



Yn Habyr Seyr

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Laa Cooinaghtyn Illiam Dhone 2020 - Roie Raa 'sy Ghaelg liorish Markys y Kermitt

Faillt erriu ooilley gys Laa Cooinaghtyn Illiam Dhone, sy vlein Daa Housane as Feed. Yn cliahtey ain rish ymmodee bleintyn, shen goaill toshiaght lesh roie-raa mychione y vlein chaarie, as eisht oraid Ghaelgagh as oraid elley 'sy Vaarle.

Yn vlein shoh, bee daa oraid scanshoil 'sy Vaarle mychione chyndaays ny h'emshyr as nyn gurrym rish y chymbyllaght as myr shen, reih shin jannoo yn roie-raa 'sy Ghaelg as y Vaarle neesht.

Ta fys ec paart jiu nagh mie lhiam jannoo chyndaays jeh'n Ghaelg gys y Vaarle agh, cha nel monney reih aym yn laa shoh. Streisht lhiam dy bee sherveish cadjin er ny aa-chur er bun 'sy vlein ry-heet.

Va Illiam Dhone er ny chur gy baase cour fendail as sauail they Vannin. Jeeagh orrin nish. Ta they Vannin bunnys er ny chur mow as ga dy vel ashooneyrin dy mennick cur loghtyn

er yn R.U., t'eh orrin goaill rish dy vel drogh staid nyn jeer, er y chooid smoo, kyndagh rish drogh reiltys 'syn ellan here.

Ta'n Kiare as Feed bunnys dyn niart erbee. C'raad ta'n niart firrinagh? Vel eh ayns Coonseil ny Shirveishee? Cha nel eh. Myr smoo as ny smoo, ta'n niart politickagh 'syn ellan nish ny lhie eddyr Oik Coonseil ny Shirveishee as Oik yn Turneyr Theayagh as ta'd bunnys dyn rick politickagh.

Rish daa vlein dy l'eh nish, ta Howard Quayle goll dy mennick gys Lunnin dy heet quaiyl fo hirveishagh ennagh dy loayrt mychione yn R.U. faagail Yn Oarpey. Bunnys dagh shiaghtain, ta fo shirveishagh as skeeyle noa ayn. As choud's ta Sisyphus rolley e chlag, ta Mannin goll fo.

Ta bankyn bee ayns Manninagh ta ram sleih berchagh nagh vel geek keeshyn feue. Ta sleih faagail Mannin er yn oyr nagh vel red erbee feue ayn. Ta

Manninee faagail er yn oyr nagh vel ee Mannin nish myr t'ad smooinghyn urree. Ta shin lane dy leih ta jeeaghyn er Mannin myr agh nyn lyst startaghyn as bea y vishaghey as shen ooilley. As ta Sisyphus rolley e chlagh.

Agh cre agh fodmayd cur lhietrymmys er y laou shoh? Seign da'n reiltys aa-hoie keeshyn dy ve kynjagh son ooilley sleih as co-lughtyn ayns Mannin. Seign da'n reiltys goaill rish nagh jean tooilley sleih jannoo veg er son Mannin. Seign da ooilley ny politickeyryn toiggal nagh vel shoh yn R.U. Peiagh erbee ta gearree chyndaa red ennagh dyn oyr agh "cur shin er y raad cheddin as yn R.U." dyn feue dooin myr oltey jeh'n reiltys.

As my ta'n reiltys cha boirrit mychione yn RU faagail yn Oarpey as ta ooilley ny turryssyn gys Lunnin soilshaghey magh, beign da'n reiltys geddyn rea rish yn cordailys keeshyn cadjin as dellal dy jeeragh rish yn Oarpey.

Illiam Dhone Commemoration 2020 introduction in English by Mark Kermodé

Welcome all to the 2020 Illiam Dhone Commemoration. Our practice for many years has been to open with a preamble about the past year and then have a Manx followed by an English oration.

This year, there will be two important English orations about climate change and our responsibilities to the environment and so we chose to do the pre-ambles in Manx and English.

Some of you know that I don't like translating the Manx to English but I don't have much option today. I hope normal service will be resumed next year

Illiam Dhone was executed for defending and saving the Manx community. Look at us now. The Manx community is almost destroyed and although nationalists often blame the U.K. for various ills, we have to admit

that the poor state of our nation is largely due to mis-governance within the Island itself.

The Keys are almost powerless. Where is the real power? In the Council of Ministers? No. Increasingly, political power in the island lies between the Cabinet Office and the Attorney General's Chambers and they are almost without political control.

For two and a half years now, Howard Quayle has been going regularly to London to meet some junior minister to talk about the UK leaving Europe. Almost each week, there is a new junior minister and story. And while Sisyphus rolls his rock, the Isle of Man goes under.

There are foodbanks in the Isle of Man but there are many rich people who don't pay meaningful taxes. People are leaving the Isle of Man because there's

little worthwhile here. There are Manx people leaving because this is no longer the Isle of Man as they know it. We are full of people who look on the Isle of Man as a means to expand their CV and that's all. And Sisyphus rolls his stone.

But how can we check this rot? The government must re-set taxes to be uniform for individuals and companies in the Isle of Man. The government must acknowledge that more people will not help the Isle of Man. All politicians must understand that this is not the UK. Anyone one who wants to change something simply "to bring us into line with the UK". is of no use to us as a part of government.

And if the government is as bothered by Brexit as all the trips to London indicate, then it must get rid of the Customs and Excise Agreement and deal directly with Europe.

Achievable Environmentalism - The route to a sustainable economy, increased wealth and greater social equality

by Devon Watson, Isle of Man Climate Change Coalition and Fare Free Campaign

I'm with the Climate Change Coalition and the Fare Free Campaign.

The Coalition is an unprecedented union of Manx social and political organisations with a shared goal. Our aim is to both encourage, and support, our government to address climate change by working in three areas:

Reduce emissions, (measured against interim targets), invest in renewables and keep our sustainability promises to UNESCO re our Biosphere status.

What are environmentalists in the Isle of Man calling for?

Warm, insulated homes so that we don't have massive heating bills in winter. No one should be left cold.

National renewable energy infrastructure. Energy independence allows us to keep the money here on the island instead of sending it abroad to oil producing dictatorships.

More support for Manx businesses and for people to buy Manx products.

A decent, **free** public transport system to connect the Island, reduce our carbon emissions and improve the lives of working families on the Isle of Man.

Costs have risen but incomes have not. Transport makes up 15% of an "average" household's budget. Free public transport would cost less than 0.6% of the government's budget.

Free public transport is an essential tool in the fight against climate change and inequality. We can have cleaner, quieter towns and villages. There would be easier parking and less traffic. We can create community spaces. We can reduce the level of danger on our roads.

But most importantly, for the first time in decades, we can shift the conversation away from how can government more efficiently make cuts to essential services and towards expanding and improving economic rights and services we receive from the state.

Politicians should enact environmental pledges in their manifestos and listen to experts and scientists.

We are the only country in the world to achieve biosphere status. We have to protect the biosphere and natural beauty of our island.

An economy that is sustainable and works for ordinary people.

What aren't we saying?

We aren't saying climate change is any one person's fault, we are fighting a corrupt and broken system, not any one individual or group of people.

We don't expect anyone to be perfect, just do the best you can.

We aren't looking to get rid of flying, electronics, clothing or meat.

We aren't fighting people, we are fighting the system.

We want alternatives to destructive products and behaviours, and we don't think that using plastic or flying makes you a bad person.

Try recycle and reduce consumption where you can, but these have a relatively small impact compared to our inefficient energy, housing and transport infrastructure.

The system doesn't work for any of us and we need reform.

Devon Watson

Brexit and the Future of Mann

by Stephen Robinson

Brexit, a word that I am sure we are all sick and tired of hearing about, but that very same word may indeed carry with it many repercussions here on this island. As the UK parliament in-fight amongst themselves the future for the Isle of Man seems very uncertain, let me be the first to warn you of what I believe to be the most likely outcome if Britain falls into a no deal Brexit, one that very much still seems a great risk.

With a no deal Brexit, the Island will suddenly find itself outside the free trade market of the European Union and with this comes increased prices in trade items from both Europe and Britain meaning increased prices in essentials such as food, medicine and oil.

Why are these risks even a possibility to a small island that was never a member of the European Union to begin with? We are, as most will know, represented by the United Kingdom on the international stage, including our relationship to the rest of Europe. Without control over our representation on the global stage we are much like a small boat set adrift at sea and ravaged by waves, we cannot choose our heading we can only hope that the Brit at the helm makes the right decision for us. I see our situation as such, Britain is a sinking ship and we must move as far away as possible or risk being dragged down with her.

Editorial comment: *The UK's exit from the EU does not preclude Mannin from negotiating our own trading relationship with the EU if we scrap the Customs and Excise Agreement. There is certainly nothing to suggest that goods coming from Europe would be any more expensive than previously. Interestingly, when the EU effectively scrapped internal duties, there were no reductions in prices to the consumer.*

Ultimately, the answer is independence but in the interim, the re-establishment of our own customs borders is the obvious answer.

Climate Change and the Isle of Man - Must we? Can we? Will we?

Paul Craine

I am surprised but delighted to be speaking here today at the annual Iliam Dhone commemoration of 2020. I am grateful to Mec Vannin for the opportunity and want to give recognition to their long-standing environmental commitment.

Like every island resident, I like to talk about the weather. I heard a story of some good folk from the Isle of Man visiting Hong Kong in the days before its current troubles. They could see it was 'blowing a bit of a hoolie' even by Isle of Man standards, but it didn't keep them in. Only when they asked why the shops were shut on a weekday did they discover it was '...because of the typhoon'.

More precisely, today, at the start of 2020, I'd like to talk about the Isle of Man's response to climate change – and I've been asked to do that in just 5 minutes so I want to look at three simple questions. In doing this I am not claiming any moral high ground – I have started on a journey but I know I have a long way to go to reduce my personal carbon footprint.

Three questions then: Must we change? Can we change? Will we change?

Scientific debate about whether or not the climate is changing has long ended. The planet is almost 1°C warmer than it was in the 1880s.

The Isle of Man's annual temperature records go back to 1948 and show a 0.9°C increase since then – in line with the global picture. There is no such thing as natural weather here any more. The air around us is warmer – it has higher energy levels, it can hold more water, it will bring more frequent extreme weather events.

Must we change? A rise in global temperatures of just under 1°C doesn't sound very much –but its effects are all too obvious. Sea level and sea temperatures have risen, hurricanes are more powerful, wildfires have multiplied, flood events have increased, polar ice is melting, glaciers are retreating, deserts are expanding, species extinctions are on

the increase, millions of people are being affected by water shortage and poor crop yields.

And the evidence that this climate change is primarily the result of burning of fossil fuels is overwhelmingly supported by the world's scientific community. If carbon dioxide levels rise, UN forecasts suggest we will see a temperature rise of 4°C by the end of this century with some areas of the planet becoming uninhabitable and one billion climate refugees.

We cannot continue like this. There can be no doubt that 'we must change'.

Some people have suggested that the Isle of Man is so small that nothing we do here can possibly affect the global climate – but the same can be said for Burnley, Halifax, Chester and hundreds of towns with roughly the same population as ours. The reality is that all communities must do their part.

Can we change? Undoubtedly we can. Renewable energy is available to us. The wind power potential for the Isle of Man is enormous – we have one of the best wind regimes in Europe. There are many options opening up for the storage of renewable energy. Solar energy and both ground and air-source heat pumps may also have something to offer.

In the coming weeks we will have the publication of the Climate Emergency Action Plan.

Our hope is that over the next 30 years this plan will bring about a series of transformations in the Isle of Man. It will change the way we generate electricity with the shift to renewables starting very soon. It will revolutionise in the way we heat our homes and workplaces. It will extend the use of low carbon construction methods to build zero carbon houses and will organise the retro-fitting of our existing housing stock. It will transform the way we travel – with increased use of public transport, electric vehicles, low carbon ships and aircraft. It will encourage new

approaches to farming to secure the carbon storage of the Island's soils.

We have high expectations. Can we change? Yes we can. There will be many new jobs along the way – and we will live in a cleaner, healthier world with richer biodiversity.

Will we change? We must change – we can change – but the answer to this third question is not a foregone conclusion. The December round of the UN Conference of the Parties – COP25 in Madrid – ended with a lack of connection between what scientists say must happen if we are to avoid the worst of climate change and what countries are offering in terms of carbon reductions.

One emerging debate is whether we face a choice between enjoying economic growth or stopping climate change? Could the right sort of economic development enable us to reach zero carbon – or is it our over-consumption and obsession with GDP that got us into this mess in the first place. I have heard all of this from the audiences that have attended my Climate Reality presentations.

A couple of weeks ago I met someone who I know to be very environmentally aware. He told me this: "I think we are on the way down". "What do you mean I asked?" "Everything I know about humanity" he replied – "and everything I know about climate change – tells me we are not going to prevent the worst happening." I do not share that view - but I know we have got a lot to think about.

So 'Will we change'? It is almost 30 years since I first started teaching about climate change at A level just down the road at Castle Rushen High School. By the Earth Summit in Rio in 1992 – the governments of the world understood the problem – but the world's carbon dioxide emissions have risen in every year since then. Globally we have made no visible progress so far. It is not an exaggeration to say that the future of the planet is in the hands of the current generations. We cannot afford to get this wrong.

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Yn Arrane Ashoonagh

O Halloo nyn dooie
O Chliejeen ny s' bwaai
Ry gheddyn er ooir aalin Yee
Ta dt' Ardstoyl 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.

m e c v a n n i n

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or you can find us on facebook at

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The Editor of Yn Pabyr Seyr can be emailed at

editor@mecvannin.im

And our Secretary can be written to at

The Mec Vannin Secretary

6 Glenfaba Road

Peel

Isle of Man

IM5 1BU

Join us at the Compton Vaults after the Hill Ceremony

For those of us who wish to pass on the Malew Church service, Compton Vaults in Castletown will be hosting the post Hill Ceremony gathering again this year. We would like to thank Mr Juan Christian, proprietor of the Compton Vaults for both providing the premises.

The Compton Vaults are accessed from a street level door as you enter the Castletown Grammar School car park by the old House of Keys building.

Mec Vannin's Continued Support for the Food Bank

In 2018, Mec Vannin began supporting the Isle of Man Food Bank based in Tromode. The Bank relies on donations from various sources for food itself but the running costs to maintain premises, insurance, etc. requires hard cash. In support of this, we are circulating donation buckets prior to the Illiam Dhone Ceremony for this cause. Please give generously. The food bank provides temporary respite to vetted, needy people and families.

Climate Change - Must we? Can we? Will we?

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I urge every one of us, and our Government, to recognize the journey we are on, to learn as we go, to hear the voices of our young people, to make - or accept - decisions that will make the world a better place for our children's children. We must change - we can change - I believe we will change.

Paul Craine