

# Anne Craine for a Revitalized Ramsey



## Ramsey Town, Ramsey Town, Shining by the Sea...

The negative image of Ramsey over recent years has done much to undermine the prosperity of the town. We enjoy a sunny, beautiful location and a sense of community not enjoyed in other areas and it is time we capitalised on our good fortune. Employment prospects within the town, whether they be in the professional, industrial or service industries, are expanding. There is a sense of people working together and shaking off the lethargy that previously existed in our community. We are ready to pull up our boot straps and move on... and I wish to be part of that.

We have

- Professionals working and spending in the town
- Light Industry
- The Retail Sector

How can we help them?

We need to create the feel-good factor. This can be achieved by some very simple initiatives and some a little more complex.

We need to engender a sense of Civic Pride in our Town. Improvements such as the extended Christmas decorations and flower baskets have gone a long way to give our town a lift but we need to develop that Town Hall initiative with a corporate approach from shopkeepers, businesses, schools and the Ramsey Chamber of Trade all playing an active part.



Pic: Island Photographics

We need to dissolve that North/South divide by Government staking its confidence in Ramsey by the re-location of government departments and the establishment of a multi-departmental agency to reduce the need to travel to Douglas to receive basic government advice and services.

The Department of Trade and Industry need to be flexible in their approach to granting assistance to businesses wishing to re-locate to Ramsey and continue support for those already established here.

The problem of Car Parking to meet the needs of those working in the town and those who come to shop has to be addressed. The creation of a multi storey car park at the Plaza site is a positive move towards solving the problems of office workers having long term parking.

We need to introduce grants for small businesses to create suitable disabled access and ensure

that our pavements and crossings are accessible to wheel-chair users and the elderly.

I believe that we should have a By-Law Officer permanently assigned to the town to deal with Litter, Dog Fouling and Car Parking offences.

We need to increase the power of local authorities to enforce external upkeep of commercial properties.

### Town Enhancement Programme

#### MULTI PUPOSE ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

I firmly believe that whatever is developed in Ramsey needs to be for the maximum benefit of the people of Ramsey. The Peveril plot is a site that is enjoyed by the people of the town and I fear that if we are not careful it will be developed into commercial offices and luxury dwellings. This is not going to ultimately benefit the people of Ramsey. I contend that we need the vision to use that area as a recreational lung for the town. People are crying out for a Multiplex centre which can be used by all members of our community and I believe that this should be built on the Peveril plot. Such a complex could encompass exhibitions, Yn Chruinnaght and social functions. It could contain a lecture theatre doubling as a cinema and have sites off the main area that could contain staging for amateur dramatic productions or musical concerts and cultural workshops for art, craft, music and dance. A much needed dedicated youth area could be created together with performance facilities for budding young musicians.

#### OLD HARBOUR

Whilst the earlier Marina proposals were believed to be unacceptable a more modest scheme can still be achieved by developing the Old Harbour. I would seek Central Government funding as has been available to Douglas and is to be available to Port St. Mary and Peel, for the creation of this facility.

**"Let's work together to get Ramsey Shining once more!"**

**Do it by voting for Anne Craine**

# ANNE CRAINE FOR RAMSEY



## ANNE CRAINE says

"The major issue of concern in our community at the present time is the reduction of medical service available at Ramsey Cottage Hospital. Our hospital is the "Jewel in the Crown" of our town, envied across the Island, and we must not allow modern day practices to reduce the service to a poorer provision than available 40 years ago. The cessation of 24 hour accident and emergency provision at "The Cottage" has created an overwhelming fear amongst the

elderly in our community who feel particularly vulnerable. Whilst I can accept that GP's no longer wish to operate a 24 hour emergency service a solution must be found. The geographic division of the north from the rest of the Island cannot be dismissed and I believe that we must press for a slice of the MannDoc service to be based in Ramsey and 24 hour doctor led service in Ramsey Cottage Hospital to cover accidents and emergencies."

#### FOR:

- Re-instatement of 24 hour doctor led accident and emergency service at Ramsey Cottage Hospital
- Provision of MannDoc Services based at "The Cottage" to serve the north
- Maintaining Ramsey as an attractive option for the recruitment of GP's
- A Health service as befits an Island economically buoyant in the year 2003.

#### AGAINST:

- Deterioration of health provision in Ramsey and the North
- Centralisation of the MannDoc Service compromising the care of the elderly and sick of our community.
- Privatisation of dental health care creating a two-tier society in Ramsey.

### Dear Elector

I offer myself as a candidate in this election at a time when Ramsey and the Island are on the brink of great change and challenge. My aim is to protect our Island and its population from external influences which adversely affect our quality of life. We need to promote economic stability and growth whilst controlling immigration through stronger measures than currently exist. We must promote our identity, culture and heritage unashamedly and invite those who share our Island home to embrace these factors.

In this manifesto I hope to illustrate that I have the experience and ability to be a strong and enthusiastic representative of the people. I welcome the opportunity to serve you and Ramsey and seek your support on the 15th May 2003.

Yours  
sincerely,

*Anne Craine*

**House of Keys By-Election**

**Thursday 15th May 2003**





# Schools

I feel disappointment and frustration at the recently announced news that the Department of Education is to delay the building of the school at Clifton Park until 2007/08. Whilst welcoming the £10 million investment in the two new primary schools in Ramsey, it is infuriating that the delay is being attributed to the consultation with parents and priority being given to the new secondary school at Bemahague.



Albert Road School is well past its sell by date and the children and staff do not deserve to be handicapped by Victorian facilities. A way must be sought to advance this scheme for the benefit of our children. Increasing numbers are putting our staff and facilities under pressure. Fortunately, major building schemes continue at Ramsey Grammar School and the future creation of sixth form accommodation will enhance the provision available.

# ECONOMY

The Island's economy needs to continue to grow and diversify to become even more robust, whilst preserving the quality of life that we all cherish. This will be more difficult when economies throughout the world are suffering. In these days of political turmoil the Isle of Man will become a sanctuary to those businesses requiring stable Government. We should turn this to our advantage by becoming more proactive in attracting the right kind of new business to the Island.

We need to defend the Island's national interests against external threats from the U.K., E.U., and O.E.C.D., by the creation of a Ministry for External Affairs which would be charged with seeking allies in other jurisdictions.

More careful scrutiny of Government expenditure is required to ensure we receive value for money in the delivery of all services and Capital projects provided.

# THE RESIDENCY ACT AND IMMIGRATION

Whilst I support the introduction of The Residency Act which Tynwald has passed but not yet implemented is currently pursuing I believe that the threat of illegal immigration

needs to be dealt with urgently. To this end I would seek the immediate introduction of identity cards which along with associated legislation would help to identify those who have the right to be here and those who have not.

# SELLAFIELD

The continued production of high level, dangerous radioactive waste at Sellafield poses a very real threat to our Island. The risk of terrorist activity at this nuclear re-processing plant directly affects the Isle of Man. We must align ourselves with other jurisdictions such as Ireland and the Nordic countries to help fulfil Tynwald's policy of complete closure.

# CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

We have generations of children who have not enjoyed the same recreational facilities as were available in our own youth. No picture house, no dance halls, no Whites café - just hanging around! The cry for skatepark facilities continues, as do pleas for a bowling alley and modern dedicated youth facilities. When the new swimming pool is built I should like to see the old pool building being considered as a bowling alley for use by young and old alike. Please, let's resist

# LAW AND ORDER

A recent discussion raised the possibility of 20% of vehicles in the Isle of Man not being insured. A simple system of displaying insurance cover as well as a tax disc would readily identify offenders and give us all the protection we need when venturing out onto the roads.

The majority of our young people are a credit to their families and our community. However, there are always those who will spoil things for others. I should like to see the introduction of a curfew system whereby young people unaccompanied by a responsible adult and under the age of 16 should be indoors by midnight. There is too much loutish behaviour on our streets and we must do something about it.

# DENTAL CARE

Ramsey has been hard hit by the lack of dentists available through the Health Service. Whilst I welcome the re-commencement of the dental provision in Ramsey in May, I firmly believe that the Health Service must ensure that there is adequate NHS dental cover for the town either through further negotiation or direct recruitment. No-one should feel pressured into having to pay privately for dental treatment.

# HOUSING

I seek the early implementation of the Poyldooey/Balachrink housing development proposals. Affordable homes are urgently needed in our community and provided that the appropriate risk assessments of flooding are carried out I welcome the mix of housing that should become available.

The existing House Purchase and Home Improvement Schemes need revision as they are so restrictive in their approach as to be impractical to many applicants.

# ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE

Alcohol abuse is responsible in many ways for the breakdown of law and order in our society. Too easily available to young people and regarded as an "acceptable" drug, it is responsible for increasing violence, physical abuse, breakdown of marriages, and depression. Excessive alcohol can be an avenue to illegal drugs and together they are costing us, as taxpayers a great deal to address through police, courts, prison and health service. I welcome the system of identity cards for young people purchasing alcohol and support licences in their attempts to regulate their premises.



WHEN?...are we going to get a satisfactory solution to the Queen's Pier? I believe the people of Ramsey just want to get out on the pier to use it for

walking and fishing. We do not have to go down the route of investing £9.5 million to maintain its integrity as a heritage structure but should take the cheaper option of £2-3 million using modern materials to repair the structure and get it open!

HOW?...can we have let this happen to Albert Tower? The open Order granted by the Department of Local Government & the Environment which allows Manx Telecom to erect transmitter aerials on a Historic Registered Building is a disgrace! This matter needs vigorous investigation.



WHY?...have we as a community allowed persistent vandalism to



place the very existence of St. Mary's Church, Ballure under threat? Planning permission is currently being sought to convert this ancient keel site to a private home. Is that the answer? Or do we as a community feel strongly enough about this part of our heritage to form a Trust to remove it from the Church and protect it for future generations? If you would like to play an active part in saving St. Mary's please contact me.

# About Anne Craine

Anne has been married to David for 25 years. They have 3 children who like Anne have been educated at Ramsey Grammar School. For the last 10 years she has been an elected Member of the Board of Education and has served Auldyn, Albert Road and Ramsey Grammar Schools where she is presently the chairman of the governing body. Her concern for youth has extended to her involvement in the Ramsey Young People's Project. Anne is a member of the Manx Heritage Foundation and chairman of the Lottery Trust. She was appointed a magistrate in 2000. She has also served on two Government commissions investigating Legal Services and Legal Aid. If elected to represent Ramsey she would relinquish all of these duties and dedicate herself as a full-time MHK. Manx born and bred she has a deep-rooted sense of duty to our Island and its people. Her energy and ability, combined with experience and commitment to our community lead her to believe that she has the qualities to represent the people of Ramsey.



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