

MEDIA RELEASE

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CONFERENCE BLOOM IN JUNE

The Isle of Man Department of Tourism and Leisure reports that four conferences are taking place in the Isle of Man during late June and early July; all of which have been assisted in some way by the Department's conference bureau.

The first of the conferences, OFCOM, the independent regulator and competition authority for the UK communications industries, took place at the Hilton Hotel from 22nd to 26th June, with over 100 delegates, a record number apparently, visiting the Island and their final evening was spent with a trip on the Steam Railway to Port Erin followed by a reception and dinner at the Mount Murray.

Other conferences taking place are a Security Conference arranged by the Department of Health & Social Security (24th & 25th June), the Annual General Meeting of the Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers Union (RMT) from 28th June to 3rd July and the International Farm Youth Exchange (IFYE) Alumni Association conference taking place from July 4th to 11th.

The RMT delegates also experienced a steam train trip to Castletown on Monday 29th June where they spent the evening before returning to Douglas. The conference was being held at the Villa Marina.

The International Farmers Youth Exchange (IFYE) alumni association conference takes place 4th to 11th July with over 100 delegates from 16 different countries including the USA, congregating on the Island

Chairman of the Isle of Man branch of IFYE and Tourism and Leisure Minister Hon Martyn Quayle MHK said:

'I am very pleased that the Isle of Man has been chosen to host the 51st meeting of the IFYE conference. We have arranged a full programme of events starting with a Viking themed welcome on the first evening. The delegates from all over Europe and some representatives from the US, where the program started, will attend the Tynwald garden party in national costume, the Tynwald ceremony at St John's, farm visits and a trip on the steam railway to name a few. I would like to recognise the support and hard work put in by the Isle of Man IFYE conference committee, without whom the event would not have been possible. It is also very satisfying to be involved in organising and bringing a conference to the Isle of Man.'

'The Isle of Man is a wonderful location for a conference and this is borne out by the prominent organisations of OFCOM and the RMT Workers Union holding their annual event on the island'

The Department of Tourism & Leisure is keen on hearing from anyone who is a member of an organisation which hold annual conferences or meetings, as the conference division operate an ambassador programme offering a package of assistance should you wish to bring the conference to the Isle of Man. For more information contact Richard Cuthbert on 686888.