

## A word in his ear

Written by Jeff Garland  
Monday, 20 December 2010 12:48

---

*(Described as perhaps the Island's sole surviving native thinker, Ealish is writing a verse epic: The Will of Tynwald. A Child's Guide to Manx Politics. She lives in Bride, breeds Salukis and rides Suzukis)*

## Ealish Voght

Who's the fellow that's never alone –



courted and flattered, well fed and sleek?

**Why, he's the Minister's brother in law:**

*he is a power behind the throne.*

But what does he do, what is he for –

nodding and grinning, nothing to say?

## A word in his ear

Written by Jeff Garland  
Monday, 20 December 2010 12:48

---

### Drops a few words in the Minister's ear –

*birds of a feather – need I say more?*

Does money change hands, oiling the wheels,

fixer and grifter, those back room boys?

*I wouldn't say that, we're honest folk here:*

*in a family way, he just does deals.*

Is he above and beyond the law?

A scandal, a sin, a crying shame!

*No, he's decent enough, and what is more,*

## A word in his ear

Written by Jeff Garland  
Monday, 20 December 2010 12:48

---

*Triple A rated by Standard & Poor,*

Nod and a wink, a word to the wise,

under the counter and underhand?

*It's sensitive stuff, you must understand:*

*ask no questions and you'll hear no lies.*

So no charisma, but knows the score,

hits the ground running, gets up to speed?

## A word in his ear

Written by Jeff Garland  
Monday, 20 December 2010 12:48

---

*I wouldn't say that, he's no ball of fire,*

*yet steady enough, feet on the floor.*

So truth will out, a bit of a bore:

He's nothing to look at, beige and grey.

*Yes, he's very like his brother in law,*

*the Minister, as I said before.*