

L'ÉTALE DU NORD — STAR OF THE NORTH

Parish of St John



ISSUE 30

August 2013

Dear Parishioners...

At the time of putting pen to paper the sky is overcast with a little rain.

Having been up since 5.10am working on papers in the office in the peace of early morning, I was just giving thought to popping over to the kitchen to make a cuppa, when I heard a disturbance near the office door! Looking at my watch I noticed the time was only 6.20am, so I gingerly went towards the door to see what or who was causing the noise. Then I heard the noise again!! Ah the good old refuse collection lads removing the week's waste from our bins. You could set your watch by this team, summer or winter give or take a minute. Come Monday they are at their day's work. (Many thanks lads.)

Well, spring has come and gone; the longest day has passed and as July arrives still no real settled weather to speak of. Thankfully the Bonne Nuit Harbour Festival went well with a dry sunny day in the bay. I spent time in the stocks to raise funds for the local charities. Some 50 people decided to spend 50 pence to have the joy of taking out their frustration on the Connétable. Albeit many paid for the younger members of my own family to throw wet sponges while being egged on by the more mature family members! All in all, good fun.

BUSY TIME

Within the Parish Hall over the last few months we had a busy time with the referendum falling at the same time as the end of the financial year, so all were stretched. That said, we have a good team who make light work of long hours.

Talking of long hours, our six-month trial of opening the Parish Hall late on Wednesday evenings is over, and has proved successful. If all are happy at the July Rates assembly, this will have become a permanent addition to our office hours.

Looking ahead to the autumn there will be the Annual British Legion Coffee morning in the Parish Hall on Saturday 9th November. Do put the date in your dairy and come along to support this good



On target

cause. Please speak to Wendy if you can help with raffle prizes, serving refreshments etc.

As I look out of the window and listen to the early morning red-eye depart, it's time I signed off and move on to other tasks.

On behalf of Wendy and myself I wish you all an excellent summer and hope it brings you all you wish for.

*Phil Rondel
Connétable*

Editorial

Welcome to the thirtieth issue of *Star of the North* in our tenth year of publication. Over time there have been changes and improvements from our inaugural issue, published in December 2003, which was just sixteen pages in total and without colour photos, to this, the Summer 2013 issue, which, as you will appreciate, has a new fresh feel with colour photographs throughout.

Times continue to be challenging financially for all, including those like ourselves who are dependent upon advertising income to cover production costs. As a consequence we welcome Mailmate as the new printers for Star, who now allow the possibility of full colour on each page at a lower cost.

On behalf of the Editorial Committee, we offer publically our thanks to Alpha Print for serving us so well as printers of all previous issues. We have had an excellent working relationship with them.

As Acting Editor of Star for issues 25 to 30, I thank all those who have contributed articles and

offered support, including the members of the editorial team, whose love for the parish, combined knowledge and general 'to do attitude' in writing and sourcing articles make the committee a delight to lead. My own particular thanks go to Angela Le Sueur who, after formally stepping down as Editor in December 2011, has continued to perform a fantastic job behind the scenes in the production of each subsequent issue. Angela – THANK YOU.

Jo Falla will be leading Star forward as Editor for the December 2013 issue and in passing on the baton of responsibility I ask you as advertisers, contributors and readers to support Jo by enjoying Issue 30 and passing on your feedback to her at nijo@jerseymail.co.uk

Revd Andy Thewlis
Acting Editor

St John's Women's Institute: in, out and about



At our April meeting we held a very successful Fashion Show which was attended by over 80 people. Members of St John's WI modelled clothes from Crème, our local village boutique, and some of our members' grandchildren modelled clothes from JSSK. The evening was rounded off with a raffle and an excellent supper.

Many thanks were extended to Eileen and Sharon from Crème and the management from JSSK children's boutique in Quennevais Precinct.

In May, we held the WI Resolutions evening which this year focused upon a vote for the saving of our High Streets. Anita West, our WI Adviser, came to discuss the resolution and the vote was taken to the AGM held in Cardiff by our delegate, Karen Cotillard, in May. She was accompanied by two observers from St John's WI, Ross Harris and Myrtle Malzard. Over 25 members from Jersey went to Cardiff where the AGM was held at The Motorpoint Arena with over 4,400 women attending. A great weekend was had by all.

In June we had an outing we had a meal out, followed by an evening at the Opera House to see two stars from the Strictly Come Dancing series. It was an enjoyable evening spent with friends.

The July meeting was an outing to visit the Masonic Temple where we were guided through the grand old building and its history was explained to us.

St John's WI also hosted the WI Island Walking Scavenger Hunt on Friday 12th July which started from the Parish Hall and concluded with supper in the Parish Hall.

In August we are hoping to have a party of members in all their finery to attend Ladies' Day at Les Landes Races.

In September Mr David Gainsborough Roberts will give us a talk on some of his collections such as his Marilyn Munroe collectables.

Our October meeting will be a visit and talk at Jersey Pearl, followed by supper in their restaurant.

As you can see the WI and all its members are always busy and there are many things to take part in. So anyone interested in joining, please come along on the second Wednesday of the month or phone the President Mrs Myrtle Malzard, Tel. 862931 for more information.

Myrtle Malzard, President



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A TALE OF TWO BOOKS and a rose garden

For the Love of a Rose is the title of a book given to my husband and me by a family friend, Mrs Wilsey, living at Maufant. It tells the story of the south of France producers and breeders, Meilland, who, early on during World War Two, produced a rose 'sport' which they considered exceptional. As that part of France fell to Marshal Pétain, the Meillands schemed to spirit away this small treasure – which at that point was known just by a number. They succeeded in getting it away to Canada where it remained for the duration. Back in France after the war – what to call this rather symbolic new rose? 'Peace'.

Having briefly attended Cirencester Agricultural College – gardening on a large scale – it was some years later in his uncle's rose garden that Jock announced he would like to create a rose garden of his own. Years passed – we moved back to Jersey, living first in Gorey. At this point his interest lay in growing the modern varieties and he set to with a will – only to discover techniques learned at Cirencester did not stand him in good stead!

Pooling our resources with my ageing parents then living in St Martin, we moved to a property in St Saviour. By this time, having researched copiously, Jock decided to turn his attention to the old roses, with their wonderful scent, voluptuous flower heads in colours ranging from deepest purple right through to the palest pink and white. There were ramblers and climbers with names such as 'Seagull' and 'New Dawn' which could transform the remains of a tree or an unsightly wall.

2001 and just the two of us in the property in St Saviour – it was time to move on. The year-end saw us the very lucky owners of Oakdale in St John – a delightfully rural parish and a beautiful house – indeed, the type of house it had always been our dream to own. In addition it possessed a large, flat and beautifully manicured area of grass.



'1421'

Shortly after the move the second influential book made its appearance – *1421*. According to the author, on 8th March, 1421, the largest fleet the world had ever seen set sail from China. The fleet was ordered 'to proceed all the way to the end of the earth'. The voyage would last two years. The crews of these massive ships, some nearly five hundred feet long, were able to take with them only very limited mementos of home. Many took 'roses growing in pots with which they shared their water rations'. Maybe this is the beginning of the story of how the genes of the repeat-flowering roses of the East came together with those of the West? A chance cross on the island of Réunion in the Indian Ocean produced Rose 'Édouard', generally acknowledged as the first Bourbon rose. By now Jock's knowledge of his subject was considerable.

At Oakdale – how to make good use of this perfect plot? Jock enlisted the help of Roger Sebire who in turn took as his inspiration the East window of the Fishermen's Chapel in St Brelade, creating a layout resembling a Celtic cross. With the help of Greg Ruellan, his team and a lot of string the shapes were created, measured and remeasured for accuracy. Then came the digging – two spits deep, maybe three – and the ground mixed with all the ingredients roses like most. With work in progress – how to choose the roses to occupy these beds? Jock turned to Peter Beales' *Roses in Norfolk* where Ian and Tina Limmer's advice was invaluable. In the first place Tina and Jock discussed the selection, checking along the way with Ian, the plantsman, as to habit and size. In November 2004 – the decisions made – two-thirds of the final selection started the journey from Norfolk and five days later were safely in the ground in Jersey. A year later the remaining one hundred arrived during the planting season.

Jock had realised his ambition. Sadly, he died in November 2010, before he could set the progress and development of the rose in the context of historical events around the world – such as the remarkable Chinese voyage of discovery in 1421 – reaching the shores of North America seven decades before Christopher Columbus.

Sue Russell



Scenes from the Variety Club's 'Governor's Walk in St John'

which took place on the 21st of July *Photos by Richard Dupré*



Left: The crocodile taking in the view from the path

Above: Examining a datestone at Les Escaliers with guidance from Frank Falle

Right: H. E. General Sir John MacColl cutting the cake assisted by Wendy Rondel



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A day in the life of...

NEIL BAILHACHE recounts it to **Elisa Canas**

My name is Neil Bailhache and I have lived in St John all of my life. I would describe my life as pretty normal really. I live with my family in our house here in the parish that has been home to the Bailhache family for many generations. I followed in my father's footsteps and am now the sixth generation of Bailhaches working as a carpenter. We have carpentry workshops attached to the house but I work all over the island.

Drastic turn

My day starts at about 6.30am when I get ready for work and head out in my van. I finish at about 4pm. I've always been very active and rarely spend time inside. I love the beach, especially Bonne Nuit where I have so many great memories from my childhood. I also really enjoy martial arts and weight training. However, on Monday 7th of May 2012, my life took a drastic turn that no one was prepared for.

I had been invited to a bunker party at La Pulente in St Brelade. I'd had a brilliant night with my friends and in the early hours, decided to head home. I'd had a few drinks, so what happened to me next will never be known for sure, but it appears that when I was outside I lost my bearings, walked too close to the edge of the bunker and fell 40 feet down onto the rocks below. I landed head first, fracturing my skull and breaking many bones in my face. I also broke one of my legs, causing a compound fracture of my femur and shattering my knee into five pieces. Amazingly, I remained conscious but was too far away for anyone to hear me calling. I realised pretty quickly that all my friends thought I was on my way home, and that no one would come looking for me.

Can't be explained

Often in stories like mine, there are things that happen that can't really be explained.

Alain Lenaghan, the man who saved my life, was a local spear fisherman and was heading out early in the morning to his usual spot at L'Étacq. For some reason that neither he nor I will ever know, he decided on that particular day to try somewhere different and while on his way to L'Étacq, turned back and headed to La Pulente to try his luck there for the first time. It was then that he found me, barely conscious on the rocks. I had lost a lot of blood by this point, was on the verge of hypothermia and was, as the doctors told me later, very close to death. Alain called the emergency services, I was rushed to hospital and was immediately put into an induced coma which lasted for two days.

During this time, I underwent somewhere in the region of ten hours of surgery which included having titanium plates inserted into my skull. I received two blood transfusions and was on a drip constantly.



Neil and Alain
Photo courtesy of JEP

Because of the unbelievable work of the doctors, nurses and hospital staff, I got through the surgery which all went as well as they had hoped and I woke up from my coma, much to the relief of my family and friends who had been waiting by my bedside. Apparently I asked straight away if I could go home. I knew I was in a bad way but I also knew I didn't want to be in hospital!

My recovery was slow to start with, but I knew I had beaten the odds after the first couple of days. Every single day that I was in hospital at breakfast, lunch and dinner, I asked if I could go home. I must have driven the nurses crazy but they just commended my positive attitude and told me that I should carry on being upbeat. Obviously, there were times when my spirits ran low. I tried not to dwell too long on what I might not be able to do in the future. I had taken up martial arts just a few weeks before my accident and I was devastated that I might never be able to train again. I knew that I had to do everything the physiotherapist advised to increase my chances.

Back behind the wheel

After only eight days, they let my family take me home to continue my recovery there. I was off work for seven months and had to work really hard to get the strength back in my leg, which is something that is on-going to this day but I'm making really good progress. I knew very well that a carpenter without a van wouldn't be much use to anyone so it was crucial that I began driving again once I'd recovered. It would be a huge challenge but I just kept setting myself small goals and eventually I was strong enough to get back behind the wheel.

Life now is pretty much back to normal. I am aware of how unbelievably lucky I have been. I've always been a go-getter but now I suppose I realise just how fragile life can be.

Hardest part

The hardest part of the story for me though, isn't what happened to me but what happened to Alain. A couple of months after my accident, my mum called me with some awful news, Alain had passed away. I found the news extremely hard to take; he had saved my life.

I had never spear fished before I met Alain but I do now, and it will always remind me of him and what he did for me.



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PASTURES



Jonathan Cooke

stained glass conservator and artist

How often do you get to meet a great enthusiast who is also a skilled craftsman and nationally and internationally known for his expertise? I was fortunate recently to meet Jonathan Cooke who was working in the island on a stained glass window in the parish church.

Jonathan is a stained glass conservator, painter of glass and an artist. It was at the tender age of six that Jonathan became fascinated by stained glass, his fascination leading to a passion that has underpinned his life's work ever since. For one year his primary school had to have their daily assemblies in the church at Peniston in West Yorkshire and it was here, sitting next to a Frederick Cole designed window, that his love affair with stained glass began.

At the age of sixteen, Jonathan left school and home to begin an apprenticeship in the conservation and painting of glass at York Minster. At this time in the 1970s, and still today, the craftsmen who look after the Minster are at the cutting edge of their trades. Jonathan had a four-year apprenticeship followed by another three years working in York.

During this time he was trained in working with glass, leading the windows and even in aspects of the stonemason's trade. While at York he worked mainly with medieval glass but also with some from the 7th century from the Anglo-Saxon monastery at Jarrow. He also worked on windows in churches in Bradford, Durham and Newcastle.

Jonathan then moved to Norwich and worked for a few years with Dennis King who was technical advisor to the sees of Canterbury and York on their stained glass. It was here in Norwich that he met his wife, Ruth, who has worked with him as his business partner ever since.

Major projects

When Jonathan decided to set up his own studio they moved to Ilkley in Yorkshire where he has his workshops and kilns for firing glass. Jonathan works at cleaning, restoring, repairing and painting glass already in existence, but also making new stained glass windows to commission. When asked what recent work has given him most pleasure, he mentioned making a copy of a medieval window for a church at Thornhill near Dewsbury in West Yorkshire, a commission from English Heritage. Another major project was recreating a huge Georgian window for the Sir John Soane museum in London. Most of the glass had been destroyed by the bombing in World War Two and only a small section remained.

This leads to another aspect of Jonathan's work – the research involved. In this case he knew the name of the artist and original glass maker, William Collins, but there were few examples of his work. This was also very different both in style and content from most church windows. The subject was not religious and the panels much larger. He was fortunate to find that Durham Heritage had two panels of the artist's work and by studying these he was able to get a feel of how Collins produced a piece. From the start to finish of this commission was almost four years' work.

For fourteen years Jonathan has been passing on his skills at a university course on painting glass which he has taught at Swansea University and for a few years at York University and for the American Glass Guild in New Jersey, USA. These are crucial skills which are being passed on to the next generation of craftsmen.



Jonathan cleaning glass

Glass Rainbow Trust

Jonathan and his wife Ruth first came to Jersey at the invitation of the Glass Rainbow Trust to carry out an audit of all the Bosdet windows in the island. He has also worked on windows at St Ouen's Manor and at the Church of St Mary and St Peter. Last year he was present at the Dedication of the refurbishment of the Town Church because from a design by local artist, Mark Blanchard, Jonathan had made the new stained glass window in the St Helier Chapel. This is a lovely space where the new window complements the icon of St Helier and it is a perfect chapel for private contemplation or small services.





The oculus, or round window, viewed from outside

Meanwhile, at St John, Jonathan spent a week in early July working at Paul Vautier's workshop, cleaning and releading the round window, or oculus, above the West door. This is an abstract design by a well-known artist, John Stevens. It is fairly rare as there are not many examples of his work. It represents the fruits of the Spirit and its jewelled colours throw a rainbow of light down the aisle in the early evening. This window was donated by the Falla



The oculus viewed from inside

family in 1972. Jonathan has left a small piece of the original lead work within the window and has not had to replace any of the glass.

Jonathan was pleased to find that one of the early 20th-century windows in the parish church is from the studio of William Morris & Co (Westminster) and was designed by Frederick Cole, whose window at Peniston first inspired the six-year-old Jonathan! Frederick Cole went on from the Westminster studio to become head of the glass studio at Canterbury Cathedral.

What a wonderful career Jonathan chose to follow, and how fortunate we are in the 21st century to have such craftsmen to maintain the wonderful stained glass which is the glory of many English and French churches. Jonathan says that, unique among all jobs, he could go back to the 12th century and ply his craft and someone from then could be transported here now and work at his trade as the techniques have not really changed over the centuries. There can be few careers so absorbing, so creative, so fascinating and rewarding.

Rosie Bleasby



The oculus dismantled

LES MATHIONNETTES – 'Northern Lights'

Our Northern Light, CARL HINAULT, was interviewed by Mary Rouillé

Carl was born in early January 1940 at Temple View, now the Pharmacy Locale, in St John's village. Later that year his parents moved to Greenfields, a house located in Rue des Buttes, where they started farming. These were the dark days of the Occupation, and although Carl has little if any recollection of the goings on during that time, he remembers vividly May 9th 1945 and the celebrations of Liberation. These were particularly shared with Reverend and Mrs Hornby, their daughter Prisca, Mrs Paul the local postmistress and her daughter Lillian. On Liberation Sunday he still wears with pride the medal all schoolchildren were given in 1946, marking the Liberation.

Education for Carl started at St John's school, where he and his mother were relieved to find that Miss de la Haye, who was to be his class teacher, was conversant in Jersey French. This was the tongue that Carl had been brought up in by the family. At the age of twelve he moved to Hautlieu School where he began participating in several sports, with football being his first love, and at which he represented his house, Dumaresq.

After leaving school he concentrated on farming with his father, but having a certain entrepreneurial instinct he also branched out into a small haulage business. Later in life this led to an involvement in the retail trade, shipping, greenhouse nursery and property development.

Sport

Carl continued to be involved in sport, and was a regular player with St John's Football Club, which he served as Assistant Secretary, Vice-President and Club President for a number of years. He also took up the sport of shooting with the St Lawrence Miniature Rifle Club. This was held in the German underground tunnels, where he was fortunate enough to be taken under the wing of the late David Tredant.

During this time he became a shooting and administrative member of the Western Miniature Rifle Club. Tug-of-War had always been very popular in the Island, but having disappeared for a number of years the sport regained popularity, initially at local parish fêtes with inter-parish competitions. This



eventually led to the formation of the Jersey Tug-of-War Association, of which Carl was the founding Secretary. The Jersey team competed in Holland, Dublin, Sweden, South Africa and England, and in 1977 Carl became Vice President of the Tug-of-War International Federation, and was involved in organising the World Championships which were held in Jersey that year.

Parish and Island politics

Even at a young age Carl had shown an aptitude for both parochial and political involvement, including various fundraising activities for the building of St John's Recreation Centre. After filling the role of Constable's Officer for the Vingtaine of Douet for a time, he was voted in for the

position of Centenier, a job he undertook from 1980 to 1983, when, following a vacancy in the States of Jersey, he was elected Deputy for the Parish, a position he held for twelve years. During his time in the States, Carl served on many committees, becoming President of Planning and Environment and of Public Services.

In 1994 Carl became Connétable of St John, where he was instrumental in organising various parish celebrations marking the Liberation and Millennium. He was on the special Occupation and Liberation Committee formed to celebrate the 50th anniversary of liberation, playing a major role in arranging Dame Vera Lynn to join the festivities.

Another of his tasks was to find appropriate sites for the Millennium Cross, donated to each Parish by the States of Jersey, and for the Standing Stone which is situated at Sorel.

Retirement

After Carl's retirement in December 2000 he did not sit back and relax, but became one of St John's Procureurs, and in 2003 joined the Star of the North magazine committee with the responsibility for advertising and revenue.

Carl has been married to Daphne for almost 49 years and they have one daughter, Julie. Never one to be bored, it gives him much pleasure to travel with Daphne, and to grow many vegetables for the kitchen table, as well as looking after his lawn and flower garden, with some help.





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THE PRICE – a novel by Ron Welling

Local author, Ron Welling, has enjoyed a successful career as a chartered accountant. But ten years ago, whilst on holiday in St Lucia, a passing comment by a local gave him the idea for a novel about trust, loyalty, bribery and fraud.

He recalls: 'We were walking along the beach when a young St Lucian man asked, "Are you the Commissioner of Police?"' It triggered an idea that became the first two chapters of THE PRICE.

Ron considers himself more literate than numerate, although that didn't stop him entering the accountancy profession from school as an articled clerk in the City, earning just £1 a week. He has since worked in both private practice and for large international companies and also tutored in adult education including time spent as a volunteer with prison inmates.

'You need to write a book to learn how to write one,' he said. 'I started writing purely for enjoyment, not with any burning ambition to become a John Grisham!'

Ron is treasurer of the United Reformed Church here in St John, and lives with his wife Margaret in St Martin.

Richard Dupré



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St John's Twinning Association



A party of members from St John's Twinning Association went over to Le Teilleul on the weekend of the 19th April and were entertained by their friends when the village celebrated their patron saint at La Fête de St George by holding a dinner dance for over 400 people. A cycle race was held on the Sunday morning, as well as a bric-à-brac market and a pig race. An enjoyable weekend was had in excellent weather conditions.

This year St Brelade hosted the Inter-Jumelage Games on the weekend of Saturday 8th June and Sunday 9th June. The event was held at Les Quennevais Sports Hall and on the playing fields behind the swimming pool. Local parish teams, together with their French guests, took part in various games such as dress the scarecrow, bat & wheel, netball scoring, tray race and many more. The winner for the event was the Parish of St Brelade. The team from St John and Le Teilleul came one from last but nevertheless all the competitors had a fun day and the evening was rounded off with an excellent meal served in the sports hall at Les Quennevais. Well done to all who took part! Thanks go out to Mr Brian Richard who was the coach for the St John and Le Teilleul teams and to those who looked after our guests when they stayed at Les Frères Church Hall. Thanks also to Miss St John, Aimée Renouf, who led the Parish Teams in the Parade.

We now look forward to meeting our friends from Le Teilleul next year when they come to Jersey for the 29th Anniversary of the Jumelage.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Twinning Association please contact Ron Le Herissier (Chairman) on Tel: 862010 or Myrtle Malzard (Secretary) on Tel: 862931.

Myrtle Malzard, Secretary





The fifth annual Bonne Nuit Harbour Festival took place on Saturday 15th June, in beautiful weather with the sheltered bay experiencing warm sunshine throughout the afternoon. Unfortunately, up above in St John and across the island strong winds blew all day, clearly putting many off and leading to lower overall numbers at the festival. However, the laughter and smiles upon the faces of those who attended reflected another wonderful event enjoyed, in 2013, by over 1,500 people.

Congratulations are extended to Kyra Henderson from St Clement's who was the 2013 Bonne Nuit Bonnie Baby; to Jane Long from St Helier, the Strongest Lady; Peter Keenan from St Clement, the Strongest Man; and Rector and Harbour Festival Secretary, Revd. Andy Thewlis, winner of the Fun Food Challenge, the fastest to eat the first two courses of a three course meal, being robbed of the full house by the Constable, who ate the third course fastest.



Enjoying the Fun Food Challenge!

The stocks in which the Constable and Rector spent fifteen minutes each proved very popular, with parishioners paying 50p for three wet sponges. Next year it will be £1 for the same three sponges and we're already looking out for other willing victims to take a turn in the stocks. Who will you nominate?

As always thanks are offered to all those who contributed to making the Harbour Festival the huge success that it has become, including: those stewarding the car park; the volunteer minibuss drivers; the honorary police for looking after safety on the roads; the Women's Institute on the gate; the Youth Project running games on the beach; and the school choir for their songs.



Thanks also go to those who supported the event by the purchase of raffle tickets. Congratulations to the six winners who have all been notified and have received their prizes. This year's winning numbers were:-

1st Prize £1,000 – 2819; 2nd Prize £500 – 2511; 3rd Prize £250 – 1163; 4th Prize £125 – 4705; 5th prize £75 – 3927 and 6th Prize £50 – 950.

For the record, the 2013 Fun Food Challenge Menu was:-

- **Starter** – Mouldy blue cheese with Norwegian caramel cheese, soaked in freshly squeezed lemon juice.
- **Main course** – Cold tripe with seaweed, drizzled with a strong balsamic sauce
- **Pudding** – Cold blue tapioca with beetroot, freshly squeezed Lemon and a caper surprise.





Left: St John's
School Choir

The planning committee also recognise and thank our sponsors: Farm Fresh Organics; the Farmhouse Restaurant and Bar; Image; and Stansfield Signs.

Thanks are also due to the donors of the silent auction lots: Seafaris, for a trip for two to Les Écréhous; Jersey Aero Club, for the trial flying lesson; André's Butchers, for the sausage making; St John's Church Bell Ringers, for a taster session at bell ringing; Joanne Chapman from Pure Being, for the massage; Chiara O'Flaherty, for the face painting; Daphne Romeril, for the commemorative whisky decanter; John & Mary Slack, for the French trip; Chris Thomas, Expression photography, for the family Portrait; Mick Malzard, for the Vintage Lorry ride; Joyce Berry, for her oil painting of Les Écréhous and Farm Fresh Organics, for a day on the farm with ploughman's lunch.

Please help the event to grow from strength to strength by forwarding your thoughts, reflections and suggestions for 2014, or your offer of help, to the secretary, by post to the Rectory, by phone 861677, or by e-mail to athewlis@jerseymail.co.uk.

Andy Thewlis
Bonne Nuit Harbour Festival Secretary



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NEWS FROM THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

In common with many organisations, the United Reformed Church nationally spends a considerable amount of time discussing 'itself' – its composition, its systems, its operations and its finances. The States of Jersey is another example that instantly springs to my mind!

The URC is arranged into thirteen Synods (originally called Provinces until some took exception to being thought of as 'provincial') which correspond to Anglican and Catholic Diocese or Methodist Districts although sadly they do not fit well geographically. We form the southern most tip of the Wessex Synod which stretched north through Hampshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire taking in parts of Dorset, Wiltshire and Surrey on the way.

Recent consideration has been on how best to work together as churches, offering one another mutual support, and I attended a meeting earlier this year when a special extension had to be added to the visual aid to stop the Channel Islands falling off the bottom! One of the outcomes has been that a number of churches on the edge of Synod feel they would be better off working more closely with others on the borders of adjoining Synods, but this would give rise to a whole new set of problems. So perhaps we are fortunate, after all, to be sufficiently far away to leave the UK to get on with sorting themselves out while we concentrate on trying to do what we set out some two years ago in our Statement of Intent.

We undertook first and foremost to "**worship God the Father and Jesus Christ the Son through the power of the Holy Spirit**" while committing ourselves to fulfil the ecumenical aims of the URC by embracing worship with other denominations.

We saw our mission in this place as a commitment to invite the wider and local community into the church and in so doing we seek to create and support the provision of regular fellowship opportunities while serving others through the work of external organisations committed to our principles of Christian love.

This is very much an evolving programme and, of course, our circumstances have changed somewhat since it was first drawn up but we remain committed to achieving these basic aims and we remain confident that with God's help we will succeed.

Michael Ruskin
Elder and Church Secretary



St John Youth & Community Trust

New Play Area

Since the previous edition of *Star of the North*, the Parish of St John and the Ecclesiastical Assembly have given their approval to the refurbishment of the young children's play area adjacent to the church. Thanks to the generous donations of the original benefactors, the facility has been a tremendous success but it is in need of replacement to meet modern expectations and health and safety requirements.



Colin MacLeod and Andrew Lewis
in the original play house

New 'Locale'

The Trust will very shortly be in a position to order the equipment but there is still a shortfall of funds. The fund-raising effort has been given a significant boost by the Channel Islands Co-Operative Society which has donated £10,000 to the Trust specifically to fund the 'shop-design' piece of equipment that will be branded 'Locale' in conjunction with the new Locale store at Sion. Colin MacLeod, Chief Executive of the Channel Islands Co-Operative Society is pictured in the play area having handed over the cheque for £10,000 to Andrew Lewis, Chairman of the St John Youth & Community Trust.

Dog bones!

Many parishioners are doing their own fundraising and perhaps the most innovative is André who is offering dog bones in return for a donation to the Trust!

Anybody wishing to make a donation may do so by contacting either Andrew Lewis Tel 07797 711042 or Rev Andy Thewlis: tel 07797 723828.

Andrew Lewis
Chairman

Grace Trust Basket Appeal

In the present times of economic stringency many people are struggling even to pay their bills and purchase enough food. The local charity – the Grace Trust – has seen a much increased call for its weekly and monthly food parcels. This has led to a new initiative to place food baskets in all churches and other places where members of the public are encouraged to place tinned or dried goods which are suitable for a food parcel.

St John's Church received one of these baskets on June 16th at a special service to mark our on-going relationship with the Grace Trust. The trust is one of our four focus charities which we support with regular financial giving and now we can add to this with donations of food.

The basket is in the Church, which is open daily, and is on the table beneath the beautiful icon of St John the Baptist. Already the basket is being filled by members of the congregation but it is open to any parishioner to add their donation of tins or packets. If we all just get one additional item to our weekly shopping to place in the basket we can be sure this will help some struggling family or individual. The basket will be emptied frequently by the Grace Trust team.

We all hope that we will never be in such need but there are residents of our island who find themselves in temporary states of desperation and the Grace Trust is there to fill the gap.

We are sure that St John residents will show their usual generosity to those in need and that the basket will have to be emptied at frequent intervals.

Rosie Bleasby





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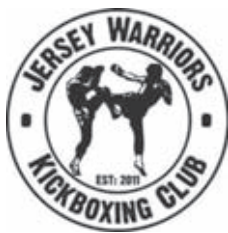
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Jersey Warriors Kickboxing Club

**...stands shoulder to shoulder
with huge national squads!**



As St John-based Jersey Warriors Kickboxing Club nears its second year, I sat down with the head coach and founder of the club, Tom Pietrzowski, to find out more about world-level Kickboxing, joining the GB Kickboxing squad and spreading Jersey's name across the World of Kickboxing.

Q: Where have your students competed over the last year?

A: We started off at the Battle of Jersey event at Fort Regent and from there progressed on to National events in the UK. We have taken our squad over to various English counties for National and World Cup Kickboxing competitions. We've also competed in Austria, France, Italy and Ireland and to date have brought back one European title belt, 3 British titles, 10 golds, 6 silvers and 5 bronze medals across Full-Contact, Light-Contact, Semi-Contact and K1 Divisions with the ages of our squad ranging from 11 to 72! Proud doesn't come close!

Q: When did you decide to return to competitive kickboxing yourself?

A: I had to take some time away from competition when I moved from London to Jersey. I also had to focus my attention on building the club but I knew that I would return to competitive martial arts when everything had settled down. At the moment, I feel that I am in a great position. I have a brilliant gym and I'm surrounded by wonderful people who are also passionate about Kickboxing. I took part in the British Full Contact Championships in Birmingham and brought home the British title which was great. I hadn't been active competitively for about three years at that point so I was really pleased that my performance wasn't affected. When I won the title, I was asked to join the GB Kickboxing Squad which was a massive compliment. I went to a Squad Training Session in the UK where I was selected to represent Great Britain at the World Championships at the end of the year but unfortunately, due to lack of funds, it's not looking possible. It's times like these that it's a bit more tricky when you're on an island as suddenly you have to consider airfares and accommodation. It's not just a trip up the motorway anymore!

Q: Did winning the British title inspire you to push further up the competitive ladder?

A: Yes, but I discovered how difficult it can be to balance everything when you're trying to compete at such a high level. I went away to Austria to take part in one of the biggest Kickboxing tournaments in Europe shortly afterwards and came away with Silver. I was incredibly proud to represent Jersey on such a huge stage. Whenever we go away we always take our Jersey flag. It makes me so happy to think that our little club from St John is standing shoulder to shoulder with huge National Squads from around the World.

Q: What's next for Jersey Warriors Kickboxing Club?

A: It's all about grass-roots and encouraging children and beginners as they will be the next generation of British and European Champions. Without the help we have received from the local community, we wouldn't have reached this level and we're incredibly grateful to everyone for their encouragement, particularly the committee at St John's Recreation Centre for their support from day one and our friends and families who have helped us and allowed us to pursue our dreams.

Elisa Canas

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St John's Youth Club has been meeting as usual at St John's Recreation Centre on Tuesday evenings, using the Jersey Youth Service Mobile Project as a base. During the club sessions members have been making use of the football field and the play station and Wii on the mobile project.

The young people have recently been creating new fruit cocktail drinks for the autumn Youth Service celebration event and Mitchell's has been chosen to be put forward for the competition as the signature cocktail for the event.

Mitchell fruit cocktail

1 part apple juice

1 part pineapple juice

2 parts cherryade

6 pear drops individually frozen in ice cubes

Enjoy!

Youthbank have visited the inter/senior session to explain what the project is about and we are now able to apply for a small grant to help towards making the interior of the club look good when we move back in.

Swimarathon cheque

John Dibbens represented the club at the Lions Club fifty years celebration of the Swimarathon at a Government House reception. During the evening His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor presented the youth club with a cheque for £1,500, the club having been selected as one of the fifty charities to receive a donation. This was gratefully received and will go toward resources for the new club.

Juniors

Our junior members are using other youth clubs at present but this term we organised an evening at Jersey Bowl. This was great fun and helped the young people to still feel part of St John's Youth Club.

Youth Club

Jersey Youth Service Mobile Project will open for the Autumn term on Tuesday 3rd September 7.30pm to 9pm.

CAR WASH



Saturday 21st Sept 10am - 2pm

At the St John's School Playground

**Other fundraising events happening
in the Parish Hall including
Cake Stall, Face Painting etc**



Nicky Brown and John Dibbens

You may have seen Nicky eating her way through strange and interesting food at the Bonne Nuit Harbour Festival. Here are her contact details:

**Nicky Brown email: nickybrown@youthservice.yc.je
mobile: 07797844861**



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Fatima Dives at Last!

Fatima Lopes, a cook at St John's Village Café and resident of the Parish, has eventually taken to the skies. Her skydive was part of the biggest charity skydive event held in Jersey. Fatima's original slot for the dive was August 2012, but due to the inclement weather we have experienced it did not take place until the 16th June 2013. I met her in the café where she told me it was an amazing and exhilarating experience to drop from a plane which was 15,000 feet above ground! (For photographs please see page 28)

Hope for John

The event was organised by a local charity, Hope for John, which was set up in 2008 by the friends and family of John Sharp, to raise funds to find a cure for Lafora body disease. This illness is a rare, progressive and degenerative form of epilepsy. John Sharp was a 15-year-old boy when he was first diagnosed and sadly suffered until the age of 21 when he passed away. He was the only Jersey person with

this disease, and one of just 200 people in the world that are affected.

There are two teams working on research into the disease, one in Canada, and the other in the United States. John's family and friends have raised thousands of pounds for research into Lafora, and have pledged to continue until a cure is found. Fatima was very proud to have raised £560 for the charity and, believe it or not, would like to do it again.

Money raised from the skydiving event supports Dr Berge Minassian in Canada.

More information on the Hope for John charity can be found on the following websites:

www.hopeforjohn.org.je

www.chelseashope.org

Mary Rouillé



St John's Recreation Centre

Fund-raising and redevelopments

Raising the funds necessary to complete the redevelopment work in these days of financial constraints is proving challenging; we are, however, still hopeful that we will achieve our ambitious plans. Meanwhile the plans

- to complete the west extension for the Youth Club and
- to re-develop the changing rooms, showers and toilets for the St John's Football Club (men's, ladies and juniors)

are both on hold.

The redevelopments already completed are certainly being well used not only by our long-term users but also by our new user groups. The Bobby Butlin Studio is proving very popular with our Yoga groups with both Bikram and Flow Yoga taking place there on different evenings and several mornings too. We have also had an enquiry for a Pilates group and we are trying to fit them into the schedule.

Billy B's café

Mario Pirozzolo and his team are now well established and we get the feedback that most of our users are delighted with his café operation.

By the time this is published the summer will be nearly over and Mario expects to have held a number of outside catering events. We hope that they will prove successful as they will not only introduce many new people to the Centre but also provide useful revenue both to the Café and the Centre.

Caretakers

We continue to be delighted with the way in which Elisa Canas and Tom Pieprzowski manage security at the Centre and are very grateful to them for the enormous contribution they make. Please remember that the Skateboard Park is closed from 9pm and all users should be off it by then.

What's on at the Centre?

There are now so many activities going on at the Centre that it is quite difficult to keep up with everything happening. We have a notice board which lists all our user groups and contact details for their main contacts; but we want to reach out to new users who haven't been to the Centre, so we asked Elisa Canas to develop for us a web site and a Facebook page.

www.stjohnsrecreationcentre.co.uk and

www.facebook.com/StJohnsRecreationCentre

Thanks, Elisa, for doing this. We think that they are a great start and they will, no doubt, develop with user feedback; so let us know what you think of them!

Assistance

If you are interested in helping the Centre in any way then please do not hesitate to contact me on tel. 861716.

Angus Spencer-Nairn
Chairman



St John's Skateboard Association

The Skate Park at St John's Recreation Centre has now been going since December 2010. We can honestly say that after all the fundraising and support we received from various sources, the Skate Park has proved to be a success and the envy of many parishes.

Please ensure that if you have children, or know of children who are using the Skate Park, that they have their 2013 membership. Should we find youngsters using the park without membership, they will be asked to leave immediately as it is clearly signed for use of MEMBERS ONLY.

Last year, we were asked by the Connétable to join others from parish organisations to meet the Prince of Wales and Camilla at the RJAH Showground where we were delighted to display photos of what had been achieved.

Now that many of the members and their families who started the campaign to get the Skate Park up and running have moved on (grown up), we would very much like to hear from others who would be interested in joining the committee of the Skate Park to ensure that it keeps going.

Sandra Coutanche



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25th St John's Brownies have been learning about World Cultures with our Young Leader, Eloise Hamon. She invited Ann Le Brun, a Trefoil member, to share her travelling experiences about Mexico. Girlguiding has a world centre called Our Cabana and Ann was able to show and tell the girls all about it. We dressed up and enjoyed tasting Mexican food – well some more than others!!!



We took part in our East District Thinking Day event which was held at St Martin's Parish Church and we also celebrated Mothering Sunday by joining the congregation of St John's Parish Church.

Our Easter event was at The Farmhouse where eight new girls made their Brownie Promise and were awarded their badges by our Island President, Hilary Lambert.



As a Brownie unit, the girls have been rehearsing various acts for their Entertainer's badge. They put on a fantastic show and invited family and friends. Every Brownie performed and received her badge. Well done to everyone and thank you to parents for your support.

We are all off to St Brelade for our well-earned meal, and on Saturday 6th July, along with 175 Brownies, we are taking part in the annual Brownie Adventure Day which will be hosted by Pure Adventure.




Our Brownie pack is currently full. If you or your daughter would like to know more about joining: visit www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested.

Alternatively, you can email me: donnamcrobbie@hotmail.com.

Donna Tupper





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**Here's to a
good summer!**



News from the Pews

Church clock

In late June Martyn Chatel, who for many years has looked after the church clock, climbed the tower to mend the clock which had stopped in the snow earlier in the year. After three hours the mechanism controlling the movement of the hands was fixed and the clock again tells the correct time. Unfortunately the striking mechanism required more attention, with new parts to be obtained, but we're hopeful that it will once again be fully operational and striking as normal before the autumn.

Church dais

At the sitting of the Ecclesiastical Court, on June 3rd, the assessors were in principle supportive of our vision and do not object to the removal of pews for the creation of a dais with granite border and parquet flooring. However, as Ministers of the Church of England familiar with wrestling with leading worship in ancient buildings, they were of the view that our proposal should be revised and consideration be given to the removal of the two pews in the centre of the church, to allow a granite step to be added along the front of the dais and a gap created between the relocated frontal and dais.

The revised plans will be discussed at an Ecclesiastical Assembly, to be held in church, at 7.30pm, on Tuesday 24th September.

Our sincere thanks are offered to the parishioners who have generously offered to fund the creation of this permanent dais.

Harvest celebration and harvest supper

Join us on Sunday 29th September, at 10.30am for our traditional harvest celebration as we give thanks to God for all that is good in life. In recognition of the plenty we enjoy and the struggle of others we invite you to bring along gifts of dried food, tins or toiletries, which will be distributed by

the Friends of Ecce Homo Trust to the poor in Romania.

Do also consider joining us for a harvest supper in the parish hall on the evening of Saturday 5th October.

Advent Service of Remembrance

Two years ago we held our first annual Service of Remembrance to which those who had lost loved ones in the previous years were invited. These well-attended services have proved for many to be a special occasion with the lighting of night lights for each individual named and remembered. This year's service will be held at 6.00pm, on Sunday 1st December to which all are welcome.

Youth choir

The newly formed St John Youth Choir continues to enrich our 11am Service on a monthly basis, with singing practices in the weeks in between. Liz de la Haye leads the singers, who we hope will grow in number. Do get in touch with her, on 862943, if you are young, young at heart, or have neighbours, grandchildren, or friends who like to sing.

Church flowers

We are looking for additional volunteers to provide floral decorations for either the welcome table, or altar pedestal. A bunch of flowers in a vase from the garden, or from a local shop would be beautiful, or an arrangement if you have the talent. These should be placed in church on a Friday, or Saturday, and refreshed for the following week.

Why not remember a special occasion, baptism, wedding, the passing of a loved one or any occasion special to you? If you would like to help, please contact Viv Day by email at vivday@msn.com or phone 863914 with your name, address, telephone number, email address and preferred date.



A service for everyone

8.00am - Book of Common Prayer Communion

9.30am - Holy Communion with traditional hymns

11.00am - Contemporary Worship with Sunday Club

Rector Andy Thewlis - Phone 861677

Email - athewlis@jerseymail.co.uk



L'ÉTAILE DU NORD

The magazine is published for the Parish of St John by the Editorial team, c/o The Rectory, La Rue des Landes, St John JE3 4AF.

Tel: 861677

Email: athewlis@jerseymail.co.uk

We do not necessarily hold the views that are expressed in the articles.

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EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor (Acting) – Revd Andy Thewlis

Editor (Designate) – Jo Falla

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Wednesday

9.00am– 1.00pm 2.00pm – 7.00pm

CLOSED ALL DAY THURSDAY



PARISH DIARY – August to December 2013

AUGUST

Sun 4th	11.00am	Beach service at Bonne Nuit, organised by the Parish Church
Tues 27th	7.30pm	Muriel's Bingo in the Parish Hall
Wed 28th	2.30pm	Golden Age Club meet at the Parish Hall

SEPTEMBER

Tues 3rd		Back to School
Thurs 5th	2.15pm	Visite de Branchage
Wed 11th	7.30pm	WI talk by David Gainsborough Roberts at the Parish Hall
Thurs 12th		International Air Display – No School
Sun 21st	10.00am – 2.00pm	Youth Project Car wash in the School Playground
Tues 24th	7.30pm	Muriel's Bingo in the Parish Hall
Wed 25th	12.30pm	Golden Age Club Lunch departs from the Parish Hall
Sun 29th	10.30am	Harvest Celebration in the Parish Church
Sun 29th	10.30am	Harvest Thanksgiving Service at the URC

OCTOBER

Sat 5th	7.00pm	Harvest Supper in The Parish Hall, organised by the Parish Church
Wed 9th	tbc	WI visit to Jersey Pearl and Supper
Fri 25th		Last day of half-term
Tues 29th	7.30pm	Muriel's Bingo in the Parish Hall
Wed 30th	2.30pm	Golden Age Club meets in the Parish Hall

NOVEMBER

Mon 4th		Back to School
Sat 9th	10.00am	British Legion Coffee Morning in the Parish Hall
Sun 10th	10.30am	Remembrance Sunday Service in the Parish Church, organised by the St John's Group of Churches
Wed 13th	7.30pm	WI AGM and Beetle Drive in the Parish Hall
Mon 18th		School Science week begins
Tues 26th	7.30pm	Muriel's Bingo in the Parish Hall
Wed 27th	2.30pm	Golden Age Club AGM in the Parish Hall
Fri 29th		School Deco Day

DECEMBER

Sun 1st	6.00pm	Advent Sunday Service of Remembrance at the Parish Church
Wed 11th	7.30pm	WI Christmas Party in the Parish Hall
Sun 15th	6.00pm	St John's Group of Churches Candlelit Carol Service, at the Parish Church
Mon 16th		School Christmas Parties
Tues 17th		Last day of term
Wed 18th	tbc	Senior Citizens' Christmas Dinner at The Farmhouse
Tues 24th	5.30pm	Christingle Service at the Parish Church
Tues 24th	11.30pm	Midnight Communion at the Parish Church
Wed 25th	8.00am	Christmas Day Communion at the Parish Church
Wed 25th	10.30am	All-age Christmas Day Celebration at the Parish Church
Sun 29th	10.30am	New Year Celebration at the Parish Church

SUNDAY WORSHIP IN ST JOHN

THE PARISH CHURCH

Every Sunday

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

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Sundays at 10.30am Family Worship
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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
Brownies – Donna Tupper – 865728
Carpet Bowls – Shirley Caurel – 863825
Caesarean Handbell Ringers – Diane Nelson – 481898
Constable – Phil Rondel – 861455
Deputy – Patrick Ryan – 851934
Football Club – Nigel Perrée – 865113
Friends of Bonne Nuit – Gary Romeril – 861972
Golden Age Club – Wendy Rondel – 863667
Honorary Police – 866560
Jersey Gym Club – Jody Whittingham – 721630
Kickboxing – Elisa Canas – 07829 886423
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
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