



**Isle of Man**  
**Government**

*Reilrys Ellan Vannin*



## Isle of Man Public Record Office

**S18**

**Records of the War Committee of Tynwald  
1939-1946**

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**S18**

## Records of the War Committee of Tynwald

**1939-1946**

**Alternative/previous reference numbers:** C266; C14A (part of)

**Accession number:** A28

**Extent:** 5 folders; 15 volumes

**Creator:** War Committee of Tynwald

### **Administrative History:**

The War Committee of Tynwald, or 'War Cabinet', was preceded by the War Emergency Committee appointed on 4 August 1939 to advise the Governor on matters relating to the threatened war. The Lieutenant-Governor told Tynwald on 28 November 1939 of his decision to replace the War Emergency Committee with a small committee 'for the purpose of consultation on the problems of the day'. The Governor's Executive Council and the Finance and Consultative Committees of the Keys were to continue. The new committee was 'to discharge emergency functions' and to meet weekly. Any proposals of a financial nature were to be submitted to Executive Council and the Finance Committee of the Keys. Proceedings were confidential. The first meeting was on 30 November 1939. On 1 November 1945 the name was changed to the General Advisory Committee. The final meeting was on 17 October 1946; an Executive Council, with some of the same members, had been appointed the previous day. The Committee dealt with a very wide range of matters - the price of goods, proposed legislation, winter employment, defence regulations, the development of local industries, air raid precautions and requisitioned properties, to give but a few examples.

### **Description of series:**

This series contains minutes of meetings of the War Committee of Tynwald. The name of the committee was changed to the General Advisory Committee on 1 Nov 1945. Two sets of minutes can be found within this series, both by the same author, the Chairman Deemster Cowley.

The first set, comprises duplicated carbon copies of typed minutes covering Nov 1939-Oct 1944. It also includes an additional handwritten volume titled '[House of] Keys and Tynwald Committee minute book' dating from Jun 1938-Dec 1942. This set was previously stored in the Central Government Office before transfer to the Isle of Man Public Record Office.

The second set comprises original typed minutes pasted into volumes, some signed by the Chairman. This set includes meetings from Oct 1944-Oct 1946 which are not included in the first set.

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## **Custodial History:**

Records formerly in consignment C266 (those catalogued as sub-series S18/2) were fully transferred to the Isle of Man Public Record Office under section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1999 on 22 April 2015 as part of A28. Prior to storage at the Public Record Office, the records had been stored at Tynwald Library and the Central Government Office.

Records formerly part of C14/A (those catalogued as sub-series S18/1) were fully transferred to the Isle of Man Public Record Office by the Cabinet Office under section 3(4) of the Public Records Act 1999 on 22 April 2015 as part of A28.

## **Arrangement of series:**

S18/1: War Committee of Tynwald: minutes 1939-1944

S18/2: War Committee of Tynwald and General Advisory Committee: minutes 1939-1946

**Access status:** Open

## **Related records at the Isle of Man Public Record Office:**

More detailed minutes of the same committee, created by the Government Secretary Bertram Sergeant who was not on the committee but attended, can be found in S17/1 (formerly C14-1, 29749/70 folders 1-11: folders 1-7). Deemster Cowley also sent copies of his own minutes to Sargeant from the meeting of 15 May 1941 onwards (these can be found in S17/1 29749 70/2 f1-5).

**Archivist Note:** Catalogue created by Angela Skitt, IOMPRO, 22 June 2015.

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### S18/1: War Committee of Tynwald: minutes 1939-1944

**Description:** Duplicate carbon copies of typed minutes created by the Chairman Deemster Cowley, unsigned. One additional volume can be found at the end of this sub-series titled '[House of] Keys and Tynwald Committee minute book'. This book contains handwritten rough minutes of various committees of Tynwald (author unknown).

**Extent:** 5 folders; 1 volume

**Date:** 30 Nov 1939-12 Oct 1944

Item reference	Title	Description	Extent	Date	Access Status
S18/1/1	Tynwald War Committee minutes Nov 1939-Dec 1940	Typed (carbon copy).	1 folder	30 Nov 1939- 19 Dec 1940	Open
S18/1/2	Tynwald War Committee minutes Jan 1941-Sep 1941	Typed (carbon copy).	1 folder	7 Jan 1941-25 Sep 1941	Open
S18/1/3	Tynwald War Committee minutes Oct 1941-Oct 1942	Typed (carbon copy). Includes a memorandum relating to the Boarding House Association (17 Sep 1942) and a draft report to the Lieutenant Governor regarding post war development (4 Sep 1942).	1 folder	2 Oct 1941-15 Oct 1942	Open
S18/1/4	Tynwald War Committee minutes Oct 1942-Dec 1943	Typed (carbon copy).	1 folder	22 Oct 1942- 30 Dec 1943	Open
S18/1/5	Tynwald War Committee minutes Jan 1944-Oct 1944	Typed (carbon copy).	1 folder	6 Jan 1944-12 Oct 1944	Open
S18/1/6	[House of] 'Keys and Tynwald Committee minute book' Jun 1938-Dec 1942	Handwritten minute book containing rough notes in ink and pencil of meetings of various Tynwald committees, including:  - Tynwald Committee on highways; - Tynwald Committee on air raid precautions; - Committee on Crown rights; - Tynwald Committee on spinsters' pensions;	1 volume	20 Jun 1938- 10 Dec 1942	Open

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Item reference	Title	Description	Extent	Date	Access Status
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Committee on Douglas Court House;</li> <li>- Tynwald Committee on police force augmentation;</li> <li>- Committee on marketing schemes;</li> <li>- Committee on land values;</li> <li>- Inheritance (Family Provisions) Bill 1939;</li> <li>- Ecclesiastical Committee of Tynwald;</li> <li>- Agricultural Marketing Act Committee;</li> <li>- Hire Purchase Bill Committee;</li> <li>- Buchan School Committee;</li> <li>- War Emergency Precautions Committee;</li> <li>- Consultative and Finance Committee;</li> <li>- Committee on Income Tax Act;</li> <li>- Committee on King William's College;</li> <li>- Committee on motor races;</li> <li>- Tynwald Committee on the price of coal;</li> <li>- Committee on the war contribution.</li> </ul> <p>The author of the minutes is not clear; however the book was transferred to the Isle of Man Public Record Office alongside records of the War Committee of Tynwald created by Deemster Cowley which were housed with Government Office records.</p>			

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### S18/2: War Committee of Tynwald and General Advisory Committee: minutes 1939-1946

**Description:** Original minutes created by the Chairman of the Committee, Deemster Cowley. The majority of minutes up to Nov 1942 are signed by the Chairman, after that date most minutes are unsigned. Minutes are on typed sheets glued into volumes. All except the first volume have an alphabetical subject index towards the back. The index in the second volume includes references to the minutes in both the first and second volumes.

**Extent:** 14 volumes

**Date:** 28 Nov 1939-17 Oct 1946

Item reference	Title	Description	Extent	Date	Access Status
S18/2/1	War Committee of Tynwald minutes Nov 1939-Jun 1940	Labelled 'Vol 1'. An index to the minutes can be found in S18/2/2.	1 volume	28 Nov 1939-7 Jun 1940	Open
S18/2/2	War Committee of Tynwald minutes Jun 1940-Dec 1940	Labelled 'Vol 2'. Indexed at the back of the volume. The index includes references to minutes found in volume 1 of the series of minutes (see S18/2/1).	1 volume	20 Jun 1940-19 Dec 1940	Open
S18/2/3	War Committee of Tynwald minutes Jan 1941-Aug 1941	Labelled 'Vol III'. Indexed at the back of the volume.	1 volume	2 Jan 1941-14 Aug 1941	Open
S18/2/4	War Committee of Tynwald minutes Aug 1941-Feb 1942	Labelled 'Vol IV'. Indexed at the back of the volume.	1 volume	21 Aug 1941-19 Feb 1942	Open
S18/2/5	War Committee of Tynwald minutes Mar 1942-Sep 1942	Labelled 'Vol V'. Indexed at the back of the volume.	1 volume	5 Mar 1942-10 Sep 1942	Open
S18/2/6	War Committee of Tynwald minutes Sep 1942-Feb 1943	Labelled 'Vol VI'. Indexed at the back of the volume.	1 volume	17 Sep 1942-11 Feb 1943	Open
S18/2/7	War Committee of Tynwald minutes Feb 1943-Aug 1943	Labelled 'Vol VII'. Indexed at the back of the volume.	1 volume	18 Feb 1943-26 Aug 1943	Open
S18/2/8	War Committee of Tynwald minutes Sep 1943-Mar 1944	Labelled 'Vol VIII'. Indexed at the back of the volume.	1 volume	2 Sep 1943-2 Mar 1944	Open

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<b>Item reference</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Extent</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Access Status</b>
S18/2/9	War Committee of Tynwald minutes Mar 1944-Aug 1944	Labelled 'Vol IX'. Indexed at the back of the volume.	1 volume	9 Mar 1944-3 Aug 1944	Open
S18/2/10	War Committee of Tynwald minutes Aug 1944-Jan 1945	Labelled 'Vol 10'. Indexed at the back of the volume.	1 volume	10 Aug 1944-11 Jan 1945	Open
S18/2/11	War Committee of Tynwald minutes Jan 1945-May 1945	Labelled 'Vol 11'. Indexed at the back of the volume.	1 volume	18 Jan 1945-17 May 1945	Open
S18/2/12	War Committee of Tynwald minutes May 1945-Sep 1945	Labelled 'Vol XII'. Indexed at the back of the volume.	1 volume	24 May 1945-13 Sep 1945	Open
S18/2/13	War Committee of Tynwald minutes Sep 1945-Jan 1946	Labelled 'Vol XIII'. Indexed at the back of the volume. The name of the committee changed to the General Advisory Committee on 1 Nov 1945.	1 volume	20 Sep 1945-10 Jan 1946	Open
S18/2/14	General Advisory Committee minutes Jan 1946-Oct 1946	Labelled 'Vol XIV'. Indexed at the back of the volume. The Committee was known before 1 Nov 1945 as the War Committee of Tynwald.	1 volume	17 Jan 1946-17 Oct 1946	Open





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