

Manx and the Isle of Man Where I got the name.

By Brian Sims

The TT (Tourist Trophy) races and the Manx Grand Prix are the inspiration for the name Manx Motors Inc. Not only the rich history of Motor racing but also the rich history of the people that inhabit this small and wonderful Island. I remember Dad talking about some of the greats that raced on the Isle. Names like Geoff Duke (Duke Video), John Surtees, Mike Hailwood and Bob MacIntyre, the first man to lap the Mountain Course at 100 MPH in 1957. My personal great is Joey Dunlap who has 26 TT victories to his name. Joey was an all-around wonderful person and was knighted for his efforts in delivering food to orphanages in Bosnia.



**The Late Great Bob
MacIntyre**

**The first to lap the
Mountain at 100 mph**

The late great Joey Dunlop.

**The Greatest of all on the
Mountain.**



History

The Manx Grand Prix began in 1923 as the 'Manx Amateur Road Races' or MARC. The MARC was held until 1930 when it was renamed the Manx Grand Prix. Problems were encountered initially over the definition of an 'Amateur' and indeed the first rules were extensive and open to various interpretations. Nowadays, many riders who have achieved success in the MGP move on to race in the TT but regulations prevent them from re-entering 'The Manx' unless they wish to do so on Classic machinery. Chris Palmer (former British 125cc champion) and the late Richard Britton both followed this route in 2005 aboard Manx Norton's.

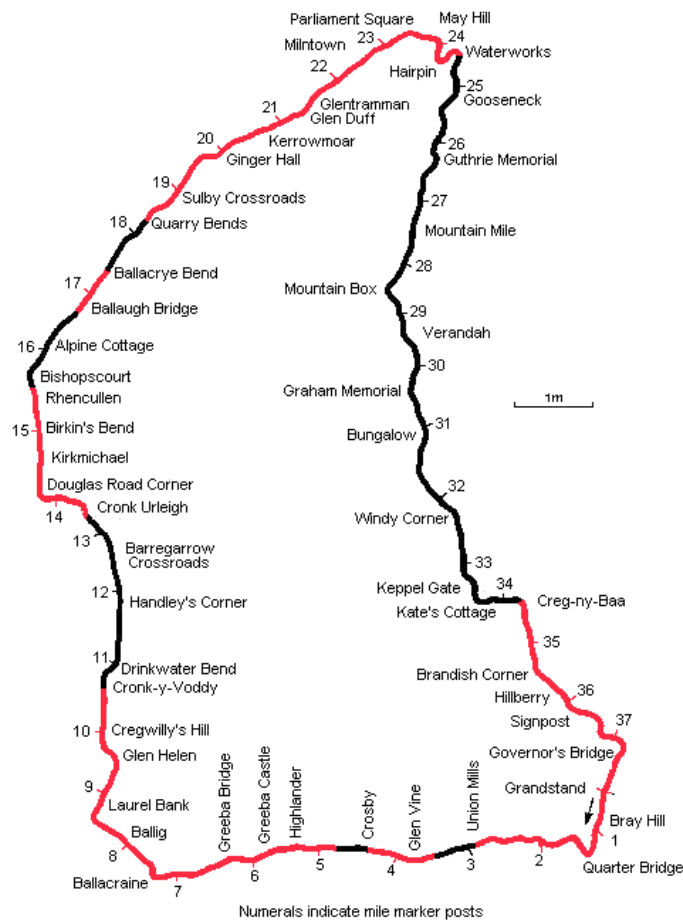
Dan Gurney's 1959 Manx Norton



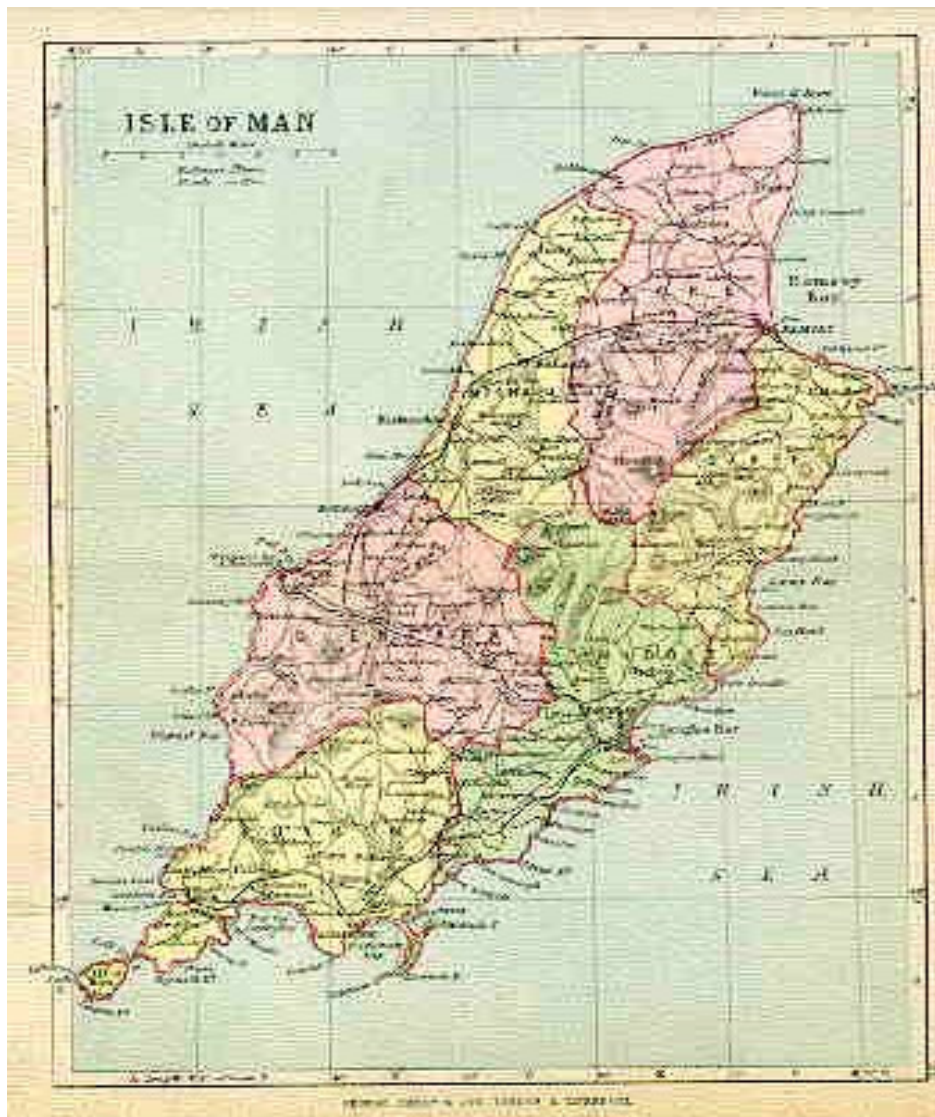
1949 Manx Norton Daytona Racer



The **Manx Grand Prix** motorcycle races are held on the Isle of Man TT Course (or "Mountain Circuit") every year for a two-week period usually spanning the end of August and early September. The 'MGP' or 'Manx' (as it is more commonly known) is considered to be the amateur riders' alternative to the Isle of Man TT Races held in May and June. The event also differs from the TT in that it does not cater to sidecars. The event consists of six four-lap races of the 37.73 mile circuit which begins at the TT Grandstand in Douglas, the Island's capital.



The Mountain Circuit



An “Old Map” of the “IOM”

Isle of Man; an island of Great Britain in the Irish Sea off the northwest coast of England. Occupied in the 9th century by Vikings, it passed from Norway to Scotland in 1266 and to the earls of Salisbury and of Derby in the 14th century. Parliament purchased the island in 1765, and it remains an autonomous possession of the British crown. The Isle is also has the title of being the “Motor Racing Capital of the world”. Although motorcycle racing is the biggest draw for the Island, Car Rallies, both Current and Vintage, along with road racing (auto) also called “Manx” are held on an annual basis. There are many Clubs that travel to the Isle to hold a few of their “gatherings and runs” on these hollowed grounds.

If you ever have the chance to visit the Isle of Man, and I hope that you do, I am of the opinion that you do so in a classic LBC or my choice of motivation, an old British motorcycle. There’s nothing more romantic than pulling your best Gal on behind and having an old British bike leaking oil on your leg while enjoying the best driving (and racing) roads in the world!