

The
MYLREAs
of
DOUGLAS
&
District

1600-1900



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

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A BOUT 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 accounts of these Mylrea families/clans, partly to celebrate their lives but also to look for the links that might bind them together. Their 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 narratives can be found there:

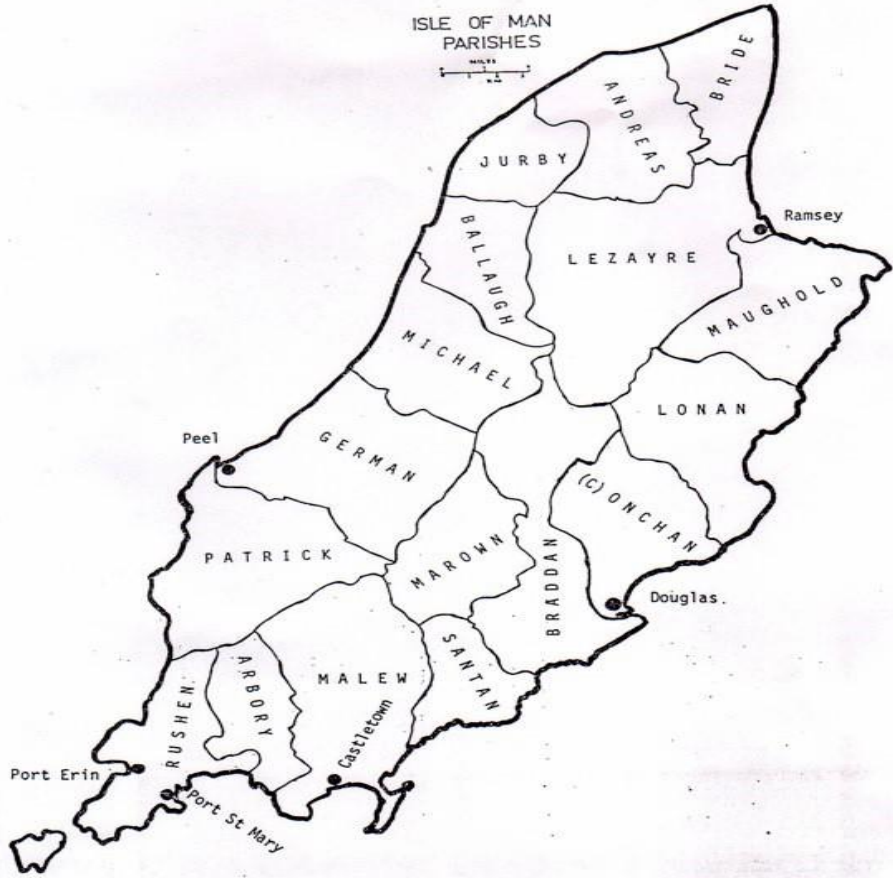
- Early Mylreas in KK Michael 1500-1700
- William M cylrea (Ballough) 1627-1692
- The Fatally Flawed Family of *Fildraw* 1600-1800
- The Mylreas of Douglas & District 1600-1900
- Fathers & Sons: One Mylroie Clan (Lonan) 1653-1900
- Edward Mylrea snr (Lonan) 1743-1784
- Nicholas Mylrea jnr, Farmer (Ballough) 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 in earlier times were a disparate group, quite unlike their counterparts in other parishes on the island. Some became "locals" in the 1600s – there were none detected before then - while others were immigrants starting afresh away from their ancestral roots as Douglas prospered. Most were urban dwellers, suggesting that their occupations might have been as mariners or merchants, and not tied to the land as those in other parishes tended to be.

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.

¹ Publisher: <http://www.lulu.com>

ISLE OF MAN
PARISHES



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17th Century

The prevailing economy of the Isle of Man in the 17th century would best be described as static and largely agrarian. The town of Douglas, on the other hand, was one of the island's four seaports, and attracted many who were involved in port activity, Manx as well as foreign. This was the urban setting of Onchan (Conchan) a network of service providers such as blacksmiths, glovers, shop keepers and publicans had established themselves, most likely to benefit from the thriving port traffic. The Mylreas of Douglas and the surrounding district were almost exclusively urban dwellers and probably fell into both categories – ie. mariners and merchants - although in the early days, occupations were rarely noted anywhere.

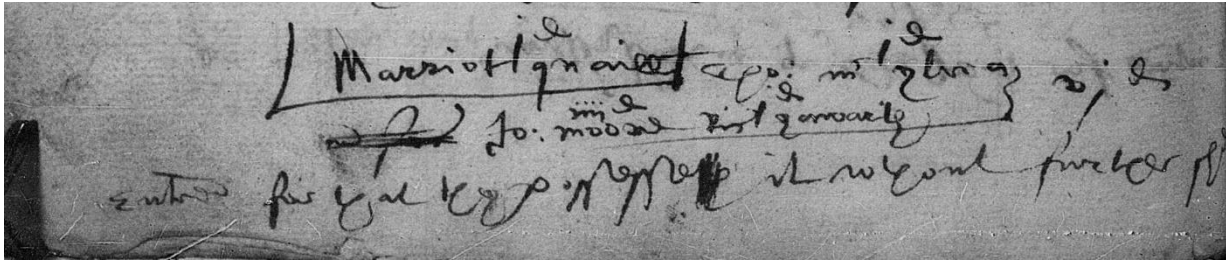
Early Residents

The first Mylrea documented in Douglas is found in the land records for 1600 when a Thomas Mylrea became a Firm Vast tenant, paying 3d for the privilege. Firm Vast was common land, not allocated to a specific tenant but with a limited number of tenancies (licenses to keep stock there) so that overgrazing did not occur. Over the next two decades, Thomas's 3d tenancy was sporadic, with him passing it to Richard Christian in 1601, acquiring it again in 1606 this time from Robert Caren, then passing it to Gilbert Garrett in 1607, only to get it back from Garrett the following year.

Thomas eventually surrendered his Firm Vast holding in 1618. His reason for relinquishing the tenancy several times might have been that he no longer had a cow to graze or perhaps he was absent from Douglas altogether – say if he was a mariner and away from the Isle of Man for a protracted period of time. Supporting the suggestion that Thomas might have been a mariner was that he never held either Intack or Quarterland which, had he been inclined to farming, would have been his next logical move.

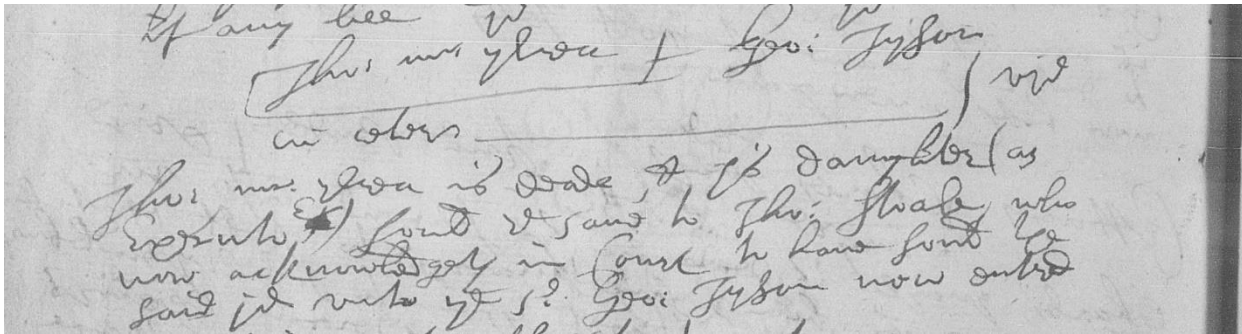
Giving up his Firm Vast tenancy did not mean Thomas had left Douglas. Instead, in 1604, four years after he took up the Firm Vast holding for the first time, he purchased a small tenancy on a Douglas cottage allotment near the seashore². This tenancy in Douglas was for a 1d part of a 6d allotment, sharing the space with John Moore (4d) and Richard Howarth (1d). He had acquired his share from Marriot Quail, the previous tenant with Moore and Howarth.

² See Attachment 1: LA Entries for Mylrea in Douglas



Thomas was a constant on the cottage allotment (numbered #76 in the list of entries – Liber Assedationis) from 1604 to 1661. This lengthy period of time strongly implies again that he was not a farmer.

Liber Vastarum for 1661 records that Thomas had died and that his daughter had sold her father's id cottage tenancy, stating that it was now in the possession of George Tyson. Tyson remained as tenant there for another 40 years.



Thomas Mylrea must have been in his 80s by the time he died, but unfortunately nothing more is recorded to depict his life – no marriage, no death, no children. He most likely originated in Michael, a parish on the other side of the island, given the large number of Mylreas there in the 1500s and early 1600s³.

Thomas was not the only Mylrea in Douglas during the first half of the 1600s. Because his daughter sold his cottage tenancy, the Mylreas who came later could not have been Thomas's sons. Nevertheless, Thomas had his contemporaries or, at least, was in the company of a couple of (potentially) younger Mylrea men:

- In 1625, a John Mc yloy became a 3d tenant on the Douglas Firm Vast⁴, passed it to William Gellin in 1627 who passed it to Robert Ylroy⁵ in 1628. A coincidence of names perhaps? John was not recorded again, unless he was the father of the three daughters Katherine, Isabel and Ann who compounded another cottage allotment in 1643
- In 1627, 1628 (twice), and 1630, Robert Ylroy was fined 6d for drawing blood (fighting?). He surrendered his 3d tenancy in 1635, eight years after he acquired it and was never recorded again in Douglas

³ [Early Mylreas in Michael 1500-1700](#)

⁴ From Pat Cayne, LV 1625

⁵ His children? Braddan - 1627 Baptism: Margaret Ine Rea d/o Robert; 1631 William Molleray s/o Robert

- A John Maylora was the father of daughters Katherine, Isabel and Ann, all of whom are mentioned over a 50-year period 1643-1691 in the land records, when tenants were periodically required to “compound” their claim to lease their land. Nothing more substantial is known about this little family, except that Ann, probably the youngest, died in 1680/1, by which time her two sisters had already died. It is not impossible that this John was the individual who tenanted Firm Vast between 1625 and 1628.

1643	1650s	1679	1691
<u>Katherine Ine Illerea</u> for 1d cottage for the lives of the said Katherine, and of Ann & Isabel her sisters (3d)	John Maylora holds certain cottage in Douglas for the lives of the said <u>Kathrine</u> and of Ann and Isabel her sisters payed fine 4d and rent 1d	<u>Kath ylrea</u> for a 1d cottage. Lives of Ann her sister only alive (4d) <i>(An Quaile als Malleray buried January 1680/1)</i>	<u>Katherine ine Illerea</u> expired -

As the second half of the 17th century dawned, Hen Mc ylroy appeared on the Douglas landscape. In 1651, he acquired two tenancies, for parts (3d & 1d) of two cottage allotments (#60 and #90)⁶ respectively ⁷ and in each case the vendor was Nich Connoree. Hen was soon joined by John Mc ylvorrey on both allotments - perhaps they were brothers or a father and son, or maybe no relation at all. Hen’s surname remained reasonably constant over the ensuing decades, mostly recorded as Mc Ylroy, while John’s was usually Mc Ylvorrey. However, from the 1670s, Hen’s surname too was recorded as Mc Ylvorrey⁸, which adds to the mystery of whether they were Mylreas or Mc Ylvorreys, and also whether they were related.

Triangulation

The Isle of Man has a rich array of resources to inform the family historian⁹. Weaving together information from various sources takes research well beyond the more traditional approach of Birth, Marriage and Death dates. So far as the Mylreas are concerned, there is little correspondence between land records, parish records and other document collections (eg wills) of the 17th century.

- Thomas Mc ylrea the early tenant on Firm Vast and Douglas cottage allotment #76 until 1661 never made an appearance in the parish registers, and nor did he leave a will – or at least, those records have not survived.
- Robert Mallirea who died in 1624 in Braddan could not have been the Robert Mc ylroy who held a Firm Vast tenancy in the late 1620s.

⁶ The numbering of allotments is derived from the ordering of entries in the LA. Over time, these numbers changed somewhat as allotments were subdivided. But the numbers did not differ greatly eg. #60 became 59, then 57, then 62 over the course of fifty years.

⁷ LV 1651

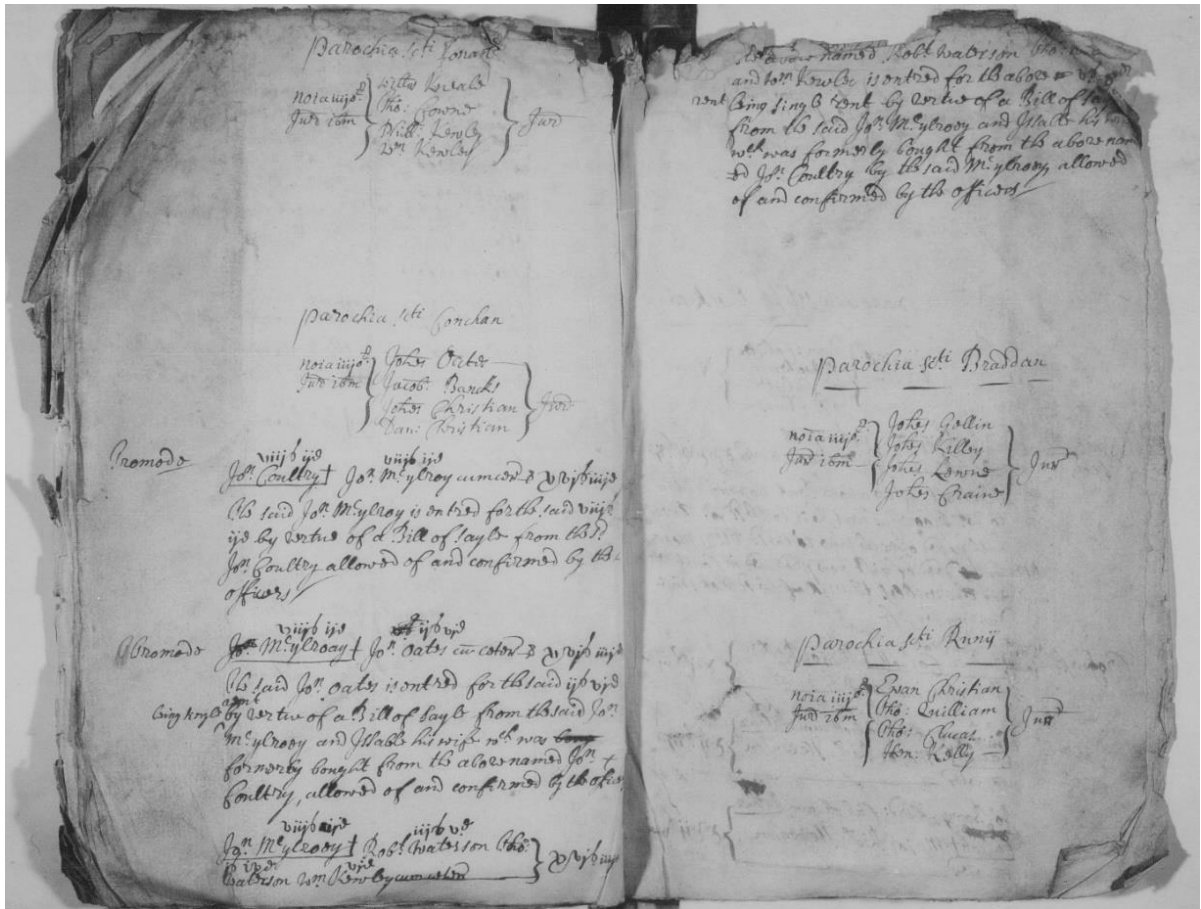
⁸ See Attachment 1

⁹ See Attachment 2: Manx Resources

- John Mc Lerye who was buried in 1656 and who also left a will might have been the Firm Vast tenant in early Douglas, but he was not the father of Katherine, Isabel and Ann (they were not mentioned in his will), and was definitely not the co-tenant with Henry on Douglas cottage allotments from the 1650s onwards - although perhaps Hen and John the co-tenants were his sons, given the information in his will ?

On the other hand, the various sources converge occasionally to suggest a story, at least partially, of a single family:

- **land records** show Jon Mc yloy was briefly a tenant on **Tremode** treen¹⁰, just south of Douglas, along with John Kewley and Robert Waterson. In 1698, Jon & wife Issable purchased half a quarterland tenancy 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)¹¹. Manorial Rolls (LA) 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, he had actually sold the holding. John did not compose for the lands in 1704 and by 1706, the Mc yloy name was no longer entered in LA.



LV 1698 showing John Mc yloy as a Tremode tenant

- **parish records** show a Margrett Mallereay daughter of Jo(hn) baptised 1681, Robert Mollereigh 1684 (father Jo), Jony Mollereigh baptised 1685/6 (father Jo), William

¹⁰ Lib Assed 1702

¹¹ Lib Vast 1698

Mallereigh (father John) in 1690, and Issabel Mallerey (father Jo) baptised 1693. Burial records show a Robert, son of Jo, died in 1684. These children – Margrett, Robert, Jony, William and Issable- could have been siblings, and the offspring of the **Tremode** Mc yloy.

- **will** for Isabel Mc yloy als Joyn who was buried in Braddan January 27, 1713, made bequests to her children Isabel, Margaret (Brew)¹² and William, and designated her husband John as executor of her will. A second earlier **will**, in 1689, was for a woman (Margaret Crellin als Tear) who had grandchildren Margaret & Jony Maclereigh, and a daughter Isabel Maclereigh¹³. Was she the mother-in-law of the **Tremode** John Mc yloy¹⁴?

A third **will** might point to John's fate. A John Mc yloy died in 1731, nominating his wife Margaret and his daughter Isabel (married to Robert Killey) as his legatees¹⁵. Could this John Mc yloy have been the husband of Isabel who died in 1713, and married a second wife named Margaret? Or were there two John Mylreas with daughters named Isabel in Braddan at much the same time??? One of his bequests referred to "lime burned and unburned" giving a clue to his occupation.

When combined, these three collections – the land records, parish records and wills – probably reveal a Mylrea family in rural Onchan in the mid to late 1600s, and early 1700s. Headed by Jon and Isabel, and with three surviving children, the family was lost to posterity because Jon did not leave a will, did not occupy land or cottage in the parish after 1702, and none of his children had confirmed marriages or burials. Isabel's surname Joyn (Joyner?) points to her being a native of Onchan where the Joyners were concentrated. John's Mc yloy's family is uncertain, although he was probably born in the 1650s, when there were significant numbers of Mylreas in Michael and a growing number in Ballaugh.

In sum, the earliest and most enduring Mylreas to be documented in Douglas were Thomas, who was there from 1600 for about 60 years, and a generation later, Hen and John, who paid rent on two cottage allotments from 1650 onwards. No obvious relationship existed between these three men although in a generational sense, Hen and John could have been Thomas's grandsons. There were others, as collections reveal, but who they were, and how long they were in Douglas, is lost to posterity.

Skip forward to the early 1700s, and the work of Nigel Crowe sheds light on the occupiers of the three Mylrea cottage allotments (ie. the ones Thomas, Hen and John tenanted). Crowe mapped the allotments as they were in 1705 onto a graphic depiction of the town's terrain to show that Thomas's allotment was near the sea front while the allotments of Hen and John were some distance away, almost contiguous, and lying along the harbour

¹² No record of this marriage survives

¹³ Will Summaries. A Manx Note Book

¹⁴ 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

¹⁵ Isabel Mcyloy & Robert Killey had children John 1723, Isabel 1725, Jane 1735 (Ballaquayle); 1751-1 A 6 KILLEY Robert dated 19 Mar 1750/1; ch John, Robt, Philip, Isable, Elinor + Jane (last 3 jt exexs)

foreshore. In today's terms, these latter allotments were west of where the ferry terminal is, and bordered on the east by what is known as Barrack St, but referred to in early documents simply as the Common Street.

Crowe's work implicitly supports the idea of a connection between Hen and John, despite the various surname spellings they enjoyed over the years. He shows that these two allotments – now subdivided into their individual tenancies after a reorganisation of land records - were in the hands of their likely descendants by 1703.

Two Outliers

As well as the tenants of the Douglas cottages, and the **Tremode** resident, were two Mylrea families in the district at the end of the 1600s not connected at all to Thomas, Hen or John:

- **David Mallereigh & Margaret Cowne**¹⁶

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 found in his Articles of Marriage¹⁷. The most promising option for his father was Henry MALLEREAY who died in 1675 and whose will mentions sons, David and John¹⁸, 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 subsequently named his first two children Hen and John. Hen (David's father) was buried in Braddan so 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 two cottage allotments in Douglas from 1651, because if he were one in the same, then David as his son would have inherited the tenancies after his father died in 1675 – but he did not. In the late 1680s and early 1690s, David's name did not appear in any land records for Onchan.

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*"¹⁹. 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 most Manx families. They were evidently in Braddan/Onchan/Douglas for at least a decade after their marriage while their children were born. Later, they were recorded in the northern parish of Maughold, the earliest

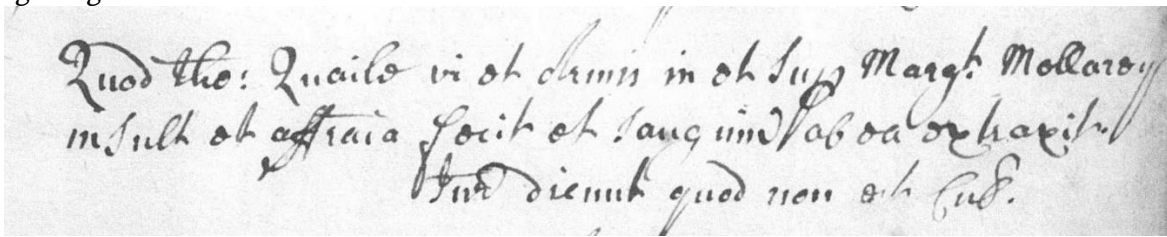
¹⁶ [Fathers & Sons: One Mylroie Clan 1663-1900 \(Lonan\)](#)

¹⁷ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/david-marriage-1680.html>

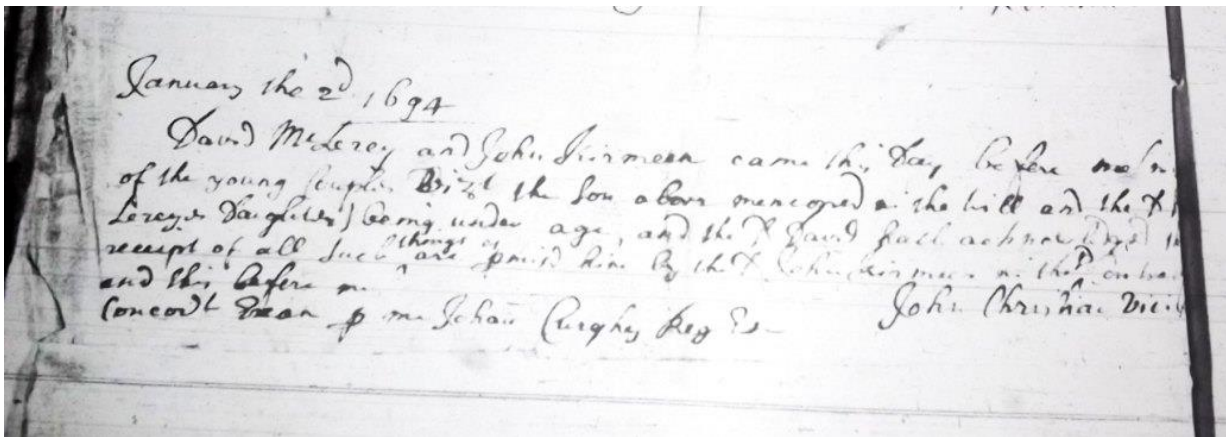
¹⁸ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/henry-1675.html>

¹⁹ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/margaret-cowen-1723.html>

record a Great Enquest hearings when, in 1695, Margaret found herself accused of fighting²⁰:



Later, 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 in Maughold which was heard by the Great Enquest²¹. By then, a David Mc ylroy was living with his son-in-law, William Quayle, husband of Christian Mc ylroy. Christian has no record of baptism nor mentioned in Margaret's will yet her link with David was uncovered in the 1692 will of her prospective mother-in-law.



David and Margaret both died in Lonan. It is unclear when they left Maughold for Lonan although it was after 1709. The land records never showed that David as a tenant in either Maughold or Lonan, yet his 1730 burial record noted "David Molleyrey of Brondal buried March 20". The connection to this location might be their daughter Margaret who married Dan Cowin in Lonan in 1709 (Dan was given the family lands in the treen of **Brondall**) or their son Richard, who purchased half of the Cowin estate in 1717. 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 this is likely the means David harnessed to find his way to that parish.

The surname of this clan gradually morphed into Mylroie, and recent DNA analysis revealed that members of this family have very different profiles to the Mylreas of

²⁰ Book of Pleas

²¹ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/david-enquest-1702.html>

Ballaugh. The Lonan Mylroies are Viking in their origins and the Mylreas are Celtic – so David was not Mylrea at all.

William Mcylrea & Margaret Kinish

The second family with a Mylrea surname belonged to William, who married and had a family in Braddan. Towards the end of the 1600s, he arrived in Douglas from the parish of Michael. He married Margaret Kinish in Braddan in 1690²² and died in 1699, naming four children in his will (although baptismal records for only three can be found) - John (1691)²³, Margaret (1693)²⁴, Ellin (1695), Ann (169*). Ellin's record of baptism noted that the family was from Nunnery Howe, an area to the south of Douglas township, on the other side of the river, which suggests that William might have worked either as a porter, loading and unloading ships on the South Quay, or on the nearby farmland.

William's will mentioned his sister Mary Cannell als Mc ylrea, and through that brief allusion, his family is revealed. He was from the parish of Michael where the baptismal register shows a Catherine (1656), Mary (1659) and William (1663) all children of Hu MACHLERA. Other records show that Mary was married to Ric Cannell who was a tenant on *Ballnarenn*y quarterland in Michael. Mary and her unmarried sister Catherine were buried within days of each other in 1723 and the burial register notes their residence as *Ballnarenn*y. The dots joined the pieces to tell something of William's background.

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 twice more and had three more children. Only two of William's four children were alive by then (John and Ann) according to her 1736 will²⁵; John had apparently left the island in about 1717 and Ann died a spinster in 1738 in her forties²⁶

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

The Foundation Mylreas of Douglas

Evidence from the early 1700s tends to suggest that Hen and John, the two men who were tenants on two Douglas cottage allotments from the 1650s onwards (#60 & #90), were the fathers of three women who later occupied those allotments.

None of these women have parish records for baptism, but a parent in each family left a will of sorts to tell something of their children. The lives of these daughters were entwined which tends to support the assumption that perhaps John and Hen were related:

- **John Mc yloy** was the father to Margaret (Joyner) & Jane (Killey).

²² MACYLAREA

²³ MALLAREAH

²⁴ MOLLERA

²⁵ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/margaret-kinish-1736.html>

²⁶ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/ann-1738.html>

These two daughters were born in the late 1660s-early 1670s, based on the dates of their marriages²⁷. John's fate was never recorded although he was said to have disappeared about 1700, and Court papers dealing with the legacy of his wife, Cath Moore, simply noted that he was presumed dead²⁸. Cath had died in about 1698. Perhaps, if John was a mariner, he drowned at sea, with no word 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.

- **Hen Mc yloy** was the father of Jane (Higgin). Hen married Amy Joyner als Watson, presumably in the late 1670s. For Amy, it was her second marriage, her first husband William Joyner dying in 1674, leaving her with two children, Robert and Alice Joyner. Hen and Amy both died in 1689 within months of each other, only Amy leaving a will²⁹. Daughter, Jane, was under age at the time meaning she had not reached the age of 14 years. Thus Jane (Higgin) was also the half-sister of Robert Joyner, Margaret Mc yloy's husband.

Two of the three husbands were mariners - Robert Joyner was at least a third-generation mariner and he and Philip Higgin were listed as crew on the *Henrietta* in 1712³⁰. Philip was later recorded as the master of the *Prosperous* in the 1720s³¹. The fathers, John and Hen, were also likely to have been mariners although any familial link between the two men has never been established.

²⁷ The 1666, 1679, 1691 Composition books show that there was also a son Rich who was living in Ireland

²⁸ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/catharine-moore-1698.html>

²⁹ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/amey-watson-1689.html>

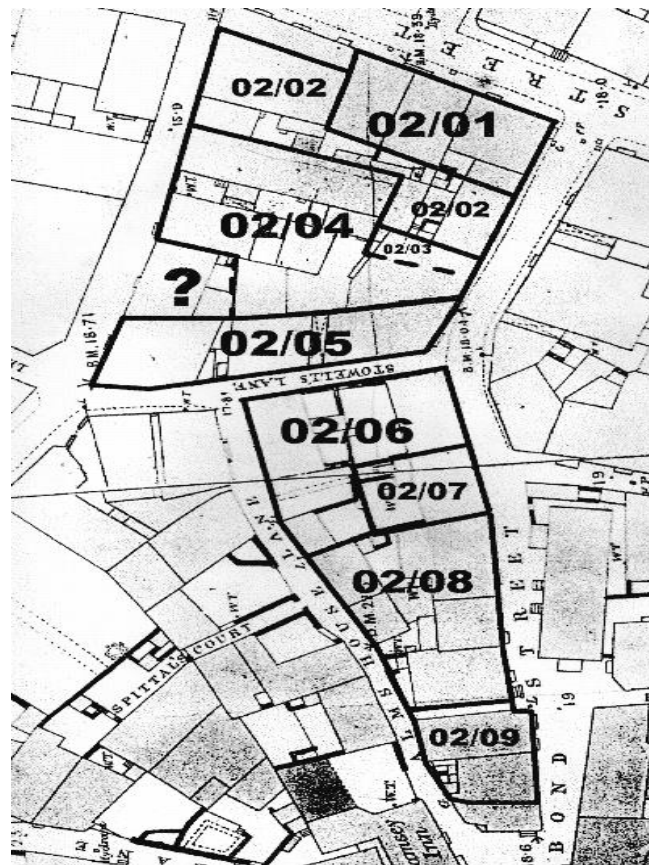
³⁰ Wilkins, Frances. (2000). *2,000 Manx Mariners: An Eighteenth Century Survey*. Wyre Forest Press.

³¹ Wilkins, Frances. (2000). *2,000 Manx Mariners: An Eighteenth Century Survey*. Wyre Forest Press.

18th Century

By the time the new century ticked over, Hen and John were dead and the three Mylrea daughters found newcomers in their midst. David had migrated north with his family, and William was dead, his only son, John, a child who would soon to leave the island. Douglas was starting to flourish, as its functions - residential, market, and military - grew in importance alongside the port facility. The ensuing decades saw the town prosper and, as a result, imposing merchants' houses, large warehouses, quays and a pier were constructed³². Not surprisingly, immigrants arrived in Douglas in search of new opportunities and the prospect of economic success.

Crowe's analysis of Douglas cottage allotments was based on the newly configured land records which occurred as a result of the *Act of Settlement (1704)*. Intended to clarify the rights of tenants in relation to the Lord of Man, their feudal master, the Act led to a wholesale reorganisation of tenant records. For example, Thomas Mc ylrea might have been long gone from Douglas, but his 1d tenancy (#76) was nonetheless identifiable in the records, the allotment now split into its four discrete tenancies. Crowe's graphic shows Thomas's tenancy as 02/03 as well as the three other tenancies of #76 cottage allotment as 02/01 (2d), 02/2 (2d) and 02/05 (1d):

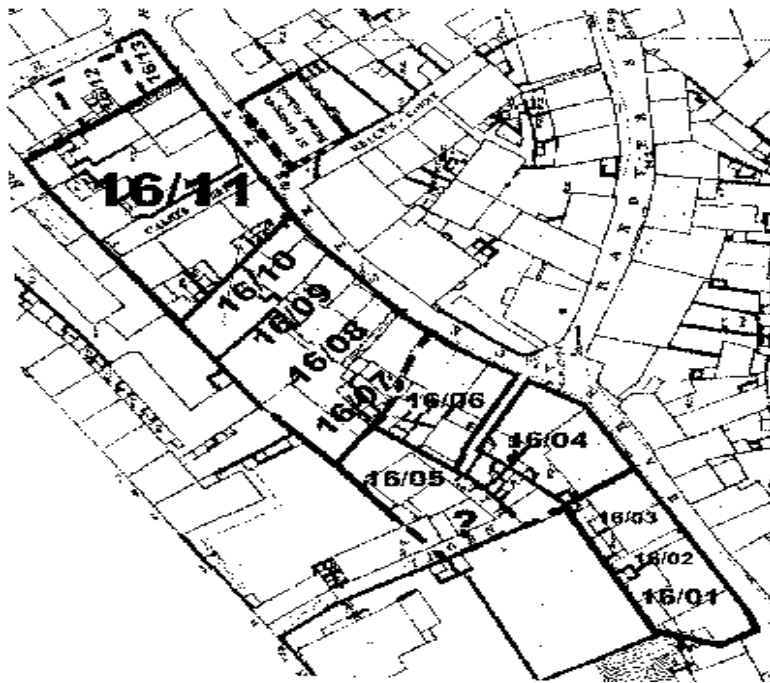


³² Adapted from Wikipedia's material on Douglas

Apart from the practical strategy of breaking multiple tenancies into separate entities, the reorganisation led to the removal of names of individuals long since absent – including Hen and John Mc ylvroy/Mc ylvorrey who had both died. Thus the enumeration of the Mylreas in LA during the 1600s as set out in Attachment 1 does not transition smoothly to the listing of cottages from 1702 (pre-Act) to 1703 (post-Act)³³.

The Mylrea daughters

Crowe’s depiction of cottage allotments in 1705 in Douglas shows the three Mylrea women, (and a Thomas Mylrea) occupying several allotments close to each other, and they were where John and Hen had earlier held #60 and #90. As a consequence of the reorganisation of the land records, the two allotments had been, subdivided. John’s share, he being the majority tenant on both allotments, became 3 separate tenancies, while Hen’s remained as a single holding.



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

No strong evidence supports Crowe’s speculation as to the earlier tenants of these allotments nor to the process of acquisition (inherited, settled) although his assumptions are reasonable, yet problematic in certain instances. No reconciliation of pre-1703 and 1703 tenancies can be found; no LV entries survive for Onchan in 1701, 1705 and 1707, nor is there any document to register the transition of the allotments to the women.

The situation is further clouded because at least two of the women had husbands (Joyner and Higgin) who had previously inherited or purchased tenancies which, under the new

³³ Coakley observes: The Act was agreed c 1702 but took time to get thru the system with final confirmation at 1704 Tynwald by which time the new system was in place

regime, became merged with their wife's under a single cottage allotment. Robert Joyner for example came into an allotment that had been in his family for nearly a century, purchased by his grandfather Robert in 1624, passed on to his son William in 1669, and thence to Amy his widow and the children, Alice and Robert. Whatever he and Margaret enjoyed was collectively labelled cottage #72 in the 1703 LA and then #75.

The distribution of the properties to sisters Margaret and Jane is grossly disproportionate, with Margaret receiving a small garden and Jane 3 houses and 2 gardens.

		<i>Crowe's assertions</i>
05	#75 garden	Possibly inherited by Margaret JOYNER on death of her mother Katherine McKilroy alias Moore (d. c1698) & disappearance of her father John MacKilroy (c1700) [This might be the 1d piece of allotment #17, given to Kath Moore in 1666 by her father Richard Moore]
04	#109 3 houses 2 gardens	Part bought from Robert Karran & Ann Karran alias Moore, 1692 Crowe does not mention the provenance of the third element in this tenancy "a house and garden on the sand side", which Richard Killely purchased in 1686. This allotment might not fit within the boundaries of Douglas which is why it is not mentioned in Crowe's graphic Part inherited by Jane KILLEY on death of her mother Katherine McKilroy alias Moore (d. c1698) & disappearance of her father John MacKilroy (c1700) [This might be the whole of allotment #60, which had a 12d rent as did this newly organized #109]
10	Little house	Assumed to have been inherited by Jane KILLEY from, or settled on her by, her mother Katherine MacKilroy alias Moore (d. c1689), who succeeded her father Richard Moore, 1665 [I don't think this is a correct assumption – the 1d rent acquired by Katherine from her father Richard in 1666 probably went to Margaret since there is a 1d garden in the Joyner holding and the little house held by the Killeys had a 2d rent]
06	#110 Homestead & garden	Inherited by Jane HIGGIN from her father Henry McYlrea (d. 1689) & mother Amy MacYlrea alias Joyner alias Watson (d. 1689) [This might be the whole of allotment #90, which had a 4d rent as did this newly organized #110]

As with their land records, family history of the Manx is, in broad terms, far from straightforward. Not only are parish records incomplete, entries perhaps lost or never made, but also the recurrent use of a particular name over a period of time can confuse, and confound lines of enquiry. In the case of the Douglas Mylreas, there are two such names:

1. **Thomas Mc ylrea**, the tenant on 16/08, has no discernible link with the Mylrea women, yet his allotment lay amongst the women's. According to Crowe, the right of tenancy of the allotment lay with his wife. The name Thomas Mc ylrea has appeared over the 1600s and 1700s, none obviously descended from Thomas Mc ylrea, the first Mylrea recorded in Douglas, and tenant of cottage allotment #76. There was also Thomas Mc ylvorrey, a co-tenant with Hen on the allotments #60 from 1691 to 1702 (without the benefit of an explanatory LV entry), and a decade later, a Thomas Mc ylrea married

Margaret Lewn in 1717 and became demonstrably the founder of an enduring family that continues to this day.

Was it a coincidence that in 1705, Thomas Mc ylrea of 16/08 was paying 3d rent for an allotment listed immediately after Robert Lewn's 6d rent in the LA entries, when had previously been occupied by John and Hen (ie #90). Crowe speculates that it was Thomas's wife Ann who held the right of tenancy, courtesy of her father Gilbert Cain, but Cain's allotment was shared with a Hen Cottier in 1702, was a 6d rent, and in LA entries, was enumerated a considerable distance from that of John and Hen. Indeed, Thomas, with his wife and daughters, compounded the cottage in 1703/4:

Thomas Mollroy and Ann his wife and her children for a small house rent 3d not compounded fine 6d

Whatever the provenance of the allotment occupied by Thomas, when he died in 1717, he bequeathed his tenant's right to his wife Ann and step-daughter Jony, both of whom immediately passed that right on to Henry Caine, the husband of Thomas's older step-daughter, Ellinor. So it is reasonable to assume that he had no children of his own who could assert a tenant's right, similar to the situation in 1661 when the daughter of an earlier Thomas Mc ylrea sold her father's allotment (#76).

2. Like Thomas Mc ylrea, the name **Katherine Moore** recurs in the tale of the Mylrea clan/s of Douglas:

- co-tenant with Hen and John on cottage allotment #60 from 1674 -1702 was Kath Moore³⁴;
- Kath Moore was given a 1d rent by her father Richard in 1666, after he sold the remainder to John Cowne ³⁵; he had purchased the tenancy (#17) in 1645
- Kath Bridson als Moore was a co-tenant on cottage #76 in 1691 (Thomas's from 1600-1661)
- mother of Margaret and Jane was Catharine Moore;
- Richard Killey, husband of Jane Mc yloy, compounded a cottage allotment and intact land in 1703, averring:

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 00:03:00³⁶

In the 1643 composition, Kath nominated herself, her son John, and James Moore, the son of Phil as the obligatory three lives. Over 30 years later, the 1679 Composition Book records that "now Phill Moore & [Phill?] Xpin, lives James Moore son of Phill Moore of Douglas." In other words, both Kath Moore and her son John were 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, John, dead by 1679, have been their father if their mother's 1741 court hearing is to be relied on.

³⁴ Her right was purchased in 1773 from Robert Quaile (LV 1673)

³⁵ (total rent 4s 9d, #16 in 1684)

³⁶ KK Conchan - 1703/4 Composition Book - Douglas Cottages

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

It would seem that the right of tenancy descended through the Moore family although it is not clear how Jane (Killey) was related, except that her mother was Cath Moore.

Caveats warning of lack of certainty, due to missing records in the 1600s, and the absence of an account of reconciliation between 1702 and 1703 land records, mean that the absolute links between the three Mylrea women have not been established. But the 1700s brought an era of much better documentation to the Isle of Man, and to Douglas in particular. The stories of the three daughters are elaborated below:

Margaret Mc ylroy & Robert Joyner

Oldest of the three Mylrea women, Margaret MALLEREIGH married Robert Joyner 3rd November 1685 in Braddan, which would suggest she was born in the 1660s. The couple had three children: Margaret (1686), Charles (c1693), Emma³⁷ (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, the names of his nominated siblings and the family's maritime tradition, 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 1669^{38, 39}. Margaret also enjoyed a legacy of a 1d garden from her parents John and Cath⁴⁰. Robert Joyner inherited what became known as cottage allotment #75 (also numbered #72 and #74 in previous LA), 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=1d), 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 both 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.

The fate of their third surviving child, Emmy/Amy is not clear. She was 29 when her mother died, leaving Emmy her part of the house and garden "*in case he (Robert) had it to spare*" so either Emmy 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 Mc Claire, and a search of the marriage records shows that if Emma married, it must have taken place off-island.

³⁷ This name might actually be Amy, the name of Robert's mother

³⁸ http://www.mannincloud.info/docs/1660-64_Arch_0106200.pdf. p261

³⁹ Attachment 3 – Joyner LA Entries

⁴⁰ 1705 Survey of Douglas allotments [12/15, 13/09, 16/05] Source
<http://www.manxroots.com/dgls/16infram.htm>

Early deaths plagued this Joyner family even though Robert lived until he was about 90:

- (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 children⁴¹
- 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 disappeared
- 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

The Joyner holdings were passed on after son Charles and his wife Joney had died. In 1746, the tenancy rights to about half of #75 that had been gifted to Charles by his parents in 1727 went to their children. In 1754, the remaining two children John and Charles jnr sold off part of the allotment #75 to the Kissacks, retaining for themselves only a comparatively small share. 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 ylroy & Richard Killey

Jane was the younger daughter of John Mc ylroy and Cath Moore. She married Richard Killey, a weaver in 1689. Thus, she was most likely 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).

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, probably his staff since Charles was already established as a successful merchant/ shopkeeper. He also married Dorothy Gawn that year.

The Killeys both brough property to their marriage. Richard had purchased a 2d Intack in 1686 described in the 1703 LA as *a house and garden on the sand side*. Jane – perhaps the more “wealthy” partner had the cottage allotment #104 (later #109), which was described in LA as *three houses and two gardens* (rent = 12d), and *another little house* (rent = 1/2d). They sold the 2d rent to Thomas Cannell in 1707⁴², and gifted a house on their 12d rent to their son Charles in 1723⁴³. What remained of the 12d cottage allotment inherited by Jane went to their daughter Esther when Richard Killey died in 1744 and then to Esther’s son Richard Moore in 1762, after her death.

⁴¹ She married Charles Cosnahan 1724 and lived a long and fruitful life

⁴² <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/richard-sale-1707.html>

⁴³ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/richard-gift-1723.html>

Like the Joyners, the Killeys 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 of 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 Scotia⁴⁴.

Charles jnr had initially given the impression that he was following in his father's footsteps. He set about expanding the already valuable property portfolio and business passed on from Charles snr.

Twenty years after the tragic death of Charles snr, the empire of Charles jnr began to collapse. He might have met his financial ruin when in 1760 he purchased back the ¼ share of the Killey tenancies that his half-sister Elizabeth had inherited on the death of Charles snr. In reality, it was Elizabeth's step-father Robert Kennedy who sold the property because Elizabeth had died in 1758. As a child of Charles snr, Elizabeth was entitled to only half of her father's estate, 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 were 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.

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 lands⁴⁵. 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

A letter from George Moore jnr, another brother-in-law, confirmed the fate of the only surviving child of Charles jnr. Writing to his father and dated 18th March 1783, Moore jnr 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.*"⁴⁶.

⁴⁴ MNHLA MS 2860c

⁴⁵ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/charles-killey-1741.html>

⁴⁶ MNHLA MS 2708c

In less than a century, the fates of the two daughters of John Mc Ylroy and Cath Moore (and their descendants) were ruttet – the promise of economic ease, marred by the high number of early deaths of their children. Margaret and Jane both died in the 1720s, aged in their 60s, while their husbands lived to their 90s. After two generations, there were no male heirs to carry on their legacies. By the end of the 1700s, there was nothing left of the tenancies that had been theirs in the first part of the century, and very few of their grandchildren survived. Margaret Joyner, the grand daughter of John and Cath, proved herself the great survivor, dying at the age of 78 years,

JOYNER		Children	KILLEY		Children
Robert?	c1685-1715	None	Charles	1693-1741	Richard Thomas Charles jnr Jane <i>Elizabeth</i>
Margaret (Queeling, Cosnahan)	1686-1764	Robert Richard William Susannah <i>Charles</i> <i>Margaret</i> <i>Frances</i> <i>Ann</i>	Richard	1699- ?	?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 <i>Margaret</i> <i>Catherine</i>

Jane Mc ylroy & Philip Higgin

Jane was the daughter of Hen Mc ylroy 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 1734⁴⁷.

⁴⁷ Philip has no will but William does (yet to be transcribed)

The Higgin family was comfortable. Philip had received Douglas allotments from his father, Thomas, who died in 1700⁴⁸ 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 might have been occupied by John Mcylvorrey and Hen Mcylvorrey from about 1650 onwards – without a reconciliation of the allotments pre-1703, it is impossible to say⁴⁹. Certainly Hen and John were always listed *after* the Lewns pre-1703, and now the Higgin holding is listed *before* the Lewns.

In 1713, Philip and Jane seemed to have “moved up in the world”. They purchased tenancies in cottages #48 and #54, both with considerably higher rents than the inherited allotments #110 and #111. 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 1736⁵⁰. 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 harbour⁵¹. 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 did he receive the bequest from his father, but also 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.

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.

Survey of Douglas Householders 1730

By 1730, when the [Survey of Householders](#) was compiled in Douglas, a marked increase in numbers for the Mylrea clan/s in Douglas was evident. Of the 211 households, about 10 of had Mylrea connections.

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

- * Robert Joyner and Richard Killey (the latter with one child & one servant)
 - + Daughter of Robert Joyner & Margaret Mc ylroy, Charles & Margaret Cosnahan (with six children)
 - + Widowed daughter in law (Jony) of Robert Joyner & Margaret Mcylroy (with four children)
 - + Son of Richard Killey & Jane Mc ylroy, Charles Killey, unmarried, with four servants

⁴⁸ 1705 Survey of Douglas allotments [13/01, 13/13, 16/06] <http://www.manxroots.info/dgls/openme.htm>

⁴⁹ See Attachment 2

⁵⁰ The document seems not to have survived but is mentioned in LV 1743

⁵¹ Wilkins, Frances. (2000). 2,000 Manx Mariners: An Eighteenth Century Survey. Wyre Forest Press.

- * Daughter of Henry Mc yloy & Amy Joyner als Watson, Jane and Philip Higgin with one child
- * Widow of William Mc ylrea (Margaret Kinish)
 - + Daughter 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)

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

Thomas Mc ylrea

The first verifiable record of Thomas is his marriage to Margaret Lewn in 1717 in the town of Douglas on the Isle of Man. His origins might reach back to one of the early Mylreas in Douglas in the 1600s, but there is no evidence to support such a contention. He was probably born in the early 1680s; he married twice; fathered many children; and lived well into his 80s. He was an urban dweller for all of his adult life. Without evidence of a link to a prior Mylrea man, Thomas is arguably the founding father of the Douglas Mylrea clan which was extensive and enduring.

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 who the father of Margaret, Thomas's first wife. What tends to dismiss the "neighbour" theory is that when Thomas Mylroii died in 1717⁵², he did not mention any Mylrea children in his will, only his step-daughter – and after his death, the tenancy of cottage 16/08 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 hailed from Michael, whence at least two other Mylreas had come to Douglas in the late 1600s early 1700s⁵³. A child named Thomas was baptised in 1689, son of William in Michael. And a couple of Mylreas were recorded in Douglas in the late 1600s, early 1800s:

- William who died in 1699 was from Michael, the son of Hugh Mc ylrea, and

⁵² <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/thomas-1717.html>

⁵³ DNA analysis reveals a strong connection with the Irish McElrea clan. This might be a pointer than Thomas's origins were in Michael.

- land records in 1703 and 1717 confirm that Hugh Mc ylrea, a hitherto unrecorded resident of Douglas, also had his origins in Michael. Thomas might have been Hugh's 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. Liber Vastarum 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*⁵⁴ - although it would be unusual for Hugh not to know if his brother was a resident in the same town in 1717, the year he married Margaret Lewn.

What tends to refute the "brother" theory however is

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

Margaret was the first wife of Thomas Mc ylrea. 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.

Both surviving sons of Thomas & Margaret were sea farers. Robert was serving in the British navy, aboard the *Worcester* when he died in about 1750, and Thomas jnr had also been in the *Worcester's* complement in 1744/5. Margaret's father was a glover, and Thomas snr was a weaver so their sons' naval careers were not altogether "on the cards". Thomas might have also been a publican, or a brewer, as a Court Petition in 1729 suggests⁵⁵

We whose names are hereunto subscribed being a Jury of four men Impannald by virtue of the Worshipful Deemster Moor's authority in the suit of Thomas Mylrea of Douglas and sworn by the Coroner of Garrf Sheading to give our Judgments on some ale now in the possession of the said Thomas Mylrea and having tasted and viewed the said Ale or Liquor we do think according to our best skill and Judgments the same is not sufficient and therefore is unfit to be sold by reason it is muddy thick and of a bad colour and unwholesum to be drunk and this we give for our answer in this affair witness our hands this 27th of November 1728

⁵⁴ LV Oct 1717

⁵⁵ Mylrea Thos File Petition 1729, No 28, with thanks to Alison Glenie for the transcription

Jurors	Thomas Christian	X	my mark
	Patrick Kelly	X	my mark
	John Quilling		
	Robert ffail	X	my mark
8 Nov 1728			
Jury hath delivered			
Verdict to Mr Cha Moore			
Depositions taken Nov ye 20 th by us 9 men jurors sworne by virtue of Deemster Moore Taken to view and esteem whether Ale made of Malt sold by Robt Kneen of Kk Bradan to Thom McYlrea of Douglas be marketable or fit to be retailed as follows.			
The sd Thomas McYlrea & his wife sworne and examined say that ye Liquors or Ale wh they shewed to us, partly in a Scole or Dish & partly in a Barrel or Tub (being ye whole Produce of ye sd Malt, viz three halfe firkins) was of or from ye said malt only without any mixture, save only water & Hops & that ye same was brewed as and after ye best meathod they used to brew other malt formerly and managed after brewing as usually they were accustomed to do always with ye like. And further ye said Mylrea's wife declared that at ye boiling of ye wort when she perceived ye poor quality thereof, she sent to ye said Kneen to acquaint him thereof and that he might come to see and carry it away and desired it be put in clean vessels. He came and viewed it. His wife came and saw it ye next day. Upon ye third day Kneen himself came again & agreed or consented to take it away ye day following, desiring Mylrea's wife, this deponent to furnish him with one casque and that he himself would find another, she granted him one, yet he did not performe & further saith not			
	Thos Mcylrea	his mark	X
	Margt Mylrea als Leone	her marke	X
Margt Mcylchreest sworne & examined saith that she was helping at ye Brewing of ye above malt & when ye wort by all could be done towards it, could not be like wort at other times, she this deponent was sent for ye above Kneen, who came & seeing it desired it should be boyled & put in clean vessels & that he could do something in ye matter or words to that effect. Upon Fryday after, he came again & agreed to bring it away as it was, if ye said McyLrea's wife would lend his one casque, he himself having as he said another this he performed not" further she declared that when ye sd Kneen saw ye wort, He said He never said ye like of it. She declares alsoe that all ye usual care was taken in ye said Brewing & of ye wort afterwards & further saith not			
	Margt Mcylchreest	her mark	X

All of the evidence points to second son, Thomas jnr, not remaining on the Isle of Man. In 1849, he was left a Douglas property by his aunt, Ann Harrison als Lewn, which had been in the Lewn family since the late 1600s⁵⁶. 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 allotment⁵⁷ and it was this tenancy that she left equally to her

⁵⁶ The property in question was cottage allotment #112 on (now) Barrack St

⁵⁷ 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

nephew Thomas Mc ylrea jnr and her niece Ann Corlett als Lewn in 1749. Thomas immediately sold his share of his aunt's legacy to his co-executor, cousin Ann Corlett als Lewn⁵⁸, gave half of his share of his mother's part of cottage allotment #112 to his father in 1753⁵⁹, and sold the other half to Paul Quirk in 1756.

In Deeds of Sale for the disposal of the Douglas property, 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.

Having disposed of his entire legacy from the Lewn family, Thomas departed the Isle of Man forever. It is highly likely that he and Mary were already living in Parkgate in Cheshire, not far from the city of Liverpool⁶⁰. This Thomas MULRAY was a mariner who had at least seven children with Mary⁶¹ and after Mary died, another four with Hannah Briscoe whom he married in 1768⁶².

+ Margaret Cowin

After the death of his wife Margaret Lewn in 1738, Thomas Mc ylrea snr married Margaret Cowin, from Lonan. She was the daughter of Philip Cowin and Mary Clague. No entry for the marriage has been found in the parish records, but evidence supports 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. A few months after the gift, Thomas snr and Margaret Cowin sold half of that share to the husband of Ann Corlett als Lewn and the couple then mortgaged that share. When Thomas snr died in 1773, land records show the share still 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

Margaret Cowin was considerably younger than Thomas snr 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

⁵⁸ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/thomas-sale-1749.html>

⁵⁹ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/thomas-thomas-settlement-1753.html>

⁶⁰ 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.

⁶¹ Robert MULRAY (1749) Margrth MULRAY (1751), Thomas MULRAY (1755), John MULRAY (1757), Mary MULRAY (1760), Thomas (1762), Mary (1764), Margaret MULRAY (1766)

⁶² Peggy (1768), Kitty (1771), Robert (1777), Hannah (1780)

world. Their daughter Ann did not marry and lived well into old age, leaving a will that has been a veritable goldmine of family information⁶³. Of the Mylrea children:

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 live⁶⁴
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 several 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	tailor??		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 Ellinor '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	

Several Mylrea men in Douglas were men of the sea. The two sons of Thomas snr were mariners and, in 1765, Hugh Mc ylrea jnr and Philip, a son of Thomas snr, were recorded as “boatmen who transported stones”⁶⁵. With Douglas flourishing at that time, 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.

⁶³ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/ann-1838.html>

⁶⁴ [Edward Mylrea snr 1743-1784](#)

⁶⁵ 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 snr & Margaret (Cowan) 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 Michael⁶⁶, and in 1718, after the death of Cath, Hugh and his wife Margaret sold a cottage in Michael⁶⁷.

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 1703⁶⁸ but did not marry until 1716, when he wed a widow named Margaret Cain als Kinnish. The couple had five children:

- Hugh⁶⁹ 1716
- Cath 1719
- Margaret 1722
- Ann
- John⁷⁰ 1727

Hugh snr was never entered in the Douglas land records of the day. 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?

⁶⁶ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/cathhugh-sale-1703.html>

⁶⁷ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/hugh-sale-1718.html>

⁶⁸ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/cathhugh-sale-1703.html>

⁶⁹ LDS IGI - MYLEREA

⁷⁰ 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*⁷¹.

Ann died a spinster in 1759, and named her two sisters Cath and Margaret in her will, together with her brother Hugh - but not brother John. He was named in his mother's 1739 will when he was about 12 years of age, so presumably in the ensuing 20 years, he had died – perhaps a mariner and drowning at sea.

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. sisters. 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 Croaghan (daus Betty Crohane, Ann Crohane), cousin Thomas Corlet in Castletown

The Marriage register for Braddan⁷² shows the only Margaret Teare who married a Mylrea was the widow (presumably) of Hugh Mylrea jnr. Hugh jnr fell off the Douglas Pier and drowned in 1778 and the marriage of Margaret Mylrea als Teare to William Callister two years later “fits” this family's story. Thus the Margaret Callister in Cath's will was Cath's sister-in-law.

It is unlikely that there were any descendants from this Mylrea clan. Catherine and Anne died as spinsters, Hugh jnr had a son John born 1761, but like most John Mylreas on the Isle of Man, his fate is unknown. Margaret and John had no further records to tell of their lives.

John Mcylwrath& Mary als ??

John Mcylwrath came and went in Douglas a brief window of time. He and wife Mary had two daughters Margaret (b1720) and Rebecca (b1724) in Douglas. 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

⁷¹ Parish Burial Register for Braddan

⁷² Mary married John Croughan in 1744

- 1741 daughter Margaret Mylwrath married Charles Wattleworth 19th April⁷³. 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*"⁷⁴
- 1746 Henry Woods died, declaring that Rebecca Mucklewrath (sic) had had an illegitimate child with him⁷⁵. A baptism record for Hannah, daughter of Woods & Mc Lewrath, in 1746
- 1752 Margaret (transcription error – should be Mary) Mylwrath died in Braddan⁷⁶
- 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 (his uncles William Farrant & Robert Wattleworth) of being dishonest over his father's legacy⁷⁷
- 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

Not included in the Douglas Survey of 1730, perhaps because he was living in rural Onchan, Thomas Mylrea was probably not 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 1730s⁷⁸ and presumably in Braddan. 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.

⁷³ 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 departed to Patrick soon after John's suicide.

⁷⁴ Braddan Parish Register

⁷⁵ 1746-2E d WOODS Henry perished by sea beg Mar 1745/6; mariner late of Liverpool; prin creditor Rebecca Mucklewrath (she having fathered an illeg child on him); pledges Wm Oates (Douglas) + Nichs Bridson (Arbory

⁷⁶ In 1753 states accepted as will of Mary Mcylwrath; Rebecca Mcylwrath claims agnst estate of Mary Mcylwrath and appears to be disputed by Charles

⁷⁷ See Attachment 3 Wattleworth wills

⁷⁸ 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

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 Christian⁷⁹, 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, at first glance, 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 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 1742⁸⁰, 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**⁸¹, 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 Contract⁸², as had the groom's parents gifted their lands in German. The

⁷⁹ [William M cylrea \(Ballaugh\) 1627-1692](#)

⁸⁰ 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

⁸¹ LV Oct 1749 Braddan; May 1752 Braddan,

⁸² <http://www.mylrea.com.au/DEEDS/Isabel-william-marriage.html>

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 German⁸³ 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.

Margaret was the younger daughter of Thomas Mylrea and Margaret Craine of the *Ballacooley* 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 *Ballacooley* 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.

Daniel Mylrea & Leonora Heywood

Perhaps the youngest and latest (and the most memorable) addition to the Mylreas of Douglas was Daniel, who was 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

⁸³ LV May 1761 German

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 from an early age, he was borrowing money, and one of his bankers was John Taubman snr his future business partner. In 1774, he'd borrowed £60/0/0, and months later £12/12/-. By early 1775, those debts ballooned to £220/-/- and two years later to £730/-/- as this page from the Taubman ledger shows⁸⁴. This was an enormous sum of money for a young man of means to have accumulated. Note also that he was not living on the Isle of Man in 1774, but in Ireland.

⁸⁴ Taubman Papers, MNLA MS 09591

39. Mr. Daniel Mylrea of Castlewiller Ireland Dr			
177A	To cash lent as £ . your note pay. £ w th Intrest -	60:0:0	
Feb. 4.	being my bill on Mess ^{rs} W ^m Snell & Comp ^{ys}		
177A	To cash you rec ^d from James Wolensley on my	12:12:0	
Nov.	acco. twelve guineas		
1775	To three bills given you on Mess ^{rs} W ^m Snell		
Apr. 4.	& Comp ^{ys} for £ 220. as £ your note pay.	220:0:0	
	with Intrest		
	3:3. Intrest on the £ 60. to 4 th May 1777. at 5. p ^{er} Cent	9:15:0	
	2:6. Do on the £ 12:12:0 to Do	1:11:3	
	2:1. Do on the £ 220. Do	22:18:4	
1777	Mar. 20. To cash sent £ bill on London - £ 100:0:0		
	0:1:15. Intrest thereon to 4 th May 1777 - 12:6	100:12:6	
Apr. 5.	To cash £ bill - 300:0:0		
	To cash one month Intrest to 5 th May 1777 - 1:5:0	301:5:0	
	To cash on £ bond & security dat. 5 th May 1777 - 1:5:0	303:0:0	
		730:0:0	

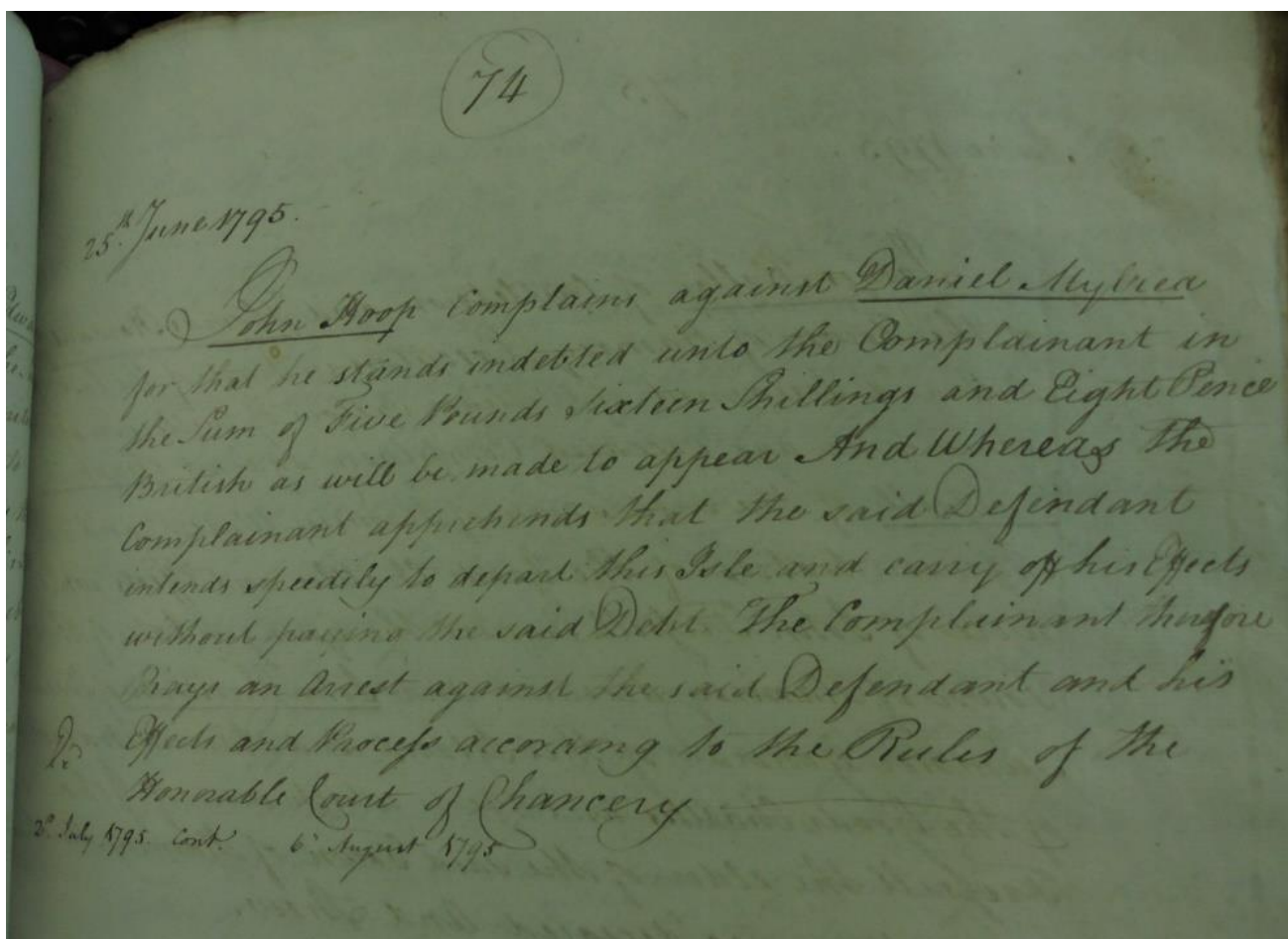
Extract from the ledger of John Taubman snr

Daniel went into business with John Taubman and Robert Heywood, his brother in law, in Douglas. Their partnership too on the development of a herring curing business on the South Quay in Douglas, but within a decade, Daniel had forfeited his share because of debt.

He'd 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. His mother might also have been instrumental in keeping some of his creditors at bay. But his income was never enough, and so he was obliged to join the Manx Fencibles in Peel, the local militia force, in the early 1790s, in order to achieve some level of income. He still held his father's legacy since his mother held an equal share in those properties.

It remains a matter of conjecture as to why Daniel had such difficulty managing money. In the end, he lost everything and left the island in about 1795, owing money to many of the small traders in Douglas⁸⁵.

⁸⁵ Lib Canc 1795 #65, #69, #74,



John Hoop vs Daniel Mylrea, Lib Canc 1795 #74

He left the Isle of Man, never to return. He joined the 42nd Brigade of Foot (the Black Watch) in the UK on 6th September, 1795, as an ensign⁸⁶ and 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 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.

⁸⁶ London Gazette, 9/6/1795

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](#). Daniel had one surviving son, four surviving Mylrea grandsons, and nine surviving great grandsons. None of these descendants returned to the Isle of Man, and only one family of descendants remain, in Australia.

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?	Possible origins
William	John Kewley	Isab Mylroiy	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?	Possible origins
Cath	Jon Moore	1706	1680-1685	d/o Thomas, <i>Ballacooey?? 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?	Possible origins
Ann Mylrea	Thomas Cain Ch: Ann, Thomas, Margaret, Joney = b Malew	1725/6	1700-1705	Malew d/o John Mylrea & Elizabeth Shimmin b1694
Margaret Mylroi	Thomas Cottier	1748	1720	d/o Richard, b1718, Lonan (see his will 1749 ⁸⁷)
Kath Mcylroii	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 or Lonan?? Her will names her as Clarke als Mylroie which suggests Lonan birth

5. Wills

⁸⁷ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/richard-1749.html>

MYLREY Jony als ?? als GELLIN	ch Patrick, Ellin + Isabel Gellin, Jane Mcylroi 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 ⁸⁸	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 ⁸⁹	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 Mcylroy on March 16th 1734/5</i> <i>Esther Kewley b 1726 fa = Gilbert Robert Kewley b1731 fa=Gilbert OR 1716 fa=William</i>
CLAGUE Ellinor als McYLREA ⁹⁰	ch Jane exex, Margt; husb alive; names Cath Clague	d 7 Apr, 1762	<i>d/o Thomas of Ballycooiley Ballaugh? Nelly? b1689</i>
AGER, Ann als MYLREA ⁹¹	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? Buried as Ann Eagar als <u>Myloie</u> which suggests a Lonan origin</i>

⁸⁸ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/ellinor-1731.html>

⁸⁹ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/margaret-corkill-1735.html>

⁹⁰ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/ellinor-1762.html>

⁹¹ <http://www.mylrea.com.au/wills%20collection/margaret-corkill-1735.html>

19th Century

Two hundred years after Thomas Mylrea was recorded as a tenant on a Farm Vast in Douglas, several Mylrea families had come and gone. Many died, some migrated, and several left no mark to tell of their fate. 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, a child who was baptised in 1781.

Known "facts" about this Douglas family are:

- * Thomas was born 1770-1780 in Ballaugh⁹²
- * He worked as a gardener/labourer⁹³
- * Ann was born about 1781 in Conchan (Douglas)⁹⁴
- * 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 Louisa⁹⁵ in 1835⁹⁶; Catherine⁹⁷ 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
- * 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

⁹² 1841 (UEGLIEA), 1851 census

⁹³ 1841, 1851 census

⁹⁴ 1841 census

⁹⁵ Louisa married John Kennah in 1859 in the UK. She had a large family and died in 1895

⁹⁶ 1841 census (UEGLIEA)

⁹⁷ George's baptism record (Catherine MULREA)

- * Thomas died 1851-1861⁹⁸
- * 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 renewed⁹⁹

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 is 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.

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 also from Ballaugh where his family's origins were firmly rooted at *Ballacooiley*, the estate long held by the "farmer" Mylreas of the parish. Thomas Mylrea who married Ann Cannon might have been his uncle. 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 which he did as a shoemaker. 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.

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 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. His grandfather was the third son of William Mylrea & Catherine Cowle of *Ballacooiley* and

⁹⁸ 1861 census

⁹⁹ Manx Liberal, 1 Dec 1838, p3

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

This was the next generation of a dynasty that began in the late 1730s when Thomas Mylrea Marriage second wife Margaret Cowin, and had seven children. The records show that they had eight surviving grandsons, sons of Philip (2), Edward (3), and William (3) – or rather the registers do not record their deaths in infancy. And about 13 grandsons to carry the Mylrea name forward.

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 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.

- 3. William Mylrea (& Ann Fargher, Ann Cowley als Gillins)**

William remained in Lonan, where he became a publican. He had two sons, Thomas and William. Thomas migrated to the USA in the 1840s where their name morphed into Millrea. There were four sons in the family. William remained in Lonan, working as a hatter, and having two sons, neither of whom married.

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.

1. **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, an infant born in 1773.

2. **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 *Ballaoates* 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 Wyllin in 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](#).

3. **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. John James did not marry, and the life of their older son, Philip jnr, was blighted with tragedy. Philip jnr had a large family of 9 children although all but two children died in infancy. The remaining two and his wife died, and he migrated to New Zealand. He lived in the Otago district for many years where he died of a heart attack in 1878 during a flood near his home. He was 59 years of age. After what might have been several centuries in Douglas, the chain of descent had come to an end for this particular line of Mylreas.

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)¹⁰⁰, 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 (Myloie)¹⁰¹

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 Myloie, 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 Myloie family estate of *Close Moar*. However, after his father's demise, the family 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. The *Close Moar* estate remained in Thomas's hands, then passed to his only son Joseph and then to one of his sisters after Joseph died.

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.

¹⁰⁰ There'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

¹⁰¹ See [Fathers & Sons: One Myloie Clan in Lonan](#)

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)

Their children

Edward Mylrea	Eleanor Curphey	1822
	James Wilson	
Margaret Mylrea	(widower)	1834
Jane Mzlred	William Moore	1838

Thomas & Elizabeth (Cowin)

Their children

John	Jane Cain	1844
John (widower)	Jane Allen	1848

William & Jane (Taggart)

Their son

Philip Mylrea	Jane Moore	1818
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Philip & Jane (Moore)

Their daughter

Jane Mylna	Thomas Horridge OR	1844
	John Thompson	1846

William & Jane (Kewley)

Their daughter

Catherine Mylman	Thomas Parker	1844
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Thomas & Margaret (Cowin)

Their children

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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i. 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
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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 Faragher, 8 Falcon St

<i>died</i>	<i>born</i>	<i>age</i>		
1885	1884	1	Alice Eleanor Mylroi	Lonan Mylroie family, d/o William Edward Mylrea & Eleanor Christian Faragher
1894	1886	6	Walter Mylroie	Lonan Mylroie family, d/o William Edward Mylrea & Eleanor Christian Faragher
1895	1892	3	Eleanor Mylroie	Lonan Mylroie family, d/o William Edward Mylrea & Eleanor Christian Faragher
1896	1892	4	Agnes Mylroie	Lonan Mylroie 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 ¹⁰²
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?

¹⁰² Ballaugh marriage John Mylrea & Elinor Cowle 1805? Is this them? Burial was in Braddan

The Visitors

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

		<i>Mylrea parents</i>	<i>Parish</i>
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 Halsa	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 ¹⁰³	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 ¹⁰⁴
William	Robert Cardy Hunt	Eleanor Mylrea ¹⁰⁵	1834
Joseph	(gardener)	Margaret Mylrea	1842

- Charles & Margaret married 1804 Braddan
- Might be Margaret, d/o Thomas Mylrea & Margaret Cowin whose daughter married Charles Gale

¹⁰³ Both of these young people were dead within two years of marriage, Eleanor in 1878 & Thomas in 1880

¹⁰⁴ The 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.

¹⁰⁵ Married in Malew 1819

- Dissenters

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

- *James was located in a House of Industry in 1851*
- *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

- *Sarah is in the 1861 & 1861 census collections, living with her mother*
- *Hypothesis is that her father was John (a) son of Thomas Mylrea & Ann Cannon OR (b) son of William Mylrea & Jane Kewley*
- *God parent was James Laneghan (cf Thomas Mylrea & Esther Laneghan m1837)*

Attachment 1 – Mylrea LA entries in Douglas

1. THOMAS

YEAR	#	Rent	Tenant	Tenant	Tenant	Tenant	Tenant
1605-1606		6d	Thomas Mc ylrea id	John Moore 4d		Richard Howarth id	
1607-1619		6d	Thomas Mc ylrea id	Thomas Dawson 4d		Ric Howarth id	
1620-1628	76	6d	Thomas	Thomas Dawson 2d	George Stanley 2d	Arthur Caesar id	
1629-1630	77	6d	Thomas	Charles Quayle 2d	George Stanley 2d	Ewan Christian 1/2d	Jane Carbury/ Stanley/Sainbury Shurbery 1/2d
1631-1634	79	6d	Thomas	Carrol? Quayle 2d	George Stanley 2d	Ewan Christian 1/2d	Jane Carbury 1/2d
1635-1645	78	6d	Thomas	Carroll?? Or Charles Quayle 2d	George Stanley 2d	Ewan Christian 1/2d	Ewan Christian 1/2d (LV 1634)
1646-1661	76	6d	Thomas	Charles Quayle 2d	Jane Stanley, wife & executor John Stanley 2d (LV1645)	Ewan Christian id	
1662-69		6d	Geo Tyson ¹⁰⁶ (LV1661)	Charles Quayle 2d	Jane Stanley d wife & executor John Stanley 2d	Ewan Christian id	
1670-78	76	6d	Geo Tyson	Charles Quayle 2d	Jane Stanley wife & executor John Stanley 2d	Arthur Brewe id (LV 1669)	
1679-1686		6d	Geo Tyson	Charles Quayle 2d	Jane Stanley wife & executor John Stanley 2d	Charles Bridson id (LV 1678)	
1687-1689 (-90)		6d	Geo Tyson	Charles Quayle 2d	Robert Key 2d (LV1686)	Charles Bridson id	
1691 (-93) - 1696	76	6d	Geo Tyson	Charles Quayle 2d	Ro Key 2d	Cathn Bridson id (LV??) ¹⁰⁷	** Kath Moore als Bridson?
1697 (-00) - ??		6d	Geo Tyson	Charles Quayle 2d	Ro Key 2d	Kath Bridson id	
1702	76	6d	Geo Tyson	Charles Quayle 2d	Ro Key 2d	Kath Bridson id	

Nigel Crow's 2003 analysis of cottage #76 tenants after 1705

¹⁰⁶ Did George Tyson died 1662? Wife Ellin died 1674??? Only burials, but make no sense; son John Tyson b1641, daughter Margaret b1642?

¹⁰⁷ According to Crow, Arthur Bridson received the tenancy from Charles Bridson. An Arthur Bridson was also present on other tenancies held by John Bridson

REF	TENANT	ENTITLEMENT	Previous tenants
02/01	Robert Kaye, tailor	Bought from the executors of Mr. Richard Stevenson of Balladoole, Arbory, c1686 Balladoole, Arbory, about 1686	Robert KEY held a 2d tenancy on #76 from 1686 to 1702. The prior tenant was Jane Stanley, although LV records that it was purchased from Ric Stevenson
02/02	Patrick Clark	Bought from Robert Quayle & Gilbert Looney, 1691/2	Charles QUAYLE held a 2d tenancy on #76 from 1629 until 1702. Recorded in LV 1629 without the benefit of an explanation.
02/03	James Kermode	Not known. Acquired before 1687. Previously held by George Tyson, 1663	George TYSON held a 1d tenancy on #76 from 1661 to 1702. He acquired it from Thomas Stoale who had purchased it from Mylrea's daughter.
02/04	John Gelling	Inherited from his father George Gelling (d. 1701) who bought from Gilbert Brew, 1691	
02/05	Arthur Bridson of Kirk Malew, joiner	Acquired before 1691 from the estate of Charles Bridson (d.1682) who inherited from Arthur Brew, soldier (d. 1678)	Charles BRIDSON held a 1d tenancy on #76 from 1678 until 1691 after which Kath BRIDSON's name appeared in the LA entries (without the benefit of an LV entry). She was there until 1702. Charles inherited tenancy from Arthur BREW
02/06	Mary Oates alias Clark, widow	Inherited from husband Thomas Oates (d. 1692) who had acquired; (a) by purchase from Thomas Stowell, c1688 (b) details unknown, but part of the garden was said in a later document to have been 'bought of Savages rent'	
02/07	James Savage & Elinor Savage alias Hendricks his wife	Elinor acquired her right by purchase with first husband Christopher Fitzsimmons c1688. James bought his share from Christopher's estate, 1702	
02/08	Margaret Lowcay alias Garrett, widow	Inherited from husband Rev. Henry Lowcay (d. 1700) who acquired (manner unknown) before 1662	
02/09	John Cannell, tailor	Inherited (a) as executor of father William Cannell (d. 1644) (b) from mother Jony Cannell alias Finch (d. 1670)	

2. JOHN & HEN

LA	# (1), (5)	TENANT 1	TENANT 2	RENT
1651	60	Nick Conore 9d	Jo Carrolly 1½d with wife, Robert Quyne 1½d	12d
1651LV		Nick Conora 6d	Hen Mc yloy (3d) Bill of Sale	12d
1652-54		Nich Conoree 6d	Hen Mc yloy (3d), Jo Corrolly with wife (1½d) Robt Quine (1½d)	12d
1655		Nich Conoree 6d	Hen Mc yloy (3d), Jo Corroley with wife (1½d)	12d

			Robt Quine (1½d)	
1656		Nich Conoree 6d	Hen Mc ylroy (3d), Jo Corroley with wife (1½d) Robt Quine (1½d)	12d
1657		Nich Conoree 6d	Hen Mc ylroy (3d), Jo Corroley with wife (1½d) Robt Quine (1½d)	12d
1657LV		Nick Conoraē 6d	John Mc ylroy (5d) Bill of Sale	12d
1658	60	John Mc vlvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylroii (3d), Jo Corrolley with wife (1½d) Robt Quine (1½d)	12d
1659		John Mc vlvorrey 6d	Hen M cylroii (3d), Jo Corroley with wife (1½d) Robt Quine (1½d)	12d
1660		John Mc vlvorrey 6d	Hen M cylroye (3d), Jo Corroley with wife (1½d) Robt Quine (1½d)	12d
1661		John Mc vlvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylroye (3d), Jo Corrolley with wife (1½d) Robt Quine (1½d)	12d
1662		John Mc vlvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylroye (3d), Jo Corroley with wife (1½d) David Christian (1½d) (LV1661 in possession)	12d
1663-64		John Mc vlvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylvorrey (3d), Jo Corroley with wife (1½d) David Christian (1½d)	12d
1665		John Mc vlvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylvorrey (3d), Jo Corroley with wife (1½d) David Christian (1½d)	12d
1666		John Mc vlvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylvorrey (3d), Jo Corroley with wife (1½d) David Christian (1½d)	12d
1667		John Mc vlvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylroye (3d), Jo Corroley with wife (1½d) (executor?) Phil Christian wife and executor for David Christian (1½d) (LV 1666 – Jo to David to Phil executors)	12d
1668		John Mc vlvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylroye (3d), Jo Corroley with wife (1½d) Phil Christian wife and executors for David Christian (1½d)	12d
1669	59	John Mc vlvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylroye (3d), Jo Corroley with wife with wife (1½d) Phil Christian wife and executor for David Christian (1½d)	12d
1670		John Mc vlvorrey 6d	Hen M cylroy (3d), Jo Corroley with wife (1½d) Phil Christian wife and executor for David Christian (1½d)	12d
1671	59	John M cylvorrey 6d	Hen M cylvorey (3d), Jo Corroley with wife (1½d) Phil Christian wife and executor for David Christian (1½d)	12d
1672	57	John Mc vlvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylvorrey (3d), Jo Corroley with wife (1½ d) Phil Christian wife and executor David Christian (1½d)	12d
1673		John M cv lvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylvorrey (3d), Jo Corroley with wife (1½ d) with exor Philp Christian (3/4d) wife and exor David Christian (3/4d)	12d
1674	62	John Mc vlvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylvorrey (3d), Jo Corrolly with wife (1½ d) Kath Moore 3/4d widow and exec David Christian 3/4d (LV 1673) Bill of Sale – Philip Christian to Kath Moore, Robert Quaille also mentioned	12d
1675		John Mc ylvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylvorrey (3d), Jo Corrolly with wife (1½d) Kath Moore (3/4d) widow and exec David Christian (3/4d)	12d
1676- 1690		John Mc ylvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylvorrey (3d), Jo Corrolly (/Cowley) with wife (1½d) Kath Moore (3/4d) Kath Moore (3/4d)	12d

			(LV 1676) Bill of Sale <u>Robert Quayle</u> to Calcott who passed the tenancy on to Kath Moore	
1691-1693	63	Thomas Mc ylvorrey 6d (No LV 1685-1695)	Hen Mc ylvorrey (3d), John Cowley with wife (1½d) Kath Moore (3/4d), Kath Moore (3/4d)	12d
1694		Thomas Mc ylvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylvorrey (3d), John Cowley with wife (1½d) Cath Moore (3/4d), Cath Moore (3/4d)	12d
1695		Thomas Mc ylvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylvorrey (3d), John Cowley with wife (1½d) Kath Moore (3/4d), Kath Moore (3/4d)	12d
1696		Thomas Mc ylvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylvorrey (3d), John Cowley with wife (1½d) Kath Moore (3/4d), Kath Moore (3/4d)	12d
1697-1700		Thomas Mc ylvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylvorrey (3d), John Cowley with wife (1½d) Kat Moore (3/4d), Kat Moore (3/4d)	12d
1702	60	Thomas Mc ylvorrey 6d	Hen Mc ylvorrey (3d), John Cowley with wife (1½d) Kath Moore (3/4d) Kath Moore (3/4d)	12d

3. HEN & JOHN

LA	# (1), (5)	TENANT 1	TENANT 2	RENT
1651		Nich Conoree	-	4d
1651LV	90	Nich Conorey (3d)	Hen Mc ylvoy (1d)	4d
1752-54LA		Nich Conorey	Hen Mc ylvoy	4d
1655		Nich Conoree	Hen Mc ylvoy	4d
1656		Nich Conoree	Hen Mc ylvoy	4d
1657		Nich Conoree	Hen Mc ylvoy	4d
1658		Nich Conoree	Hen Mc ylvoy	4d
1659		Nich Conoree	Hen Mc ylvoy	4d
1660		Nich Conoree	Hen Mc ylvoy	4d
1661		Nich Conoree	Hen Mc ylvoy	4d
1662		Nich Conoree	Hen Mc ylvoy	4d
1663-64		Nich Conoree	Hen Mc ylvoy	4d
1665		Nich Conoree	Hen Mc ylvoy	4d
1666		Nich Conoree	Hen Mc ylvoy	4d
1667		Nich Conoree	Hen Mc ylvoy	4d
1668		Nich Conoree	Hen Mc ylvoy	4d
1668 LV		John Mc ylvoye is entered for this 3d being in possession and by virtue of a composition		4d
1669LA		John Mc ylvoye (3d)	Hen Mc ylvorrey (1d)	4d
1671	87	John Mc ylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mc ylvoy (1d)	4d
1672		John Mc ylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mc ylvorrey (1d)	4d
1673		John Mc yllrey (3d)	Hen Mc yllrey (1d)	4d
1674	91	John Mc ylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mc ylvorrey (1d)	4d
1677		John Mc ylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mc ylvorrey (1d)	4d
1686		John Mc ylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mc ylvorrey (1d)	4d
1686-87		John Mc ylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mc ylvorrey (1d)	4d
1687-88	92	John Mc ylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mc ylvorrey (1d)	4d
1689-1690		John Mc ylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mc ylvorrey (1d)	4d
1690-91	91	John Mc ylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mc ylvorrey (1d)	4d
1692-1693	91	John Mc ylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mc ylvorrey (1d)	4d
1694		John Mc ylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mc ylvorrey (1d)	4d
1695		John Mc ylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mc ylvorrey (1d)	4d
1696		John Mc ylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mc ylvorrey (1d)	4d
1697-1700		John Mc ylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mc ylvorrey (1d)	4d

1700	91	John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d
1702	88	John Mcylvorrey (3d)	Hen Mcylvorrey (1d)	4d

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 Nich Conoree)
- 1651? Robert Lewn, Edward Fletcher (neighbour Nich Conoree & 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:

1. These cottage allotment numbers until 1700 are somewhat ad hoc, except for the ones taken from MNB, so I might not be entirely accurate in my counting of the entries, but will be within a number of two. Numbering didn't start officially until 1705
2. Liber Vastarum do not record any of the changes: John to Thomas (1691), Thomas to Killey & Higgin (1707-1708), Killey & Higgin to Thomas 1708-1709
3. The best I can make of these Mylrea holdings is that the change was enacted initially in 1703, and the “transitions” fit what is known about the Mylrea women – ie. Jane Higgin's father was Hen, and Jane Killey's father was John
4. In relation to Cottage #63 more specifically, this entry traditionally had the Lewns on one side and Coultry on the other prior to 1703, With John (3d) and Hen (1d) the tenants. In 1703, Thomas Mc ylroii held a 3d tenancy, then in 1706 Richard Killey (3d) and Phil Higgin (1d) were the tenants - presumably John's share & Hen's share respectively. In 1709, Thomas Mc ylroii was again the tenant.
5. The history of the Mylrea allotments is as follows:

1643	1650s	1660	1666	1679	1691	1704/5
<u>Katherine Moore</u> for 12d cottage for the lives of the said Katherine, and of John her son, and of James Moore, son of Phill of Douglas (3d)	No entry for this cottage	Phil Moore in being, .. <u>Kath Moore</u> for 13d rent 1d Lives in being ... James Moore	<u>Kath Moore</u> for 13d cottage Fine in 1643 = 4d Lives expired Note: Jo Mc ylvorrey renewed for 9d of this rent 1666 and one life is yet in being of the last lease 1666 – <i>Richard Moore sold 3d</i>	<u>Kath Moore</u> now Phil Moore & Phil Christian for 12d cottage Fine = 3d Lives James Moore son Phil Moore of Douglas	Phil Moore & Phil Christian formerly <u>Kath Moore</u> . James Moore alleged to be in Ireland	Richard Killey - 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 Kath, mother of Jane, was (Crowe) d/o Richard Moore who

			of 4d tenancy to John Cowne (#16), and gave id share to daughter Kath.			must have been the rightful heir of James Moore, last of the 3 lives from 1643
(Previously purchased from Stoale & Joyner) Nic Conoree for cottage in Douglas rent 13d for the lives of the said Nic and of ... and ... his children (4d)	John Mylrea holds certain cottage for 3 lives of the said Nicholas , of Mary and Nicholas his children whereof Nicholas the said compounded forty-four and in 16.. the said Nicholas sold the part for of officers as it ... appears		John Mc yloy and Katherine his wife ... for 13d rent last compounded for by Nicholas Conoree for of three lives whereof the said Ric is dead now to the said life and to two lives for the lives of Sill Ratcliffe, son of Thomas Ratcliffe of Knockaloe and of Ric Mc yloy son of the said John Mc yloy and Katherine and of Margaret his	Nich Conoree for a cottage in Douglas 13d rent Fine in '43 = 4d Lives all dead + which John Mc yloy and Katherine his wife compounded in 1666 for 9d of the said rent. Fine thereon = 18d Lives Sill Ratcliffe, son of Thomas Ratcliffe of Knockaloe and Ric Mc yloy son of the said John Mc yloy only alive (to pay 6d for 6 years and id a year for the ...)	Kath Moore formerly Nicho Conery - expired Jon Mc yloy compounded for part of this rent in 1666. Lives in Being Sill Ratcliffe 54 years and Richard Mc yloy alleged to be alive in Ireland	

			daughter ... for (13d)	And the other 4d in Hen Mc Ylroy's possession and out of lease		
--	--	--	-----------------------------------	--	--	--

1666	1679	
Robert Joyner now Amy Watson and her children for 3s 9d rent in Douglas fine = 10d Lives Hen his son only in being		

1666		
Richard Moore to Katherine Moore <i>(LV 1666) The sd Cowne is entered by vertue of a bill of sayle from ye sd Rich Moore & his son confirmed by ye officers & ye sd Kath daughter to sd Rich is entered for the 1d rent</i>		
<i>Cottage Allotment #16/17. She was there until 1702</i>		
Could this have been the 1d garden inherited by Margaret and rolled into allotment #75?		

NOTES:

Attachment 2–Manx Resources

On the Isle of Man, record-keeping was a well-established practice 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.

1. 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 1495¹⁰⁸.

One of the earliest surviving land records for the parish of Onchan (including Douglas), the 1511/15 Manorial Roll (also known as Liber Assedationis), has not one Mylrea tenant in cottages, on quarterland, intack, Firm Vast or Firm Brass. At that time, the majority of Mylreas were found in the parish of Michael, while a lone Mylrea was listed in both Ballaugh and German, all three parishes on the west coast of the island.

These records have survived remarkably intact, especially for the 16th and 17th centuries. Liber Assedationis (LA) and Liber Vastarum (LV) were inscribed annually, containing detailed information about the location of the Lord’s tenants, the rent they paid, and what kind of land they occupied. Changes of tenancy was also monitored, and often noted the reason for the change – eg. inheritance or sale. Of course, many residents on the island would not have been tenants, and this applied particularly to the mariners of the day, meaning that their names were never recorded. An incidental strength of the land records is that they often solved the dilemma of who belonged to which family because the line of transmission was recorded - the LV entry might state: *The father is dead, is entered as right heir*. This particular aspect of LV entries makes them key to following families over extended periods of time. The example of Thomas Mylrea’s daughter selling his tenancy in 1661 is a de facto statement that he had no living sons, for had there been a son, he would reasonably have assumed the right of tenancy either to sell or to occupy.

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

¹⁰⁸ 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

(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 10d 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. In other words, interpreting the family lines in Douglas cottage allotments is not for the faint-hearted.

2. Parish registers

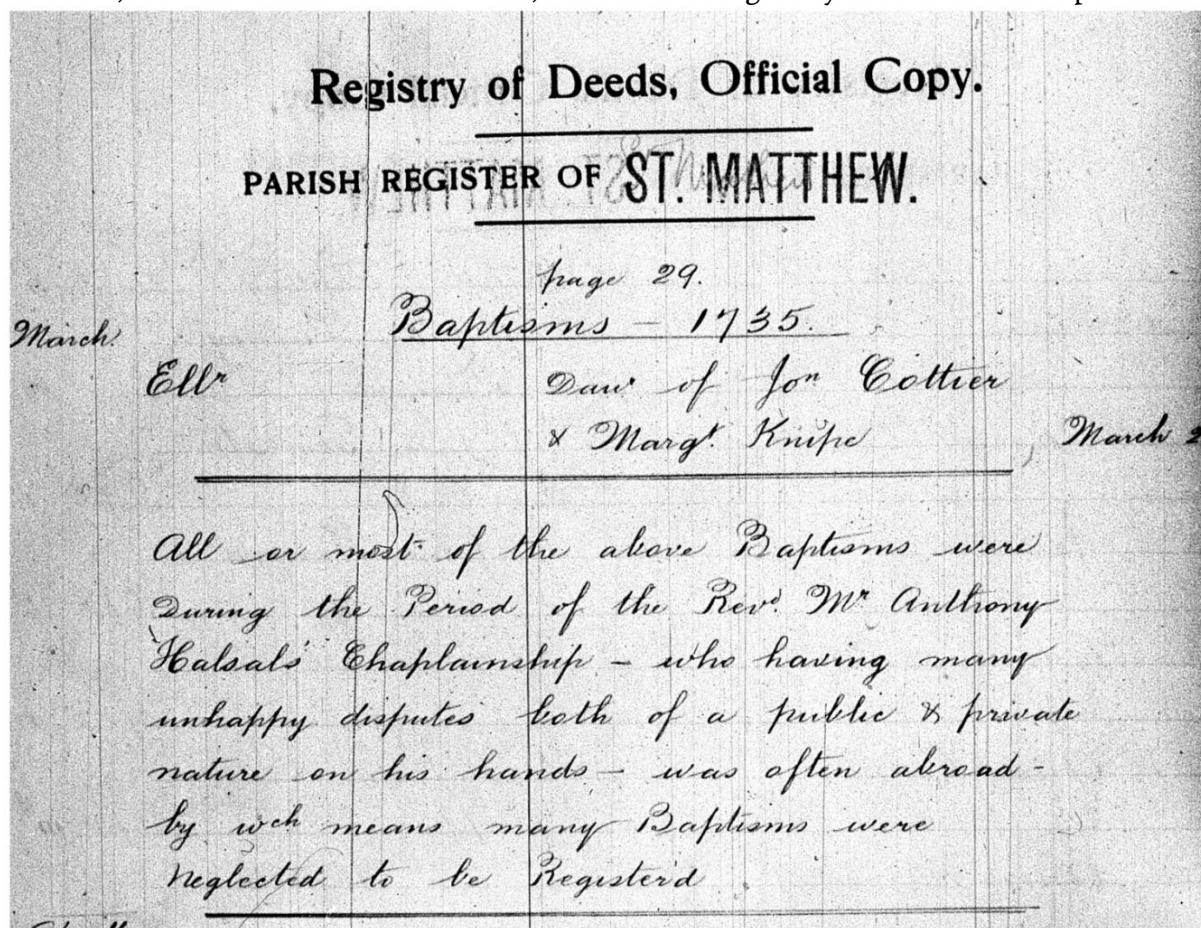
The registers were the basis for documenting all baptisms, marriages and burials on the island. They were mandated around 1600 and as might reasonably be expected, many entries have not endured (intact, or at all). The first recorded baptism is 1626, burial 1624, and marriage 1685, and the entries are far from complete for various reasons. Perhaps more significantly for this narrative is that entries for the parish of Onchan were once bundled with those of the adjacent parish of Braddan under the heading of Braddan, which makes it impossible to distinguish the residents of Douglas from those in the surrounding countryside¹⁰⁹.

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
- Mallerye
- Maclereigh
- Malleroy
- Mallereigh
- Mcylroy
- Maelereigh
- MacYlrea
- Mcylrea
- McKilroy
- McLery
- Malerye
- Mollerie

¹⁰⁹ Online searches for Douglas baptisms & burials produce listings for St Ann (Santon)

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”¹¹⁰ 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.

¹¹⁰ 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).

Original

The last Will and Testament of Isabell Meylroy at Gynne who departed this life the 29th of January 1713. being in Good

LDS Site

Name: Isabell Meylroy Alias Joyn
Event Type: Burial
Event Date: 27 Jan 1713
Event Place: Braddan, Isle of Man
Gender: Female

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 Richardⁱⁱⁱ and Isabel. His 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.

Even silence can speak volumes, in the case of the 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 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:

- Libri Chancellor dealt with disputes, frequently about boundaries between tenancies

ⁱⁱⁱ Baptised 1654?

- 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.
- 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.

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 whtsoever 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 ¹¹²	Jane Kelly	1808	Lonan?
Jane Mylrea	Thomas Mylrea	Margaret Cowell ¹¹³	1810	
Catherine Mylrea	John Kelly	Esther Mylrea ¹¹⁴	1825	(illegitimate) Patrick
George John Mylrea	John Hughes	Catherine Mylrea ¹¹⁵	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 Mylroi	Thomas Cottier	
1802	Elizabeth Mylrea	John Prince	-
1804	Margaret Mylrea	Charles Gell	-

¹¹² The hazards of transcription? James GILLRAY m Jane Kelly 29thFebruary, 1808 Douglas

¹¹³ Could this be Thomas Mylrea and Margaret COWIN? They were married in 1809,

¹¹⁴ 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?

¹¹⁵ Catherine Mylra m Thomas Parker 1844 Braddan (d/o William & Jane Kewley)

1822	Eleanor Mylrea	John Cowle (widower)	William Mylrea & Jane Hall?? B 1800, Santon?? (Eleanor died 1822)-
1835	William Mylrin	Elizabeth Joughin	Maybe son of William Mylrea & Elizabeth Clague – born c1808 in 1841 census MYHEA North John St No subsequent children nor 1851 census A burial for William Mylrea in 1849 aged 40
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 Emmett	Ostler in marriage notice;
1847	Mary Myrea	Thomas Smyth	-
1848	Margaret Mybrea	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

Braddan

<i>buried</i>	<i>born</i>	<i>age</i>		
1803			William Mylrea	porter – ?????? maybe husband of Jane Taggart. If so, he was about 50 years of age
1806			Jane Cain als Mylrea	
1820			Ann Myloroie	“To Lonan” recorded on her burial entry
1837	1828	9	Sarah	
1822	c1800	22	Eleanor Cowle als 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, possibly musicians – boarding house/hospital?? Widow of Charles Mylrea, Malew?
1848	1784	64	Elizabeth Mylrea	No census – not the wife of William Mylrea, als Clague who was baptized in 1771

1849	1809	40	William Mylrea	ostler -h/o Elizabeth Emmett; s/o William & Jane Kewley?
1850	1850	1	Hannah Mylrea	Back Strand St, d/o William & Sarah Kelly m1849 ¹¹⁶
1851	1769	82	Mary Mylrea	No census
1856	1806	50	Elizabeth Mylrea	No census
1866	1792	74	Esther Mylrea (MYLVEA)	1. Als Lannaghyn, Widow of Thomas, the ropemaker? M 1837 Braddan; already a widow with daughter named Esther about 10 years of age when she married Thomas 2. Living with Corlett children in Braddan in 1841-1851 census; chn born in Malew <i>Perhaps the same person!</i>

¹¹⁶ Neither Hanna's birth nor death are in the parish records. The notice of her parents' marriage (23rd May 1849) and of her death (7th April 1850) was in the Manx newspapers. She was born 4th April 1849 but I don't know where I got this information now - possibly a Non-Conformist Register

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	