



## Laa cooinaghtyn Illiam Dhone Oraid Ghaelgagh

Liorish Markys y Kermitt

"Beign dooin goaill rish firrynys chooishyn argidoil". Shen dooyrt Tony Brown, Ard-hirveishagh reiltys Vannin rish pabyr naight 'sy chiaghtain shoh chaai. C'raad v'eshyn beaghey 'sy weig bleeaney chaai?

Fo Mainstyr Brown, ta'n reiltys ayns Mannin er ve snapperal voish geyre-ghaue ry gheyre-ghaue, treishteil er aigh ny ommidanyn ee y hauaill as, dy firrinagh, choud's shoh, v'ee speeideilagh. Agh lesh aigh ny ommidanyn, ta cheet sonnaase ny ommidanyn, as ta rouyr dy olteynyn jeh ny keeshyn credjal dy nee adsyn ta stuirey cooishyn.

Neary's lhieggey yn lught-reill lechtraghys shey bleeaney er dy henney, ta'n reiltys er ve fo Cliwe Ghamacles. Ghow toshiaght farrys cheerey Nehrin er ve an-shickyr ec y traas cheddin, as ish nish er ny brishey as guee er cooney. Nagh row shen fogrey dy liooar nagh nee agh cheegyr pabyr va'n cheegyr Celtiagh, as slickey dy darragh yn un red orrin hene? Dug politickeyr ushtey erbee er yn aile va foin? Cha dug.

Er yn oyr dy vel reiltys Hostyn er chur seose yn cheesh feeuid, ta'n reiltys ayns Mannin jerkyl rish tooilley argid cheet stiagh agh, lesh yn cheesh shen, mannagh cheauee sleih argid, cha jig yn argid da'n reiltys. Reeshtagh, ta shin fakin yn ommidjys jeh polasseeyn argidoil ny reiltys, as shingyn croaghey er keesh nagh nodmayd reaghey dooin hene.

Neary's va reiltys jeh rheynnyn er ny chur orrin feed vleeaney er dy henney, ta'n irrinys dy vel dagh rheynn, as dagh shirveishagh, caggey edyr oc hene dy chosney cho wheesh dy argid as foddee ad, as ceau eh my jean yn tashtey aa-smooïnaghtyn er. Ta mee hene smooïnaghtyn dy bee yn brock shoh ayn choud's vees yn reiltys stuirit myr shoh.

Agh c'ren fa ta shin er jaglym er y laa shoh dagh blein. Shoh ny smoo na caa dy accan mychione yn reiltys. Ta shin ayns shoh cooinaghtyn y chur er Illiam Dhone, e vaase as ny reddyng va nyn lhie fo yn dunverys shen. Cha row Mannin ny cheer verchagh

roish ny musthaayn v'ayn, as cha dirree eh noi ben hiarn Vannin dy beagh ny Manninee ny s'berchee.

Ren eh dellal rish ardwhaiyllee Hostyn, Mannin y hauaill voish caggey fuilltagh as dy reill cairyn as seyrsnys ny Manninee va fo gaue voish Chiarn Vannin. As shen yn oyr ta ashooneyryn Manninagh corree ny laaghyn t'ayn jiu. Yn chield cheayrt hass mee ec y chronk shoh, oraid y yannoo, bunnys feed vleeaney er dy henney, dooyrt mee nagh row Tynvaal ny reiltys va gobbraghey er son Mannin as er son ny Manninee, agh sorch dy vuggane va gobbraghey er e hon hene. Shen yn oyr nagh vel peiagh erbee er yannoo caghlaa erbee voish cheu sthie y vuggane shen. Cha dug Illiam Dhone e vioys er son shen. Lhissagh da dychooilley oltey jeh Tynvaal smooïnaghtyn er shen. Cre vees yn checkteraght oc? Mannin son ny Manninee as nyn baitechyn, berchaght ny boght, ny cheer vrisht as ry-chreck gys y pheccah lesh yn wallad smoo?

Gura mie eu.

## Manx Oration glossary and precis

### Glossary

snapperal - staggering  
 geyre-ghaue - crisis  
 sonnaase - arrogance  
 lhieggey - debacle  
 s(c)heckteraght - legacy

### Precis

Chief Minister Tony Brown has admitted that we must face economic realities.

Tynwald stumbles from crisis to crisis and escapes with the luck of fools.

This country has been in economic straits since the MEA debacle and the continued dependence on VAT is foolish.

The current ministerial system of government is damaging and we will see no change in the quality of government as

long as we have it.

Illiam Dhone did not lead the revolt against the Lord of Mann's wife to make us richer but to preserve our rights and liberties.

The members of Tynwald should think of that and of what legacy they will leave: a future for our children or a bankrupt country up for grabs.

# English Oration by Phill Gawne, MHK

Twenty years ago, the first time I had the opportunity to address this commemoration in English, I delivered an impassioned rhetoric rich speech in which I attacked government for being blinded by fool's gold. This was

something I felt very strongly and I had good reason to believe it at the time. I had had the opportunity to witness first hand some of the less savoury aspects of the poorly regulated Isle of Man finance industry of the 1980s and what I saw angered me.

I am told that with age comes wisdom and perhaps looking back at my 'angry young man' speech of twenty years ago, I could have qualified some of my rhetorical flourishes and brought balance to the more radical prose. I could indeed

have given a less colourful and more measured address but such moderate words and mainstream language would have been unlikely to stir the hearts of those assembled.

We should remember, however, the words of our great Manx hero, Illiam Dhone, whose actions we are here to commemorate. In his final words prior to his execution, Illiam Dhone chose not to attack or undermine the

blatantly corrupt establishment and process which led to his untimely and tragic demise. He sought instead to make clear his reasoning for surrendering our nation to the Parliamentary forces which were threatening our very existence.

In the 1776 Broadside which purported to represent Illiam Dhone's final words, he said 'from my soul I wish all animosity may after my death be quite laid aside and my death by none be called in question.' He also stated 'how unjust the accusation is, .... , that the then rising of the people, in which afterwards I came to be engaged, did not at all, or in the least degree, intend the prejudice or ruin of that family ...' by which he was referring to the Stanley's. Explaining his actions he said 'you now see me here a sacrifice ready to be offered up for that which was the preservation of your lives and fortunes, which were then in hazard, but that I stood between you and your

... utter ruin.'

While these words clarify Illiam Dhone's intentions with regard to protecting the ancient rights, privileges and lives of the Manx people, it is also clear that he would not have been in a position to uniquely and fundamentally protect the foundations of our nation had he not been actively engaged in the work of the government of the Isle of Man. I would strongly argue that if you wish to significantly influence the direction in which our nation is headed you should follow the lead of our great Manx hero, Illiam Dhone, and actively engage with the political system which endeavours to represent you. In less than nine months time the people of our Island will choose a new House of Keys - so if you want

change, stirring rhetorical speeches will not be enough - you should either stand as a candidate or actively support candidates who wish to bring about the change you are seeking.

So where are we two decades after I first addressed this commemoration' Twenty years on we have one of the most tightly regulated finance sectors in the world as anyone trying to open a

bank account in the Isle of Man will attest. Of course there remains some philosophical criticism of the very root on which our finance sector relies and attractive, if not overly simplistic, arguments can be created which support this criticism. However, the root of the sector which lies

at the heart of our economy has developed as an essential part of the capitalist system which governs global finance. In a fairer world the criticisms directed at us would first be directed at the large countries and international institutions which have allowed the current global financial crisis to develop - but as all playground bullies know its safer

to pick a fight with the small guys. As the Isle of Man, and indeed other small well regulated finances centres are discovering, facts and fairness are rarely allowed to interfere with the intentions and economic competitiveness of our larger neighbours. As Illiam Dhone found to his cost and the Isle of Man Government is seeing increasingly often, 'might is right' and once again our nation has to try to reinvent itself, second guessing the meaning of international standards and rules which seem to be interpreted by our larger

neighbours in ways wholly designed to suit their own self serving economic interest.

Our closest neighbours have shown that when the chips are down we cannot rely on their support. Indeed it could be reasonably argued that the UK has demonstrated clear ambivalence if not outright hostility to our nation, being much more foe than friend in recent times. Cutting our ties immediately with our largest trading partner would of course be be politically naive and economic madness but the time has certainly come for the Isle of Man to develop new international relationships and refresh and strengthen old political acquaintances.

I have never hidden my belief that the Isle of Man will ultimately be better off when it is dependent on no-one, and the UK has been doing its best to wean us off any remaining economic advantage our current constitutional relationship provides. The time is coming when constitutional independence for our nation will become a realistic and economically viable prospect. If that independence is to become a reality we need more people to show the commitment shown by Illiam Dhone to engage with 'the system' and be in the right place to make the important decisions which will need to be taken. Criticising from the sidelines is easy but ultimately

## **Yn Arrane Ashoonagh**

O Halloo nyn dooie  
O Chliejeen ny s' bwaai  
Ry gheddyn er ooir aalin Yee  
Ta dt' Ardstoil Reill-Thie  
Myr Baarool er ny hoie  
Dy reayll shin ayns seyrsnys as shee.

Lhig dooin boggoil bee  
Lesh annym as cree  
As croghey er gialdyn y Chiarn  
Dy vodmayd dagh oor  
Treishteil er e phooar  
Dagh olk ass nyn anmeenyn 'hayrn.

## **The National Anthem**

O land of our birth  
O gem of God's earth  
O Island so strong and so fair  
Built firm as Barrool  
Thy throne of Home Rule  
Makes us free as thy sweet mountain air.

Then let us rejoice  
With heart, soul and voice  
And in the Lord's promise confide  
That each single hour  
We trust in His power  
No evil our souls can betide.

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unrewarding - had Illiam Dhone confined himself to this, we would have been absorbed into the UK and we would not be here today to commemorate his life and tragic death.

There is a time and place for measured and balanced speeches and Hango Hill on the 2nd of January is not it. We have enough politicians in Tynwald who have chosen to make careers out of criticising decision makers from the safety and comfort of the political fence. What we need is people with the clarity of purpose and self-sacrificing commitment of Illiam Dhone. We need politicians with the vision and drive to develop a future for our nation which may involve constitutional independence for our Island. A sovereign Manx state could join alliances of other small countries - the Nordic countries which populate the European Economic Area may well provide valuable allies. Such vision must of course be tempered by economic and political realism but if we are continually pushed further and further away by the UK we may well see the day when our economic, social and cultural interests are better suited by new constitutional relationships and international alliances.

Illiam Dhone's actions ensured the survival of our small nation and allowed us to be in the position we are today to consider its future. When the large countries of the world are hurting financially it is a challenging time to be a small nation. Your actions in the next twelve months can help ensure that we have in place the right political leadership to protect and grow the legacy of Illiam Dhone.

Phil Gawne MHK