

## John McDonough - A new face for a new Parliament

Whilst I have tried to cover some of the concerns I feel are of importance, I'm sure there are many you (the electorate) have, that I haven't even mentioned. Ultimately, as a prospective MHK it's for you to tell me how you want me to represent you (whilst balancing the needs of the Island and my constituency).

The Island will be losing a great wealth of experience and the majority of the new house will be put on a steep learning curve, but a fresh approach is no bad thing, particularly when we are facing challenges never encountered before, just because something's not done the same way it always has done, doesn't make it bad! I will endeavour to get around as much of Ramsey as I can, in between my work commitments, but I apologise if I do not get the chance to speak to you.

Many thanks for taking the time to read this, please feel free to contact me with any queries, and I will try to reply when free.

### John

5 Greenlands View, Ramsey, IM8 2PB

Home:816552      Mobile:481518

Email:              johnmcdonough4ramsey@manx.net

Facebook:        JohnMcDonough4Ramsey

Twitter:            @johndmcdonough

**On 22<sup>nd</sup> September vote John McDonough**

[Johnmcdonough4ramsey@manx.net](mailto:Johnmcdonough4ramsey@manx.net)

Published by John McDonough, 5 Greenlands View, Ramsey, IM8 2PB

## John McDonough - A new face for a new Parliament



ON 22<sup>ND</sup> SEPTEMBER



JOHN MCDONOUGH

### Who am I?

I am 49 years old, divorced, and have lived in Ramsey since moving to the Island 37 years ago. Since leaving school I have worked in the retail and hospitality industries, before moving to more administrative/clerical roles, which involved several years of night school at the IOM College. I have been a civil servant since 2001, working in several different Government Departments. This variety has given me experience of dealing with a wide variety of people in different circumstances, which can only be a good thing.

I was unsuccessful in the 2011 House of Keys elections, but was then successful in the following year's local elections, and was privileged to serve 4 years as a Ramsey Town Commissioner. Serving on the Housing Committee, and representing the Commissioners at the Northern Community Partnership and Northern Traffic Management Liaison meetings.

[Johnmcdonough4ramsey@manx.net](mailto:Johnmcdonough4ramsey@manx.net)

## John McDonough - A new face for a new Parliament

I am an independent candidate, who will endeavour to represent the wishes of the electorate, whilst recognising that (if successful) I would be aiming for what's best for the Island as a nation, even though that may not always be what's best for Ramsey. If elected I would be unable to continue to be a civil servant, so being one of your MHKs would be my full time occupation. There will be many new faces in the House of Keys come September, I hope to be one of them, building on progress made during the last 5 years and helping to address our priorities with the professional people from the various industries and employers on the Island, together with my new colleagues. Whilst many people are unhappy with a great deal that has happened during the last administration, let's put all our efforts into moving forward in these very challenging times.

Regarding Ramsey, whilst not everyone appreciates the regeneration, the town has been given a much needed facelift, with the Commission and traders working together to promote the town. I still believe that the Government restructure, has just been a case of moving the deckchairs to be seen to be doing something? Whilst technology moves with great pace, enabling many people to do more from home or the office, not everyone is Internet savvy, why should those members of our community who aren't computer literate have to travel to Douglas to speak to someone face to face. Putting Government services online are of great benefit to many of us, saving time and money on both sides, but what about satellite offices around the Island for a day or two per week, this would also help reduce our carbon footprint too?

As already mentioned by the Commissioners and other Ramsey candidates, we have a well-trained and capable workforce employed by our local authority, with the facilities to administer many functions for not

[Johnmcdonough4ramsey@manx.net](mailto:Johnmcdonough4ramsey@manx.net)

## John McDonough - A new face for a new Parliament

only Ramsey, but other parishes in the North, surely this would be of benefit to all? I have never been a fan of the tax-cap, we are already a low tax jurisdiction, and so why those with the most ability to pay should be charged a fraction of what the person in the street pays is beyond me?

Regarding Government expenditure, whilst the Island is doing well to cope with such things as the changes in the VAT agreement and has tried to cut its cloth accordingly, such things as health, education and the emergency services remain vital to all. However, I can fully appreciate Douglas Council's decision regarding the Horse Trams, and fear a great deal more money will be lost on them by central Government, if only through delays addressing the shocking state of Douglas Promenade.

Whilst a slender majority of the population in the UK voted for BREXIT, many on the Island think we should have had the chance to vote too, from what I understand, we've never been a part of the UK or the EU (except for Protocol 3), and many people are very vocal regarding this. Given that we have many experienced international business minds etc. on or already doing business with the Island, why can't we look at consulting with them, to see what they'd like to see happen and try and assist them. I'm pretty sure we could make things happen quicker here and should try and seize the opportunity, rather than wait and see what (if anything) the UK does on our behalf. I'm sure the MPs over there will (quite correctly) be putting the interests of their constituents first.

I would like to see far more restorative justice type punishments handed out by the courts, where those convicted could be (where appropriate) made to work on projects such as clearing and tidying communal land and gardens etc.

[Johnmcdonough4ramsey@manx.net](mailto:Johnmcdonough4ramsey@manx.net)