

HOUSE OF KEYS BY-ELECTION  
DOUGLAS SOUTH  
Thursday 27th August 2020

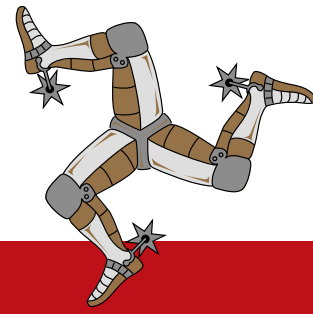
**Paul**  
**QUINE**

*For You  
and  
Your family!*



**Dear Constituent of Douglas South,**

***I am pleased to present to you my manifesto for the forthcoming by-election in the constituency.***



## **Who am I?**

My name is Stephen Paul Quine, always known as Paul, and I was born at the Jane Crookall Maternity Home on January 17th, 1969. I was brought up in Hibbin Lane, Anaghcoar.

I attended Pulrose Infants and Manor Park Primary Schools and was an enthusiastic member of 2nd Douglas Cub Pack and Scout Troop in addition to which I played football for Pulrose United.

On leaving school I became a director of my father's marine supply and solid fuel company, before I embarked on my career as a commercial airline pilot.

Undergoing my training at the British Aerospace Flying College at Prestwick, I graduated with a first time pass subsequently joining Manx Airlines as a First Officer and attaining the rank of Captain at the relatively young age of 29. I was in command of the final Manx Airlines flight on August 31st, 2002. Following the acquisition of Manx Airlines by British Airways I was based in Manchester flying on the European network subsequently being transferred to Flybe which allowed me to resume working on the Island.

## **Why am I standing?**

As a proud Manxman, throughout my life I have always held a deep passion for our Island. Therefore I wish to ensure Island continues to grow in a sustainable and managed way and that our children continue to be able to aspire to be what they want to be.

Coronavirus has taken a great toll on many but has also shown our Island at its best, notably the strong community spirit with many volunteering to help and aid the most vulnerable in our society.

It is vital for the wellbeing of our Island that we support our local businesses to enable our economy to recover in order to preserve and create local jobs.

Our key workers employed in the NHS, nursing homes, transport, product delivery and in retail are now rightly recognised for the vital role they play in our wellbeing. Both in the public and private sectors it is apparent to all of us how interdependent we are on each other.

The manifesto which I submit to you is formulated to enable you to gauge the person I am, and to give you a brief but concise position on my views in order to

allow you to make an informed decision on whether you should wish to vote for me. It is not exhaustive, and I would be happy to discuss any additional topics which you would wish to raise with me.

I am standing as a fully Independent Candidate. I am in no way affiliated to any political party and therefore I am not swayed by factional or partisan considerations. If elected my allegiance would be to you, and it is your advice and opinion which I would respect, value most and undertake to represent.

I would also like to publically acknowledge the former elected representatives in the constituency, Kate Costain and Bill Malarkey, who worked tirelessly to improve the quality of the lives of those they represented.

If elected I would seek to continue that legacy and to ensure that you, the people of Douglas South, have the future which you and your family so rightly deserve.

Paul.

## The Economy

Coronavirus has had the most devastating effect people's incomes and job security. The future for all of us depends on a diverse economic model, robust but flexible and driven by strong, sustainable transport links operated on behalf of our Island and for the benefit of our Island.

It is also of the highest importance that the government continues to support our service and hospitality industries, so important when our tourist industry revives, but we have our part to play too. Our economic

recovery is dependent on our use of local businesses, buying local produce when we can and perhaps enjoying a 'staycation' on our beautiful Island. In addition it is also equally important to attract new investment into our Island, to look to open dialogue with many of the world's emerging economies particularly those within the Commonwealth, affording favourable conditions so as new businesses can establish themselves here whilst nonetheless maintaining our hard-fought reputation with the European Union.

## Housing

Future housing developments in the area over the forthcoming years need to be environmentally acceptable and planned with adequate considerations with respect to the accompanying infrastructure.

I wholeheartedly support the government's two Shared Equity Schemes for first time buyers allowing many of our younger people to achieve the dream of buying their own home.

It is a fundamental right that good social housing is provisioned for those who need it, many of whom are often the most vulnerable in our society. Social injustice is all too often reflected in the allocation of housing and the proportion of rent which is levied on the tenant, sometimes in the region of 40% of their income. Social housing is a necessity for a significant proportion of people in Douglas South and Douglas Corporation must continue with the improvements to their housing stock within the constituency which adds significantly to the quality of people's lives.

In respect of sheltered housing I feel Hazel Court has been an immense success and I would like to see more constructed for older members of our community to provide them with a low maintenance and comfortable home in a safe and secure environment. It allows many of our older generation to retain their independence and in many cases it has freed up larger homes for younger people with families to acquire, thus rejuvenating the community.

## Law & Order

In order to be tough on crime we must be tough on the causes of crime. Growing up in south Douglas we had a local police station situated on Pulrose Road. This allowed the serving officer, P.C. Jim Whitelegg, an old-style bobby in the best traditions, to play an active part in the heart of the community. Whilst times may have changed our police still need to be seen interacting with the community, and this is best achieved by conducting regular patrols on foot.

The vast majority of crimes committed on our Island are by those who have a dependency on drugs or alcohol or who perhaps have certain mental health issues. If elected I would unflinchingly support the government's drug and alcohol strategy, so as it can continue to be able to offer an accessible programme to help people with mental health issues and to assist in the reduction of substance dependency with long-term additional support.

The sentencing of criminals is another area which needs urgent addressing. Like any decent person I was appalled by the recent case regarding the sexual assault of a child and the lamentable sentence which was handed down upon conviction. Our children have never been more exposed to the hidden approaches of sexual predators, and they require all the protection we can afford them. Without doubt any such instances of abuse or the sexual exploitation of our children should be met by the full weight of the law and sentencing guidelines need to be changed in order to reflect this. The punishment should fit the crime, and I make no apologies for saying that.

## Health

Our National Health Service is our proudest creation and its dedicated and selfless workers encompass everything which is best in our society.

We need to recognise the vital role such people play in our lives and I earnestly hope that what we have seen over the past few months actively encourages many of our young people, who may be deciding on a career path, what a rewarding and fulfilling career is available to them within the medical profession.

The Patient Transfer Service is something which I have direct experience with, and I know how much courteous and understanding staff can make the difference to people having to travel off-Island in order to receive medical care. It is of the utmost importance that every step is taken to ensure the highest levels of comfort to those travelling and to have their dignity respected at all times.

## Older Generation

**Whilst we talk so often about the mental wellbeing of our younger generation, we should always be mindful that members of our older generation often suffer from social exclusion and this can lead to a feeling of isolation and loneliness.**

**Our older generation are proud, decent people, many of whom have served their country and have worked hard all their lives in order to create the services and community which we can so often take for granted. Without doubt they are often the wisest people in our society, possessing the keenest insight and the shrewdest judgement as to what is, or what is not, the best direction for the future of the Isle of Man. Perhaps it is the benefit of age, but their lucid opinion and guidance is something which we ignore to our detriment.**

**Their retirement is one in which they should feel secure, without having to make a daily decision to either 'heat or eat', with free access to all modes of public transport without any prerequisite and a pension which preserves their dignity and allows them to live their lives with the independence so many cherish.**

**The old age pension is not a hand out. Our older generation are not asking for something for nothing. It is a right, not a privilege, and we must always remember and never lose sight of the fact that they have paid in.**

## Heating

On the Isle of Man, despite many disingenuous promises, the price of gas in particular remains excessively high. Far too many people on our Island are caught in what is referred to as 'fuel poverty' and continue to pay higher charges for KWh unit prices than consumers in the UK or in Ireland. Electricity costs remain unproportionately high with regard to unit costs and standing charges, and so the onus continues to fall on the consumer to pay in hard cash so as to correct for previous managerial folly.

If elected I would look to the setting up of a Consumer's Council, where appointed or elected members of the public, free from political interference, meet regularly with management from Manx Gas, the MEA, heating oil suppliers and the Office of Fair Trading so as to discuss current fuel prices. I would also look to ensure that the minutes of the meetings would be published in the local newspapers allowing everyone to clearly see and understand what was being discussed.

## Roads and Traffic

The roads of the Isle of Man were never designed to accommodate the levels of traffic which they now have to sustain and hundreds of cars commute in to and out of Douglas on a daily basis. I know many of you have grave concerns about roads within south Douglas being used as short cuts for commuters and the dangers which this represents.

It is impossible to upgrade most of our roads, not only because of cost but because of the infrastructure adjacent to them. My solution to the situation would be to re-open the Douglas – Peel railway line which would see the operation of a modern rail commuter service. This has the potential to take hundreds of cars off our roads, improving our environment and the safety of pedestrians in the constituency.

The TT Access road is approaching the end of its useful life and a major upgrading will be required within the next few years. It is vital that the upgrading allows the relaying of the track bed.

## Summary

Thank you for taking the time to read my manifesto, I hope some if not all of what I have outlined is agreeable to you. I look forward to meeting as many of you as is possible during the course of my canvassing and I would most welcome your valued opinion should you wish to discuss the matters outlined, or any other issues which for the sake of brevity I may of omitted.

The people of the Isle of Man are extremely astute. We cherish our Island and the quality of life it gives to us. If elected I will ensure that your vote counts, that your voice is heard and your issues are addressed.

If you agree that:

- We need to support our local business vital to the rebuilding of our economy in order to sustain and create local jobs.
- We need to continue with improving the quality and supply of affordable housing.
- We need address the issuing of tough and appropriate sentencing to those who seek to steal the innocence of our children and pray on the most vulnerable in our society.
- We need to preserve the dignity and welfare of our older generation.
- We need to continue to invest in our NHS and to ensure the best possible medical treatment for those who require it.
- We need to undertake the setting up of a Consumer's Council in order to achieve the fair pricing of our domestic heating.
- We need to pursue an environmentally acceptable way of reducing the traffic volumes in to and out of Douglas, thereby making a considerable effort to improve road safety.

Then please: **VOTE QUINE**

The by-election in South Douglas will take place on **Thursday, August 27th, 2020.**

Polling Stations will be open from 8am to 8pm and are located at:

- CDGS1 – Pulrose Methodist Church, Pulrose Road.
- CDGS2 – Anaghcoar Primary School, Darragh Way, Anaghcoar. IM2 2BA
- CDGS3 – Scoill Vallajeelt, Meadow Cresent, Braddan. IM2 INN

*If you would like transport on Election Day, please do not hesitate to contact me:*

**Cronk Aash, Bray Hill, Douglas. IM2 5AW**

**Telephone (07624) 499530**

**Email: paulquine@manx.net**

**Facebook: Paul Quine for Douglas South, or follow me on Instagram**