



# L'ÉTAILE DU NORD - STAR OF THE NORTH



## Parish of St John

ISSUE 22

December 2010

**A skateboarding park is being opened at the Recreation Centre on 5th December – the opening ceremony will be performed by St John teenager Sam Coutanche, who has long campaigned for this facility for the youth of the parish. ALASDAIR CROSBY talked to him and to the chairman of the St John Youth and Community Trust, Andrew Lewis**

ST JOHN leads the way (again) . . . this time, by supporting and facilitating a skateboard park at the parish's Recreation Centre.

It is opening on 5th December, and it will be the first in Jersey since the opening of the skateboard park on the Victoria Pier in 2005, at the cost of over £100,000.

The St John skateboard park (at a total cost, by contrast, of almost £40,000) has been created for – and by – the parish teenagers whom predominantly it will serve.

Sam Coutanche (16), who spearheaded the campaign for a skateboard park in St John with a petition to the Parish in 2007, said that quite a few of his contemporaries used to – still do – skate around the pavements and roads of the shopping precinct in St John's Village or the school playground – areas that are neither very interesting (too flat) nor very safe (to put it mildly).

He continued: 'The only alternative has been to



*Skate-a-thon fundraiser*

go into town. The bus frequency is not great, and for the younger ones – the 8 to 9s – their parents are not too keen on the idea of them using the bus on their own, anyway.'

If there was opposition to the idea, it was a feeling that a skateboarding park might become something undesirable, especially as a magnet for teenage gatherings. The last parish Deputy, Andrew Lewis, who was approached at the time of the petition and has been in favour of a skateboarding park, said: 'We thought it would have the opposite effect: it would be a positive focus for parish teenagers, and if teenagers from outside the parish want to use it, then so much the better.'

'With the support of the Parish, and the creation of a St John's Skateboarding Association, we are convinced it would be well-managed, and would be for the benefit of all, without the problems that some people associate with facilities for teenagers.'

'Certainly our Parish teenagers, who have long campaigned for a site suitable for skateboarding, as well as the adult supporters of a skate park, are determined that it would always be well-managed and well-policed.'



*Sam Coutanche and Andrew Lewis on site.*

**IN THIS ISSUE: Refurbished Parish Hall – Recreation Centre project – Au revoir to Stressy Jessy – Zenith Cup – Jersey Mencap's Fiftieth Birthday.**

### St John Youth and Community Trust

The lack of a facility that would benefit Parish teenagers was a great concern of the late parishioner, Peter Larbalestier. He had four teenage children, and was very keen – for their sakes and for other young local people – about the idea of creating a skate-board park in the parish. Following his untimely death, his family was keen for donations in his memory to go to a good cause that would make a difference for the local community.

The Rector, the Rev Andy Thewlis, and Andrew Lewis met to see what could be done in this respect, and so the St John Youth and Community Trust came into being to receive these donations. Andrew Lewis became its chairman, and the other trustees were Andy Thewlis, Celia Jeune, John Henwood and Alison Fosse. Its first project has been to work for the creation of a parish skateboarding park.

It sought the financial support of the parish, and at a packed parish meeting (well attended by young people), the project was unanimously supported with a promise of £2,500. The trust agreed to coordinate and raise the rest of the money needed, and to found a St John Skateboarding Association to manage and be responsible for the orderly use of the site.

Andrew Lewis continued: 'The site of the skateboard park is well located for use by young people – being easily accessible from the village but not surrounded by housing.'

He recorded his thanks to the Parish for its £2,500 donation, and to the young people themselves, who were set and achieved a target of raising £5,000 towards the costs. That still left a significant sum of money to find for the installation of the site and all the necessary equipment. The costs were mitigated by various kind benefactors: Ronez Ltd has resurfaced the ground with asphalt, free of charge, and DIS Electrical Contractors are installing flood-lighting at cost price.

It was only at the end of September that, as a result of donations from many sources, the end of the long fund-raising road came finally into sight. The equipment has been ordered and was due to be installed in late November, ready for a 'Grand Opening' on Sunday, 5th December, at 2pm.

Everyone is invited to come along and see what has been achieved, and invitations have been sent out to other Constables as well. As Andrew Lewis said: 'There are other Constables interested in what we have done and who are thinking about doing something similar in their own parishes.'

'We have shown that what we have done is achievable even by a small rural parish, so I hope some of the other parishes will be here to look! If it can be done here, why not elsewhere?'

Sam, who is performing the opening ceremony – after all, it is due to his original efforts that the skateboard park now exists – added: 'When I started the petition for a skateboard park I hoped that we would gain support from all sectors of the community. The project has really taken off thanks to the

generosity of parishioners, the Parish and various trusts and organisations.

'My friends and I look forward to pursuing our hobby in a safe environment, close to our homes. We can't wait for the skate board park to take shape!'

### List of donors:

The Boat House Group  
 Bonne Nuit Harbour Festival  
 The Bosdet Foundation  
 Chasse Stables Limited  
 Channel Islands Co-operative Society  
 DIS Electrical Contractors  
 Education Sport and Culture  
 Help a Jersey Child  
 The Sir James Knott Trust  
 Lloyds TSB Foundation for the Channel Islands  
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## DEAR PARISHIONERS

Firstly I would like to offer an unreserved apology to Muriel Poisson as I omitted her name from the committee of organisers of our Liberation Day Celebrations published in the last edition. We are always extremely grateful to all who help to put these events together and Muriel always gives 100% to anything that she gets involved in.

### Parish Hall

I am pleased that the rebuilding of the parish hall is now complete. We are all back in our offices and the parish hall is now functioning as it should. We held an open morning on a Saturday so that parishioners could come and have a look around the improved facilities. Around 130 parishioners attended and I am pleased that the feedback was positive. Any parishioner is welcome to come and have a look around at anytime when the hall is open.

I would like to thank Tony Le Brocq for organising the project for us. I know that the job was extremely challenging at times, given that it is a listed building.

Many of the previous users of the hall have returned: Muriel is back with the bingo on a monthly basis and line dancing is back. The Twinning Association held a dinner dance for 80 in the hall and the Farmhouse catered for that and were very impressed with the kitchen facilities. The hope is that the hall will be used more and more in the future.

We now have a committee room upstairs with its

own small kitchen facility which is available at a small charge for any clubs, associations or business meetings as well as parochial committees.



### School House

The complete refurbishment of the schoolhouse is now finished. Unfortunately Mr & Mrs Myatt decided not to come back, so we have some new tenants, Mr & Mrs André Baudin. Mrs Baudin has taken on the role of caretaking in the Parish Hall and her husband is the local butcher. The family have now moved in with their children.

### Allotments

Recently we have had a meeting with a representative of the Jersey Allotments and Leisure Gardening Association (JALGA) to discuss how to set up some allotments. We are in the process of having plans drawn up so that we can put in a formal application for approval, with a hope that we could be up and running next year.

Ann and I and all members of the municipality would like to wish all parishioners a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Graeme Butcher, Connétable*



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## Editorial

Building seems to be the major theme of this edition. The Refurbishment of the Parish Hall is complete, the Recreation Centre modernisation plan is underway and the Jersey Wall is up in Mongolia! As I write this the skateboard park is nearing completion.

To ensure that future development within St John protects the character of the Parish, the Parish of St John Working Party (see page 29) is asking for your views to feed into the Island Plan. Here's your chance to have your say!

### Name a good cause

The Bonne Nuit Harbour Festival Committee (see page 34) is seeking a fourth good cause to benefit from the proceeds of next year's festival which will take place on June 25th. Do you have a favourite charity to nominate?

### Disappointed youth worker

Simon Bell, Senior Youth Worker at St John's Youth Club, records his disappointment (page 21) that

there was absolutely no response to his invitation for volunteers to help at our youth club. He is hoping for a better result this time!

### Deadline for our April edition is March 11th

Please 'think Star' as you go about and let us have ideas, articles, and photos to fill the pages.

Finally, thank you to all who have helped with this edition – writers, advertisers photographers, printers, proof-readers, distributors. It's a real team effort – and there would be no point in all this effort without you, the readers!

On behalf of the editorial team I wish you all a Happy Christmas and a peaceful, healthy New Year. Maybe you will begin the festive season by attending the Candlelit Carol Service at the Parish Church on Sunday 19th December at 6 pm.

*Angela Le Sueur, Editor  
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# St John Remembers

His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor General Andrew Ridgway and Mrs Ridgway visited St John's Cemetery on the day before Remembrance Sunday. Accompanied by Constable Butcher, who met them at the cemetery gate, they joined the Rector and the ceremonial party.

Reverend Andy Thewlis said a prayer for the fallen then Lieutenant General Ridgway read John McCrae's famous First World War poem:

*In Flanders field the poppies blow  
Between, the crosses, row on row.*

This poem gave rise to the wearing of poppies.

Two minutes silence followed. The bugler sounded the Last Post as the standard of the Royal British Legion was lowered by the Standard Bearer. Reveille was then played.



Constable Butcher escorted the Governor, who was dressed in combat uniform, to visit the two war graves in the cemetery: those of Private Clarence Rondel who was killed in 1918 aged 18; and Drummer Colin Clifford who died in Northern Ireland in 1982 at the age of 21. Deputy Phil Rondel was present, together with Mrs Dorothy Parrett, mother of Drummer Colin Clifford.

## British Legion Coffee Morning

Meanwhile, in the Parish Hall the living were being remembered at the annual coffee morning in aid of the British Legion which supports those who have been injured in the armed forces.

In spite of torrential showers the hall was busy all morning as parishioners chatted, drank coffee, bought books, cakes, vegetables, raffle tickets, and woollen garments hand knitted by Mrs Vasselin whose 90th birthday was imminent.

This year we were privileged to have the company of Chelsea Pensioner Bill Titchmarsh.

### £4, 709.91 sent to the British Legion

This record sum – about £500 more than was raised in 2009 – was made up of:

Coffee morning	£1,363.37
Door-to-door sale of poppies	£1,921.31
Donations	£804.00
Church collection	£421.23
Sale of metal pins	£200.00

Congratulations and thank you to all those whose hard work raised this grand sum.



*Mrs Ann Butcher, Mrs Jan Egré, Poppy Appeal Organiser, Chelsea Pensioner Bill Titchmarsh and Constable Graeme Butcher.*



*Mrs Vasselin – still knitting at ninety!*



*Remembrance Assembly at St John's School. Far right is Mr John Livingstone wearing an authentic 1916 uniform*



# Deputy Phil Rondel

I must say the last few months have brought about some success which hopefully will benefit the residents of St. John.

Over the last 18 months the Environment Scrutiny Panel which I chair amongst others, has scrutinised the Transport Strategy of TTS which includes the bus service, and I am pleased to say the timetable also sees the launch of two new routes – 25 and 27 – which replace the routes 5 and 7 serving St. John, St. Mary and St. Lawrence. The new circular services which link these country parishes give parishioners double the number of services and greater flexibility when planning their travel. They also include a Sunday service to assess the demand for Sunday services during the winter. Now it's a matter of use it or lose it. Unfortunately there is no later bus

It was good to see in September that a Committee of Inquiry found that Reg's Skips had been poorly treated by Planning, and hopefully by the time of reading this the States will have settled with this local family. Further to this, in September I was successful in bringing a proposition to the States that within six months the Planning Minister, along with the TTS Minister and Property Services, will find a site so that skip sorting can be undertaken for skip operators who find themselves in the position of Reg's Skips. This will come as good news for those families who have had to put up with skip sorting at different Parish sites. Let's hope the Ministers don't sit on their hands and get on with resolving this matter.

On the Island front, last year I took a proposition

to the States to delay building an underpass and development by Harcourt on the Waterfront. This was successful, but as time has moved on some members are looking at moving forward with this £350 million project, so much so

that the Treasury Minister signed off the land. I still don't believe that some of this work should go ahead and a sunken underpass should not go ahead at this time, so I have put a proposition to the States that would not hinder building in stages as and when the Island can show the need for offices and accommodation, but would put on hold any works on a sunken road/underpass until such time as the financial climate improves significantly. I am hopeful that the members will support this.

Finally, on behalf of the Parish can I thank Constable Graeme Butcher and both Procurers du Bien Public, Michel Larose and Andy Jehan, for overseeing the works of renovating the Parish Hall, along with Tony Le Brocq, the Project Manager and all who worked on the building over the last 12 months.

Well folks, that's it for now. On behalf of my family and myself, I wish you a wonderful Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Health, Happiness & Wealth! Bonne Année

*Deputy Phil Rondel*



## Actor John Nettles and 'The Channel Islands at War'

Actor John Nettles of Bergerac fame has recently visited Jersey to launch the DVD series 'The Channel Islands at War' which he wrote and presented. The launch fittingly took place at the Jersey War Tunnels. This series has already been broadcast on the Sky 'Yesterday' television channel and is now available to us on DVD.

As many parishioners may remember, the Bergerac series in which John Nettles starred ran for ten years between 1981 and 1991. This series was largely filmed in Jersey and during his time here John Nettles met Dr John Lewis at his St John Residence, Beaupré, La Grande Route de St Jean. Dr Lewis, originally from Wales, remained in Jersey to care for his patients during the Occupation. He did not meet his first son, born on the mainland just before the occupying force arrived, until his fifth birthday. This meeting with Dr Lewis increased the actor's interest in the Occupation.

Parishioners may be interested to know that Dr Lewis' book 'A Doctor's Occupation' has recently been republished with a foreword by John Nettles.

John Nettles discovered his love of acting when he was a student at Southampton University in the sixties, but actually he had gone there to study history and philosophy. The research he has undertaken to produce this series drew on his university training and enabled him to produce a thoughtful series about the many difficulties of life endured by Channel Islanders, as well as the complexity of the issues the islands' civil leaders had to wrestle with during those long five years. John travelled to our sister islands to gather his material and interviewed many people who lived under Nazi rule.

*Angela Le Sueur*



# LES MATHIONNETTES – ‘Northern Lights’

Our Northern Light, Michel Larose, was interviewed by Mary Rouillé

It was the 1st of March 1940, and with three feet of snow covering the ground Mr Larose went to fetch the district nurse who lived near what is now the zoo to deliver Michel. It was quite a trek over the snow as the Larose family lived at La Guerdainerie, a farm near Trinity church. Michel was one of four children, three boys and a girl. His father, a farmer, was Jersey born and his mother came from Brittany. She arrived in Jersey at the age of sixteen to work on the farms and never went back. In 1950 the family moved to farm at Linden Hall, which was to be found next door to what is the now the Red Rose Restaurant.



## Prize winner

From the age of five to fourteen Michel attended Trinity school, and was the last pupil to receive the Snowdon Benest Memorial Prize for outstanding progress during the year. This was not for Michel's academic achievements but for arriving at school early to fill with water a large cistern, which was located above the toilets, enabling them to be flushed; filling coal buckets and taking to each classroom, and collecting the half-pint milk bottles which were delivered to a nearby road, and distributing them for each class. Michel remembers that during the winter months the milk was put in front of the fire in each classroom to warm up.

Before leaving school Michel had been offered a job as an engineer with Jersey Airlines but his father would not allow it, and so reluctantly he went to work on the family farm. The majority of farms in those days were a mixture of arable and livestock farming. Michel recalls that they survived on salted

pork with a whole pig lasting around five months if kept in brine. As there were no freezers, the pork was put in a barrel and covered with salt as a preservative. Prior to cooking, a piece of pork had to be taken from the barrel the day before it was required, and soaked in water to remove the salt.

Whilst living at Linden Hall, Michel joined the fire service as a volunteer fireman, but had to give it up three years later as his father had bought Herupe Farm in St John which was too far away from the fire station in St Helier.

In 1964 Michel married, and at the beginning of 1965, after his father had retired, he began farming on his own, growing around 38 vergées of Jersey Royals and tending to twelve cows. The first three years were not very profitable, but the turning point came when he was given the opportunity to buy 25 vergées of land near to the farm. This purchase made a huge difference, and for the next ten years he carried on growing potatoes. Eventually, it got to the point where Michel could not cope with the arable side of the farm as well as the cattle herd which had become larger. He made a decision to concentrate on cattle, and so increased the size of the herd, which eventually grew to 150 cows. During his time as a cattle farmer Michel joined the World Jersey Cattle Bureau, an organisation promoting the Jersey cow. This led him to attending their four-yearly conferences in such locations as New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, and North and South America.

In the mid-eighties Michel commissioned the building of a house and outbuildings, and in 1986 the family moved in to Chalet Farm. After 24 years of service their French herdsman fell ill, forcing Michel to employ another who, in 1994, took over the farm when Michel retired.

## Parish service

Michel has always been involved in the parish, joining the honorary system in 1974 to become a constable's officer. This was followed by the posts of vingtenier, 20 years as a centenier, and for the last six years, a procureur. He also drives the St John's minibus every week, taking school children to various locations around the island to carry out their projects.

Ever since St John entered its first Battle of Flowers float in 1975 he has done his fair share of helping with the construction, whether it was a float for the parish or other entries. This year he built the mouse for Bob, Adrian and Friends' float.

His latest job as a volunteer is helping three days a week at Jersey Hospice Shop in St Ouen's, receiving and sorting out the bric-à-brac. He has also repaired and checked over 400 clocks and watches to be sold in the shop.



# *St John's Recreation Centre*

## *Building Modernisation Project*



Building Control consent has been received for phase 1 of St John's Recreation Project which will be commencing shortly.

We are enormously grateful for the financial support that has been provided by two Trusts, both of which are Butlin family trusts. Many readers will be aware that the Butlin family also provided a substantial amount of capital to buy and fund the building of the Centre back in the 1970s and 1980s.

We submitted a proposal last year to the Trustees of the Billy Butlin Charity Trust in England and were successful in obtaining a grant of £250,000. This money has now been received.

We are also delighted to announce that on 8th November the Trustees of the Butlin Family Charity Trust in Jersey formally agreed to match this money, thus providing us with total capital funding of £500,000.

Lady Butlin commented: 'The Billy Butlin Memorial Hall was built in memory of my late husband and since then the facilities have been patronised by thousands of users. I am thrilled that the family has been able to provide further support to modernise the building and enable the management team to realise their objective of providing a high-quality, multi-user modern recreational facility for the Parish and the Island.'

As many of you will know, the Centre effectively ran out of money 5 years ago and the building modernisation programme is the culmination of the turnaround strategy that has been pursued by the

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new management team. Whilst we have attracted many new user groups since 2005, we were conscious of the fact that a substantial capital investment in the buildings was long over-due.

A lot of work has gone into mapping out the plans for the Centre. Plans have been produced by Godel Architects and these are on display in Giggles Café at the Centre.

The project will take the form of a number of distinct phases which are designed to minimise disruption to our user groups. It is intended that Giggles Café will be open throughout the modernisation programme.

### Phase 1

Provision of a 1 bedroom caretaker/cleaner flat in the old gym at the north end of the building, looking out over the car park, and new skateboard park.

The objective is primarily to improve security; however, we believe there will be many other advantages from having an on-site caretaker/cleaner. We are also hopeful that this will reduce our costs of using external cleaning contractors.

We anticipate that this part-time position will be self-funding by virtue of the accommodation being provided. We will commence the recruitment process shortly.

### Phase 2

Complete redesign and modernisation of the changing rooms and toilets.

These are in serious need of investment. This is a costly phase of the project but we believe that the transformation of these communally-shared areas is essential in order to provide modern family-friendly facilities that are fit for purpose.

### Phase 3

Various improvements to the external areas in order to enhance the appearance of the building and create necessary storage areas.

The approximate timing of this work will be as follows:

Phase 1 Nov 10 – Jan 11

Phase 2 Feb 11 – Apr 11

Phase 3 May 11 – July 11

The cost of phases 1 – 3 can be covered by the funding that we have received.

### Youth Club facilities

We also have ambitious plans to transform the Youth Club area by creating a two-storey extension to the north-west end of the youth club/shooting-range area. This will provide a modern, pleasant and light space for the Youth Club. We also plan to demolish the small snack bars at the north end and create a new, larger extension housing offices, storage, and importantly, separate toilet facilities.

These improvements will not only greatly enhance the youth club facilities but meet all the

modern health and safety standards expected for youth club facilities.

The quantity surveyor has estimated that the work on the Youth Club area will cost approximately £300,000 and we are therefore aiming to raise additional money. We will be approaching a number of organisations in order to secure this funding and very much hope that there is an appetite from all groups within the parish to support this youth-based project.

The Centre has a large number of facilities which are used by children and this will be further enhanced with the imminent opening of the skateboard park. The upgrade and expansion of the Youth Club is therefore a logical extension to the range of youth-based facilities that we already provide.

### Looking forward

Whilst there is a lot of hard work ahead of us in the next year, we are delighted to have secured the initial funding of £500,000 from the Butlin family trusts and we are looking forward to the work starting.

*If you would like to get involved with this community success story then please do not hesitate to contact me (tel. 861716).*

*Angus Spencer-Nairn, Chairman*

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## New storytelling group for under-fives

**Storytellers** is a new not-for-profit group established to introduce the under-fives to some of the great children's books available. The short, informal sessions will include music and games that link to the stories. The sessions are timed to coincide with the visit of the States mobile library service, so at the end of Storytellers, children and their carers can choose a book from the library if they wish.

The sessions, which cost £1 to cover the cost of materials, are held on the first Monday of each month (with one or two exceptions for public or school holidays), between 10.30 and 11 am in the main hall of St Ouen's Youth and Community Centre. There's parking available on site or behind the parish hall.

### Story time fun

Run by former broadcaster and mother of four, Claire Stanley, **Storytellers** aims to make story time fun and to help build and encourage a love of reading. Claire said, 'the National Literacy Trust cites research that shows children equipped with effective communication skills from an early age grow up to be happier, more successful and contribute more to society.'

**Storytellers** is very informal and relaxed. Whether

you never seem to find the time to read your child a story, or you read nightly, you'll be welcome, kids (especially mine) don't sit still, so it's all about making story time fun.'

### The dates for the year ahead are:

Monday, 6th December, 2010  
 Monday, 10th January, 2011  
 Monday, 7th February, 2011  
 Monday, 7th March, 2011  
 Monday, 4th April, 2011  
 Monday, 16th May, 2011  
 Monday, 6th June, 2011  
 Monday, 4th July, 2011

For more information about Storytellers, please email [storytellers@jerseymail.co.uk](mailto:storytellers@jerseymail.co.uk), or call 617405. Or see our facebook page, Storytellers Jersey

*Claire Stanley*



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 Happy Christmas and a  
 prosperous New Year.**

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## St John's Parish School

It's been as busy as ever at St John's School with a huge variety of learning taking place. Come with me on a virtual tour of the school and find out more . . .



At the far end of the school we find the **Nursery class**. You wouldn't believe that these confident and active little people have only been in school for a few weeks. The teachers already know the children from home visits at the start of term, and

make sure that the children feel comfortable when they start. Everyone is busy playing – inside games, outdoor exploring, sharing snacks, reading stories – the list is endless but the aim is always the same – being confident and communicating.

Let's go into the **Reception** class now. Half of the children went to our Nursery and so know the school well but they are doing a great job at welcoming the other half of the class from other settings. You'd never know the difference though because the



*Hard at play in Nursery*

teachers have planned so many confidence-building activities. A third of the class is swimming this morning – such an important skill on an Island that we make it a priority. The other children are learning their letter sounds, playing lots of counting games and working in cooperative groups to share their learning.

Come into **Year 1** and . . . oh there's no one here! Actually that's quite common – they're at Forest School! This fantastic approach to learning means going outdoors to the woods and open places, investigating them through science, art, literacy, numeracy – in fact the whole curriculum. "Being

kids" is probably how you'd describe it – but unfortunately that is something that children get less of a chance to be these days.

Now we can cross the Piazza Piccolo. Dodging the group of scientists exploring translucent shapes on the light table, we enter **Year 2** to find a literacy session taking place. The children are in similar ability groups. Two are learning through guided reading with the teacher and teaching assistant. They use structured questions to increase the children's comprehension of what they are reading. The other two groups are doing independent activities, games that really help them with their reading.

### African dancers and the Titanic

Back through the piazza now – this time a group of African dancers is practising – and in to see the 7 year olds in **Year 3**. They are learning all about The Titanic. This amazing story is being used by the teacher to teach all kinds of historical, mathematical and English skills. The children are fascinated – especially when one of their classmates reveals that her great-uncle would have been a member of the crew if he hadn't had the good fortune to be on the shore-shift for that sailing! This is cross-curricular learning at its best – exciting and engaging – learning without knowing it!

Up the corridor a little is **Year 4** who is also doing topic work. They are finding out all about India. Last year the school was awarded the Geography Association Gold Award for the quality of its teaching and learning. We think that it is absolutely vital that children know as much as possible about their world. Year 4 has certainly learnt lots about this amazing and rapidly developing country through their teachers, their research at home with parents, and through visitors – often parents, with first hand knowledge of India.

A bit of a walk now to the far end of the school. We will go past the famous "bead jars" that represent our five learning behaviours – Confidence, Co-operation, Valuing, Autonomy and Positive Attitude, and a huge world map that puts everything into perspective. At the moment it is showing my train route home from China but children and adults alike love to explore it.

At the Victorian end of the school we find **Year 5** having a maths lesson. The classroom is awash with noise and you may wonder what on earth the



teacher is doing! But listen carefully and you will hear that the “noise” is in fact enthusiastic discussion. The children are working in pairs, checking each other’s work and explaining why something may be wrong. This approach fills the classroom with teachers. As we watch, one group which is finding a concept hard to grasp is given extra tutoring by a more confident student. Learning from your peers is proven to be a very effective method, and teaching something really strengthens your understanding.

On now into **Year 6** and the oldest children. They are preparing for secondary school next year and they take it very seriously. They are suddenly much taller, more confident and responsible as they take on the mantle of being ambassadors for the school. This is where all the skills, the knowledge and the attitudes that they have learnt on their journey here are brought together. They are learning how to create a persuasive argument at the moment – putting together campaigns that will make a real difference to their community and environment so that they will be active and informed citizens.

As you may have gathered on our brief tour, I’m very proud of our school and of everyone in it. We are a vibrant learning community and if you would like a “real” tour please just get in touch. We are always happy to welcome visitors, or you may like to come to our next Pop-In session on 16th February at 3pm.



*Mr Willis' route home from China*

## Muriel Poisson MBE

It is with great regret that St John's School has to announce the retirement of Mrs Muriel Poisson MBE as our lovely lollipop lady. We are all going to miss her very much and we would like to thank her for the amazing 27 years of service that she has given to the school and community. Everyone wishes “our girl lollipop” a very happy and long retirement.

*Andrew Willis – Headteacher*

## Can You Help?

We have developed lots of gardens at St John's School because we know how important they are for children to learn from. However, we're struggling to keep them going and do everything else in a busy school too! Would you be able to give an hour a week to come in and work with a small group of children doing simple garden activities?

Please get in touch if you can help or if you would like to know more.

Andrew Willis – Head teacher –  
Tel 861692.

a.willis@stjohn.sch.je – or pop-in –  
I'll make the coffee myself and even find a biscuit – honest!



*Thinking hard*



# Stressy Jessy

This is my final article before I become an intrepid traveller.

So, what has been happening since the last article?

Well, I've been working.

**Working. Working. And working.**

Now I understand why people take jobs in offices – you have your evenings and weekends off. Working at a pub you don't get this luxury. The 3 hours in your split shift before you have to go back to work are your time off. I must say, although I have really enjoyed working at the Halkett (the old Friday's), dealing with drunken people really isn't something I enjoy. I don't see how anyone can enjoy it to be honest. It's fine when you're on the drinking side of the bar but when you're behind it – not such fun.

## Tips for tipplers

It seems that the public belief is that the quickest way to get a drink in a busy bar is either raising your



*Relaxing music?*

voice and screaming 'I'M NEXT, I'M NEXT' at the barmaid, or leaning as far as you can over the bar and waving your money at us frantically. Little tip, this makes us slower to serve you. Don't whistle as if you're trying to call your dog. Don't shout 'Oi!' We are not jobs. If you don't have ID then don't waste our time. This last one is something that many young people get annoyed about, but when getting asked for your ID please, just understand that if we don't ask you for it we can get fined up to £500 – and by 'we' I mean the barperson who served you. That's not even considering what the venue gets fined. So, if you're a young person reading this, next time someone won't serve you because you 'forgot' your ID, understand that we were not just trying to ruin your night, it's just that we really aren't up for losing TWO weeks' wages because you don't have ID.

It may come as a surprise, but the easiest way to get a drink is, in fact, to wait patiently, catch our eye and give us a little nod or a smile and then we will serve you next. Oh – and 'please' and 'thank you' wouldn't go amiss. I was lucky to have the majority of lovely customers at work, and just a few of the above mentioned dog-callers who only really surfaced late at night.

Luckily I had wonderful managers, Martin and Jackie Kelly . . . I can't explain to you how brilliant they are. Instead I suggest that you go and dine at the Halkett and see for yourself. 100% fun, 100% supportive, and 100% amazing. When times got hard, or people were difficult to deal with, the Kellys would be there in a second to help you out. Not in the office looking at a computer all day, they were down there with us and doing the same jobs, working the same hours as us, everyday. The best managers I have ever had. I really am sad to be leaving.

## Pastures new

But, I must move on to pastures new! So India is the first stop, working in an orphanage and doing construction work, cooking, cleaning, and anything else they may need us to help with.

Am I looking forward to it? Yes.

Am I ready for it? Yes.

Am I scared? Absolutely, utterly and positively.

I don't think the image I have in my head of these kids or how they live is anything compared to the reality. And I am worried that I will get so attached to the children that I will end up bringing half the orphanage back with me. (Something which my mum has already banned me from doing; she knows me too well). But as time is ticking down (leaving November 27th) my heart is definitely starting to beat a little faster. I just hope that everything runs smoothly!

## Keep up with my Trip

If you're interested in keeping up with my trip when I am away, please take a look at the blog I am going to be writing. The address: [www.stressyjesseyescapes.blogspot.com](http://www.stressyjesseyescapes.blogspot.com).

You can write messages on the site which I can take a look at whenever I am near a computer. This would be really nice when I'm missing home or finding it a little hard!

So, au revoir Jersey! See you next year!

*Stressy Jessy*



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## News from the Pews

### Bell Ringing at St John

The Church bell ringers meet to practise on Wednesday evenings from 7.30 - 9.15 pm, ringing on Sunday mornings from 10.30 - 11.00 am and in celebration of those getting married.

If, as part of your New Year's resolution, you're looking to be a little more active in 2010, looking for a new hobby that has absolutely no financial costs to it, or wishing to learn a new skill then perhaps Bell Ringing is the thing for you.

For further details or to arrange a taster session, contact Justin Read, by phone on 888484 or by email to [justin@readjersey.com](mailto:justin@readjersey.com)

### Christingle Service



#### Christmas Eve - 5.30pm

Everyone is welcome to join us on the eve of Jesus' birthday to celebrate the good news that Jesus is the LIGHT of the world, with the aid of our symbolic oranges and songs, including Once in Royal David's City, Shine Jesus Shine and Away in a Manger.

### HOW TO MAKE A CHRISTINGLE

- Take an orange and carefully make a hole in the top to take a candle.
- Fasten a red ribbon round the centre of the orange - flame proof crêpe paper or red adhesive tape can be used.
- Take a piece of aluminium foil approx 4" square and place this round the base of the candle to act as a shield and reservoir for the wax.
- Place the candle in the hole in the orange deep enough for it to stand upright unsupported.
- Add four cocktail sticks and place fruits (raisins, sultanas etc) and nuts (monkey nuts are easy to handle) on the sticks

*Please bring along your own Christingle.*

### Christmas Gifts

A variety of Christmas gifts is available for purchase:-

- Church mugs - £4.50
- Ian Rolls prints - £75
- Christmas cards with ink drawing of the church, £5 for 10

*To place an order contact the Rectory on 861677*



### Care for the Community - Parish Clean 2011

Once again members of the Parish Church Family invite friends, family and all parishoners to join them for the Annual Parish Clean which takes place from 9.30 am, on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March**.

In pairs, or small groups we'll walk as many lanes of the parish as possible collecting rubbish from the hedgerows as we go. Please help, as the more people getting involved will lead to more lanes being cleaned.



### A service for everyone

**Sundays 8.00 am, 9.30 am & 11.00 am**

[www.stjohnschurch.org.je](http://www.stjohnschurch.org.je)



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*André*

### CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

Saturday 18th December 8am - 6pm  
Monday 20th December 8am - 6pm  
Tuesday 21st December 8am - 9pm  
Wednesday 22nd December 8am - 9pm (Late Night!)  
Thursday 23rd December 8am - 6pm (Late Night!)  
Christmas Eve 8am - 2pm

**How would you like to know  
that your Turkey this year was  
bred with exceptional care?**

I took time out in October to visit Peach Croft Farm in rural Oxfordshire, home of my Turkeys. The Free Range "Bronze" and Barnyard Reared "White" Turkeys (all running around freely and protected by the Free Range Geese) really are exceptionally well cared for by the Homewood Family who have tended this farm now for three generations. As I bent down, they came to feed from my hand (their diet is completely natural), and as you can see from the photograph, they were very used to human contact. I can guarantee that the quality and taste will be second to none, and I'll be taking orders right up to December 10th for these wonderful birds. Also on offer and coming from the same farm will be Feather and Down Pillows and Free Range Goose Fat.

Fantastic, and a dream for me to be able to bring these to Jersey.

**Call me now to reserve yours! 868 838**

*Wishing You The Warm and Wonderful Blessings Of Christmas*

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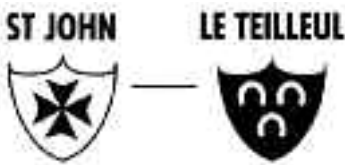


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**We will be closed from 12.30 p.m. on Christmas Eve.  
Open again on Tuesday 4th January 2011.**

**Alan, Veronica and Staff would like to wish you all a very  
Happy Christmas - and hope to see you all in the new year.  
Telephone 865101**





## St John's Twinning Association

Members of the Twinning Association, together with the competitors for the Jeux Intervilles, Paul de la Cour, Chris Day and Brian Richard (coach), travelled to Granville for the weekend of the 26th and 27th June. The Jeux Intervilles are held every two years either in Jersey or France and games are organised for the teams. The Jersey competitors amalgamate with the respective twinned town so great fun is had and friendships are formed during the event.

The teams of most of the twinning associations in Jersey and the French Normandy towns took part in organised water-based and beach games which were ideal for the glorious weather. There was a tremendous team spirit with everyone enjoying the perfect conditions. The teams stayed with their French friends in the youth hostel next to the beach and were well looked after.

On the Saturday evening a dinner dance was held in the hall of the yacht club for about 350 people where everyone was served with an excellent meal and the atmosphere was electric. On Sunday morning a Treasure Hunt was held around the town



*Happy twins!*

of Granville and points were included with the games held on Saturday.

### The winners of the games were:

1st St Martin (Jersey) and Mont Martin Sur Mer (France) with 109 points overall.

2nd St Mary (Jersey) and Longues Sur Mer (France) with 106 points.

3rd Trinity (Jersey) and Coutainville (France) with 103 points.

St John and Le Teilleul were placed 6th out of the eleven teams with 82 points. Well done to our team members!

### Twins for 25 years

During the weekend of the 18th and 19th September

2010, St John's Twinning Association and Le Teilleul, a little village in Normandy, celebrated 25 years of twinning. The links and friendships that have been formed over the past 25 years have been fantastic.



*M. Foucault, the Doyen of Le Teilleul with Myrtle Malzard and Ron Le Herissier.*

Our guests were met at the harbour on the Saturday morning by their hosts and spent the day as they wished. In the evening 72 people attended a Vin D'Honneur in the Parish Hall. Connétable Graeme Butcher presented a print of St John's Parish Church in snowy conditions to the Doyen of Le Teilleul, M. Foucault, who reciprocated by presenting the Connétable with an inlaid cigar box which will be kept in the newly refurbished Parish Hall. There followed an excellent dinner prepared by the Boat House Group. The next 25 years was toasted by everyone, following the cutting of the celebration cake by Mr Ron Le Herissier, Chairman of St John, and Mme Christine Seigneul, Chairwoman of Le Teilleul. The evening concluded with dancing to Robin Ward and his band. The atmosphere in the Parish Hall was tremendous.

On Sunday, in ideal weather conditions, a pig roast was held at the Jersey Petanque Club for 90 people. After a 6.00am start by certain members the pig was ready to be served at 1.15pm and we were fortunate to enjoy good food and wine in a lovely location. Following an excellent meal, members and their guests competed in a petanque match.

Our guests finally departed at 9.00pm on Sunday. Both guests and hosts were by then feeling a bit tired but after such a successful weekend we do hope that the Jumelage continues going from strength to strength.

New members are always welcome. This is a great opportunity of making new friends.

Please contact (Chairman) Ron Le Herissier on Tel. 862010 or (Secretary) Mrs Myrle Malzard on Tel. 862931.

*Ron Le Herissier, Chairman*



# When I grow up I want to work in the voluntary sector

Since graduating from university in July, the question I am most frequently asked is, "What next?"

My answer: "I want to work for a charity".

Upon hearing this most people seem sceptical as to its prospects as a full-time career and think that I am being incredibly naïve. Working in the voluntary sector, however, is a legitimate career, just not one that is widely publicised, especially in Jersey where finance and law generally rule the roost.

Since I completed my undergraduate dissertation on life in Jersey during the German Occupation, and learnt more of the crucial role that the British Red Cross played in helping the people of Jersey I have been inspired by the work of such charitable organisations and wish to follow this path as a career. During my time at University I invested a lot of time in various voluntary projects which I really enjoyed. However, like most industries, experience is essential to getting that all-important job.

## Global Xchange

For this reason, in September I began volunteering as part of a team of 18 on a youth programme called Global Xchange for 18-25 year olds run by Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) and the British Council. My team, half of us from the UK and half from India, have been living and working together for three months in Haringey, North London and we are now about to embark on a three-month trip to Rajasthan, India. The aim of the programme is to make a real difference to people both in the UK and in India.

## Global Citizenship Day

There are several components of Global Xchange, which make it unique and an ideal programme for people like me wishing to gain experience in voluntary work. Firstly, as a volunteer I am living and working with an Indian 'counterpart partner'. The idea is that by living and working together we can learn a great deal about the language and culture of our respective countries, while supporting each other through the experience. We are totally immersed into the community by living in a host home, which gives us the opportunity to really understand the culture and customs of the community we are helping. Secondly, the volunteer placements, where we will be working four days a week, provide practical work experience in a local charity or organization while making a positive and practical contribution to the community. Finally, once a week we attend a Global Citizenship Day. This is



Corrine Vibert

where the team meets to engage in active learning about community development issues in both Haringey and Rajasthan.

For any young people who, like me, are considering "what next?" and want to do something a bit different, Global Xchange is a fantastic programme. Having never travelled beyond Western Europe, Global Xchange also gives me the opportunity to travel. Spending three months in rural India, living in a culture that is completely new, is going to be an incredible challenge. Hopefully I will learn a lot, gain a lot of experience, and have many great stories to tell when I return.

For further information on the Global Xchange programme go to [www.globalexchange.org.uk](http://www.globalexchange.org.uk) or contact the Enquiries Unit on 0208 780 7500. You can also write to: Global Xchange VSO, Carlton House, 27a Carlton Drive, London, SW15 2BS

*Namaste!*

Corrine Vibert



# St John's Youth Project

## No response to appeal

In the last edition I appealed for local volunteers to help out at our youth project. Unfortunately we had no response at all. I would again appeal to anyone who might be interested in helping the young people of St John. Please read the information below and contact me for an informal chat.

### Volunteer Opportunities in Youth Work

This is a fantastic opportunity to work with young people, experience/remember their world, hear their views, make a positive contribution to their lives and your community, learn new skills and have great fun in a challenging and rewarding role. With your help we can expand the range of activities and informal learning opportunities available to young people in St John.

### Name of Organisation:

St John's Youth Club (North West Partnership)

### Volunteer Position:

Working with young people in a choice of three age groups: Junior club (school year 4-6), Inter club (year 7-9), Senior club (year 10 and over, maximum age 18).

### Time Commitment:

Youth club sessions normally require 2 – 3 hours of your time either weekly or monthly and take place during term time.

### Brief Description of Duties:

There are many roles to play within our youth project e.g. signing in members, running the tuck shop, organising activities, listening to young people's issues, offering positive advice and guidance and learning from experiences.

### Our Commitment:

Volunteers will work under the supervision of a qualified youth worker and sessional youth workers and be offered a range of training opportunities, support and supervision.

Potential volunteers will need to attend an informal meeting with the Senior Youth Worker, complete a Youth Service registration form, successfully complete a Criminal Record Check and provide positive character references BEFORE they will be able to start working with young people.

### Notes:

More detailed information available by contacting me:

Simon Bell  
Senior Youth Worker  
North West Partnership  
484816 or 07797 727031  
simonbell@youthservice.yc.je

### Club opening times:

Senior Club (Year 10 & 11 up to 18yrs);  
Tuesday Evening 7.30 – 9.30pm  
Junior Club (Year 4, 5 & 6);  
Friday Evening 6.30 – 8.00pm  
Inters Club (Year 7, 8 & 9);  
Friday Evening 8.15 – 9.45pm

### This is what some of the inter members think of their club night:

*"I enjoy coming to youth club to play football and go on the trampoline." JD*

*"I come to youth club because it's fun and something to do." MB*

*"It's a good laugh and it puts a great end to the week." PS*

*"Youth club is good fun and a great laugh." SA*

*"Youth club has lots of fun activities to do." MA*

*Simon Bell, Senior Youth Worker*



*Plans for the stakeboard park.*



# A Parish Hall for

## Parishioners will be pleased to know that the project to exte

A plaque to commemorate the opening of the new facilities was unveiled by the Bailiff, Mr Michael Birt, on the occasion of the Visite Royale on the 4th August. The Royal Court then sat in the re-furbished main Hall.



*Constable's office*

The job has not been without its problems. Within a week of starting the work, it was discovered that the drains had been leaking into the soil at the rear of the building. This only became evident when a JCB excavator began to sink below the surface it was working on. This resulted in a ten-week delay, and added considerably to the overall cost. Other problems were discovered, as was likely when dealing with an old building, and certain contractors caused delays when absent from site. However the work was expertly supervised by Tony Le Brocq, mostly using subcontractors whose work he was familiar with, and the completed job has an excellent standard of finish.

The entrance lobby to the offices has been finished with oak panelling with a fine new oak staircase leading up to the new Committee room.



*More space!*

The lobby has a counter punched through into the main office. This office has much more space now that it is not shared, and a door from it leads into the



*Disabled facility*

new office of the Parish Secretary. There is a passageway between the Secretary's office leading to the new Connétable's office, passing a machine/stationery room. This passage also leads to the new modern toilets that includes a disabled facility. There is also a lift up to the first floor Committee room, and some much needed storage also off this passage. The new kitchen, although narrow, is long, but has all



*New Kitchen*

the requirements to service a full hall of diners (which has already been tested). The passageway outside the kitchen needed the window sills altered to accommodate the height of the kitchen worktops (another additional expense).

The first floor Committee room is a little bigger than its predecessor and much lighter, and is fitted with a new digital screen for presentations. Off this room is a small kitchen for providing refreshments to



# the 21st Century

## end and modernise the Parish Hall has now been completed



*Shiny floor in the main hall*

the users.

The main hall has been re-decorated, maintaining most of the original features, but the curtains are now green, reflecting the parish colours, and the floor has a special hard-wearing glossy varnish.

The Connétable has taken the opportunity to re-vamp the ground-works around the Parish Hall,



*New oak staircase to Committee Room*



*Committee Room*



*Counter in the lobby*

although there is yet some hedging to be planted.

The Golden Age Club was the first to use the facilities following the completion, and Mrs Jean De La Mothe had the privilege of cutting the tape to celebrate the opening.

Undoubtedly the Parish Hall has moved into the 21st Century and should be entirely adequate for the next thirty years.

*Richard Dupré*



*Mrs Jean de la Mothe cuts the ribbon.*

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# St John's Women's Institute



This year is passing very quickly. For members of the WI there are so many things to participate in that life is never lonely or boring.

In May we met at Ebenezer Church Hall where we had the WI Resolutions followed by a Beetle Drive. Great fun was had by all.

In June we had the privilege of visiting the Malzard Racing Yard at Grosnez where we were welcomed by Mrs Alyson Malzard, the racehorse trainer, who gave us a very interesting talk on her chosen career. How much she enjoys her profession was truly obvious by the sheer delight on Alyson's



*Alyson Malzard with daughter Victoria and Mr Neville Ahier.*

face! Alyson's daughter, Victoria, who is only 9, was also taking in all the information as she is a very capable rider and may one day follow in her mother's footsteps. We were also joined by Mr Neville Ahier, the local St John Bookmaker, who talked about how he started on that career.

In July, together with our men folk, we met for a fun evening at President Myrtle Malzard's house. We played bowls, croquet and pétanque. It happened to be Bastille Day, so we dressed in French colours. Following the games we were served with a French supper. Another evening of great fun!

After a break in August we resumed our meetings on September 9th with an outing to the theatre to hear the Royal Air Force Band in concert, following a meal at Ad-Lib.

In October we welcomed Mr Paul Battrock MBE, Managing Director of Pitcher & Le Quesne Ltd. He explained the procedures in the case of death – sudden or expected – either at home or abroad. Many questions came from the floor during what proved to be a very informative evening.

November was the month for our AGM, including election of officers and committee members. A quiz followed.

Our Christmas Party takes place on Monday December 6th at 7.30 at Ebenezer. The Harmony Men will be entertaining us in the Church, and then



*WI members at the Malzard racing yard.*

supper will be served in the Hall. Guests are welcome to come along. Tickets are £3.

We have already put together a varied programme for next year, so why not come along. We are delighted to welcome new faces.

For further information – or a chat about what we do, contact Myrtle Malzard on 862931.

*Myrtle Malzard  
President*



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# Your views are valued

## St John's Parish – Island Plan Consultation

The Draft Jersey Island Plan includes a number of proposals which will directly affect the parishioners of the villages of St John and Sion and the wider parish. The Parish elected a group to make a submission on behalf of the Parish.

The Working Party of St John has looked extensively at the Island Plan and how it can influence the future development of the Parish within its boundaries. The aim of this work is to ensure that the future character of the Parish is protected and enhanced.

The members of the St John's Parish Working Party presented their initial views to a Parish Meeting earlier this year, prior to making its submission. As discussed at the public meeting and within the submission, consultation is a key element for the group.

### Your views are valued

It is now planned to carry out a parish-wide consultation with residents, as well as those who regularly use the Parish for business or leisure purposes, to obtain the widest possible selection of what parishioners really think about the future

direction of St John.

The consultation will initially involve focus group discussions, which will begin in January 2011 and will mainly take place in the evenings. The focus groups will be run by an independent researcher who has been appointed by the Working Party.

The findings from the consultation will feed into a St John Village Plan. Your views are valued and will help to provide a response to the larger Island Plan which represents the views of parishioners.

If you, or an existing group to which you belong, would like to take part in the consultation, please register your interest by 31st December 2010 by sending your name, address and contact details to [admin@stjohnworkingparty.co.uk](mailto:admin@stjohnworkingparty.co.uk).

**Please note that any information sent will be stored confidentially and will not be used for any other purpose.**

To view the full submission made by the Parish of St John Working Party, please visit [www.stjohnvillageplan.co.uk](http://www.stjohnvillageplan.co.uk)

We look forward to hearing from you.

*Martyn Farley*

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# Mr Andrew Willis

In January 2011, Mr Andrew Willis, head teacher of St. John's School, will be moving on to become head of JCG Prep. In a recent interview, Mr Willis reminisced about his arrival in Jersey, the experiences in education he has had here and the challenges he is looking forward to meeting in his future role.

Like many people, Mr Willis came to Jersey for love; first of all for the young woman who was to become his wife, Janet, and then they stayed because of their love for the island. Their early teaching career had been at a school on a huge housing estate in Kirby, near Liverpool, but the future Mrs Willis was appointed to Rouge Bouillon School and Mr Willis soon followed to Jersey, prepared to teach anywhere until a permanent post arose. This gave him a wide experience of teaching in a variety of island primary schools. Promotion soon followed at Grouville and St Luke's schools before his first headship at St John in 2006.

Although the schools he has taught in may have been very different, Mr Willis is sure that young children are the same everywhere, regardless of background; curious, passionate about their interests, willing to be involved and ready for a challenge – in fact very like Mr Willis himself which is most likely why he relates so well to his young charges.

## Community Spirit

His abiding memory of St John will be the strength of community spirit here in the parish which, for him, coalesces around the school. One example he gave was the building, planting and care of the Sensory Garden at the school. So many people recognised the importance of the project and gave their time joyfully and freely to achieving the goal. Parents, teachers, pupils and friends of the school came together to do the work and one part of the garden became a memorial to Nadine Hamon – Cole, a parent and Chef de Police in St John.

He has always been uplifted by the energy and enthusiasm of the staff and pupils of St John's School who are always ready for something new.

Challenge is something that the Willis family is used to, having just spent a year in Suzhou, China. Mr and Mrs Willis taught in the international school there where their pupils were mainly Korean, Taiwanese and Japanese but all taught in English. He feels both he and his wife learnt so much professionally from this experience, and as a family they shared in the Chinese culture few outsiders get a chance to see. Their journey home by train all the way from China to St Malo was a further amazing experience.

His new job as head teacher of JCG Prep is an opportunity that comes rarely and why he is

prepared to leave St John. He will also become a member of the Senior Management Team for the whole College and will have an input on the



education of pupils from 4 to 18. An exciting challenge indeed for a young man who is both passionate and curious – just like his pupils. We wish him well in his new rôle.

*Rosie Bleasby*

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# Jersey Mencap's 50th Birthday

This year Jersey Mencap celebrates fifty years of supporting local children and adults with learning disabilities.

## How did it begin?

Fifty years ago a small group of parents got together to campaign for educational services for children with learning disabilities, because there were none. That was the start of what has turned out to be an organisation which has supported so many people and helped to change so many lives for the better.

During our 50 years we have campaigned for and also provided a range of opportunities. On the work front we established Rural Enterprises in Trinity and, after many meetings with Employment and Social Security, we managed to persuade the then President to develop and extend our scheme into what is now the valuable Acorn Enterprises.

## 75 residents in 25 houses

In 1980 Jersey Mencap took over the running of what was then Maison Variety, and established Les Amis which then was home to 10 residents and now looks after some 75 people in 25 different houses around the island. Les Amis also runs an adult respite service which supports some 21 people and their families. We have established a respite service for children in a modern house which currently supports 19 children and their families.

## Many projects

We established and fund a Self Advocacy project which provides support to people to ensure that they are able to express their wishes and achieve their goals in life. We also run a social club so that young people can get out and about with their friends and enjoy doing all the things we take for granted. Last year we established "Kindred Spirits" which is our dating agency. Working in partnership with the National Trust, Jersey Employment Trust and CS Conservation, we have established our Pond Project on a lovely piece of land off Rozel Hill. The project

won this year's Insurance Corporation of the Channel Islands Conservation Project of the Year Award. We also run our very successful Taking Part Making Art Project. This is just a flavour of the many things Jersey Mencap does, funds and gets involved with, as well as trying to meet the many financial demands made upon us. This is why fund raising and raising our charity profile is so essential.



*Proud pond project workers with their Insurance Corporation of the Channel Islands 2010 Award, awaiting the arrival of the Earl and Countess of Wessex.*

We have used this 50th birthday year to raise funds for much-needed adult respite. There is currently adult respite available in The Lodge at Les Amis but in today's world it no longer meets the necessary registration requirements. We have held many fund-raising activities this year and our Golden Ball on the 2nd October was our highlight, with a wonderful auction and raffle. Lots of people who attended our evening were very generous. Murray Norton, who was our brilliant compère for the evening, has included Jersey Mencap in his 10 Charities Appeal, which is fantastic for us. So thank you Murray!

If you would like further information about Jersey Mencap or wish to talk to us about any issues concerning people with learning disabilities then please contact us on – 866622 or check out our web site: [www.jerseymencap.org](http://www.jerseymencap.org).

*Dawn Tinley, Chairman*



*Happy and relieved walkers at the end of our South Coast Charity Challenge which raised over £20,000 for our Adult respite appeal*



# The 'Jersey Wall' goes up in Mongolia

Jersey Overseas Aid Project to Mongolia, June 2010

The project was to build a school for an organisation called The Fraternité de Notre Dame, a French Roman Catholic order, that had been working amongst the very poorest people in the country for eight years. Sister Françoise of the order was running a small orphanage in a slum area of the capital city, taking in children abandoned by their parents who could not afford to feed them. In order to educate them the order had been renting a building to use as a school but due to the cost of renting had appealed to JOAC for a new building.

In early June a team of ten volunteers from



*The Jersey Wall*

Jersey travelled to Mongolia to help with the building work. The team was accommodated in two Gers (traditional tents) in the grounds of the orphanage and was quite spoilt by having electricity, hot (usually) showers and flush toilets. We were also spoilt by sister Françoise who went out of her way to make us comfortable and well fed despite having a family of 23 whom she looked after almost single-handedly. They all, quite deservedly, fondly knew her as 'Maman'.

The local builders had all but finished the foundations when we arrived, though we did do quite a lot of infilling. Our main work was moving every one of the 90,000 bricks used in the building from where the lorry dropped them to the various locations around the site where the local "brickies" needed them. Apart from that we helped with all the little unskilled tasks around the site and helped to build "The Jersey Wall" as a partition between 2 classrooms.

At weekends we were able to see quite a bit of the countryside, including spending a day with a herder family and experiencing a little of their way of life: idyllic on a warm summer's day to be living in a



*Children of the orphanage.*

tent miles from anywhere but in a 7 month winter when temperatures regularly drop below minus 30 I suspect the novelty soon wears off!

Talking of weather, during the first week we had three days of rain (unheard of in a normally very dry climate) and with a cold wind straight off Siberia it was so cold that we had to borrow coats. By the end of the second week the temperature had climbed to 42 degrees before dropping to the average of between 27 and 30 in the day time.

## Football is international

The children of the orphanage were delightful. Obviously well cared for and loved dearly by the incredible Sister/Maman, they enjoyed playing with us despite the language barrier. We spoke no Mongolian but they did speak quite a bit of French so we were able to converse a little, and in any case football is international! It was sobering to realise that without the Fraternité many would have died or at best been incarcerated in the State Orphanage which was reminiscent of the workhouses of old.

The language barrier, cultural differences, the weather and the unaccustomed hard labour all caused minor difficulties along the way but at the end we had, between us, got the roof on the building. It was to be finished off by the local builders, ready for use in September. The team all came back fit and well with no illnesses or injuries and all were delighted with their experience and proud of the achievement

*Dave Ellis, Team Leader*



## St John's Brownies have been out and about

At Samares Manor in June, we were fortunate to see the Earl and Countess of Wessex – a privilege and honour. An afternoon of activities was organised for the girls, finishing with our Centenary Tea Party.

We ended the summer term with a walk around De Quetteville pond with Michel from Jersey Trees for Life. Lots of bugs were found!

Since starting back in September, the girls have gained their Fire Safety badge and visited the old and new traffic control towers at the airport.

500 girls, families, and friends took part in the Centenary Finale at RHJ Trinity where we renewed our promise and looked forward to the next 100 years of girl guiding in Jersey. A fireworks display ended the evening to mark the closure of our centenary year.

Congratulations to Charlotte Lees, Lucy Woodward, Aimée Hill and Lily MacDonald for winning the Brownie Quiz this year. Well done to you all!

To finish off this term, we are looking forward to welcoming the Scout Band which no doubt will be



Quiz winners

noisy but fun. We are also having a Christmas sleepover at Les Creux.

*Donna Tupper*



'A great family community event', is how Parish Constable Graeme Butcher describes the now well established festival which takes place down in the bay each summer. It's a view that after two successful years is echoed by others:-

*... a fun day out for families, with a fishing village flavour*

– Chief Minister Terry Le Sueur

*... a lovely local, fun event for all!*

– Vicky Slack, Chair school PTA.

*... a cohesive community event which brings together people of all ages for fun, food and pleasure.*

– Claudine Thébault,  
Chair, St John Skateboard Association.

*... a super community event, at which it's especially nice to see the involvement of the kids from the school.*

– Maxine Fergusson, Constable's Officer;

*... an opportunity for young and old to get together in beautiful surroundings*

– Myrtle Malzard, President St John's WI

*... a superb vehicle for Parishioners to get together, have fun and raise financial support for parish activities!*

– Churchwarden Celia Jeune.

*... a community bringing people together for the best in company, food and entertainment – all in gorgeous surroundings*

– Ivor Richards, Jersey Youth Service.

*... a fantastic, fun-filled day for the whole community*

– School head teacher Andrew Willis.



## Meet the team

The Harbour Festival is a true community event which has the active support of a large number of individual parishioners and groups from within the parish including: the Bonne Nuit Boat Owners, the School PTA, Women's Institute, the Parish Church congregation, the St John Skateboard Association and the Honorary Police.

The event, though, is coordinated by a small planning group, all of whom can be approached with suggestions for improving the festival. Neil Cotillard, a property developer by day, is the chairman of the planning group. James Evans, chief flying instructor at Jersey Aero Club, is treasurer. Andy Thewlis, the Rector, is secretary. Tim Le Feuvre, of JFTU, looks after all the health and safety issues. Linda Carter, of Farm Fresh Organics, is responsible for liaising with stall holders. Viv Day, a teacher at Grainville, co-ordinates the stewards. Michel Larose, Parish Procurer and retired farmer, is looking after the 2011 pig roast, and Jayne Luce, part-time waitress at Giggles café who has joined the committee this year, is responsible for the raffle.

games on the beach there are to be exciting additions for 2011, including a Hawaiian theme to the day, with dancing on the beach in the evening along with limbo competitions.

The raffle will also be different as, after listening to feedback, we're opting for £1 raffle tickets in 2011, but consequently have 6,000 to sell. So please do contact Jayne Luce if you can help us selling the raffle tickets

As in previous year the proceeds will be divided between four groups: The Bonne Nuit Boat Owners; the School PTA; the parish church, plus a fourth good cause. The festival planning committee will be deciding at their January meeting on just which good cause will benefit from the fourth portion of the festival proceeds and would like to invite parishioners, through Star of the North, to nominate local charities and good causes for consideration.

Please send your recommendations to the Secretary, by email to [athewlis@jerseymail.co.uk](mailto:athewlis@jerseymail.co.uk) or by phoning the Rectory on 861677.

*Andy Thewlis  
Secretary, Bonne Nuit Harbour Festival*

## Festival date – Saturday 25th June 2011

Whilst the general feel of the Festival will be similar to previous years with food, entertainment and

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## Join the Friends of Bonne Nuit



We invite you to join us and allow us to add your name to our list as another Friend of Bonne Nuit. There is no subscription fee but a donation to help towards costs would be appreciated.

### Our objectives are very simple:

- To raise public awareness of the beauty and tranquillity of Bonne Nuit;
- Keep the bay in its natural state as far as possible;
- Preserve the peaceful atmosphere of this small local community;
- Provide a safe bathing environment for all to enjoy.

As a group we were formed in April 2000 and since then have been actively involved in many issues in the bay including the demolition of the old Bonne Nuit Chalet Hotel and the planning and building of La Falaize de Frémont apartments.

We have helped develop a sustainable Squirrel population within the bay by way of tree a planting scheme; a rope bridge; awareness signs and supplementary feeding.

We were involved with the planning and installation of the new toilet block and the satellite sewage treatment plant. This has had major odour issues this year which are now being addressed by the Transport & Technical Services Department.

The "Strombolus Ltd" land issue with the unstable bank above the road down to the pier has

been part of the Visite Royale this year and hopefully the result will be that the landowner pays for any stabilisation work required. Also we should have the ugly temporary! barriers removed soon.

We are now looking forward to the re-development of the Cheval Roc hotel into three new houses, the plans for which include widening the access road to La Crete Fort along with improving the visual aspect of the area.

As a group we would like to think we have had an input into the area in a very positive way. If you would like to be part of our group, please complete the form below.

*Gary Romeril, Secretary*

Name and address: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Please hand this form to one of the Friends named below, put in the letterbox of the Bonne Nuit Boat Owners' Shed, or post it to our Secretary at Broadview, Bonne Nuit Bay, St John, JE3 4DJ.

Friends of Bonne Nuit

Chairman: Lawrence Carter – Secretary: Gary Romeril – Treasurer: Peter Pearce.

Executive Committee: Jenny Carter, Herbie Jennett, Jane Pearce, Dawn Howard & Mark Bailhache.

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# St John Ladies win Zenith Cup

St John ladies beat St Paul's Ladies 4-1 to win the Zenith Cup at Springfield, watched by a crowd of about 200, who braved the swirling wind and rain.

St John's was always in control of the game, however it was St Paul's who went ahead following a mix up between the St John defenders and keeper, which allowed St Paul's through to score. St John soon came back and Sam Cavey converted a penalty after Jodie Botterill was brought down, and then got a second on the stroke of half time, when she returned a clearance from 35 yards out, the ball bouncing over the advancing keeper.

In the second half, St John could have had three or four goals, mostly a product of the forward line of Jess Viera, Jodie Botterill and Laura Robertson running at the St Paul's defence at any opportunity. And that is exactly how the third goal came – Jess Viera dribbled the ball 40 yards, from inside her half into St Paul's penalty area, before unleashing a powerful shot, which the keeper did well to parry, only for Jodie Botterill to pounce on the rebound. Ten minutes from the end, St John made it four when once again Jodie Botterill unleashed an unstoppable shot from 25 yards. It had power, yet looped over the advancing keeper's outstretched arms.

St Paul's battled hard throughout; however St John was the stronger team and controlled most of the game. The defence held firm throughout, with Kelly Hughes at centre back able to match the St Paul's forwards for speed, while the midfield trio of Sam Cavey, Becky Darts and Tara Marie controlled things in the middle, and played some fabulous through passes for the forwards to run on to.

Congratulations to Tim Jones, the Ladies' manager, who has now won two Cups in a row, winning the last cup of the 2009-10 season, and the first cup of the 2010-11 season. He has worked hard and deserves all the success.

The Ladies are grateful for the support shown to them by Newtel Solutions, and have recently signed a two-year sponsorship agreement to wear the Newtel Solutions football kit. We thank Newtel and hope that this is the first of many trophies that the Ladies win this season.

**Well done Ladies!**

*Nigel Perrée*

---

## Newtel Supports the Ladies

Newtel is delighted to support St John's ladies football team for the coming season. Trevor Le Sueur Newtel's Head of Marketing said:

"Supporting worthwhile community causes is important to Newtel. We felt that the St John's ladies team have proved that success can be achieved through training and teamwork and we are delighted to be able to support them this season through the supply of their 2010/2011 team kit. It is a philosophy for success that fits well with our own business and we are delighted with the partnership.

Newtel is a proud supporter of community projects and is particularly committed to environmental projects such as Jersey Environmental Week and Eco-Active in conjunction with the States of Jersey Education department and sporting events".

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## ST JOHN'S GOLDEN AGE CLUB

### *A social club for senior parishioners aged 60+*

The aim of St John's Golden Age Club is to provide an opportunity for our members to meet on the last Wednesday of the month and enjoy each other's



*Eyes down in the Parish Hall*

company. Our meetings include either a competitive game of bingo, quizzes or card games and the chance for a chat over afternoon tea.

### Talks

Over the past year we have also been given talks on safety in the home and the changeover to digital television. Another time Mr Peter Le Rossignol came to give us his expert opinion on some of our antique valuables. Members also brought in wedding and family photos for an afternoon to remember 'Temps Passé'.

### Outings and parties

We have at least three outings a year – an Easter and autumn Lunch and afternoon tea in the summer. The St Brelade's Bay Hotel and the Potteries were very popular venues. We travel in a coach provided by the parish and the cost of the outings is subsidised, with our monthly raffle helping to boost funds. At



*At St Brelade's Bay Hotel*

Christmas we have a party with entertainers, a sing-song and a full afternoon tea which is always well attended.

Our meeting place is at the Parish Hall where we are always ready to welcome new members. So come along and give us a try!

Contacts: Wendy Rondel 863667; Daphne Hinault 861467; Ann Butcher 862450

*Marie Griffiths, Secretary*

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## SUNDAY WORSHIP IN ST JOHN

### THE PARISH CHURCH

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8.00am	Holy Communion
9.30am	Holy Communion with traditional hymns
11.00am	Contemporary Worship – All-age Worship, Celebrations or Communion.

The Sunday Club meets weekly at 11.00 am leaving church for their own teaching sessions at the school except during all-age worship services.

### UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

#### Every Sunday

10.30am	Family Worship
	Holy Communion on first Sunday of the month
	'All-age' worship on the last Sunday of the month.

## St John's Parish Contacts

Archery – Martin Pomroy – 855479  
 Bell ringing – Justin Read – 888484  
 Bingo – Muriel Poisson – 863184  
 Bonne Nuit Boat Owners – Linda Carter - 864828

Bonne Nuit Harbour Festival – Neil Cotillard – 077977 97834  
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 Carpet Bowls – Shirley Caurel – 863825  
 Constable – Graeme Butcher – 862450  
 Deputy – Phil Rondel – 861455  
 Editor (Star) – Angela Le Sueur – 863994  
 Football club – Nigel Perrée – 865113  
 Friends of Bonne Nuit – Gary Romeril – 861972  
 Golden Age Club – Wendy Rondel – 863667  
 Honorary Police – 866560  
 Les Frères Mother Toddler and Baby Group – Sharon Day – 725224  
 Parish Hall – 861999  
 Rector – Rev Andy Thewlis – 861677  
 School – 861692  
 Shooting Club – John Renouf – 861908  
 St John Youth & Community Trust – Andrew Lewis – 862663  
 Tennis – Tina Spencer-Nairn – 861716  
 Twinning Association – Ron Le Herissier – 862010  
 Women's Institute – Myrtle Malzard – 862931  
 United Reformed Church – Rev Patrick McManus – 861386  
 Youth Project – Darren Dupré – 865728  
 Youth Worker – Simon Bell – 07797727031

# Reg's Skips Limited



**Skip hire at competitive rates**

**Deliveries of Sand, Chippings, Top Soil etc.**

**For an efficient and professional service**

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# PARISH DIARY - December 2010 to April 2011

## DECEMBER

Mon 6th	7.00pm	School Reception, Year 1 & 2 production Babushka
Mon 6th	7.30pm	WI Christmas Party with the Harmony Men
Wed 8th	5.25pm	Father Christmas at the Parish Hall
Thurs 9th	12.30pm	Senior Citizens Christmas lunch at the Farmhouse
Thurs 9th	7.00pm	School KS2 production Dick Whittington
Fri 10th	1.00pm	School KS2 production of Dick Whittington for Senior Citizens, followed by tea with retirement celebration for Muriel Poisson.
Fri 10th	7.00pm	School KS2 production Dick Whittington
Tues 14th	7.30pm	Christmas Bingo in the Parish Hall.
Wed 15th		Last day of school term
Sat 18th	2.00pm	Golden Age Christmas party in the Parish Hall
Sun 19th	10.30am	Parish Church Nativity service in the Parish Hall
Sun 19th	6.00pm	Candlelit Carol Service in the Parish Church
Wed 22nd		Parish Hall Office closes for Christmas
Fri 24th	5.30pm	Christingle Service in the Parish Church
Fri 24th	11.30pm	Midnight Communion in the Parish Church
Sat 25th	8.00am	Christmas Day Communion in the Parish Church
Sat 25th	10.00am	Christmas Day Family Service
Sat 25th	10.30am	All-age Christmas Day Celebration in the Parish Church
Sun 26th	10.30am	Christmas Songs of Praise in the Parish Church

## JANUARY

Tues 4th		Parish Hall Office re-opens
Wed 5th		Back to School
Sun 9th	10.30am	All-Age Plough Sunday Service in the Parish Church
Wed 12th	7.30pm	WI meet in the Parish Hall
Tues 25th	7.30pm	Muriel's bingo in the Parish Hall
Wed 26th	2.30pm	Golden Age Club meet in the Parish Hall

## FEBRUARY

Wed 9th	7.30pm	WI meet in the Parish Hall
Sun 13th	11.00am	Celebration of Marriage in the Parish Church
Tues 15th	3.00pm	School Class Open Day. Everybody welcome.
Fri 18th		Last day of school half-term
Tues 22nd	7.30pm	Muriel's bingo in the Parish Hall
Wed 23rd	2.30pm	Golden Age Club meet in the Parish Hall with Dave & Betty Ellis
Mon 28th		Back to School

## MARCH

Wed 9th	7.30pm	WI meet in the Parish Hall
Wed 9th	8.00pm	Ash Wednesday Communion in the Parish Church
Sat 12th	12.00–2.00pm	Lent lunch in Parish Hall, hosted by the Parish Church
Sat 19th	9.30am	Parish Clean. Meet in the Parish Church
Sat 19th	12.00–2.00pm	Lent lunch at the URC
Sat 26th	12.00–2.00pm	Lent lunch in Parish Hall hosted by the Parish Church
Sun 27th	11.00am	Celebration of Education in the Parish Church with staff, pupils and parents from St John School
Tues 29th	7.30pm	Muriel's Easter bingo in the Parish Hall
Wed 30th	12.00pm	Golden Age Club lunch, leaves from the Parish Hall

## APRIL

Sat 2nd	12.00–2.00pm	Lent lunch at the URC
Sun 3rd	10.30am	Mothering Sunday Celebration in the Parish Church
Fri 8th	11.00am	End of term School Service in the Parish Church
Fri 8th		Last day of school term
Sat 9th	12.00–2.00pm	Lent lunch in Parish Hall hosted by the Parish Church
Wed 13th	7.30pm	WI meet in the Parish Hall
Sat 16th	12.00–2.00pm	Lent lunch at the URC
Thurs 21st	8.00pm	Tenebrae Service at the URC
Fri 22nd	10.30am	Good Friday Worship at the Parish Church
Sun 24th		Easter Day
Tues 26th	7.30pm	Muriel's bingo in the Parish Hall
Wed 27th	2.30pm	Golden Age Club meet in the Parish Hall
Thurs 28th		Back to School

## MAY

Sun 8th	10.30am	United Liberation Day service in the Parish Church
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***Come to Plough Sunday  
All-Age Service with  
traditional blessing of  
the plough, Sunday 9th  
January at 10.30 am in  
the Parish Church.***



# St. John's Village Inn



tel.:- 864690



**News hot off the press:- from St John's Village Inn**

**This popular hostelry is having a major re-vamp**

Alterations are being made to the lounge area, a new ceiling new seating and new carpets throughout.



The bar area will remain open while this work is taking place.



**We are hoping to re-open in time for Christmas**

**George and his staff wish all their customers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year**



**We cater for any occasion, you name it - we can do it - Buffet menus available**

## Silver for Abigail

Seven year old Abigail Romeril travelled to Sardinia in July to take part in the Dance World Cup competition

She was a very lucky young lady and won a Silver medal for her Song and Dance routine. She wasn't so lucky with her National dance as she was up against some fiercely competitive Russians! She did well though and got a respectable score for her routine. Of course, the experience was invaluable for a seven year old! As a team, Jersey did very well as such a small island against some big countries. Abigail is now training hard for the qualifiers for next year's Dance World Cup which is being held at Disneyland Paris in July 2011.



*Lesley Anne Romeril*

*Abigail Romeril displays her medal*

