

PP 2021/0052



**TYNWALD MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE**

**THIRD REPORT FOR THE
SESSION 2020-2021**

Tynwald Honours

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There shall be a Standing Committee of the Court on Management of the Clerk of Tynwald's Office.

The Committee shall be chaired by the Speaker of the House of Keys, the Vice-Chairman shall be the President of Tynwald and shall further be composed of two Members of the House of Keys and a Member of the Legislative Council.

The Committee shall -

- (i) oversee the management of the secretariat of the Office of the Clerk of Tynwald;*
- (ii) ensure that necessary services are provided for Members of Tynwald, that appropriate resources are made available to allow for such services and that such resources are properly used;*
- (iii) oversee the efficient and effective use of resources by the Clerk of Tynwald, who shall be the Accounting Officer for the Tynwald budget;*
- (iv) provide authority for setting staffing levels and overall terms and conditions of service of the staff of the Office of the Clerk of Tynwald;*
- (v) for the purposes of the Public Records Act 1999 be the Committee authorized to make decisions in relation to Tynwald papers;*
- (vi) be the Tynwald Management Committee referred to in section 3 of the Tynwald Auditor General Act 2011, with the relevant powers and responsibilities in relation to the Tynwald Auditor General; and*
- (vii) be the Tynwald Management Committee referred to in section 3 of the Tynwald Commissioner for Administration Act 2011, with the relevant powers and responsibilities in relation to the Tynwald Commissioner for Administration.*

The Committee shall consider nominations of deceased persons for inclusion in the Manx Patriots' Roll of Honour and may recommend to Tynwald the award of honours by the Court to living persons; and in relation to these duties –

- (i) The Committee shall report to Tynwald at least once during the life of each House of Keys, but not necessarily to make a recommendation.*
- (ii) Any recommendation made by the Committee shall be subject to the approval of a majority of the whole of Tynwald sitting in public and voting as one body.*
- (iii) The Committee shall be responsible for the erection and ongoing maintenance of the Manx Patriots' Roll of Honour, which shall be maintained in a prominent position in the public part of the Precincts of Tynwald.*
- (iv) A plaque shall be placed in a prominent position at a site in the Island appropriate to the person admitted to the Roll and the Committee may consider presenting a suitable memento to the family of the person concerned.*

The powers, privileges and immunities relating to the work of a committee of Tynwald include those conferred by the Tynwald Proceedings Act 1876, the Privileges of Tynwald (Publications) Act 1973, the Tynwald Proceedings Act 1984 and by the Standing Orders of Tynwald Court.

Committee Membership

The Hon J P Watterson SHK *ex officio* (Chair) (Rushen)

The Hon S C Rodan OBE MLC *ex officio* (Vice-Chair)

Mr T S Baker MHK (Ayre and Michael)

Mrs C A Corlett MHK (Douglas Central)

Mr R Mercer MLC

Copies of this Report may be obtained from the Tynwald Library, Legislative Buildings, Finch Road, Douglas, IM1 3PW (Tel: 01624 685520) 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, Isle of Man, IM1 3PW.

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To: The Hon. Stephen C. Rodan OBE MLC, President of Tynwald,
and the Hon. Council and Keys in Tynwald assembled

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I. BACKGROUND

1. The Tynwald Honours Committee was established in December 1998, following recommendations made by the Select Committee on Manx Patriots, to propose names to Tynwald for inclusion in a Manx Patriots' Roll of Honour for deceased persons.
2. In December 2002 the Committee's remit was extended to recommend to Tynwald the awarding of honours to living Manx persons: the Tynwald Honour.
3. At the May 2018 sitting, Tynwald Court considered the 'First Report of the Tynwald Standing Orders Committee for the Session 2017-2018 – Suspension of Members; Organization of Committees; Other Matters' [PP No 2018/0074] and agreed to the recommendation that the functions of the Tynwald Honours Committee be added to the remit of the Tynwald Management Committee.

II. THE TYNWALD HONOUR

4. The awarding of the Tynwald Honour is for living persons who have made an outstanding contribution to Manx life over a significant period of time and have demonstrated a selfless commitment in doing so. The names of recipients are listed in Annex A.

5. The Committee is aware that it is not required to make an award.
6. 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. The 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 wellbeing of its population;*
 - (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; and*
 - (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.*

III. METHOD OF COMMEMORATION

7. In June 2016 Tynwald approved the creation of a prominently located Manx Patriots' Roll of Honour Board and a Tynwald Honour Board. The Boards were made by the Manx Workshop for the Disabled and are located at St John's Chapel.
8. A dedicated section of the Tynwald website holds information about each recipient of the Tynwald Honour.

IV. NOMINATION FOR THE TYNWALD HONOUR

9. The Committee considered nominations in light of the agreed criteria and has proposed Mr Ian Cottier in recognition of his public service to the Isle of Man, particularly in the areas of education, music and the arts, and his long-term

voluntary work in the third sector. Mr Cottier is a proud Manxman who has contributed in many and varied ways to the Island.

10. The Committee is of the view in proposing Mr Cottier that he would be a very worthy recipient of the Tynwald Honour.

Biography

11. Alexander Lawrence Ian Cottier was born in Shore Road, Port St Mary in March 1936, son of Alexina May Cain (née Byth) of Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, and Joseph Albert Cottier of Ballacottier Farm, Glen Rushen.

Education

12. Mr Cottier was amongst the first cohort to attend the newly opened Castle Rushen High School, the Headmaster of which was the educational pioneer Godfrey Cretney (later Sir Godfrey Cretney).
13. After graduating in English from Manchester University, Mr Cottier's first teaching job was at the newly formed Regis Comprehensive School in Wolverhampton which was headed by his former headmaster, Godfrey Cretney.
14. Mr Cottier went on to work at various schools in the UK, as teacher, Department Head, Deputy Head and Headmaster, before returning to the Isle of Man.
15. On his return to the Island, Mr Cottier became Headmaster of The Douglas High School in 1976 where he had a central role in the 1985 reorganisation of the Douglas schools.
16. He then went on to the role of Headmaster of St Ninian's High School in 1985 where he taught until his retirement in 1994.

Manx Language, Culture & Spoken Word

17. Mr Cottier is a strong advocate of the Manx language and culture.
18. Following the reorganisation of Douglas schools in 1985, he introduced Manx language lessons for all pupils in years seven and eight. When the English government introduced the National Curriculum in 1987/88, the Island largely followed suit and time for Manx lessons was greatly reduced. He also promoted and celebrated the work of Archibald Knox in school.
19. Mr Cottier has lent his voice in making audio recordings including readings of tales from '*Manx Fairy Tales*' by Sophia Morrison.

20. He also recorded 10 tales written by Kathleen Killip for the CD collection '*St Bridget's Night: Stories from the Isle of Man*'; all proceeds from the two-disc CD were split between the Manx Blind Welfare Society and Manx Radio's Dreamcatcher Appeal.¹

Music & Arts

Brass Banding

21. Mr Cottier is probably best known for his long-standing involvement in the brass band scene in the Island, particularly as Vice-President of Rushen Silver Band and as presenter of Manx Radio's *Time for Brass* programme.
22. As well as being a member of Rushen Silver Band since the early 1950s, Mr Cottier has been an active supporter of all brass bands in the Island for over 40 years. He has been the organiser of numerous tours by visiting brass bands from the UK and was also previously the conductor of Crosby Silver Band.
23. The *Time for Brass* programme has been running for over 40 years (since the first programme aired in September 1980) and Mr Cottier is the longest running brass band radio presenter in the world. The Monday evening programme "*takes a weekly look into the Brass Band world with some fabulous music and news about the thriving 'Banding' movement on the Island*".²
24. In September 2020, it was reported that Mr Cottier had presented more than 2,000 editions of the programme; this was achieved in the week when the 40th anniversary edition of the show went out on Manx Radio. Previously he presented the show 'live' but in more recent years he has recorded the hour long show.³
25. Mr Cottier has continued to present for Manx Radio in other capacities such as election night coverage, charity auctions and other specialist programmes.

Theatre

26. Mr Cottier has been a volunteer steward for the Friends of the Gaiety for over thirty years.

¹ <http://www.isleofman.com/News/details/83367/recordings-of-stories-from-the-isle-of-man-to-benefit-charities>

² <https://www.manxradio.com/on-air/blogs/time-for-brass/>

³

<http://www.iomtoday.co.im/article.cfm?id=57749&headline=Ian%20has%20had%2040%20years%20to%20enjoy%20%27time%20for%20brass%27§ionIs=news&searchyear=2020>

27. The Friends of the Gaiety is a charity which aims to fund projects that restore the original Victorian splendour of the theatre as well as providing Front of House volunteers during performances.⁴

Other Work

Social / Care

28. For nearly 30 years, Mr Cottier has volunteered for the Manx Blind Welfare Society.⁵ As well as being a volunteer driver, one of his regular duties is the recording of the Society's news service for the visually impaired; these weekly recordings, of a selection of Manx news stories and articles, are then distributed to members.

29. Mr Cottier has volunteered for Care in Mann since 1994. Care in Mann⁶ is a voluntary organisation providing help and assistance for those who need it, across the Isle of Man, complementing the work of the statutory welfare services. Mr Cottier assists as a telephonist and driver, often driving people many years younger than himself.

30. Following his retirement, Mr Cottier also for some years acted as a volunteer driver for Isle of Man Hospice and the Salvation Army.

Sailing

31. From 1980 to 1999, Mr Cottier was on the Isle of Man Committee of the Sail Training Association (now known as the Tall Ships Youth Trust)⁷ which is the UK's oldest and largest sail training charity and is dedicated to enabling young people to develop their potential through adventures at sea. He was involved in both fundraising and the selection of young people for places on tall ships, both schooners, *Sir Winston Churchill* and *Malcolm Miller*, and brigs, *Stavros S. Niarchos* and *Prince William*.

32. Mr Cottier was also on the Isle of Man Committee of the Jubilee Sailing Trust⁸ from 1982 to 1999. His role involved fundraising to enable disabled adults and able-bodied 'buddies' to experience tall ship sailing on the *Soren Larsen*, *Lord*

⁴ <https://www.villagaiety.com/about-us/friends-of-the-gaiety/>

⁵ <http://www.mbws.org.im/>

⁶ <http://www.careinmann.org/>

⁷ <https://www.tallships.org/>

⁸ <https://jst.org.uk/>

Nelson and *Tenacious*, the latter two being purpose-built training ships that enable people of all abilities to experience sailing.

Isle of Man Government Planning Committee

33. Mr Cottier served as a lay member on the Isle of Man Government Planning Committee for 13 years with his last term ending in 2020.⁹

34. In addition to bringing a diligent and thorough approach to evaluating planning applications, he regularly corrected both mispronunciation of Manx place and street names and any grammatical errors in officers' recommendations!

Recommendation

That Tynwald approves Mr A. L. Ian Cottier be awarded the Tynwald Honour for his public service and charitable work on 5th July 2021.

J P Watterson (Chair)

S C Rodan

R Mercer

T S Baker

C A Corlett

March 2021

⁹ https://www.gov.im/media/1371253/pc-minutes-16th-november-20_compressed.pdf

V. ANNEX A – RECIPIENTS OF THE TYNWALD HONOUR

Norman Alexander Sayle RI TH	2007	Artist and Teacher
Harvey Briggs TH	2008	Farmer and Journalist
Ian Qualtrough JP TH	2009	Businessman and Entertainer
Dr Brian Stowell RBV TH	2010	Manx Gaelic Teacher and Broadcaster
His Honour Thomas William Cain CBE QC TH	2011	Conservationist and Constitutionalist
His Honour John William Corrin CBE QC TH	2012	Charitable work and Constitutionalist
Nadine Crowther MBE TH	2013	Charitable work with Hospice
Hector Duff MM BEM TH	2014	Public Service and Charitable work
Geoff Karran MBE TH	2015	Public Service and Charitable work
Bill Dale BEM TH	2018	Public Service and Charitable Work

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