

TYNWALD HONOURS COMMITTEE

FIRST REPORT

2007/2008

FIRST REPORT OF THE TYNWALD HONOURS COMMITTEE 2007/2008

At the sitting of Tynwald Court on 16th December 1998 it was resolved that -

- (1) nominations for inclusion in the Manx Patriots' Roll of Honour be vetted by a Committee of seven members appointed by Tynwald (to be called the Tynwald Honours Committee) and that the members of that Committee should be -
 - (a) the President of Tynwald *ex officio*;
 - (b) the Speaker of the House of Keys *ex officio*;
 - (c) five other Members of Tynwald, elected by Tynwald.
- (2) the Tynwald Honours Committee should be required to report to Tynwald at least once during the life of each House of Keys but not necessarily to make a recommendation;
- (3) any recommendation made by the Tynwald Honours Committee should be subject to the approval of a majority of the whole of Tynwald sitting in public and voting as one body.
- (4)
 - (a) the Manx Patriots' Roll of Honour be maintained in a prominent position in the public part of the Precincts of Tynwald;
 - (b) a plaque should be placed in a prominent position at a site in the Island appropriate to the person concerned;
 - (c) the Committee should be responsible for the erection and ongoing maintenance of the Manx Patriots' Roll of Honour and plaques; and
 - (d) where appropriate the Tynwald Honours Committee should consider presenting a suitable memento to the family of the person concerned.

At the December 2002 sitting of Tynwald Court the remit of the Committee was extended and amended as follows -

The Committee should be empowered to recommend to Tynwald to award honours to living Manx persons;

Tynwald should be empowered to confer honours in its own right, and

The composition of the committee should be reduced to five, three being elected by Tynwald Court with Mr President and Mr Speaker being *ex officio* members.

The Hon N Q Cringle OBE MLC President of Tynwald *ex officio*
(Chairman)

The Hon S C Rodan SHK *ex officio* (Garff)

Mr P Karran MHK (Onchan)

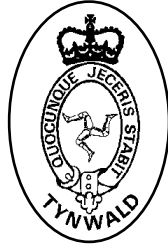
Mr E G Lowey MLC

Mr G H Waft MLC

The powers, privileges and immunities relating to the work of a committee of Tynwald are those conferred by sections 3 and 4 of the Tynwald Proceedings Act 1876, sections 1 to 4 of the Privileges of Tynwald (Publications) Act 1973 and sections 2 to 4 of the Tynwald Proceedings Act 1984.

Copies of this Report may be obtained from the Tynwald Library, Legislative Buildings, Finch Road, Douglas IM1 3PW (Tel 01624 685516, Fax 01624 685522) or may be consulted at www.tynwald.org.im

All correspondence with regard to this Report should be addressed to the Clerk of Tynwald, Legislative Buildings, Finch Road, Douglas IM1 3PW.



**To: The Hon Noel Q Cringle MLC, President of Tynwald, and
the Hon Council and Keys in Tynwald assembled**

FIRST REPORT OF THE TYNWALD HONOURS COMMITTEE 2007/2008

1. Background:

- 1.1 The Tynwald Honours Committee was originally established in December 1998 to propose names to Tynwald Court for inclusion in a Manx Patriots' Roll of Honour for deceased persons.
- 1.2 In December 2002 the Committee remit was extended to recommend to Tynwald the awarding of honours to living Manx persons, and associated with this, Tynwald was empowered to confer honours in its own right. A Report setting out the criteria for awarding of the Honour, the procedure for nomination of potentially suitable persons, the process for approval of such nominations and the procedure for presenting the Honour was approved by Tynwald Court in July 2005.
- 1.3 This Report will deal with both the Tynwald Honour and the Tynwald Patriots' Roll of Honour..

PART 2

THE TYNWALD HONOUR

- 2.1 The Tynwald Honour was first awarded in 2007. Mr Norman Alexander Sayle TH RI was the first individual to receive the Tynwald Honour, although due to ill health he was unable to receive it on

Tynwald Day 2007. The Honour was presented to Mr Sayle, by Mr President, on behalf of Tynwald Court at a private meeting in September 2007.

- 2.2 The Tynwald Honours Committee is aware that the Tynwald Honour does not need to be awarded annually. However, given the number of nominations received in 2007 and the fact that a number of unsolicited nominations were received in 2008, your Committee decided to invite nominations from members of the public of those who may be suitable to receive the Honour.
- 2.3 Consequently, the Committee issued a press release in January 2008 inviting members of the public to submit the names of those individuals who may meet these criteria. Members of Tynwald were also circulated with this invitation and requested to make nominations. In total 18 individual names were submitted for consideration. Of these 18, one name received four separate nominations and the remaining 17 one nomination each.
- 2.4 The agreed criteria for receiving the Tynwald Honour are as follows:
 - (a) The recipient does not need to be Manx born but must have spent a significant portion of his or her life in the Island;
 - (b) The recipient must have made an outstanding contribution to one or more areas of Manx life. Your Committee does not see the award as being purely for those who have made a contribution in politics and government;
 - (c) The recipient should have made this contribution over a significant period of time and demonstrated a selfless commitment in so doing;

- (d) The recipient must be motivated by the aim of promoting the quality of life in the Island and/or the well-being of its population; and
- (e) Normally a recipient would have to make an outstanding contribution in an area of life, which is not necessarily his or her normal area of employment. It is recognised, however, that in exceptional circumstances it may be appropriate for someone to be considered for the award because of their contribution made through their normal means of employment.
- (f) Because this award is to be a very high Honour there should be no expectation that it would be made annually. It would be made when someone is deemed to have met the criteria.

2.5 Each nominee was examined in detail by your Committee in the light of these criteria, as were those nominated unsuccessfully in 2007. A short list of three names was then drawn up and further detailed consideration was given to these.

2.6 As a result of this examination your Committee unanimously felt that Mr Harvey Briggs CP of Ballakilmartin, Onchan, would be a worthy recipient of the Tynwald Honour. This opinion was based upon his contribution to many aspects of Manx life, particularly agriculture, its associated industries and the Young Farmers Movement over very many years.

2.7 All Members of Tynwald were notified confidentially and in writing, of the name of the person the Committee felt would be a suitable recipient for the Tynwald Honour. Members were given the opportunity to submit comments and observations regarding that individual to your Committee. This procedure has been adopted in order to avoid the potential embarrassment of an individual's merits to receive the Honour being discussed in public on the floor of Tynwald Court.

- 2.8 Having given due regard to these comments and observations, your Committee has concluded that Mr Briggs would be a most suitable recipient of the Tynwald Honour on 7th July 2008.
- 2.9 Subject, therefore, to the approval of Tynwald Court, the Tynwald Honour will be presented to Mr Briggs in the Chapel on July 7th 2008 after the captioning of the Acts of Tynwald. The Honour would be presented by Mr President on behalf of the Members of Tynwald Court.
- 2.10 The recipient will receive a sterling silver medal, a vellum certificate and be entitled to use the abbreviation 'TH' after his name.

PART 3

THE TYNWALD PATRIOTS' ROLL OF HONOUR

- 3.1 The Roll of Honour is now displayed by means of a video presentation in the entrance lobby to the new Legislative Buildings. A hard copy of the Roll of Honour has also been produced and this will shortly be placed on permanent display.
- 3.2 The Roll of Honour is designed to give formal recognition to deceased persons who have made an outstanding contribution to Manx life, and it has always been the intention of your Committee to recommend to Tynwald Court additional names of individuals deemed worthy of inclusion.
- 3.3 With this in mind, your Committee is pleased to recommend to Tynwald Court the name of Miss Mavis Kelly for inclusion in the Roll of Honour. Miss Kelly made an outstanding contribution to Manx music over many years. Brief biographical details of Miss Kelly will be found in Appendix 1 of this Report.

- 3.4 The awarding of the Tynwald Honour is for living persons who have made an outstanding contribution to Manx life. However, if an individual is deemed worthy to receive the Tynwald Honour, it seems natural to the Committee that the individual's name should automatically be added to the Tynwald Patriots' Roll of Honour upon their decease.
- 3.5 With that in mind, your Committee considers that the name of Mr Norman Alexander Sayle TH RI should be added to the Manx Patriots' Roll of Honour.

RECOMMENDATION

- 4.1 Your Committee recommends that Mr Harvey Briggs CP be awarded the Tynwald Honour on 7th July 2008.
- 4.2 Your Committee recommends that the name of Miss Mavis Kelly be added to the Tynwald Patriots' Roll of Honour for services to Manx music.
- 4.3 Your Committee recommends that the names of all recipients of the Tynwald Honour are automatically added to the Tynwald Patriots' Roll of Honour upon their demise, and therefore the name of Mr Norman Alexander Sayle TH RI be added to the Roll forthwith.

The Hon N Q Cringle MLC (Chairman)

The Hon S C Rodan SHK

P Karran MHK

E G Lowey MLC

G H Waft MLC

May 2008

Parliamentary Copyright

available from:

The Tynwald Library Legislative Buildings
Finch Road
DOUGLAS
Isle of Man IM1 3PW
British Isles
Tel: 01624 685520
Fax: 01624 685522
e-mail library@tynwald.org.im

May 2008

Price: £2.00