Focusing on pilgrimage offers a particular spiritually-inflected perspective on the experience of travel and associated meaning-making. The pilgrimage walks studied centre on the sites of small sixth to twelfth century chapels, known as keeills, which are scattered across the Manx landscape, and provide a focus for ecumenical reflection and celebration of Celtic Christian heritage.

Praying the Keeills': rhythm, meaning and experience on pilgrimage journeys in the Isle of Man


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Abstract/Summary

This paper explores the concept of 'the travelling being' through the lens of pilgrimage walks in the Isle of Man in the British Isles. Focusing on pilgrimage offers a particular spiritually-inflected perspective on the experience of travel and associated meaning-making. The pilgrimage walks studied centre on the sites of small sixth to twelfth century chapels, known as keeills, which are scattered across the Manx landscape, and provide a focus for ecumenical reflection and celebration of Celtic Christian heritage. Participants' experience of two different forms of pilgrimage walks are analysed using qualitative techniques, with reference to embodied and affective experience, mobilities, rhythm, meaning-making and belief. While all participants appreciated the experiences of walking in the landscape, companionship, heritage expertise, and time-space for reflection, individual sense of 'journey' and experience, including a sense of the onward journey or what was 'taken home', was deeply inflected by the presence or absence of belief. Pilgrimage narratives offer insight to the meanings ascribed to and derived from the experience of spiritually inflected mobilities and rhythms, as well as the arrhythmia pilgrimage can represent relative to secular worldviews, and the arrhythmia non-believers may experience and negotiate when participating in pilgrimage walks.

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Participants' experience of two different forms of pilgrimage walks are analysed using qualitative techniques, with reference to embodied and affective experience, mobilities, rhythm, meaning-making and belief. While the Isle of Man is neither part of Great Britain nor the United Kingdom. What are the people who are born on the Isle of Man known as? People born here are known as 'Manx', classified as British. What is the National Flag of the Isle of Man? The Manx is the National Flag of the Isle of Man. The National Symbol of the Isle of Man is the Three Legs of Man. The legs, clad in armour and bearing spurs, run in a clockwise direction. They bear the Latin motto 'Quocunque Jeceris Stabit' or 'Whichever way you throw it, it will stand' - a testament to islanders' independence and resilience. "Our signature manx creatures are the fairies of fairy bridge and our manx cats, with no tails. Our national dishes are chips, cheese and gravy (Don't knock it till you've tried it!)