



Un Habyr Seyr



The Free Manx Paper

Earroo / Issue 37 Jerrey Souree / July 2006

Published by Mec Vannin

MEC VANNIN - CONSISTENT AND ENDURING

The following position statement was adopted by the 2006 AGM of the Party, held in May.

Mec Vannin is the only enduring political party in the Isle of Man to offer consistent policies, a viable alternative vision and opposition to an ongoing policy of selling-out the Manx people in the guise of bringing economic prosperity. For over forty years, our predictions of failure have been vindicated, our warnings of marginalisation materialised and, on the few occasions where some crumbs of our policies have been half-heartedly used, the feasibility of our alternatives proven. During that same time, a host of single issue groupings, reactionaries and self-interest groupings have come and invariably gone.

A central crutch for ongoing government policies is the myth of deprivation counterbalanced with a simplistic and distorted representation of pure economic success. One hundred years ago, Mannin's poor were no poorer than the poor of England. The same applies two hundred years ago. Indeed, the first whole-sale flood of economic immigration from the mid-19th century on also co-incided with the highest rate of Manx emigration, proving that trickle-down economics is a lie peddled by those who gain from it. It is proven to be a lie from the economic figures that demonstrate that as the wealthy get relatively wealthier, the poor

become relatively poorer.

Despite viciously prosecuting the sell-out over the past 20 years, the government still faces overspending leading to cut-backs to prevent bankruptcy. This is against a backdrop of sustained world-wide economic success that has known no parallel in the past 100 years. It is impossible to think of anywhere in the world that has not improved economically, except in the face of military conflict and natural disaster. The government in the Isle of Man cannot claim successful policies in this environment; far from it.

Pensions and health care are being steered away from the state system and towards private enterprise. Other services will undoubtedly follow.

Despite being repeatedly warned about over-reliance upon the finance industry, those who have claimed to represent the Manx people over the past decades have allowed the finance sector to become not simply economically over-dominant but dangerously politically powerful too. The several former civil servants who have migrated seamlessly into consultative roles in the finance sector lends credibility to the belief that private enterprise has a dangerously strong "handle" on elements of a civil service that seems to dictate policy to politicians rather than the other way about. Imagine if the same effort had been

applied to the likes of agriculture, an industry that is racing headlong towards oblivion. We should all remember that we can't eat money.

Some of the cultural nationalists seem to have become so blinded by the cynically tokenist gestures of support from the government that they have lost any sight they may ever have had of the bigger picture. Mec Vannin has a broader remit.

Increasingly, MHKs are electing to fulfill an administrative rather than political role; simply going through the motions of heading government. Is this because too many are now graduates of a Local Authority system that knows no more than administrative functions, or is it because the politicians are too weak to make and implement policy? No matter which, the result is the same; the government in the Isle of Man consistently acts as nothing more than a glorified Local Authority. There seems to be an entrenched inability to appreciate national economics; that it can never be cheaper to pay to import something that can be sourced from within.

With this policy of importation comes the policy of immigration. In 1962, the arbitrary figure of 75,000 people was declared the "viable" population figure. With that figure left far behind us, the government wants more. It will never be

Mec Vannin AGM statement continued

satisfied because the immigration policy is fundamentally flawed and will never deliver the economic goods. Mec Vannin said this 40 years ago and we were right. We say this now and we are right.

Protocol Three and the Custom and Excise Agreement were short term solutions of political expedience and become increasingly damaging to our ability to manage our own affairs. Mec Vannin said it at the time. We say it now. We will say it in the future.

The Manx people are now so marginalised that the government believes that their views can be ignored. Irrespective of whether Mec Vannin seeks representation or not, we have an absolute right to challenge government policy. We know that this government is incapable of dealing with any criticism and relishes in a newspaper monopoly that asks few questions. Indeed, there is an acceptance of monopolies without regulation that, yet again, casts doubt over the political integrity of government in the Isle of Man.

Mec Vannin recognises the need for human rights legislation, as does the civilised world. The government in the Isle of Man was pressured into passing such legislation only to find an excuse to leave this legislation unimplemented: Actions speak louder than words. Conversely, if some arm of the international finance industry contrives an argument that claims "rights", the government bends over backwards to avoid confrontation. The Isle of Man gives companies more rights than its people, thus revealing the true motives of the policy makers.

Mec Vannin does not tinker with its fundamental policies. It does not flip-flop or prostitute itself in the pursuance of popularity. It does not water its policies down to become palatable to the people who would act against our objectives. Mec Vannin is not disingenuous. We do not forget that the government in the Isle of Man is a British government, bound by oath and constitution to the British Crown and subservient to the UK government. We do not forget that the many failings of the government in the Isle of Man, including incompetence, corruption and disingenuousness are equally failings of the UK government that has sat idly by and watched.

A degree of despondency amongst our population is understandable, as the Manx people dwindle, as the government continues its high-handed, anti-social policies, as all the positive aspects of our quality of life are trampled to keep the government in pocket and in the pockets of vested interest, but Mec Vannin is every bit as relevant now as forty years ago and will continue to be relevant in the future, whether we participate directly in a government proven to be corrupt and unconstitutional, or whether we are on the outside, ungagged and unfettered by a system that cannot tolerate even the tiniest dissent from within. That is our right.

The AGM returned the following officers:

President, Bernard Moffatt
Chairman / PRO, Mark Kermode
Secretary, Verity Gorry
Treasurer, Cristl Jerry
Editor, Alan Comaish

Fishing Fiasco

Last year, Mec Vannin made an extensive submission to the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries regarding proposals to regain some of our fishing rights from the UK. This made it clear that the only way to get any meaningful control over our own waters was to assert our right with the United Nations via the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). At present we have control to 3 nautical miles, with the UK exercising control on the rest up to the "European" 12 NM limit.

England, Wales, Scotland and N.I. have regional fishing authorities with jurisdiction to 6 NM, the UK as a whole having jurisdiction between 6 and 12 under a European derogation.

We are not in the UK. We are not in the EU, yet the DAFF continues to accept the legitimacy of the UK's use of our waters.

Originally, the UK was offering to let us have enhanced control of our own waters (how very gracious of them) up to 12 NM but with a transferable license system that would allow UK fishermen to buy up Manx licenses and drive Manx boats out of the water.

That was too much trouble for the UK fishermen who can effectively fish at will from 3 NM to 12NM under the current arrangement and told their minister so.

We got nothing - no change and plenty of it.

Jamys (Freddie) y Cowle: 19th December 1947 to 5th February 2006



Ta'n Ghailck ayns Mannin foddey ny s'boghtey nish ta Jamys (Freddie) y Cowle maroo. Gyn dooyt, v'eh yn loayrtagh share jeh'n cheeloge shoh ain.

Hooar eh baase er y wheiggoo laa, Toshiaght Arree, lurg daa vlein dy hingys va bentyn rish yn obbyr v'echey myr seyir.

She fer oik cultooragh Mev Vannin v'eh as cha nel yn Partee er hirrey fer elley choud's shoh.

Rugg eh ayns Rhumsaa, Mannin as v'eh er ny hroggal ny mast' ocsyn va co-chianglit rish yn chenn heeloge Manninagh. Ghow eh moyrn jeh'n nhee dy row Mannin ny cheer er lneh, lesh shennaghys jee hene as shenn ghlaare ec, yn Ghailck. Slug eh stiagh skeeaylyn as nheeghyn dy dooghyssagh va bentyn rish theay Rhumsaa, yn balley hene as yn chengey.

Va'n shenn haner echey, Thomaase y Christeen (v'er ny ruggyr 1850), ny loayrtagh Gailckagh mie er baghtal as tra reih Jamys yn Ghailck y ynsaghey 'sy tree-feedyn, v'eh g'earree yn Ghailck ghlen shen y loayrt. Car ny bleeantyn chaie, d'obbree Jamys dy chreioe son y Ghailck.

Va'n Ghailck 'sy chree echey as, myr shen, cha row eh son lhiggey e hraa orroosyn ta dellal ree myr cooish cheau tra.

Cha by vie lesh ve fo lhiastynys erbee as d'obbree eh da hene myr seyir my daink eh dy ve fer ny merriu ard-ghooagh er twoaie vooar Vannin. Daa vlein er dy henney, reagh eh yn chooish-obbree echey y chreck dy noddagh eh ceau tra marish e ven-sheshaght, Julia as nyn inneen, Margaid. D'earree eh obbyr Ghailckagh y yannoo neesht agh, atreih, haink chingys er as cha row caa echey shen y yannoo dy kiart. Ny yei shen as ooilley, ren eh paart jeh'n obbyr as by vie lesh e ven-treoghe ee dy ve er ny cur magh 'sy tra ry-heet.

Dooyrt carrey mie da as dooinney ard-ynsit 'sy Ghailck, Adrian Pilgrim, "Er lhiam dy vel loght mooar orrin ooilley 'sy theay Gailckagh nagh row shin jannoo recooyrtysyn kiart jeh'n fys v'echey."

Shen kiart, agh t'eh orrin as enn ain er Jamys, yn Ghailck ghlen shen y chummal seose ayns cooinaghtyn jeh.

The Manx language is far poorer for the passing of Freddie Cowle, undoubtedly the best speaker of this generation.

He was Mec Vannin's Cultural Officer and the Party has not sought a replacement to date.

He took pride in the fact that the Isle of Man was a unique country, with its own history language and was naturally receptive to folklore and facts concerning the community and the language.

Freddie's great grandfather was a noted Manx speaker and when Freddie chose to learn the language, it was that "good" Manx he wished to speak. Throughout the years since, Freddie worked hard for the language.

He was an independent person and was a self-employed joiner before becoming an undertaker. He sold his business to spend more time with his wife and daughter and to work on the language. Unfortunately, his illness took hold at the same time and he was unable to do that properly, although some has been written and his widow hopes that it will be published in the future.

His friend and fellow language expert, Adrian Pilgrim, expressed his regret that more had not been done to record his knowledge. That's right, but we who knew him can try to hold up his knowledge of the language in his memory.

For more information about Mec Vannin our policies and membership, visit our website at www.mecvannin.org

No place for English Right -Wing in the Isle of Man

It was disgusting, but not actually surprising, when the right-wing English group, the BNP, turned up to dish out its bile which openly admits to wanting to make our country a last bastion of white Englishness.

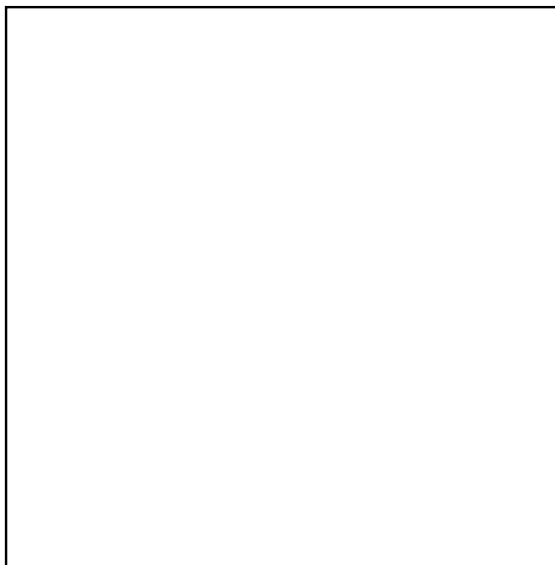
Maybe all those England flags made them think it was okay?

Not being the sharpest tools in the box, it was quite apparent that these people weren't aware that they had left their own country and were shouting about controlling immigration into someones else's.

Unfortunately, the immigration policies of the governments in the Isle of Man, under the guiding hand of the UK, have been aimed firmly at attracting white "British", many of whom will openly admit to coming here to escape coloured ethnics in their own country.

It appears to escape them that **our** way of of life has been utterly destroyed by their mass immigration (see YPS issue 35 for comparative figures).

The BNP's member in the Island, who had a telephone number listed in Governor's Hill, Douglas, for some time, is now operataing from a Department of Tourism registered guest house in Castlemona Avenue, Douglas.



Election Year Questions

Yes, we know that most of you are hardly gripped with election fever at the momnet, but knocks on the door will be coming soon and there will be endless promises to "do the right thing at the right time" whatever the hell that's supposed to mean; based on past experience, most likely either nothing or the worst possible thing. So, don't be afraid to pin your candidates down with a few essential questions:

Would you vote for a Chief Minister from the Legislative Council?

- a = Yes
- b = It depends, maybe, etc
- c = No

Would you support meaningful Freedom of Information legislation.

- a = No
- b = It depends, maybe, etc
- c = Yes

Is it acceptable to have ministers from the Legislative Council?

- a = Yes
- b = It depends, maybe, etc
- c = No

Is it right that the Legislative Council can block its own reform?

- a = Yes
- b = It depends, maybe, etc
- c = No

Will you press for a public enquiry into the MEA affair?

- a = No
- b = It depends, maybe, etc
- c = Yes

Are you against the Chief Minister's "Hire and Fire" power?

- a = No
- b = It depends, maybe, etc
- c = Yes

Should ALL members of Tynwald be subject to public election?

- a = No
- b = It depends, maybe, etc
- c = Yes

If the candidate answers mostly "a", they are almost certainly a sitting member.

If they answer mostly "b", they probably don't even know why they are standing

If they answer mostly "c", it's still not good enough. Only a full score of "c" is likely to change anything in Manx politics.