Dear Voter,

The 12th of November 2015 is Election Day for the Douglas East By-election. I have decided to stand as a candidate and with this letter I would like to introduce myself to you.

I have lived in Douglas for over 12 years. I am married to Amanda (nee Costain). She is from one of the oldest Manx families. Our daughter Millie is 5 years old.

I have professional experience as a ships captain and have worked in senior management of globally operating maritime companies. Since 2009 we have our own ship management company here in Douglas, providing services to shipping companies.

I stood as a candidate for the Douglas South By-Election earlier this year and I am standing now for Douglas East. My motivation and political ambition has not changed.

Contrary to the repeatedly heroic statements of a striving economy made by the government, in reality we are in an economical situation of distress. We are not world leaders or the fourth biggest space nation. We do not need a world class capital or fall to other illusions and high flying plans made up by foreign consultants for the present government.

I would like to mention here that we have a world class ships register.

We are a small Island with limited resources and we have to accept that we have to create our life based on what we have. We have to create a business environment around the unique position as a crown dependency. We are not member of the European Union and we need to take advantage of this fact, allowing certain business to come here by offering a business environment not available in the European Union.

The present government does not need support to create this environment. It needs to be replaced. I would kindly ask for your vote to bring much needed fresh ideas, competence and business experience. I would be proud to represent you in Tynwald It would be the start for a different government, preparing for the next general election in 2016.

Kurt Buchholz