to be tried (and sentenced if found guilty).

⁹⁵ Baptised 1654?

The MI for the Ballamoar Christians showed both relationships and standing in the Manx community:

In memory of the following owners of Ballamoar buried here CHRISTIAN: Patrick, married Christian McBrewhe heiress of Ballamoar A.D, 1632. Donald 1663. Thomas 1691. Thomas G.P. M.H.K 1725. William, C.P.M.H.K.S.G. Attorney General, Receiver General 1753. Anne his wife daughter of Deemster D.Mylrea 1746. Margaret his daughter and heiress at law married 1785 Thomas Christian of East Nappin, C.P. M.H.K. 1776. William, died without issue 1798. Catherine, died without issue 1824. Margaret niece and heiress at law of William married Robert Farrant H.B. M.H.K. 1810

4. Court Records

Bureaucracy flourished early on the Isle of Man and with it a system of authoritative decision-making or place of last resort:

- The Chancery Courts of the 1800s were presided over by the Vicar General, or the island's Royal appointee, the Lieutenant General. The "cases" were usually petitions, and did not involve the most serious of crimes.
- Presentments, conducted by Church councils, were another way of managing the Manx. One individual could accuse another of an offence (incest, abuse, activity on a Sunday, swimming in someone else's pool) and the church officers would pronounce their verdict. Ecclesiastical & Archidiaconal Courts dealt with uncontested wills - and there were many other structures besides.
- Libri Chancellor dealt with disputes, frequently about boundaries between tenancies

5. Online Services

Finally, a caveat about online repositories. While the advent of the Internet has delivered instant access to hitherto hard copy records in other parts of the world, especially those dealing with births, marriages and deaths, even today there is no single authoritative source.

- The following record of baptism is found on the Latter Days Saints site (familysearch.org) but not on the imuseum site (imuseum.im)

Child	Baptism	Parent
Wm McLarie	7 th October 1628	George McLarie

- Transcriptions/typographical errors sometimes render the one record with different data:

imuseum	LDS

- Baptismal records survive while the marriage record for the parents does not, leaving the infant in a kind of family tree limbo:

George Christian	Robert	Eliza Killip	3-Feb 1856	Douglas, St George
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Attachment 2 – Mylrea LA entries in Douglas

1. THOMAS

YEAR	#	Rent	Tenant	Tenant	Tenant	Tenant	Tenant
1595							
1610	76	6d	Thomas 1d	Thomas Dawson 4d			
1616	76	6d	Thomas	Thomas Dawson 2d	George Faulks 2d	Arthur Ceasar 1d	
1617	78	6d	Thomas	Thomas Dawson 4d	Ric & ??? 1d		
1620	76	6d	Thomas	Thomas Dawson 2d	George Stanley 2d	Arthur Ceasar 1d	
1631	77	6d	Thomas	Thomas Quayle 2d	George Stanley 2d	Ewan Christian 1/2d	Jane 1/2d
1732	79	6d	Thomas	Donald Quayle 2d	George Stanley 2d	Ewan Christian 1/2d	Jane Carbury 1/2d
1639	76	6d	Thomas	Charles Quayle +	George Stanley 2d	Ewan Christian 1/2d	Ewan Christian 1/2d
1643	76	6d	Thomas	Charles Quayle +	George Stanley 2d	Ewan Christian 1/2d	Ewan Christian 1/2d
1648	76	6d	Thomas	Charles Quayle +	Jane Stanley wife & executor Jo Stanley 1d	Ewan Christian 1d	
1658	76	6d	Thomas	Charles Quayle 2d	Jane Stanley wife & executor Jo Stanley 1d	Ewan Christian 1d	
1686	76	6d	Geo Tyson	Charles Quayle 2d	Jane Stanley 1d wife & executor Jo Stanley 1d	Ewan Christian 1d	
1702	76	6d	Geo Tyson	Charles Quayle 2d	Ro Key 2d	Kath Bridson 1d	
1706	73	6d	John Corris & wife				

2. HEN & JOHN

LA	# (1), (5)	TENANT 1	TENANT 2	RENT
1643	88	NichConoree	-	4d
1648	88	Nich? Conoree?	-	4d
1651?	90	NichConoree	Hen Mclvorrey	4d
1658	88	NichConoree (3d)	Hen Mclvorrey (1d)	4d
1671	87	John Mclvorrey (3d)	Hen Mclvorrey (1d)	4d

1672		John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1673		John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1674	91	John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1677		John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1686		John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1686-87		John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1687-88	92	John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1689-1690		John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1690-91	91	John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1692-1693	91	John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1694		John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1695		John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1696		John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1697-1700		John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1700	91	John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1702	88	John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1706	108	Thomas Mcylroii		3d ⁽²⁾
1707-1708	92	Rich Killey 3d, Phil Higgin 1d		4d
1712-1714	111	Thomas Mcylroii		3d
1720	113	Hen Caine & Elllinor wife ⁽³⁾		3d

Source: Manx roots

Thomas Mylroi & Ann Mylroi alias Kelly alias Cain his wife, with Jony Kelly & Elinor Kelly her daughters

Ann's right assumed to have been inherited from Gilbert Cain, who held this rent 1671⁽⁴⁾.

Jony & Elinor's rights derived from their father, Ann's first husband (Kelly)

3. JOHN & HEN

LA	# (1), (5)	TENANT 1	TENANT 2	RENT
1643	60	Nick Conoree 9d (Coudrie in 1636)	Jo Carolly 1½d, Robert Quayne 1½d	12d
1648	60	Nick Conoraee 9d	Jo Caroly 1½d with wife, Robert Quayne 1½d	12d
1651?	61	John Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mcylroy (3d), Jo Corroley (1½ d)	12d
1658	60	John Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mcylroy (3d), Jo Corroley (1½d) Robt Quine (1½d)	12d
1671	59	John Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mcylroy (3d), Jo Corroley (1½ d)	12d
1672	57	John Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mcylroy (3d), Jo Corroley & ?? (1½ d)	12d
1673		John Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mcylroy (3d), Jo Corroley (1½ d) Cum exor Philp Christian ½d exor David Christian ½d	12d
1674	62	John Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mylvorrey (3d), Jo Corrolly (1½ d) Kath Moore widow? and exec David Christian ½d	12d
1677		John Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mylvorrey (3d), John Cowley with wife (1½d) Kath Moore (½d) Kath Moore (½d)	12d
1686		John Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mylvorrey (3d), John Cowley with wife (1½d) Kath Moore (½d) Kath Moore (½d)	12d

1686-87		John Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mylvorrey (3d), John Cowley with wife (1½d) Kath Moore (½d) Kath Moore (½d)	12d
Pre 1686		John Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mylvorrey (3d), Jo Corrolly (1½d) Kath Moore (½d) executor and David Christian (½d)	12d
1687-88		John Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mylvorrey (3d), John Cowley (1½d) cum uxor Kath Moore (½d), Kath Moore (½d)	12d
1689-1690		John Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mylvorrey (3d), John Cowley (1½d) cum uxor Kath Moore (½d), Kath Moore (½d)	12d
1690-91		John Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mylvorrey (3d), John Cowley (1½d) cum uxor Kath Moore (½d) Kath Moore (½d)	12d
1692-1693	63	Thomas Mcylvorrey 6d	Hen Mylvorrey (3d), John Cowley (1½d) Kath Moore (½d), Kath Moore (½d)	12d
1694		Thomas Mcylvorrey 6d	Hen Mylvorrey (3d), John Cowley (1½d) Kath Moore (½d), Kath Moore (½d)	12d
1695		Thomas Mcylvorrey 6d	Hen Mylvorrey (3d), John Cowley (1½d) Kath Moore (½d), Kath Moore (½d)	12d
1696		Thomas Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mylvorrey (3d), John Cowley (1½d) Kath Moore (½d), Kath Moore (½d)	12d
1700	62	Thomas Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mylvorrey (3d), John Cowley (1½d) cum uxor Kat Moore (½d) Kat Moore (½d)	12d
1702	60	Thomas Mcvlvorrey 6d	Hen Mylvorrey (3d), John Cowley (1½d) cum uxor Kat Moore (½d) Kat Moore (½d)	12d
1706		Gilbert Cubbon & Robert Quine occupy the only 12d cottages in the 60s		
1707-1708	60	Thomas Mcylroi & wife,	Henry Cottier	6d
1707-1708	63	Richard Killey 6d	Phil Higgin & wife 3d, Patt Cowly (1½d), Rich Killey (1½d)	12d

What I find interesting in these records is that there are “patches” of cottages for whom the tenants or order do not change over time:

- 1643 Quayle, Robert Joyner, Tho Joyner, Tho Joyner, Tho Joyner, Robt Joyner, Tho Joyner, Vinch
- 1643 Robert Lewn, Edward Fletcher (neighbour NichConoree)
- 1651? Robert Lewn, Edward Fletcher (neighbour NichConoree & Hen Mcylroy)
- 1672 Robert Lewn, Edward Fletcher (neighbour John Mcylvorrey & Hen Mcylvorrey)
- 1673 Robert Lewn, Robert Lewn (neighbour John Mcylvorrey & Hen Mcylvorrey)
- 1690 Robert Lewn, Robert Lewn (neighbour John Mcylvorrey & Hen Mcylvorrey)

NOTES:

- I. EVEN THOUGH THE COTTAGE ALLOTMENT NUMBER CHANGED, THE RENT DID NOT, NOR DID THE NEIGHBOURING ENTRIES (QUIRK BEFORE & FAYLE AFTER)

2. NO IDEA WHERE Hen's id rent went in 1706 but perhaps tacked onto Killey/Higgin claim
3. ELINOR WAS THOMAS'S STEP-DAUGHTER, Thomas died 1717; his will made no mention of her although LV records that he passed his right to wife & daughter Jony, who gave it to Henry Caine
4. Gilbert Cain was not the tenant in 1671
5. This is largely my numbering for cottage allotments, not official and I might not be entirely accurate but will be within a number of two
6. The best I can make of these Mylroii/Mcylvorrey holdings is that the change was enacted 1706-1707, and that it was both Mylrvorreys who were replaced, and (at least briefly), it was Jane Mcylroy (Higgin) and Jane Mcylroy (Killey) who were the new tenants.
7. In relation to Cottage #63, More specifically, Killey got Thomas's share and Kath Moore's share, and Higgin got Hen's share
8. In relation to Cottage #92, Killey got John's share & Higgin got Hen's share
9. In relation to Cottage #60, this is the cottage which traditionally had the Lewns on one side and Coultry on the other
10. The "transitions" however fit what is known about the Mylrea women - ie. Jane (Higgins) father was Hen, and Jane (Killey) father was John
11. Liber Vastarum do no record any of the changes John to Thomas (1706), Thomas to Killey & Higgin (1707-1708), Killey & Higgin to Thomas 1712-1714

Attachment 3- Wattleworth Wills

- **Charles Wattleworth snr d 1758**

Kirk Malew Feb 21 1759

Charles Wattleworth departed this life on or about the 28th day of December last past intestate. The Court having intelligence thereof hath decreed his three children namely Charles, John & Richard Wattleworth joint adminors of all his goods chattells credits & effects moveable & immoveable whatsoever - John & Richd being under age, & Charles tho at lawful years incapable to undertake the administration, the same is thereupon comitted unto Willm Farrant & Robt Wattleworth uncles by the father's side who are sworn supervisors in form of law & have the orphans & their goods comitted unto them, they are to bring a perfect inventory to the registry & have given pledges for payment of debts & forthcoming of thr orphans goods namely Richd Slater & Patr Shimin both of Castletown Decretum est

Ro Radcliffe

Matths Curghey

... a long inventory + funeral costs etc (tba)

To the Revd Vicar Genrl Robt Radcliffe The humble petition of Charles Wattleworth a father and motherless orphan Sheweth
That your petr's father and mother having ? both died intestate leaving three children, and when after Robt Wattleworth Petr's uncle and Willm Farrant an uncle by marriage were sworn excrs in trust and guardians in trust for petr and his brothers who are both minors, and in consequence thereof possessed themselves of yr petr's effects, which were very considerable
That said Wattleworth and Farrant, in ordr to render your petr miserable prevailed on him after plying him close ? with strong spiritous liquours to acknowledge before the deemster a power of attorney authorising them to receive yr petr's share of his father and mothers effects in consideration of which they then gave yr petr 10s and no more, and never since gave yr petr the least support of any kind which forces yr petr to shole ? about the country like a vagabond, having no settled place of residence or abode destitute of cloaths and all other comforts of life In tender compassion to petr may it please yr reverence to admitt yr petr to choose his own guardians who will do him justice, & to revoke said power of attorney so procured from petr in manner afforesd and general relief as with yr reverences authority to charge said Robt Wattleworth and Willm Farrant to appear before yr reverence at the next consistory at Douglas to shew cause if any they can why the prayer of this yr petr's petition should not be granted, and he as bound will ever pray

- **Charles Wattleworth jnr 1762**

Whereas I Charles Wattleworth son unto Charles Wattleworth of Castletown deceased do intend speedily to depart this Isle and do make this my last will & testament in manner following revoking all former wills done by me.

In the name of god and men. First I commit my soul to almighty god & my body after death to a decent & Christian burial. I leave six pence a piece legacy to any one or more that will claim any right to any part or parcell of my goods & effects lastly I constitute nominate & appoint my two loving brothers John Wattleworth & Richard Wattleworth joynt executors of all my

goods chattells & effects of any kind & nature whatsoever moveable & imoveable in testimony whereof I have here unto put my name this 12th day of May 1760. Charles Wattleworth

Witnesses present at the signing hereof Thos Christian, John Kissag

Jurati apud Ballnahowin in Parochi Germani 12ma die Febry 1762

Cosam Ro Radcliffe
Matths Curghey

18th Novr 1761

David Holmes sworn examined deponeth and saith that he sailed on board the ship called the Charmin from Fanny about twelve months ago last august with Michael Vinch master, whom at sd time also sailed on board of sd ship one Charles Wattleworth son of Charles Wattleworth of Castletown - and having sailed from Guinea came to Gardenloop - where the sd lad Charles Wattleworth went over board in the nighttime - so the sd ship leaving the harbour the very next day, came to Liverpool upon wch another ship came from the sd harbour within a week after of whom we enquired for the sd lad who informed us that one of our hands was found dead in Gardonloop - this deponent further enquired what sort of a fellow was dead and asked the man had he his own hair on who answered that he had the sd man - being well aquainted with our ship crew and often bought bread and beefe from our capt which caused this deponant to believe it must have been the sd Chas Wattleworth was dead by reason there was none other mist from board sd ship at sd time that wear his own hair

David Holme his mk x

At Castletown Novr 18 1761 sworn before us Ro Radcliffe, Matths Curghey

At a chapter court holden in Castletown 16th
June 1762 the exrs being under age Wm Farrant husband of Catharine their aunt & Robt Wattleworth [] under age sworn exrs in trust & supervisor of the sd orphans as also to bring to the registry a true & perfect inventory of the testator's effects The said orphans goods are also committed unto them - they are also sworn for the payment of debts & legacies - for all which ends they have given pledges mr Robt Bridson of Castletown & John Quinney of cas ny hawin in kk Malew
probatum est
Ro Radcliffe
Matths Curghey
solvit 12d

Attachment 4 – The Unattached

In the Douglas district, babies were born to Mylreas who were not necessarily locals, but for whom no other information – family ties – can be found:

CHILD	FATHER	MOTHER	YEAR	“HOME”
Mary Mylroie	Thomas Mylroie	Isabel Cottier	1803	Lonan?
John Mylrea/Quirk	John Quirk	Eleanor Mylrea	1804	(illegitimate?)
James Mylrea	James Mylrea ⁹⁶	Jane Kelly	1808	Lonan?
Jane Mylrea	Thomas Mylrea	Margaret Cowell ⁹⁷	1810	
Catherine Mylrea	John Kelly	Esther Mylrea ⁹⁸	1825	(illegitimate) Patrick
George John Mylrea	John Hughes	Catherine Mylrea ⁹⁹	1843	(illegitimate) Braddan
John OR James	James Mybrea (shoemaker)	Margaret Kewley	1843	Lonan?
George Christian	Robert Mylrea (farmer)	Eliza Killip	1856	Lonan?

A strong indication that Douglas was no longer a small town with a handful of local families and a few visitors is the number of Mylrea weddings that took place for which no family connections can be found. Even after 1850, when the names of the bridal pair’s fathers were recorded, it has not always been possible to find their Mylrea link. Moreover, after census collections began on the Isle of Man in 1841, some of these couples were not recorded on the island, suggesting that they had migrated to other parts of the world; or left the island to make their home in their spouse’s country (eg Ireland - Barnett O’Reilley? - or England).

DATE	MYLREA	OTHER	PARENT
1748	Margaret Mylroiy	Thomas Cottier	
1802	Elizabeth Mylrea	John Prince	-
1804	Margaret Mylrea	Charles Gell	-
1822	Eleanor Mylrea	John Cowle (widower)	William Mylrea & Jane Hall?? B 1800, Santon?? (Eleanor died 1822)-
1835	William Mylrin	Elizabeth Joughin	

⁹⁶ The hazards of transcription? James GILLRAY m Jane Kelly 29th February, 1808 Douglas

⁹⁷ Could this be Thomas Mylrea and Margaret COWIN? They were married in 1809,

⁹⁸ Esther had an illegitimate child, Edward, in 1815 in Patrick. Father William Kennaugh. She married (widower) William Kelly in Patrick in 1818, and had a child Christian Kelly 1819, father William Kelly. Father of Catherine Kelly b1824 was JOHN but this might have been a clerical/transcription error?

⁹⁹ Catherine Mylna m Thomas Parker 1844 Braddan (d/o William & Jane Kewley)

1837	Mary Mylsin	Barnett O'Reilly	-
1838	Ann Mylria	John Craine	-
1842	Ann Mylrea	William Kenna	-
1843	Mary Mylna	Thomas Cooke	-
1843	William Mylna	Elizabeth Emmitt	-
1847	MaryMyrea	Thomas Smyth	-
1848	MargaretMybrea	John Craine (widower)	Living Ramsey
1849	William Mylrea	Sarah Kelly	Back Strand St (address)

Another indication of the increasingly complex community that Douglas was becoming is the list of Mylreas who seemed to have no birth or marriage anywhere on the Isle of Man, but who were buried in Douglas or surrounding parishes:

Onchan	
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Braddan	
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<i>buried</i>	<i>born</i>	<i>age</i>		
1803			William Mylrea	Porter
1806			Jane Cain als Mylrea	
1820			Ann Myloroie	To Lonan
1837	1828	9	Sarah	
1822	c1800	22	Eleanor Cowleals Mylrea	Married 1822; husband a widower
1839	1798		David Mylrea	No baptism: probably of Lonan
1847	1759	88	Elizabeth Mylrea	1841 census: living in Bond St with various people - Bridson, Yates, Reynolds - boarding house/hospital?? Widow of Charles Mylrea, Malew?
1848	1784	64	Elizabeth Mylrea	No census -
1849	1809	40	William Mylrea	Ostler - s/o William & Jane Kewley? h/o Elizabeth Emmett
1850	1850	1	Hannah Mylrea	Back Strand St, d/o William & Sarah Kelly m1849
1851	1769	82	Mary Mylrea	No census
1856	1806	50	Elizabeth Mylrea	No census
1866	1792	74	Esther Mylrea (MYLVEA)	Als Lannaghyn, Widow of Thomas, the ropemaker? M 1837 Braddan; already a widow with daughter named Esther about 10 years of age

Attachment 5 - Known Addresses for Mylrea families

<i>South side of the Harbour</i>	Braddan	Date	Source
SOUTH QUAY	Sarah, d/o William jnr & Jane (Kewley)	1832 25yrs	Newspaper
	William snr, h/o Jane Kewley	1838 58 yrs	Newspaper
	William (ostler)	1849 40 yrs	Newspaper

<i>North side of the Harbour</i>	Conchan, Douglas	Date	Source
SAND ST/ STRAND ST	Widow Mylrea (had to be Jane Taggart)	1818 65 yrs	Newspaper
	Elizabeth (Clague), w/o William	1834 63 yrs	Newspaper
	Jane (Taggart), w/o William snr death	1835 85 yrs	Newspaper
	Thomas & Ann (Cannon)	1838	Newspaper
SENNA RD	Thomas & Ann (Cannon) & family (publican, gardener)	1841	Census
Back STRAND ST	Hannah, d/o William & Sarah Kelly death	1850 1 yr	Newspaper
CATTLEMARKET ST	Philip & Jane (Moore) & family (stone mason)	1841	Census
FACTORY LANE	Thomas & Elizabeth (Cowin) Tailor	1841	Census
ATHOLL CRT	Ann d/o Thomas & Margaret (Cowin)?	1841 b 1823	Census
WOODBURN TCE	Catherine d/o John Kelly & Esther Mylrea?	1841 b 1826	Census
QUEEN ST	Margaret & family (from Lonan)	1841	Census
NEW BOND ST	Mary Mylrea & family (publican)	1841	Census
BOND ST	Elizabeth (uk)	1841	Census
BOND ST Lane	Esther (widow of Thomas the ropemaker)	b c1763 b c 1796	Census