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LESLIE HANSON

CONSTITUENCY OF PEEL

HOUSE OF KEYS GENERAL ELECTION
Thursday, 29th September 2011



My full name is Leslie Lucas Alfred Hanson. I was born in the Isle of Man and I was educated at St Thomas' School in Douglas, King William's College in Castletown and the University of Edinburgh Dental School, where I represented the dental faculty for three years on the Student Representative Council. I have one brother, Mark Hanson who is a consultant gynaecologist and resides in Kent. My late father was Eric Reginald Hanson who was the Headmaster of Albert Road School in Ramsey. My late mother was Betty Quirk Hanson, the first woman member of the Legislative Council, both of whom were from Peel.

I have been living in Peel now for 30 years. I have been in dental practice in Peel and Onchan for 30 years. For three years I was on the committee of the Department of Education's Eary Cushlin's Adult Outdoor Education Centre.

This coming Election will be the most important one for many years. The question the electorate must ask themselves is:

'Are the politicians who got us into this financial mess the best people to get us out of it?'

I will be holding political surgeries between 12pm and 1pm every Saturday from now until the Election at 18 Stanley Road, Peel. If you wish to contact me by fax, the number is 842412.

IF YOU REQUIRE TRANSPORT ON ELECTION DAY PLEASE CALL 842412

1. Full Government Audit Undertaken Independently By Outside Auditors
2. Personal Tax
3. Breast Cancer
4. Pensions: They Should Be Made Secure Again
5. Lorries
6. Work Permits: Much Tighter
7. Children's Family Rights
8. BBC TV Licence: Scrap It
9. Bailiffs: NO
10. Health & Safety Has To Go
11. Immigration Control
12. Passport Control: Stronger Borders for Better Security
- 12+1. Sarah's Law
14. Universities
15. Local Economy
16. Iris Scheme Should Be Scrapped
17. Common Purse Agreement Should End
18. After Abrogation
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20. Power Grab
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23. Winscale
24. MEA
25. Football
26. Heritage: World Status Heritage
27. Attempted Takeover by the UK

(1) Full Government Audit Undertaken Independently By Independent Outside Auditors...

... so we can find out how many billions in debt and future liabilities we have to finance and also so we can find out where all the money has gone.

(2) Personal Tax

The personal allowance should be increased to £15,000 a year for lower incomes.

The personal tax allowance for everybody is £9,300; to use round figures, approximately £10,000. I propose for people with incomes of £20,000 a year or below, the personal allowance should be increased to £15,000. This would then be phased down to the present amount of approximately £10,000. For people on £25,000 to £55,000, there would be no change. The personal allowance would then be phased down to nothing for people earning over £60,000 a year. Anomalies would be prevented by phasing between the bands.

If you're lost, don't worry. Look at the table below:

Income	£15,000.00	£20,000.00	£25,000.00 to £55,000.00	£60,000.00 plus
Present Approximate Tax	£500.00	£1,000.00	No Change	Pay £1,000.00 more than present
Proposed Tax	ZERO	£500.00	No Change	

(3) Breast Cancer

The flight time between the Isle of Man and London City Airport is approximately the same as the travel time from Port St Mary to Douglas by bus. The Manx government should enter into negotiations with not just any breast cancer surgeon, but a private top gun breast cancer surgeon and a private hospital with a contract to provide surgical and medical services. Private surgeons and private hospitals like guaranteed contracts and for a 3 year guaranteed contract, they would offer a very competitive rate.

Anything less in my view is unacceptable.

(4) Pensions ~ They Should Be Made Secure Again

The secure pension fund was used to finance the new Noble's Hospital on the solemn promise by the politicians that all the monies would be paid back into the pension fund. This promise has to be kept for the government's integrity within the Island and as a finance centre in the eyes of the rest of the world.

(5) Lorries

I have roughly costed the difference between a lorry going from the sandpit to Ballacraine via Peel, and a lorry going to from the sandpit to Ballacraine via Kirk Michael. The extra fuel and wages cost for a one way trip would be approximately £5.

Lorries should go via Kirk Michael. The question is not whether they should go via Kirk Michael but when. If it is not before a child is killed, it certainly will be after.

(6) Work Permits ~ Much Tighter...

... to protect Manx jobs. In previous years permits have been handed out far too freely and this must be changed.

(7) Children's Family Rights

Unfortunately in the modern world, the family unit is not as stable as previous times and in my personal view, it is important for children when they are growing up to have access to both parents and in my view, more importantly for children to have access to grandparents.

(8) BBC TV Licence ~ Scrap It

This is nothing but a UK tax on every family, no matter how low their income. Manx people should not be subjected to a foreign tax.

(9) Bailiffs ~ NO

This legislation which has been passed but has not been given its royal ascent or its appointed day order should be scrapped. The wording is vague and the regulations don't seem to have been thought through so far as how they would operate and I would regard this as sinister. If changes need to be made to the system the power of the present Coroners can be changed but only after a full public debate by Tynwald.

(10) Health & Safety Has To Go

This comes from Brussels. We are not part of the EU; H&S financially affects small businesses far worse than larger ones. Because of the size of the Isle of Man, Manx businesses are naturally small so really health and safety could be described as indirect anti-Manx racism.

(11) Immigration Control

If the Manx Government does not have the financial resources to provide healthcare and education to the standard expected by the people already living here, why should we allow any more people in as it will only reduce our standards which are already under threat? It would also protect jobs and wage levels.

(12) Passport Control ~ Stronger Borders for Better Security

To be able to travel by air to the Isle of Man from the UK and vice versa, one has to produce photographic ID at the airport at least once. We have a choice on where we draw a line regarding our security. Do we go down the road of not letting our children out of the house, putting in legislation reducing all individuals' freedoms and rights in the name of security or do we put in place a strict Passport Control regime?

I am old enough to remember under the old PTA, when everyone entering the Isle of Man had to have some sort of ID, had to complete a form with their home address, the address they were staying at in the Isle of Man and the purpose of their visit and how long they were stopping for, and those were the days when we had tourists. If it could be done then, it could be done now. Passports are required by UK citizens if they want to travel anywhere in the European mainland, so anyone who wishes to travel will have a passport and the negative impact claimed by certain people if Passport Control is implemented is over duly stressed.

(12+1) Sarah's Law

There are a lot of people who support this in the Isle of Man and I think on balance it should be brought in but it would be absolutely pointless without my point above; Passport Control. What's the point in knowing who is here when anyone can walk in!

(14) Universities

The Isle of Man would like its own doctors, dentists and veterinarians, but these courses are unfortunately longer than a normal 3 year degree course and therefore cost the student and their parents a lot more money, I would support the funding by the tax payer of the extra years above the normal 3 year period, as without this I feel many of our most able children will be financially dissuaded from following these careers.

(15) Local Economy

It is my policy that if we were faced with financial shortages, that finances be prioritized to protect the main services of health and education. With this in mind, I have endeavoured to identify high value for money projects for Peel.

Unfortunately there has been a trend over the past few years for Peel to become more a dormitory and less a community. This requires a policy to increase job opportunities within the Peel area. As there will be severe financial constraints within the government for the next few years, these suggestions require very little in the way of government finance but could do a lot to help the Peel economy:

- a) Peel has a shortage of small areas for one-man businesses and workshops. There could be potential for the conversion of the factories north of Peel for such a purpose.
- b) Peel's second beach at the turn of the 20th century was moved to Douglas, replacing it would not cost much but would be a real boost to Peel's income and status; not just having the best beach in the Island but having the best two beaches.
- c) The first steam passenger railway line in the Island was laid between Douglas and Peel. My great-grandfather, Lucas who lived in Crown Street in Peel was involved in its construction. All the bridges are intact and reinstating the railway line is do-able. I would propose setting up a charity trust and for Peel itself to get the job done. Once there is a commitment to do this, it is not a question of if it will be completed; it is when it will be completed. People will donate to charities but not to government, but if government has spare funds after financing the main services, there is nothing to stop a charity asking the government for financial assistance.
- d) We have the Corrin Hall and its annex, the Philip Christian Centre, the Centenary Centre and its annex, the Masonic Hall and the Football Club - these are all facilities available to the community and they are not over utilised in the day time and some at present in the week, not at all. We have one festival in Peel utilising these facilities but I think the closeness of proximity would ideally suit other festivals particularly out of season. Large events outside of the summer season are the way forward when we are trying to maximise the use of our tourist facilities, which at present tends to be limited to the summer period.
- e) Security of Resources
 - (i) Fisheries
The Isle of Man should declare a 12-mile fishing limit, this is not negotiable. All previous agreements should be ignored. If the UK can unilaterally declare that the Reciprocal Health Agreement can just cease, we can do the same regarding limits.
 - (ii) Agriculture
The present policy was put in place hastily and has not been thought through properly. When the price of food is going up globally to levels one would never have believed five years ago, to use taxpayers' money to pay wealthy people who own a lot of land to do nothing with it is just not acceptable. The whole system has to be rethought.

(16) Iris Scheme Should Be Scrapped

The original Iris Scheme - pumping waste from one end of the Island to the other has been quietly scrapped as it's totally unworkable. It has been replaced with (regional Iris Schemes). These schemes should be scrapped and replaced with the normal way of dealing with sewage by coastal towns everywhere else in the British Isles.

(17) Common Purse Agreement Should End...

... then we can tax things to suit our economy. Every time the scrapping of the Common Purse Agreement is brought up, you get the same weary willies saying it will be too difficult for them to organise, that it would take years to sort out and it will be too complicated for them to do it, there could be serious repercussion to our trade with the UK, nearest thing to Armageddon, etc, etc, and there are ones that are saying 'We will have to look into it'; there's nothing to look into. There is no financial logic having a revenue sharing agreement with an economy that is collapsing.

I would like to point out; the Channel Islands have never had a Common Purse Agreement, they never had VAT because the Channel Islands never had Purchase Tax.

The Isle of Man could operate in a similar way to the Channel Islands regarding their indirect taxation policies. A competent administration should be able to manage the changeover in a relatively short time frame.

(18) After Abrogation

For instance, increase VAT from 20% to 25% on white diesel and reduce the duty by the same amount so the price at the pump stays the same.

(19) Government Expenditure

The previous administration has spent a lot of money outside the national economy. With the constraints of the large debt burden plus reduced VAT income, government spending will be a lot less than it has been for quite a while. By concentrating expenditure within the national economy, our present national wealth can be maintained.

(20) Power Grab

Tynwald has taken too many powers of the local authorities away from them. This has decreased democracy and has degraded the decision making process. A lot of these powers should be transferred back.

(21) Tynwald Committees Should Be Totally Democratic

All Tynwald committees should have only elected Keys members sitting on them, there should be no appointees.

(22) Nodding Donkeys

The government spends too much time rubber stamping UK legislation, which has no real relevance to the Island.

(23) Winscale

I have been pursuing this matter for nearly three years now. I first wrote to the UK Ministry of Justice approximately three years ago, pointing out that the Isle of Man pays the UK for defence, encircling what contingencies have they in place for the rapid evacuation of the Isle of Man. They have NONE. It is interesting that in the late 60's or 70's, the UK Government widened the roads around towns in Cumbria to facilitate rapid evacuation. It would appear Manx people don't matter. This is still the situation and at a practical level, the rapid evacuation of the people in the Isle of Man would be extremely difficult. If there was an incident, the immediate problem facing the Isle of Man population would be breathing air and drinking water containing plutonium particulates. Filter masks and stored bottled water or water filtration units should be in place. The financial responsibilities of these measures are the responsibility of the UK Government in adherence in the internationally recognised policy that the polluter pays.

(24) MEA

Approximately 8-10 years ago, the MEA had a business plan; it would build a new gas turbine power station and this would be financed by an all Island fibre optic broadband telecoms system. The fibre optic system was put in place and everything was ready to go. The Manx Electricity Authority, which is a Manx government department in all but name, was then refused a telecoms licence. I assumed at the time that the government was refusing to give itself a telecoms licence and I wrote a letter to every member of Tynwald expressing my concern. View a copy of the letter at www.lesliehanson.im, under the heading 'MEA' on the 'Documents' page.

15 months ago I asked Alan Bell who was on Mannin Line at the time with Roger Watterson, why the Manx Government wouldn't give itself a Telecoms licence. His reply was that it wasn't the Manx Government who refused the MEA the telecoms licence. I naturally asked him who then was it that refused the licence and he stated he didn't know!

So Mr Bell has admitted the Manx Government is controlled but he doesn't know who by, the MEA business plan has been financially wrecked by the refusal of this Telecoms licence, the Manx tax payers now has a £400million bill which it wouldn't have otherwise had. I am determined, as a standing candidate for the Keys, and on behalf of the Manx taxpayer and electorate, to find out who controls the Manx Government and who is responsible for this £400million debt.

(25) Football

If the Isle of Man could join FIFA, the status and money that would come to the Isle of Man would be significant. 3-4 years ago, I wrote to Seb Blatter, head of FIFA, about having a Manx national squad recognised. Unfortunately, according to the present FIFA rules, only nations who fulfil the democratic criteria recognised by the United Nations can become members. As the Isle of Man is not recognised as a proper national democracy by the United Nations, we cannot become members until such time as we rectify this matter.

(26) Heritage ~ World Heritage Status

We have the biggest water wheel in the world, the oldest continuously running inter-urban electric tramway in the world, the steepest friction only mountain railway in the world, and that is just our modern heritage. We have some of the finest ancient archaeological sites, perhaps in the world as well.

All nations in the world are allowed to submit so many sites and structures to the United Nations, for them to receive World Heritage status. As the Isle of Man is lumped in with the UK, we do not get our rightful access to the United Nations. Again, we will have to find out from the United Nations what changes we will have to implement in our status to be allowed to submit sites on our own behalf, directly to the UN.

(27) Has There Been A Failed Attempted Takeover By The UK?

View the correspondences I sent to our government at www.lesliehanson.im, under the heading 'Courts' on the 'Documents' page.

Meet The Ancestors!



FLORRY QUIRK'S WEDDING

Taken in 1909 in the garden of Craggen Ashen farm, Glen Maye (owned by my great-grandfather Thomas Quirk)

From left to right:

Top row

Mary Quirk

Thomas Feragher

Unknown Lady

Caleb Counsell

Anne Counsell

Mr Kelly

Mrs Kelly

Willy Seal

Annie Quirk

(lady with large hat)

Lisa Carrin

Sitting row

Aunt Susan Rae

Thomas Quirk

Florry Quirk

John Roscoe

Alice Quirk

Elena Quirk nee Carrin

Edith Quirk

Bottom row

Tom Counsell

James Roscoe

Herbert Ford

Norris Roscoe

Unknown little girl

: Florry's sister

: Mary Quirk's husband, they farmed Glen Faba farm and mill and they had two sons, Dennis and Malcolm

: Stood between Thomas and Caleb, can anyone enlighten me?

: Licensee of the Waterfall (gentleman with moustache)

: Caleb Counsell's wife

: Manager of the Waterfall

: Manageress of the Waterfall

: Florry's sister, married to Radcliffe Karren and they had two sons, Alec and Bernie

: Thomas Quirk's wife's sister

: Florry's father - my great-grandfather

: The Bride, my grandmother's sister

: The bridegroom from Stockport, they had a son called Jack

: My grandmother, married to Edward Lionel Lucas who had a draper shop in 33

Michael Street, Peel. They had a daughter called Betty Quirk Lucas and a son Lionel Lucas.

Betty Lucas married Eric Hanson and had two sons, Mark Hanson and myself

: Florry and her sisters' mother, wife of Thomas Quirk

: Florry's sister, married to Alfred Wattleworth. They had a son and daughter, Colin and Mary

: John Roscoe's brother

: John Roscoe's friend

: John Roscoe's brother

: Can anyone enlighten me?

The five Quirk sisters are all in the photograph, the one member missing is their brother, Tom Quirk, who emigrated to Winnipeg, Canada. Approximately 51 years later, Tom Quirk in Winnipeg retired as Head of the Winnipeg Fire Department and came home to visit the Isle of Man for the first time.

Meet The Ancestors!



Taken on Douglas Pier and appeared in one of the Manx newspapers. Pictured are three of the five Quirk sisters from Florry's wedding photograph, plus their brother Tom, who was not in Florry's wedding photo.

From left to right:

Back row

Collin Wattleworth	: Edith Wattleworth nee Quirk's son
Tom Quirk	: Quirk sisters' brother from Canada
Thomas Faragher	: Mary Faragher nee Quirk's husband (also pictured in Florry's wedding)

Middle row

Mary Faragher nee Quirk	
Edith Wattleworth nee Quirk	
Margaret Quirk	: Tom's Canadian wife
Alice Lucas nee Quirk	
Betty Hanson nee Lucas	: Alice's daughter

Front row

Mark Hanson	: Betty's son
Leslie Hanson	: Me!



DIRECTORS OF PEEL GAS COMPANY

Taken in the late 1950's

Centre front

Edward Lucas : My maternal grandfather

Meet The Ancestors!



IRENE HANSON QUALIFYING AS A NURSE

Taken in the garden of Fieldhouse, Tynwald Road, Peel in the mid 1930's

From left to right

Standing

Harold Hanson : My grandfather
Eric Reginald Hanson : My late father
Irene Hanson : My father's sister, married to Robert Gell
Leslie Harold Hanson : My father's brother, RAF pilot killed in WWII.

Sitting

Clare Hanson : My grandmother



BETSY LUCAS

Taken in the yard of Wavertree House, Crown Street, Peel

Edward Lucas' mother, my great grandmother. She was a Shimmin from Bridge House, Ballasalla.