



News Release

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Mr Laurence Skelly on 835061

New co-ordinator appointed for Tynwald Day enhancements

The Tynwald Sub-Committee charged with enhancing Tynwald Day has appointed a new co-ordinator.

Laurence Skelly, 41, of Port St Mary, takes over from Captain Andrew Douglas, following his election to the House of Keys. Captain Douglas is continuing to assist the Sub-Committee during the changeover period.

Mr Skelly was welcomed to his first meeting of the Tynwald Setting Enhancement Sub-Committee on Monday by President of Tynwald Noel Cringle.

Mr Cringle said: 'This year's Tynwald Day will have special significance for many people with the attendance of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. Her visit is only brief and it will be important that following the Tynwald Ceremony there is plenty of activity and entertainment. Organising the various groups takes initiative and enthusiasm and I am confident Laurence will be an ideal replacement for Andrew Douglas.'

Mr Skelly, who is married with two children, has recently returned to the Isle of Man after spending 15 years as president of a multifaceted travel company he founded in California. Originally from Ramsey, he has wide-ranging experience in business, IT and project management.

Mr Skelly said: 'I have vivid memories of attending Tynwald Day in my youth and I'm delighted to be part of the team responsible for enhancing the entertainment side of our national day. I have regularly returned for Tynwald Day escorting several North American Manx groups. It has developed in recent years to incorporate a variety of traditional music, dance and entertainment, and I look forward to building on that this year and into the future.'

Mr Skelly has written, on behalf of the sub-committee, to all individuals and organisations which have been involved in recent years. However, anyone who wishes to perform at St John's on July 7 who has not been contacted is welcome to write to him c/o the Department of Tourism and Leisure, Sea Terminal, Douglas, IM1 2RG or to email him - skelly@manx.net.

The Tynwald Setting Enhancement Sub-Committee reports to the Tynwald Ceremony Arrangements Committee. Sub-Committee members are President of Tynwald, Noel Cringle; Speaker of the House of Keys, Tony Brown; Education Minister, Steve Rodan; Department of Local Government and the Environment Minister, Pam Crowe and the Committee is clerked by Mrs Marilyn Cullen, Deputy Clerk of Tynwald.

ENDS

Photo captions

Skelly1: Present of Tynwald Noel Cringle (right) welcomes Laurence Skelly to the Tynwald Setting Enhancement Sub-Committee meeting yesterday

Skelly2: Laurence Skelly (second from left) is welcomed to the Tynwald Setting Enhancement Sub-Committee