

Vote For

Anthony Stuart Wright

The right man for Rushen

Make your vote count and bring politics
back to the people.

If you require assistance in anyway on
polling day please do not hesitate to ask.

If you need a proxy vote or a postal vote, let me know
and I will get the forms for you.

You can contact me on 834567 or 470379 or by e-mail
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Vote right – Get Wright

Direct – Dependable – Determined



My name is Anthony Stuart Wright but everybody calls me
Tony. I live in Port Erin and I am married with two grown up
children, who still live at home.

I am standing for election as one of the representatives of the
Rushen area to the House of Keys in the forthcoming
general election.

I hope that you can spare a few moments to read this leaflet as
it points out my manifesto policies.

I shall be standing as a member of the Liberal Vannin Party
and in that capacity I shall work for the people of the Island in
general and the people of Rushen in particular.

You have the vote – you have the power
The Choice is Yours!

A general election is approaching and once more people will be asking you to vote for them. Before I ask you to vote for me it is only right that I tell you something about myself. I was born in Manchester, the fourth of five children. I first came to the Isle of Man when I was 12. I camped at Glen Wyllan with the Boys' Brigade and told my brother that one day I would live here. I have always loved the Isle of Man and so does my family. I teach at Castle Rushen High School and I live in Port Erin with my wife, Cath, and my grown up children, Lee and Kelly. I am a Commissioner in Port Erin; am on the committee working to save Port Erin Marine Biological Station; was the President of the NASUWT and have done various things for charity. I believe that the Isle of Man has to be run efficiently in order to retain its independence in the future.

The present Government promised that it would improve the quality of life on this lovely Island by:

- * Sound economic progress * Social well-being for all
- * Good government * A positive national identity
- * Sound infrastructure * Providing a quality environment.

23rd November 2006 is the date when you can let this government know if you think that they have kept their word. Personally, I think that they have fallen short of what they set out to do. So what can I offer you? How can I convince you that a vote for me would not be wasted? I offer no promises that I know I won't be able to keep. What I do promise is that I will always work for the good of the constituents of Rushen, who think that I can help them, in a direct, dependable and determined way.

So what are my manifesto pledges?

They are:

I will be **DIRECT** in dealing with Government on behalf of **all** the constituents of Rushen, irrespective of their age, occupation or status

I will be **DEPENDABLE** in helping to improve the quality of life for **all** the residents of the Island.

I will be **DETERMINED** that Government is accountable for its actions. No more cover-ups and no more sweeping under the carpets; I will not accept a place in Government, I will have a place in parliament. Parliament should keep Government in check. I further pledge my **determination** in actively striving for Government reform including an elected Legislative Council and reduced power for the Council of Ministers.

The Chief Minister has said that the Manx people do not want change; that they are happy to let things go on as they are. The Liberal Vannin Party does not agree. We say that the people of the Isle of Man—all the people of the Isle of Man—are waiting for a change; a change of Government.

Who is right?

The choice is yours – use your vote to keep things as they are or **go for change!**

Why have we formed a new political party?

People are asking this question all the time. They say that the system of independent candidates is fine. One MHK has stated “if the wheel ain’t broken, why fix it?” We believe that the ‘wheel’ is in need of fixing. In the present situation MHKs are not held to account by their constituents except at election time. They can be ‘all things to all men’. By signing up to the Liberal Vannin Party I will be obligated to stand by all the points of the Party Statement, so I will have to adhere to my manifesto pledges

In addition, by being a part of an organised political body, there will be support within the Keys and Tynwald to introduce the legislation required for carrying out our programme of reform. If we act as a co-ordinated group we can apply pressure to get things done. Too often, we have seen legislation that is against the interests of the people of the Island nodded through by the block vote of the ‘One Party State’ that is the reality of our present system of independent members relying on patronage for political advancement.

We believe that the members of the House of Keys and Tynwald are there for the good of the people and not to further their own ends and feed their own ambitions.

We firmly believe that all ministers should be members of the Keys and no ministers should sit on the Legislative Council.

We aim to return politics to the people. This is not empty rhetoric but a sincere promise based on the belief that the present government has removed itself from the population of the Island. A Minister has even said this in a recent interview that can be seen on Manx TV.

Everybody in Government should be held accountable for Government’s actions—praise given where it is due and ownership of errors when they occur. We all make mistakes but we should be able to accept responsibility for our mistakes—not shrug them off as seems to be the policy of Government at the moment.

What can I do for the constituents of Rushen?

Each constituent has individual needs and his/her own agenda; however there are general projects that can be done for the benefit of all such as the provision of a comprehensive local health service at the Old Southlands building; the provision of a protected green belt park on the Ballakilly lands incorporating a BMX cycle track, a pitch and clubhouse for the Nomads, a skate park, children’s play area and a landscaped area for walking and sitting. (This land has to be protected from becoming yet another housing estate.); the re-generation of the inner areas of Port Erin and Port St. Mary as commercial and retail areas; the development of a marina in the South and greater cooperation between the local government authorities in the case of housing and waste collection. With a 20% reported increase in crime we need more police on the streets and in the villages I will, therefore, put pressure on the Department of Home Affairs to remove the capping of police resources.

I will work with the Liberal Vannin Party to establish a housing policy that serves the needs of the population.

If elected I guarantee that **all** constituents will be able to discuss their needs and problems with me on a personal level. Also, that I will hold monthly public meetings where all constituents will be able to seek redress or merely check that I will be doing my job. I will maintain a highly visual presence in the constituency and will be approachable, empathetic and understanding. I will help in any way that I can but I will not make any false promises nor pretend that I know all the answers. Only fairy godmothers have magic wands I’m afraid. But I do promise that I will be open, honest, direct and dependable in everything I do. I can promise no more than that other than to be:

- **Direct** in my dealings with Government
- **Determined** to help anyone who asks me
- **Dependable** in all my dealings with the constituents of Rushen.

What about the National Picture?

I believe that the Island needs a more open and accountable system of Government. There seems to exist a legislative culture of secrecy and exclusivity regarding some of the major decisions that have been made. There are still parts of the User Agreement that are kept secret, as one example. The reluctance of Government to own up to mistakes and accept the responsibility for actions that have occurred has not gone down well with the electorate of the Island. I also feel that the time is right for some radical reforms in the political area.

The Government's stated aim was to improve the quality of life for all on the Island. Life is better in some areas but the more vulnerable sectors of our society e.g. Senior Citizens, young homeless and others are at best, no better off and at worse, their quality of life has deteriorated.

The obvious points of bad performance of course are the MEA scandal, the IRIS debacle, the 'Energy from Waste' waste (forgive the pun) and the Mount Murray affair. I personally think that the Government has been aloof in its attitude to the electorate, is out of touch with the population's needs and is now a self-serving oligarchy.

Everybody wants affordable housing – well, almost everybody; some want to keep the prices high! The only way to keep the prices down is to apply pressure on Government and the developers from within the House of Keys and Tynwald. I have to declare an interest here, as I have two grown up children who cannot afford to get on to the housing ladder **despite**

having good, well paid jobs. How do less fortunate young people manage? The answer is that they don't. As a member of a board of commissioners I see the heartache and desperation of young couples seeking homes. It is a disgrace on this 'affluent' Island of ours and something has to be done. As a member of the Liberal Vannin Party, I believe that our prospective housing strategy will go some way to addressing this crisis—for crisis it is for as lot of us.

What will the Liberal Vannin Party do?

As a member of the Liberal Vannin Party I believe that a society is judged by the way that it values its more vulnerable members. We would seek to introduce legislation that would enable us to deal with the problems that are facing some of our people.

Because we are custodians of this Island for our children and grand children, we must safeguard its future; its environmental as well as commercial future. We will have to cut carbon emissions, provide an integrated and efficient public transport system utilising the rail system infrastructure as well as the public road transport system and make this system more 'user friendly'.

The first Bill we will lay before the House of Keys is one that will allow access to low cost housing—The Shared Equity Housing Bill. This will be our priority if we are elected. We hold to the principle that homes are nests, not nest-eggs. We will also introduce assisted housing for the vulnerable. All details of these policies are contained in our Party Statement.

Other Bills will follow that will deal with assistance for senior citizens and low income groups who are having problems with fuel costs; research into renewable energy strategies; freedom of information and conflicts of interest where such conflicts interfere with the ethical workings of government.

We will work for a popularly elected Legislative Council that will still have the right to veto but such use of the veto will have to be publicly explained and justified.

The Liberal Vannin Party will work to preserve the integrity, independence and good reputation of the Isle of Man in international affairs and will not condone any business practice or strategy that diminishes the reputation of the Island with the rest of the world.