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Parish of St John

Issue 45

December 2018



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Dear Parishioners...

Sadly summer is well and truly over!

This morning my car was covered with frost and parts of my lawn were white with frost as well. We can't complain as we have had an excellent summer which has lasted well into Autumn. Hopefully 2018 will be remembered for many years to come as a 'good, hot summer'.

During the summer, St John's Parish Hall was judged the 'Best Parish Hall in Bloom' by the Royal Agricultural & Horticultural Society's Gardening Competition. Indeed I am proud to say we scored the highest points overall and were awarded the 'Best Garden in Jersey'. I whole heartedly congratulate James Bonny our gardener for his dedication and hard work, the honour is well earned and gives me and I hope the Parish great pride. Well done James! (See related article on page 26).

I was deeply moved by the large attendance at our War Memorial on Sunday 11th November to celebrate Armistice Day. Also on Sunday evening we had the lighting of our Lantern which was overseen by our St John Brownies. On Saturday morning we had our traditional Coffee Morning which filled the Parish Hall and raised just over £1,700 for the Royal British Legion. I am very grateful to Phil Rondel and other Parishioners who put on a marvellous display of World War 1 memorabilia in the Parish Hall. The whole weekend was a great success.

So with the turn in the weather, our minds turn to Christmas, warm fires, mince pies and the odd tippie of mulled wine. I take this opportunity to thank my Staff in the Parish Hall, the Centeniers and all the Honorary Police, the Roads Committee and Roads Inspectors, Rates Assessors and the many, many Parishioners who have helped in so many ways to make this another successful year. It is a privilege for me to work with so many wonderful people, I am most grateful and wish them and all Parishioners a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



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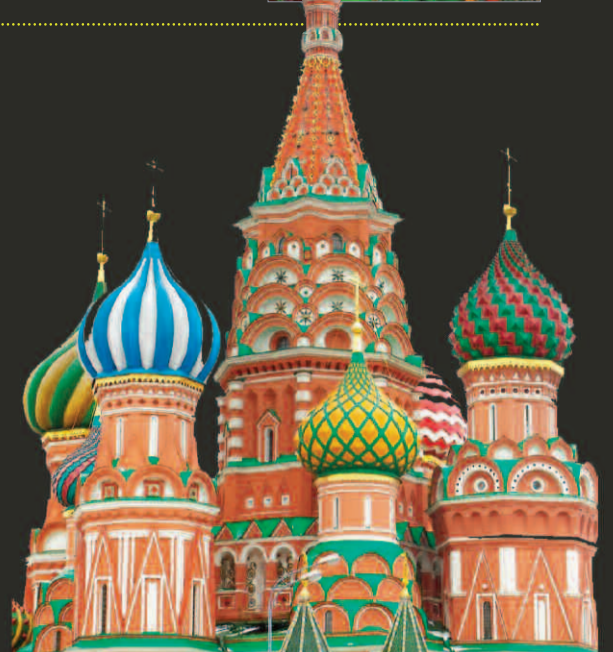
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JOIN TOGETHER

St John's

War Memorial

Mike Sheldrake, for many years a history teacher at Hautlieu School, has penned a few articles for the URC church magazine about those who are recognised on the St John war memorial, and here provides a brief article for Star of the North in this 100th anniversary year of the end of WW1.

The First World War was one of the most devastating wars in human history. The enormous loss of life and the extent of destruction, particularly in Northern France, was totally unexpected in 1914 and left a significant emotional scar on those who survived. This is illustrated particularly by the rapid erection of war memorials in every small hamlet and village in a number of western European countries, actions driven by the public's need to commemorate those who had given their lives in the protection of their countries' freedom. Their losses could never be forgotten and their sacrifice was hoped to have created a world where war would not occur again.

Hence each Jersey parish decided to establish a war memorial where the names of their parochial sons could be recorded and remembered. Consequently, on every Remembrance Sunday since 1918 members of the community have

gathered around the memorial to recite the names of those who lost their lives and remember that they will never grow old nor be forgotten.

I have attended dozens of these services over the years but during the centenary commemorations I began to ask myself who were these men. They were young; many in their late teens. Some were married or had sweethearts. Some had children and, of course, all had mothers and fathers who would grieve at their sudden loss.

When war was declared in August 1914, it was unexpected. It had been a glorious summer and Jersey was flooded with tourists. There was a good harvest waiting to be gathered. Most were unaware of the events in the Balkans that were a catalyst for the war and those that were aware felt that such events were too far away to bother the small island of Jersey. The atmosphere began to change in late July when the Lieutenant-Governor received orders to mobilise the militia to defend the island against potential threats.

One of those likely to have answered this call was William Hervé the 22-year-old son of Joseph and Elizabeth. Born in the parish, he had lived most of his life with his family on a farm that his father managed off the Rue des Buttes to the south of the parish church. His father was a Breton who had come to the island in the 1870s in order to improve his chances. He had been brought up in a small village in the central part of the Côtes du Nord. He was a farm labourer scraping a living and life was hard. Like many of his contemporaries he heard of the riches that could be made in Jersey working on the farms.

Continued ►



Above:
The Connétable
placing the
memorial candle



St John's

War Memorial

Within a short time of being in Jersey he met and married Elizabeth. By dint of hard work, he moved from being a farm labourer to becoming a tenant farmer. As his life prospered so his family grew and by 1914 he had two sons and six daughters. But tragedy struck and in 1911 at the age of 53 Elizabeth died. It is clear that Joseph now relied more on his two sons.

War was declared in early August and many members of the militia wanted to enlist in order to do their patriotic duty. Probably William was one of these young men. This must have worried Joseph who needed his sons to support him on the farm and wanted no further tragedy to hit the family. However, it was the British government who prevented William going to war by stating that the militia was to defend the island from potential attack as had been its traditional role.

By the winter of 1914 it became clear that the German advance had been halted in northern France and the threat to the island had diminished. Therefore, the British government relented and allowed members of the militia to enlist. As there was no Jersey regiment, they agreed that any Jersey volunteers could join the Royal Irish Rifles. This is what William decided to do in April 1915. We do not know how Joseph reacted. Perhaps it was a mixture of emotions: pride at the courage of his son but also fear of the risks to his life.

William travelled to Ireland in order to be trained before going to the Western Front. However, Joseph began to receive worrying reports. William had caught a chill and been prevented from continuing his training. Then Joseph heard that his son's condition had deteriorated and then he had died. At this time it was impossible to arrange for the body to be returned home so William was buried in the cemetery at Ballykinlar in Northern Ireland.

Joseph's oldest son, Joseph, seems to have remained in Jersey during the early part of the war. But in 1916 conscription was introduced and all able-bodied young men had to join up. In Jersey there was an attempt to ask for exemption of those in the farming community but while their enlistment was delayed, they eventually had to join up. Joseph joined the Yorkshire regiment and was sent to the Western Front. In July 1918, he was located near Laon in northern France at the time when the Germans were making their final push to gain victory. During part of this campaign Joseph was killed and buried in a local military cemetery.

Joseph must have been devastated by the loss of his wife before the war and then of his only two sons during the war. He must have felt that the purpose of his life had been totally destroyed by these tragedies. I do not know what happened to Joseph and his daughters after the war but the Parish ensured that both his sons, Joseph and William, were recorded on the war memorial and that their sacrifice was never forgotten.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Vin d'Honneur for Awards Ceremony

It seemed fitting, but poignant, that on Friday September 7th, the Royal British Legion honoured nineteen St John's parish volunteers with long service awards in recognition of their dedication to and support of their annual RBL Poppy Appeal, to coincide with the centenary marking the end of WW1. The awards recognised the efforts in both house-to-house collections, and helping with the Parish Remembrance Coffee Morning. One of the long service awards was presented posthumously to the late Mrs Erica Rondel who had given forty years' service. The award was received on Erica's behalf by her husband, Harry Rondel.

The awards, recognising from five to forty years' service, were presented by the President of the RBL (Jersey), Lt-Col Charles Woodrow who, until recently, was the Chief of Staff to the Lieutenant Governor. Assisting Lt-Col Woodrow was Connétable Chris Taylor who very kindly hosted the event, and who is a strong supporter of the RBL. Also assisting was the Chairman of the RBL (Jersey), Lt-Col Tim Daniels.

The Parish Collection Administrator, Beverley Cornelissen (née Le Cappelain), in collaboration with Major Nick Spratley of the Jersey Field Squadron, made arrangements for the presentations. Beverley, who has a strong sense of pride in both the Parish and the RBL, felt it was a great



privilege and only proper to recognise the work, generosity and dedication of so many immensely hard-working parishioners.

The RBL Long Service Awards initiative has been in place for many years. Unfortunately, due to the high number of possible recipients this time under Beverley's watch, the criteria had to be set high. Beverley wished she could have nominated all past and retired volunteers, but this sadly was not possible. If anyone slipped through the net, then Beverley feels sure that once she hangs up her baton, her successor can build on, and organise a similar ceremony in the next couple of years or so.

Like so many people moved by personal reflection into supporting the RBL, Beverley's devotion towards it really started when she discovered many years ago that the first love of her late aunt was a young local soldier who sadly was killed in action while fighting in France during WW2.

Beverley's sense of loyalty was further strengthened in the knowledge that her grandfather, Captain Harry Richmond, who was the Island's Harbour Master during the occupation, had been given the honour and privilege of hoisting the Union Jack on the balcony of the Pomme d'Or Hotel when the Island was liberated by Force 135 under the command of Lt-Col William Robinson MC, on the 9th May 1945. It was these personal instances amongst many others that prompted Beverley to take on the role, initially as a RBL house-to-house collector, and subsequently as Collection Administrator.

Finally, Beverley feels that it is important as a Parish and Island in general that we continue our very proud tradition of supporting the RBL, and the many local people that it is currently assisting. She welcomes anyone who would perhaps like to offer future support either as a much needed house-to-house collector, or helper at the Parish Remembrance Coffee Morning.

She is also pleased to take this opportunity to mention that any donations of raffle prizes for future coffee mornings would be welcomed with open arms, whether from individuals or any businesses within the Parish. A quick call to the St John Parish Hall on 861999 will be swiftly passed on.

THANK YOU,

ANTON AND BEVERLEY CORNELISSEN

Top right: Centenier Elam and Phil Rondel

Top right middle: Phyllis Minier receives her award from Lt-Col Woodrow

Left: The two Beverleys - the Rector and the organiser

Right: The Connétable addresses the gathering





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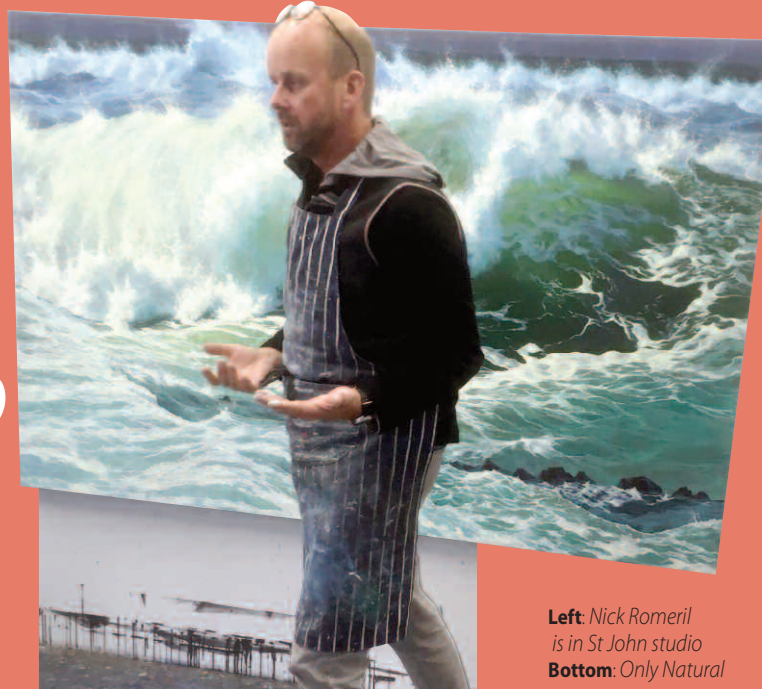
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'MY LIFE IS MY PROJECT'

An interview with artist
Nick Romeril by Terry Le Sueur



Left: Nick Romeril
is in St John studio
Bottom: Only Natural

'Follow your dreams, and do what you would most enjoy doing'.

That was the advice given to the young Nick Romeril by his father, Philip. He was still at university when his father died, and Nick had to decide whether or not to continue the family tradition of cattle farming; he followed his father's advice, and continued his life as an artist.



Nick's love of art began when he was a small child. His parents were both keen on the creative arts, his father being an amateur painter, and there were often artists around the house. One summer Paul Kilshaw, an established Jersey artist, had a studio in one of the farm outbuildings at Le Petit Câtelet, and from these beginnings his interest in painting developed.

At De La Salle College, where he went to school, Nick was fortunate to be taught art initially by Fred Sands, another noted Jersey artist and member of the Royal Academy, and subsequently by Mark Blanchard. At the age of 15, his elder brother Philip had already gone to university, and Nick also aimed to achieve a degree, but in art. He succeeded in getting a place at Birmingham University, then continued his studies at the Camberwell School of Art.

Although initially working from a studio in London, Nick soon decided to come back to Jersey and settle down, back in St John where the family had lived for many generations. Perhaps because of his upbringing, Nick's first public exhibiting in Jersey was a series of banners in Charing Cross and York Street, showing the heads of cows in a variety of poses. While some may have now forgotten these, anyone visiting the Jersey Dairy at Trinity can hardly have failed to notice the 'larger than life' cows looking down from the gable wall.

But there is a lot more to Nick's work than pictures of cows. Indeed, these rarely feature nowadays as Nick turns his attention to the landscape and the environment. Visiting Nick's studio at Bonne Nuit one is faced with a variety of seascapes, predominantly in blue and white, interspersed with some arresting pictures of caves on rocky outcrops on the north of the island, sketched by Nick while on his own boat, all in various stages of completion. Indeed, when not painting, Nick enjoys a spot of fishing, and also enjoys cooking what he has managed to catch!

Perhaps it was this love of the marine environment which prompted Nick to enter a competition to visit the Antarctic, sponsored by the Friends of the Scott Polar Research Institute. His reward was to spend two months as a guest of the Royal Navy aboard the ice-breaker HMS Protector. Although ice-breakers are not so comfortable in rough weather, having a shallow keel, Nick was used to the sea and, disappointingly for him, the sea was not as rough as it might have been! He did find the scale of the landscape spectacular, the Antarctic peninsula alone as big as the land mass between Aberdeen and Gibraltar. Nick also explained that because the earth is flatter near the Poles, not only can one see further, but estimating distances becomes more difficult, with things seemingly close actually much further away.

The Royal Navy makes regular visits to Antarctica, taking food and supplies (including a 46-ton digger!), and as well as Nick on this voyage there was a member of the Foreign and



“Education is a two way process; I learn new ideas from the students as much as they learn from me.”

Below:
Nick Romeril is in St John studio
Above: Glacier, Port Lockroy.
120cm x 180cm. Oil on linen

Commonwealth Office and a representative of the World Wildlife Fund, although unlike Nick they undertook only part of the journey. The Navy was there surveying the seabed while Nick was busy sketching and painting, but when the crew were not so busy Nick was happy to teach a group of sailors anxious to develop their artistic skills. Some of those students are still in contact with him.

Teaching has always been a key part of Nick's life, and he has taught part-time at Highlands College for 20 years. As he says: 'Education is a two way process; I learn new ideas from the students as much as they learn from me.' Nick's art is continually developing, and whilst he does undertake commissions he is keen to paint in a way which really expresses his own persona. As he says: 'My Life is my Project'.

Nick's two sons are now following their father's footsteps to university, with Daniel at Central St Martin's School of Art and William at University College for the Creative Arts studying gold and silversmithing. At a time when some people decry the notion of Arts and Media degrees as not worthy of States funding, Nick profoundly disagrees: 'An Art Degree gives one good general and inter-personal skills as well as being creative. People might be surprised to learn that Great Britain is highly recognised internationally for its creative skills. As the world becomes ever more diversified and multicultural a degree in art, and a love of art, become ever more relevant'.

Nick is currently exhibiting at the Private and Public Gallery (near the Jersey Arts Centre) and in 2019 has a one-man exhibition at the Chris Beetles Studio in London.



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NEWS FROM THE Recreation Centre

After a long hot summer spent outside, our user groups are all back into their winter schedules and the Centre is buzzing with activity. In addition to the groups specialising in fitness, archery, gymnastics, model aeroplanes, kick boxing, model cars, squash, football, shooting, skateboarding, tennis, youth project and yoga we have some new enquiries for pilates, art, music for kids and activities for the more senior members of our community. It is pleasing to see the Centre so well utilised and being able to provide activities to such a wide spectrum of our community.

If any reader is interested in partaking in any of these activities there is a list in the Centre detailing who to contact. If you would like to help with managing any of these activities please let me know as I know that there are lots of the activities which would welcome more helpers.

The Rec Cafe is very busy and has gained an excellent reputation, under Tom's management, for really good quality food and service.

I take this opportunity to thank everyone who helps run the Centre for all their enthusiasm and support; all the contractors who give us preferential rates when working at the Centre and all the users who enjoy partaking in the activities that the Centre has on offer.

On behalf of the directors may I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

ANGUS SPENCER-NAIRN

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A DAY IN THE LIFE OF Ian Gallichan one of our St John "posties"

Ian's normal day kicks off at around 6.00 a.m. when he can be found climbing into his post-van outside his home in Clos de L'École, to commence the trek down to Postal Headquarters in Rue des Prés in order to collect the Parish's mail which has arrived in the Island, also at around 6.00 a.m.

On arrival at the Sorting Depot, Ian starts work. At 7.15 a.m. he collects the Parish's letters and parcels which are being sorted manually and by the various machines, then he proceeds to plan his delivery routes, leaving the Depot at around 10.30 a.m. Obviously the weather plays a big part in determining his daily finishing times but he has usually completed his deliveries around 2.30 p.m. when he returns to Rue des Prés to hand in any dockets, remaining packages or collection notices before heading back home.

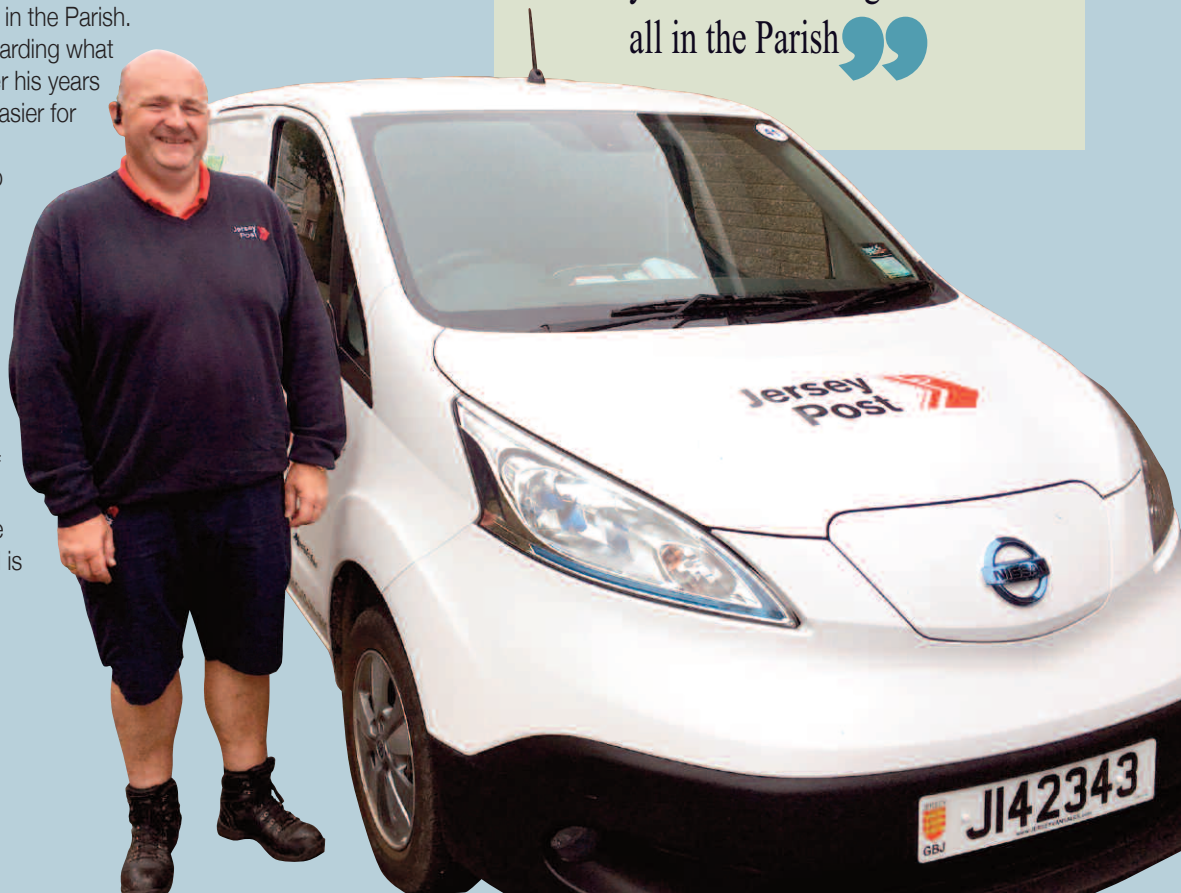
Having spent nearly 30 years working for Jersey Post Ian explained that he commenced service as a Reservist, helping out on various routes around the island and has come up through the ranks, so to speak, having experienced the rigors of walking deliveries, the perils of being a bicycle postie and now has arrived at the motorised stage in his career, having clocked up around 18 years of delivering mail to us all in the Parish.

In answer to a question regarding what improvements he has seen over his years of service that have made life easier for Posties, Ian readily praised the introduction of the Secure Drop Box Scheme and urges more customers to sign up for the free service as it has huge benefits for all, removing the necessity for customers having to drive down to Rue des Prés to collect parcels etc. Also, in his estimation, one other good introduction is their new fleet of electric vehicles, one of which, in the last couple of months, he has recently taken delivery, and is greatly pleased with its performance.

In conclusion, I really get the impression that Ian loves his work as one of our Island Posties as it allows him to spend time in the great outdoors meeting and greeting parishioners around the Parish, so I would send out a plea to you all, please whatever the weather, give a cheery wave and smile to our hardy, shorts-clad Parish Postie delivering his rounds to one and all, whether it be in sunshine, rain or snow.

Rosemary Dupré

“Having experienced the rigors of walking deliveries, the perils of being a bicycle postie and now has arrived at the motorised stage in his career, having clocked up around 18 years of delivering mail to us all in the Parish”



ST JOHN'S SCHOOL

The future is rosy at St John

NURSERY CLASS NEWS

From little seeds... members of the Nursery Class at St John's School have wonderful 'green fingers' and are at the heart of the exciting development plans for our Nursery garden!

Whilst we all live in a fast-evolving technological world, we are committed to enabling our young children to 'go back to nature' to learn how to appreciate our natural environment. We want our local children to love our special island of Jersey and to learn that food does not start at the supermarket, so with this in mind, we involve the children in the whole process from planting to harvesting our organic vegetables and fruit.

Our most recent developments this year have involved building raised beds from recycled scaffold boards kindly donated by a family in our class. We want our children to be able to have real hands on experiences of using tools and caring for our growing plants. We then had the challenge of filling up the giant planters with soil which was when we encountered a big problem! The soil in our garden barely covered the surface! Luckily, AA Langlois Recycling came to our rescue with the wonderful, generous donation of three tonnes of top soil. What a big delivery! When the soil was dumped onto the school playground at 7 a.m. one morning, the nursery staff looked at the mountain and heaved a sigh of trepidation! We did not need to worry! Our wonderful community of children helped us to transport the load and we all marvelled at a job well done! We are now proud to say that many generations of children at St John's School will be able to benefit from the vision and generosity of our staff and local community. A real legacy for the future.



PREPARING



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ST JOHN'S SCHOOL COUNCIL AND ECO COMMITTEE NEWS

WHAT THE SCHOOL COUNCIL AND ECO-SCHOOL COMMITTEE DO

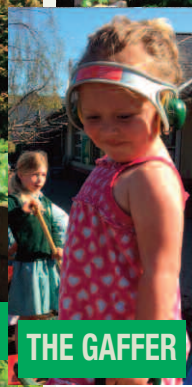
The Eco-School Committee and School Council's main goal during the term is to be more environmentally friendly. We are doing this by asking that each student bring a healthy snack each day to consume at break time, rather than an unhealthy alternative. The school council and Eco-School Committee are comprised entirely of children with support from the teachers. Our goal is to become a healthier school of children by encouraging us to eat healthy snacks; this is important because it keeps us healthy during school time. An unhealthy alternative might make us hyperactive and excitable during lesson times, as well as consisting of the unhealthy sugar and fat that so many snacks contain. A problem we are faced with is trying to alert the whole school, which is why we have created posters to raise awareness of this issue. As a result, we are hoping to eliminate any unhealthy snacks at break time. We are encouraging the school to think of the consequences before snacking on crisps, cakes and other alternatives to the healthy, acceptable snacks. Our accepted snacks include: fruit, vegetables and cheese.

In addition the School Council and Eco-School Committee are also trying to reduce the unnecessary amount of time our school whiteboards are switched on, and the time the lights are left on.

Amelia - Year 6



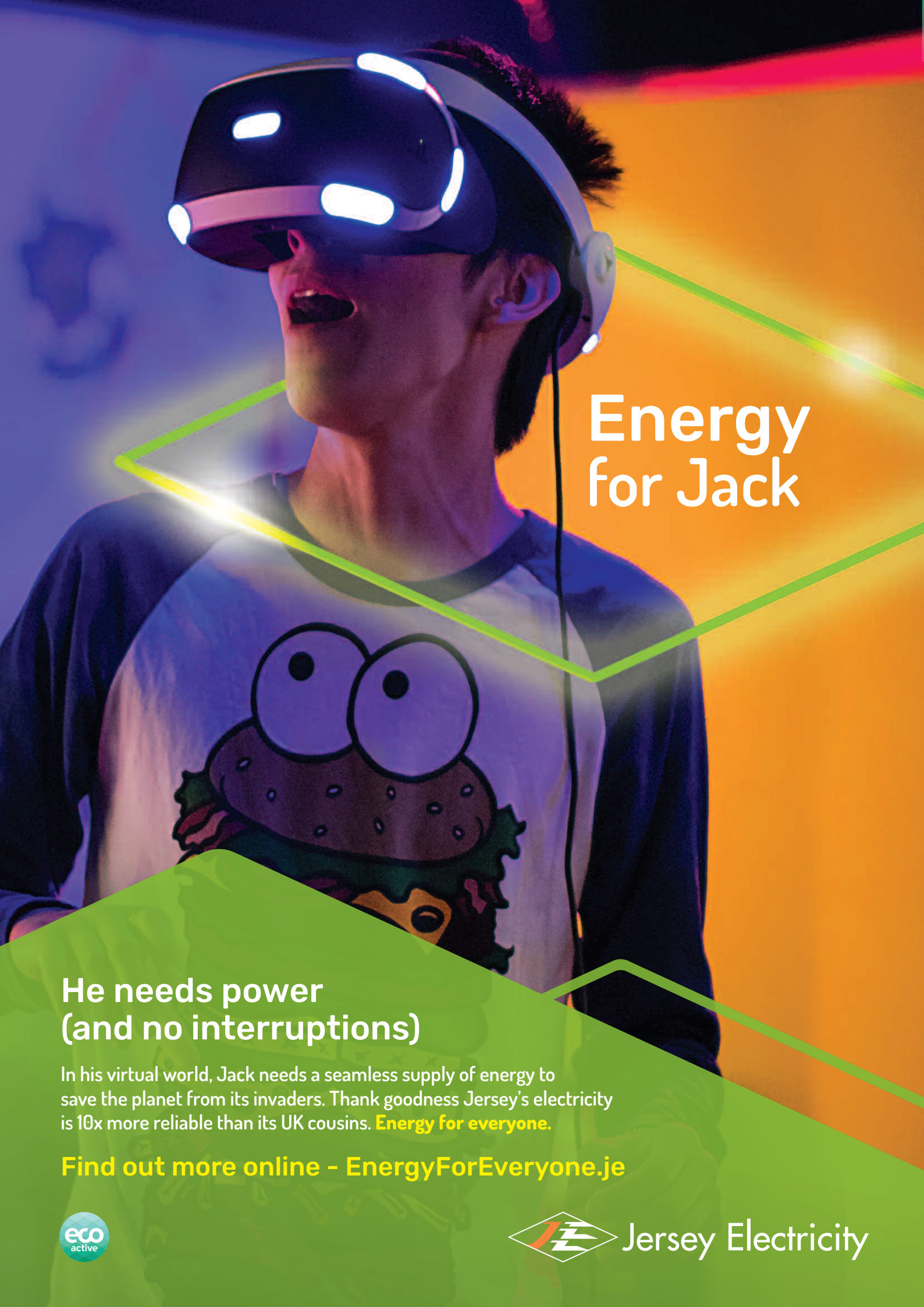
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ROGER LONG CONCLUDES HIS ACCOUNT OF A MEMORABLE HOLIDAY

Trans-Siberian journey

PART 2

Below:

On the Road crossing the Ural Mountains near Kazan this feature marks the boundary between Europe to the right and Asia to the left



Main picture:

RED SQUARE
Saturday evening strollers and the extraordinary St Basil's Orthodox Russian Cathedral in Red Square, Moscow



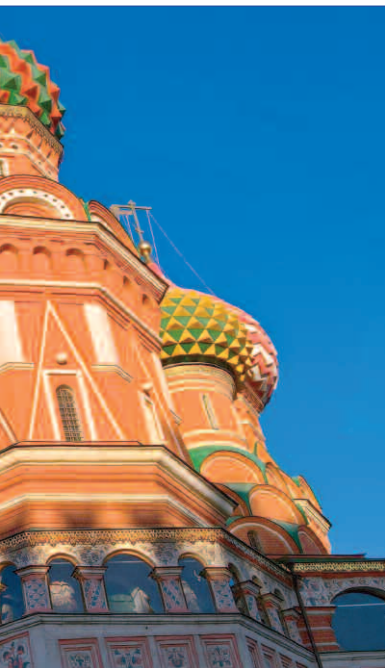
Top:

'ONION' DOMES, ST BASIL'S
Close-up of some of the 'Onion' domes of St Basil's Cathedral

Above: SINGERS

Singers and dancers were at each city to greet us – and to invite us to join in the dancing!





Russia is a big country and most things there come in a large size. Our first day in the country was around and on Lake Baikal, the largest body of fresh water in the world. Although its area is less than some of the US Great Lakes, at over a mile deep its water volume far exceeds that of any other lake. Virtually surrounded by mountains, enormous distances from any sea, it has enabled great numbers of fish and all aquatic life to evolve, along with much vegetation, into species unique to the region – something over 80% are believed to be Lake Baikal specialties – there is even a Baikal Seal. As a naturalist I found it immensely exciting, especially as for most of my life it had seemed unlikely that I would even see it, let alone enjoy a boat cruise across it.

The day concluded with the train stopping alongside a shallow bay for a superbly organised evening barbecue and the opportunity to have a dip in the lake. Local lore claims good health and a long life for those hardy enough to be tempted, but with the water at 8°C it was easy to resist! Nineteen of the train's 180 passenger did brave it, and were rewarded with certificates from the organisers to prove it. In winter most of it freezes right across with ice up to eight metres thick in places.

Continuing westwards through seemingly unending vistas of beautiful birch trees, with some of their gentle green leaves taking on the first tints of autumn brought us to Irkutsk the capital of Siberia. My preconception of the countryside of Siberia was of vast areas

of forest dominated by dark, almost black, firs and pines which somehow had come to typify 'Siberia' as a land in perpetual winter. That description is partly true for much of northern Siberia but our journey was mostly well in the south of the country, the latitude of Irkutsk, near the south end of Lake Baikal being only a little further north than this part of Europe. It has a bitterly cold continental winter climate, but in late September it was mild and bright with a beautiful range of colours on the trees.

Irkutsk was the first of four large cities where we stopped for part of the day for a coach tour of their sights and range of entertainments, usually in a very impressive theatre where the train's full complement had come together at the end of their tour. The cities were keen to display their own national and local talents, singing, solo and choral, dancing of astonishing vitality and variety plus the almost incredible and delightfully artistic performances by contortionists. Similar shows, with local differences, were put on for us at the other cities visited, at which the quality of all the acts was extremely high and what might have been considered as mere 'local talent' shows were performances to virtually international standards, which were greatly appreciated by the train's large party.

In the early nineteenth century in Ekaterinburg a group of upper-class revolutionaries, in their handsome villas, plotted against the Tsar. These 'Decembrists' as they were later known, failed like many anti-Tsarist revolts, and their fine buildings, and their revolutionary, but cultured, life-style preserved. Our party were invited in to hear a fine high-class concert of vocal and instrumental music, as those earlier residents would have done.

Russia is renowned for the numerous world-class musicians in all categories it has and still is producing, as exemplified by the existence of no less than three conservatoires – almost every city has one – and we

were invited to one of them to listen to half a dozen students, aged from 11 to 21, perform for us. Once again, we heard remarkable performances, for which I felt privileged.

Only a couple of days were 'train days'. Extremely informative talks on the compartment radios were offered, on historical, military and political and general topics, should the passing scene not be interesting enough. The sprawling outskirts of towns, similar to those seen from trains the world over, were not all that frequent, but the rural was pleasant enough to watch. To forestall any potential ennui informal talks were offered, such as 'How to drink Vodka!' Drawing that out – including experimentation – into an hour-long session was very impressive, and amusing.

Our guides, one for each group, were excellent, knowledgeable and helpful and certainly did not promote any Russian propaganda. In one city, our group of thirteen had an evening meal in an apartment, prepared by the owner and her adult son. He spoke English and we were encouraged to ask them anything, to which they seemed to reply genuinely and honestly.

For example;

"Do you like Mr Putin"

With a shrug of the shoulders, "He's not a very nice man, but he protects us"

"Protects you from what?"

Slightly apologetically, "From America, from Europe, from The West, from you!"

I had noticed that sort attitude elsewhere, denoting a kind of popularity alien to our political scene, which would seem to be almost impossible to subvert.

In contrast to the delightful shows laid on for us our guides insisted on our seeing the many memorials, some still having thousands of names added to the uncountable thousands already on them, to the millions – one guide said 11 million – of the civilian population who disappeared or were sent to the Gulags from the start of Stalin's terror to his death in 1953. The guides wanted us to understand that the present Russia acknowledges its predecessors' guilt, and is now showing some measure of remorse. I saw many such memorials but the recollection of one, I forget where, of a simple peasant woman with her hand on the shoulder of a small child standing with her, and with a look of immeasurable sadness, nearly brings tears to my eyes, even as I write.

After ten days on the train we arrived in Moscow at midday, to a five-star hotel, and a shower in a steady bathroom! But before that we had an afternoon tour of part of Moscow, mainly the Kremlin, under a beautiful blue sky. 'Kremlin' means fortress, and within its walls there was much to see. In addition to sprawling government buildings there are, among others, at least five Russian Orthodox Cathedrals – of which I have seen enough to last a lifetime! It was a weekend and seemed as if all of Russia had come to visit Red Square which, despite the crowd, lived up to my expectations. The organisers assumed we would welcome shopping opportunities so we were led into suitable precincts.

Most shops were full and attractive, and full of shoppers in a relaxed atmosphere. After the super hotel (western cuisine) dinner, and thoroughly exhausted, we were reminded of the planned trip to see some of the magnificent stations on the Moscow Metro. The three we travelled through, with their extensive artworks in sumptuous settings, were quite remarkable and well worth the considerable effort it took at the end of a very interesting and rewarding but hard-working, at least for me, sixteen-day adventure. I felt like a holiday after that.

Twinning Weekend

with our visitors from

Normandy

On the 15th of September 2018, our friends from LE TEILLEUL came to Jersey by boat from Granville to spend the weekend with us. Their arrival at the Albert Quay coincided with the Dragon Boat Race and they all enjoyed this unexpected surprise in that fantastic weather. There were 31 visitors in the group all hosted by various families of the parish.

It was a great day for the members of the Twinning Association as not only did they have good weather but in the afternoon they were taken for a two-hour visit to the Steam Museum in Trinity where they discovered great engines and old cars. The visit was also well complemented by Stephen Masters's explanation!

On Saturday evening a reception was held at the Ommaroo Hotel where we were warmly welcomed by Ian Stevenson, the hotel manager. The meal and service were exceptionally good and everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves. We were 69 people in total and we were also very lucky this year to have a full table of 10 young people, which brought hope for a brighter future for our twinning between St John and Le Teilleul. We were entertained by Alfie Butel, a young singer, who was well appreciated by all of us. There was also some dancing to the joy of many.

On Sunday a vin d'honneur was held at the Parish Hall from 11 o'clock onward where Connétable Chris Taylor, our Chairman, Stephen Masters and Madame Le Maire from Le Teilleul delivered their speeches. As usual our young friend, Tanguy Billet-Masters, was our interpreter for our French friends.

The rest of the day was spent en famille and it being a beautiful sunny day it was a delight to show our guests our beautiful island. We

went on a lovely walk by the cliffs, however others decided to go paddle boarding! Our friends also loved to see so many Jersey lilies along the paths, with which they were so impressed that many photos were taken.

The weekend was truly an enjoyable and memorable occasion.

This year we were extremely happy and blessed to welcome into the Twinning celebrations two new families, including our Rector, Beverley Sproats, her husband Graeme and their three children. New young families from Le Teilleul would be happy to welcome you in their lovely village, so why not give it a go? New friendships can be beneficial for you and your children and French, as you know, is still part of our Jersey heritage. Our next visit to Le Teilleul is planned next year on the week end of the 14/15 of September 2019.

The Chairman, Stephen Masters, and/or the Secretary, Irène Billet-Masters, will be more than happy to give you more information or to meet you if you wish, so please do not hesitate to contact them on 862880 or email billetmastersirene@gmail.com.



Right: Connétable Chris Taylor speaking at the Vin d'honneur

Above: Music and entertainment at the Ommaroo

Top: Saturday evening reception at the Ommaroo

Below: The group outside the Parish Hall after the Vin d'Honneur



A man and a woman are in a flower shop. The woman, with curly hair and glasses, is smiling and looking at a large bouquet of pink and purple roses. The man, with a beard and wearing a blue and black plaid shirt, is looking down at the flowers. The background is filled with various colorful flowers and plants.

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DEPUTY TREVOR POINTON

provides an account of his first months in the States



When I was asked to write a piece for the Parish magazine, suggesting that parishioners would be interested in my first few months in the States, I began wondering what elements of States Assembly work was I going to commit to paper? Really deep thought was needed, because being elected in May was just a fraction of my preoccupation at the time. As you know, at the hustings I quoted Mark Twain: *'Reports of my death have been greatly exaggerated'*, this I did as there was rumour in the parish that I could not do the job in the States because of ill health.

Yes, I was in rather less than pristine condition, as symptoms noticed in December 2017 had in February resulted in a diagnosis of bladder cancer. I am given to understand that the condition can possibly be avoided if you neither smoke tobacco nor drink alcohol throughout your lifetime. My early start was good as my father did not advocate either and it was not until I left home that both noxious substances became a regular feature in life. The smoking has ceased, but alcohol remains an enjoyable factor. Moderate consumption is, I am told, quite possibly beneficial.

I am conscious that this is intended to be about the first few months in the States, but getting there is part of the story.

Treatment started in February with surgical removal of the offending article. Then, because it was of a high risk nature, the Oncology Department treated me to four cycles of chemotherapy. Had the election campaign been in March I would not have been ready, but by April the sometimes poleaxing side effects had been tamed and I was able to press on with the busy schedule.

Thanks to a dedicated team of supporters and a son who daily had Jane and me attend a military style morning meeting, (the Army call it an 'Orders Group' affectionately known as Morning Prayers), we were able to maintain momentum. The team and I were able to canvas the whole Parish, finding roads, lanes and a multitude of hidden properties off the beaten track that in thirteen years as Centenier I had not become aware of because the parishioners were obviously very law-abiding. The whole exercise rendered me very fit and feeling healthy. Visiting every household in the Parish, we were respectfully received by most. However there were three angry responses, all to do with trespass, and one parishioner thought it would be in the spirit of good neighbourliness to threaten to set a large dog on the visiting canvassers.

Election Day was a nightmare; Nigel Philpot and I, our families and supporters, were obliged to remain outside the Parish Hall despite high wind on possibly the coldest day of the emerging year.

It was debilitating and unwarranted as there was a warm enclave in the corridors of the building. If elections are to be in May for evermore, serious thought has to be given to the 'Elf and Safety' of candidates and their entourage.

Election Day was also memorable because my team had arranged hospitality at election HQ, namely The Farm House. In the event the 'scout in the count' could not raise the candidate, as for some reason the candidate's phone was switched to silent. It took internet declarations from other parishes to prompt a frantic call to the scout that prompted a mass decant to the Parish Hall for me to acknowledge the result. I am not sure how the absence of a winning candidate would have been reported by our 'friendly' media.

High stress over the remaining period to the 2nd June and swearing in was characterized by a determination to complete chemotherapy and also complete a two-week period of induction prepared by the States Greffier. The programme involved many very interesting and significant presentations from departments, lasting way beyond one's attention span. They were subsequently labelled 'death by PowerPoint'. The Greffier had, however, given the seventeen new entrants a broad introduction to life in the States. The so called Baptism of Fire was fortunately delayed as far as I was concerned as early sittings were to do with electing the Chief Minister, Ministers and Assistant Ministers. Finding meaningful roles for the remainder of the 49 then became the challenge.

My own objective was to avoid anything that had 'Assistant to' or 'Deputy to' attached to the title. I knew that gaining experience in the Assembly was a greater priority than seeking a role in government. Start at the bottom is always a good maxim and in an effort to gain experience I put myself forward for two Scrutiny Panels, Education and Home Affairs, and Health and Social Security. I was then invited on to the Hospital Policy Board and, if this was not sufficient, I became a member of the very active review of the Provision for Children, a response to the Historic Child Abuse Enquiry.

With a predicted eventful political future I was grateful to be given respite by the timely intervention of a summer recess. A fortunate interlude, as I



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had to complete radiotherapy treatment, twenty 15-minute sessions over four weeks, leaving the island on 9th August for Addenbrooke's Hospital Cambridge, not really knowing what lay ahead.

During the time away I was able to attend Scrutiny meetings via Skype and arrange written questions for the first sitting of the new session. I was back in the island on 6th September and in the States Chamber on the 11th.

There has been frenetic activity since, with the work of Scrutiny building at a pace. A major challenge to date has been the Hospital Policy Board, examining reasons behind the decision to build a new hospital on an active biomedical site. There is a strong feeling that a clean site should be identified to allow an unhampered new build. It has been a salutary experience being plunged in at the deep end with such a controversial island issue.

Parish matters

I am currently consulting Liberty Bus with a view to extending services to the north of island car parks, so allowing people to park and ride into town.

The Infrastructure Minister has been asked about connection to the main sewer and although his written reply was not positive, the batting has opened and I will be badgering him to place this urgently needed change into the Island Plan and produce a budget in the next Medium Term Financial Plan.

I have begun discussions with Jersey Water about extending the mains and trust that they can see a way to find the capital needed to invest in this badly neglected project.

Discussions are also taking place with Infrastructure about cycle safety in the parish and the possibility that a designated safe route for cyclists from the town area to St John's Village can be found.

Deputy Trevor Pointon

St John's Netball Team 2018

Mid-season report

The parish netball team is off to a flying start having won seven of their first eight matches by the season Christmas break. The only team to get the better of St John was St Ouen..

The second half of the season will be run in the early part of 2019.

The team this year is young and exciting and they are on course for the best ever season so far. Training began in June: the girls had never played together previously and although they are doing well the team likes to have fun with the game and keep a positive attitude - always.

Matches are played at Les Ormes on Monday and Tuesday evenings. The team is supported/coached by Theresa Ward who has been an avid netball player for a number of years.

The league is hosted by the Jersey Netball Association (JNA) and various coaches from around the island who referee every match.

The St John team consists of:

Captain – Tara Marie	Becky Kelly
Vice Capital – Sarah Pita	Emily Delgaso
Elizabeth Garret	Alessia Zammataro
Kerry Roche	Valentina Zammataro
Katie Le Herissier	Katie McFarlane
Zoe Banks	

If anybody would like any more information, either to join the team in the new year or alternative ways to support, please contact stjohnsnetball@hotmail.com or Katie McFarlane on 07797 781147





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Green fingers

IN ST JOHN

In the 2018 RJA&HS All Island Garden Competition, sponsored by Ransoms Garden Centre, six St John residents did exceptionally well. **GRAHAM COLSELL** came 6th in the small gardens category and **SHIRLEY CAUREL**, a long-time entrant, came 2nd for her colourful pots and tubs in the patio gardens class. A visit to the prize-winning Garden of **MAUREEN LONG** and vegetable plot of **JOHN LUCE**, who came 2nd in the best kept vegetable garden or plot of medium size, shows how much talent and hard work goes into attaining these awards. **NEIL HOWELL** did exceptionally well. As well as these, the Parish Hall gardens tended by **JAMES BONNY** and his team also gained the highest points of any class!

Neil Howell – St John's Community Allotments

Neil Howell of St John's Community Allotments came away with three trophies from the 2018 RJA & HS All Island Garden Competition at his first time of entering. He won the Selwyn Hamon Trophy for medium-sized vegetable plots; the Albert Bartlett & Sons Trophy for the overall winner of small, medium and large plots and the Coronation Challenge Cup for new competitors with gardens less than 500 square metres. Neil has held his plot in St John for only three years so his success is inspiring for all would-be gardeners. Neil was born and brought up in Jamaica and his grandparents were farmers who wished their children to enter the professions. Neil's parents and uncles are all teachers and headmasters and Neil's day job, which brought him to Jersey ten years ago, is in finance. He had not thought about his farming heritage until he got his allotment in St John but now acknowledges it was probably always there in his blood just waiting to come out.

He finds the physical labour on the allotment the perfect antidote to a more sedentary and stressful day job in finance. In the summer he can't wait to get home and on to the allotment where he will stay until the light fades. As with all our featured gardeners, it is dedication and hard work which achieves the results. Neil is definitely of the school of thought: 75% preparation and 25% perspiration.

He plans his yearly timetable meticulously – preparing the soil in the winter by making his own compost and digging it in. Digging and turning over the soil looms large in Neil's preparation; he says this is definitely the way his forbears prepared their land in Jamaica. He spends much time in the winter reading about different techniques and scientific methods of crop rotation and seed development. He grows all his own plants from seed and delights in seeing them germinate and grow.

Neil's plot is about 25% fruit growing and the rest vegetables. He grows most familiar vegetables but has also introduced some Jamaican tropical varieties. No doubt some of these caught the eye of the judges. Some of his tropical innovations have included, callaloo – a super spinach; sweet potatoes; roselle, known as sorrel in Jamaica, which is of the hibiscus family, and from which you make a drink to be sweetened with sugar or even rum! What particularly caught the eye of the judges were his watermelons – they never thought you could grow those in Jersey!

Neil is such an enthusiast to talk with; his delight in his

success in the competition is tempered with the debt he feels he owes to those fellow gardeners, both amateur and professional, he has shared ideas with and who have given him advice. He feels his time-consuming hobby enables him to use all his time more productively. His work colleagues and friends share in the produce of his hard work and he is way ahead in the environmental stakes by growing what he eats. You can think of Neil this Christmas sowing his garlic – by sowing that on Christmas Eve last year he had a magnificent crop this summer.

The garden at Jomala, Rue de L'Étocquet

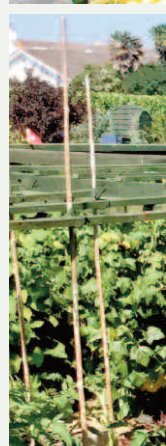
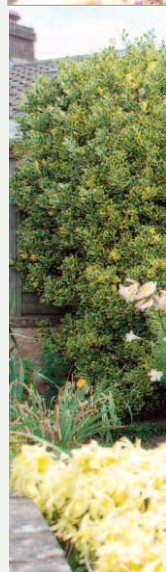
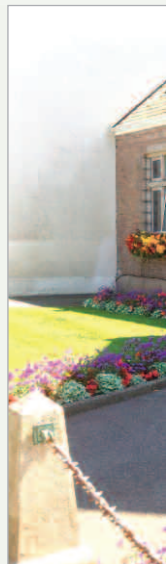
On a sunny October morning, Maureen, who won the Channel Island Decks trophy, showed me round the garden created from scratch in just six years. It becomes obvious, when walking around with Maureen, just how many skills as well as hours of work go into creating this beautiful oasis: the vision that is required to see what can be achieved from basically what was a muddy field; the eye for colour and design; the knowledge of plants and what will do well in a particular area; the sourcing of unusual or traditional objects to lend substance to an area or become a focal point. All these things shine out in this garden.

What fascinated me the most is the willingness to improve what already looks like perfection to my untrained eye. Although the garden is only six years old, Maureen is forever changing the shapes of lawns or beds and moving plants that she thinks will thrive better elsewhere, always with an eye to colour or interest.

She makes full use of gifts of plants or cuttings and has created memorials incorporating plants and objects which have come from the gardens of family members they have lost. Two cast iron pumps – one dug up from the original field – have been restored and stand in different areas of the garden. Seating nooks have been placed to make the most of the early and setting sun and there is a beautiful glassed-in patio for entertaining.

Areas have been created for cut flowers, herbs and fruit trees along with a rockery and water feature. Maureen's latest development is a wildflower area. This was obviously past its best in October but apparently was stunning earlier in the year. Maureen was delighted to have sacrificed part of her extensive lawn to achieve this haven for butterflies and bees.

John, her partner, is in charge of the significant vegetable plot which is screened off from the main garden. He has





produced wonderful vegetables, especially tomatoes, all year. Here too the signs of change and innovation are abundant. Black plastic for keeping down weeds and encouraging plant growth, has been replaced by recycled tyres let into the ground where individual plants can grow. A fig tree, not doing well against a wall of the house, has been moved to a more southerly aspect and is now thriving. John came second to Neil Howell at the St John's Allotments, for his vegetable garden ahead of several other entrants from allotments around the Island. Vegetable growing in St John comes out on top!

This All Island Garden Competition is hotly contested every year – often with the same established gardens winning every time, so it is wonderful that this new garden achieved so much success on its first entry.

Parish Hall Garden, James Bonny and team

Those of us who walk around the Parish Hall at St John every weekday, taking small children to school, are able to more than appreciate the work that has gone into making St John's Parish Hall Garden the winner, this year, out of all the Parish Hall entrants. More than just the winner of that class but the overall winner of the whole competition for having the most points out of any class. As well as the A & L Ahier Shield for the best Parish Hall, James was also awarded the André Ruellan Memorial Rose Bowl as the overall winner of the Competition.

The beautiful green lawns around the Parish Hall are a tribute to the dedicated year-round care of James and his team. Not a weed dare show its face on this velvety grass which from time to time attracts the little feet of young children – a problem none of his rivals face daily! The beautiful plantings which won him his prizes this year were predominantly pink with hazy blue and mauve. All the plants are grown with colour, size and consistency in mind. The beds and window boxes had to be watered and tended daily in our hot, dry summer to be at their best for the judging. Some areas of the Parish Hall suffer from a deadly wind on occasion and are beside a busy main road so James has to factor in all these variables when making and planning his plant selection. His dedication to the gardens surrounding the Parish Hall makes them a thing of beauty all the year round.

James and his team look after the other public areas of St John as well as the Parish Church grounds and the cemetery. We are fortunate to have not only a worthy winner of this Competition but also someone dedicated to keeping our Parish looking good in all weathers.

Rosie Bleasby

Above left: Graham and Anna's garden
Below: Neil Howell with his cups and some of his produce

Top left: The parish hall garden
Left and left bottom: The Garden and veg patch at Jomala



ST JOHN'S PARISH Church News

St John's Parish Church continues to carry out its mission to be a beacon of faith and a focal point in the community where people grow together in God's love.

St John's Church was a beacon of faith at the Beach Service at Bonne Nuit Bay on 5th August 2018. Locals, tourists, family and friends gathered together to worship God on the beach, and to celebrate the baptisms (in the sea!) of Jack and Lily-Mae, with a picnic afterwards.

St John's has been a focal point for the community over Harvest time, welcoming over 200 children from St John's Primary School into church to celebrate Harvest on 28th September. The children thanked God for all he provides – not just food, but air, water, earth and fire. Rev. Beverley Sproats, Rector, spoke about thanking God for what we have at Harvest, and sharing with others. The children brought gifts of non-perishable food and these were added to the church collection at our Harvest Celebration on 30th September 2018 to give to The Grace Trust that helps those in need in Jersey. Thanks go to all those who decorated the church so beautifully and generously contributed gifts to The Grace Trust.

In October we had a moving and thought-provoking visit from Gerry Padden and Vini Jones who spoke about the work of the Grace Trust, that supports those in need with food parcels, furniture, practical help and befriending to show the love of Jesus.

The monthly Coffee and Croissants mornings continue to be a popular focal point for the community with opportunity to make new friends and renew old acquaintances. The Knit and Natter group has welcomed people to knit, crochet, scrap-book and experiment with crafts, all while enjoying a cuppa and cake!

Our regular services are Traditional Said Holy Communion at 8am and Contemporary Communion at 9.30am with hymns, songs, a bible reading and talk. On the first Sunday of the month Little Oaks Sunday Club, for children aged 3-11 years old, starts in church at 9.30am with a song and then moves to the Vestry for bible stories, crafts and activities. Our Thursday morning prayer meetings continue at 11am in the Vestry.



We remain thankful to the municipality for their provision. We have just received the latest building inspection report and been listed by Jersey Heritage. Together, we will work with St John's Parish to implement the recommendations in the report to ensure that the beautiful Parish Church is cared for to the glory and worship of God and for the enjoyment of locals and visitors alike. The Women's Institute visited the Parish Church in September and enjoyed learning more about the history and architecture of the building and trying their hand at bell ringing!



As part of St John's Group of Churches, we are joining together for the Remembrance Sunday service, and the Candlelit Carol Service at 6pm on Sunday 16th December 2018 followed by mince pies and mulled wine. Our forthcoming Christmas services are Christingle at 5.30pm and Midnight Holy Communion at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve, and an all-age celebration at 10.30am on Christmas Day.

To find out more and explore the Christian faith, please connect with us on social media @stjohnschurchje or contact the Rector, Rev. Beverley Sproats on 861677 or 07700 731 114 or beverleysproats@gmail.com

Below: Baptism service at Bonne Nuit



REV. BEVERLEY SPROATS, RECTOR OF ST JOHN'S PARISH CHURCH, SHARES HER REFLECTIONS ON RETURNING TO LIVE AND WORK IN JERSEY AFTER STUDYING AND WORKING IN THE UK AND ABROAD FOR OVER 20 YEARS

Returning to Jersey

In the poem, 'Little Gidding', T. S. Eliot wrote,

*We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time.*

This quote sums up for me the sense of returning home to Jersey, yet seeing it through new eyes. I was born and brought up in St Lawrence, Jersey. At sixteen, I won a scholarship to Atlantic College, an international college in Wales, and then studied Physics at the University of Oxford.

When I finished university in 1994, I worked for Shell as a Petrophysicist in the Netherlands and Brunei. Graeme and I were married at St Lawrence's Parish Church in June 1999 and this was a significant moment for me in my journey to following Jesus. Looking back over my childhood, I can see God's hand in my life through my baptism at St Thomas's Church, First Communion at St Bernadette's and Sunday School at First Tower Methodist. Graeme and I returned to the UK in late 1999 and settled there where we had our three children, Barnaby, Eve and Ivan.

I had never considered returning to Jersey until towards the end of my curacy when I started to look for jobs. My heart leapt when I saw an advert for the post of Rector of St John's Parish Church, combining the role of Rector and Jersey Safeguarding Lead. We moved to Jersey in August 2017 for me to take up the post and were also blessed with a job for Graeme in the States of Jersey.

Having grown up in neighbouring St Lawrence, St John was a new parish to me. Even though I didn't know it well, it still felt like coming home. We received a lovely welcome from the Church and the Parish and I was welcomed back as a Jersey Bean! It is fantastic to share with my family the beautiful places that I enjoyed when I was growing up like Bonne Nuit Bay and now to take up stand-up paddle boarding with them! I am delighted to finally be near the sea again.

It's lovely to be near family and friends once more. My sister, one brother and their families are in Jersey and my other brother is in London. My mum is settled in Christchurch near Bournemouth and my dad has returned to Madeira.

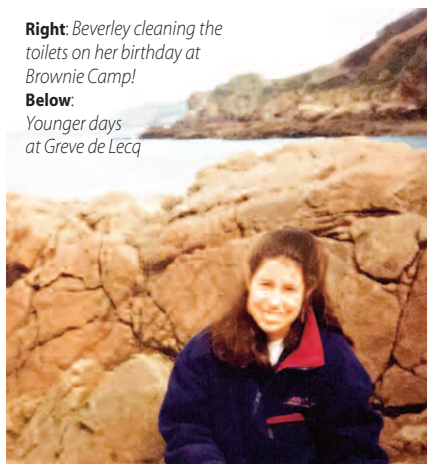
Being familiar with the Parish system has been a great help in my role as Rector. It has enabled me to work with the Constable and the municipality in the life of our Parish and the Church. I'm enjoying discovering more about Jersey tradition, like taking part in the Visite du Branchage. I am heartened by the friendliness of drivers who let you out at junctions, and the gift of having to slow down for geese on the road!

Life on an island fosters camaraderie and there is a great



Right: Beverley cleaning the toilets on her birthday at Brownie Camp!

Below: Younger days at Greve de Lecq



collegiate sense amongst my Church of England clergy colleagues. I have also found encouraging ecumenism in Jersey, a great witness for God as different denominations work together and other faiths are respected.

I'm getting used to island life again, when the weather is so bad that you run out of bread in the shops. At least we never run out of milk thanks to beautiful Jersey cows! Another aspect of island life is holding lightly to travel arrangements. For one holiday to the UK our ferry was cancelled at the last minute and we had to hastily arrange flights and a hire car!

I never tire of seeing familiar landmarks like Elizabeth Castle nestled in the sweep of St Aubin's Bay. I've noticed many improvements like more cycle routes and green lanes, and beach kiosks now upgraded to lovely dining experiences. There are also some sadder changes, like Fort Regent falling into disrepair, leaving me only with childhood memories of the cable cars, swimming pool and playground. There is the inevitable increase in traffic and housing as population rises. New developments like the waterfront and finance centre bring in business and develop the economy. I am glad to see the island adapt and thrive, but now see, with more awareness than when I was a child, the gap between rich and poor.

I'm aware that I've been away for about as long as I've been here, but it's good to be home. To see the familiar quirky Jersey sights and institutions like J-reg car number plates and Jersey telephone numbers where no one has to tell you the 01534 dialing code. Jersey cows still graze in the fields; I have rediscovered pay cards and Jersey pound notes.

At a conference in summer 2017 just before I moved here, I was excited to hear one of the speakers saying that they felt some people there were called to bring the good news of Jesus to their home town. I felt that it was a word and encouragement for me as I returned to Jersey. On the wall of my study I've always had a satellite picture of Jersey to remind me of my roots, and am grateful to God to be rooted here again.

Christmas

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King Prawns (large-raw & peeled approx. 28)	1 kg bag	£18.95
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Do you know what you're putting in your tank?



There's been a great deal of discussion recently in Jersey about the fuel that's being sold at some forecourts.

Part of the problem is that some garages are not accurately displaying what products they are selling. Another issue is that some fuels being sold in the Island are not being appropriately stored or handled and this can lead to contamination. This is particularly the case with so-called 'biofuels', commonly branded E5 or B7, and available across Europe.

Biofuels are thought to be better for the environment than standard petrol and diesel, but they are not necessarily better for your car. The UK Government has pledged to phase out standard road fuels and replace them with biofuels, but before that can happen a lot of work needs to be done both preparing forecourts so they can handle these fuels, and educating drivers about the pros and cons of putting them into their cars.

For instance, most vehicles manufactured before 2002, and in some cases as late as 2012, cannot switch to some biofuels; and no classic and vintage cars can use these fuels. At Rubis we believe in education and transparency, so we always advise customers to check their vehicle handbook, manufacturer's website or main dealer before they switch to biofuels. There is also some really helpful advice on leading motoring websites such as www.rac.co.uk.

As well as making sure your car can accept these new fuels, there is also a significant amount of preparatory work that needs to be undertaken at the forecourt to ensure the fuel is properly stored and delivered. Biofuels have solvent properties which can loosen residue in tanks, this increases the risk of filter blockage and in some cases can attack pipework. Once the fuel is contaminated, it cannot be rectified and the whole tank has to be emptied and disposed of. Imagine what could happen if that fuel made its way into your tank.

There have recently been reports in Jersey of vehicles breaking down shortly after filling up, leading to expensive recovery and repair bills and the suspicion is these drivers had unwittingly put contaminated biofuel into their vehicle. Rubis does not distribute biofuels. Rubis only distribute high quality road fuels across the Channel Islands. When the time comes to start selling biofuels, Rubis will make sure that drivers are properly informed about the pros and cons of these fuels, and that pumps are clearly labelled so that drivers know what they are putting into their tanks.

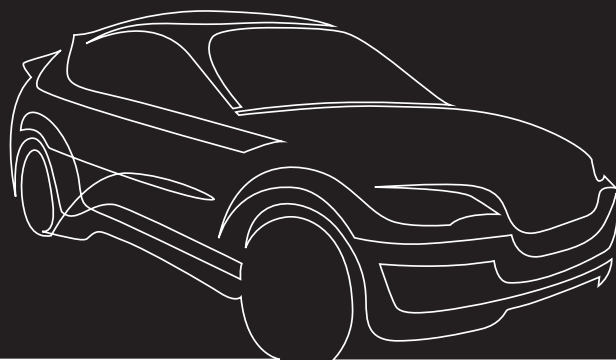
At Rubis, our professionally trained and qualified technicians will make sure that our forecourts are thoroughly inspected and prepared to make sure they can handle these sensitive fuels. There is absolutely nothing wrong with biofuels, as long as they are treated with great care and your vehicle is able to use them. At Rubis, we believe drivers should be able to make an informed choice. Until then, you should always make sure you know what you are putting in your tank and go for known quality fuels. Fill up at any of our 24 forecourts across the Channel Islands and trust you will receive quality fuel at competitive prices.

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YOUTH
PROJECT



Welcome to this edition's update from St John Youth Project. Here are a few of the best bits of the Autumn term!



A local MA student came to the project explore young people's ideas on the spaces that they live, learn and play in. Using art as a medium to explore this we saw some amazing constructions and insightful opinions.



Healthy eating...

After several discussions with some of the young people that attend the club we ran a fruit and smoothie night. Prices of sweets and chocolate where doubled but we offered free fruit instead.

Many thanks to M&S for the donation of fruit!

We need help!

St John Youth Project relies on its committed volunteers to keep the project running. If you can help out you will be provided with training and a DBS check, not to mention a huge sense of reward! We also need people to sit on the project committee. If you would like to find out more please give **Bill Moore** a call at the project on **07797819958** or email on **billmoore@jys.je**

Other activities this term

- Brilliant Halloween party with Trinity Youth Project
- Trampoline session at Fort Regent
- Ice skate sessions
- Laser Tag at Tamba Park
- Cooking skills
- Fire pit and marshmallows

Toby Wanted to raise some money for Cancer Research, so he set out to be taped to a board and then lifted up! Young people donated money to add a strip of tape to secure Toby to the board before we nervously lifted him upside down! It worked! Toby raised a fantastic £15.50. Well done Toby!



The annual celebration of young peoples' achievements across the island was held at the Royal Hotel in November. Congratulations go to all of our young people that were recognised as being particularly inspirational, helpful or just plain awesome.

Well done to James, Clair, Thomas, Jayden, Reuben, Charlie, Toby, Ella, Kadi, and James

St John Youth club opening times @The Rec

FROM 11th SEPTEMBER 2018

Tuesday	Years 7,8 & 9	7pm – 9pm
Wednesday	Year 9+	7pm – 9pm
Friday	Years 5 & 6	6.30 pm – 8.30pm

Closed for Christmas from
20th December – 8th January

New name for children's charity

Brig-y-Don Children's Charity has renamed itself and is now known as 'Brightly'. The new name was prompted by a change in the work of the charity. It ceased to run the children's home Brig-y-Don House in 2009, now managed by Health and Social Services.

Brightly is a small, independent Jersey charity, supporting children and young people living in care, leaving care, or who are experiencing adversity. All money raised by Brightly either stays in Jersey for the benefit of Island residents or can be applied in cases where local children and young people have to be cared for off-island.

Brightly aims to enhance childhood and enable independence.



...and in preparation for next time

The summer flowers may have faded, but before you cast them all away or throw them on winter bonfires, consider the stage in their existence that may be essential to the survival of their species. It may be too late for some, but the remaining shrivelled-looking flower heads and brown pods could be a life-saver for the next generation.

Collecting the seeds couldn't be easier. Simply snip off remaining seed heads from your favourite plants, grab a paper bag and store them in a cool, dry spot to allow them to mature and dry out, not forgetting to mark what they are. Come spring, they'll be ready to recreate all the garden splendour – without having had to buy fresh.

Those who take this regeneration seriously, will be holding a 'Seedy Sunday' at Le Rocquier School on 17th February 2019 (10.30-2.30) when they'll be ready to give advice and swap seeds they've saved for another year. Anyone who wants to get involved should call Fiona Murphy on 07797 859191

**SEEDY
SUNDAY**



Come for a KNIT & NATTER



On the first Saturday of every month the KNIT & NATTER CRAFT GROUP meets in the Vestry from 10.30 am to 4 pm.

This is for you if you like to knit, crochet or undertake any other craft, or if you would like to learn a craft, or make greetings cards. It is open to all in the Parish, not just folk from our congregation. There is no charge for tuition and there is coffee, tea and cake. A donation to Church funds would be appreciated.

If you decide that you would like to come for the day please bring your own lunch, or just pop in during the day for a cuppa and chat.

We are hoping to do a demonstration of different crafts each month. In October we learnt to crochet a 'Granny' Square and also a baby blanket. In November we made Christmas cards, and December's craft is quilting. It's very relaxed and you can do whatever you like when you arrive. Older children are also welcome. It is quite fun to share our crafting knowledge and see what others are doing on the day.

If you would like any further information please contact me on 863839 or 07797 713015.

It would really be nice to see you there.

Dee Shrives



Does your Driving Licence expire soon?

How long have you been driving?

Have you held a Jersey driving licence since at least 1994?

If so, you could be one of the 30,000 in Jersey whose driving licence is due to expire between October 2018 and February 2019.

This **“bulk renewal”** is a remnant from when all driving licences expired at the same date. It happens every 10 years and still affects 1 in 3 of us who hold a Jersey driving licence.

The expiry date is shown in column 11 on the reverse of the licence. Do check the date for each category of vehicle as the dates may vary.

All applications will be dealt with in the date order received. Remember you can apply to renew your driving licence within the 3 months before the expiry date without losing out.

To avoid a delay in receiving your new licence, we recommend you apply for your licence as soon as possible during the 3 month period.

Applications are made by completing the paper application form available from any Parish Hall.

You will need to bring the following with you to make an application –

- Completed Application Form
- Your old driving licence
- One photograph taken in the last 6 months which meets the criteria **(as with a passport style)**
- Payment of £50 for a 10-year licence (Cash or cheque please). Due to the high costs involved St John does not have a Card Machine)
- Medical Form completed by your GP if necessary (for medical conditions and applicable HGV requirements)
- If your name has changed since your last licence was issued (for example marriage) then you must submit the relevant documents **(in this case a marriage certificate).**

Once your renewal has been processed by us you will receive it in the mail to your home address within the subsequent 10 days. Providing your licence has not actually expired you can still continue to drive in the meantime.

So, make a note on your calendar and submit your application in good time to avoid a delay in the issue of your new licence.

Remember

that you must not drive if your licence has expired. Your vehicle insurance may also be invalid if you drive on an expired licence.

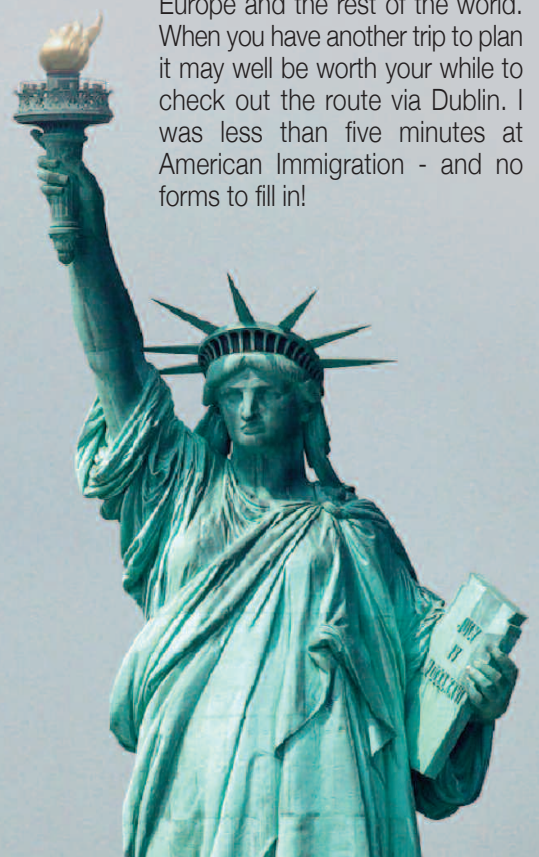
Travelling Tips Visiting America

By seasoned traveller ROSIE BLEASBY

The USA is a wonderful place to visit with amazing scenery. Unfortunately the first scenery that UK visitors get to see is a huge queue at American Immigration at whichever airport in the US they first land. This can often mean more than an hour of standing after a long inter-continental flight. However, there is one way of avoiding this if travelling from Jersey. This is to go via Dublin in Eire. So many Irish people travel to the US that American Immigration and Customs have set up their own operation in Dublin airport. You can do your pre-flight Immigration there. No balancing little cards on tray tables whilst trying to fill in the tiny spaces as you hit turbulence! And when you land in the US you just walk straight out to baggage-reclaim and away.

There is a daily flight to Dublin from Jersey which leaves in the late afternoon, operated by Stobart Air for Aer Lingus. It does necessitate an overnight stay, probably in Dublin, but there are several airport hotels and the times the next day are very convenient. I flew with Aer Lingus to Newark Airport, New Jersey, nearer to Manhattan than JFK Airport. Aer Lingus from Dublin fly to Newark and JFK for New York, San Francisco, Seattle, Boston and several other US airports. I also saw planes from American Airlines and Delta and Air Canada at Dublin Airport.

Dublin Airport is very busy with planes flying to destinations all over Europe and the rest of the world. When you have another trip to plan it may well be worth your while to check out the route via Dublin. I was less than five minutes at American Immigration - and no forms to fill in!



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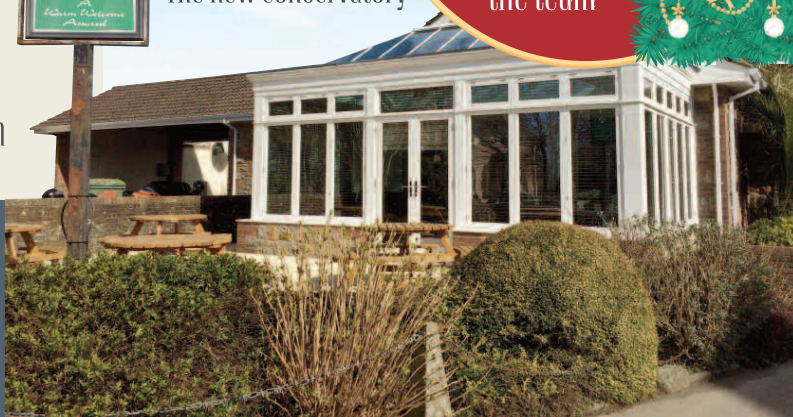
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We do not necessarily hold the views that are expressed in the articles.

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Youth Worker: Bill Moore – 07797 819 958

PARISH DIARY



December to March 2019

December

11th St John's WI – St John's Hotel

January

8th St John's WI – Parish Hall 7:30
 Talk on coffee from Coopers coffee

15th Coffee morning 10am church vestry

29th Muriel's Bingo – Parish Hall

30th Golden Age Club 2:30 – Parish Hall

February

12th St John's WI – Parish Hall 7:30

Hospice talk on palliative care

15th Copy Deadline – March. Parish Magazine

19th Coffee morning 10am - Church vestry

26th Muriel's Bingo – Parish Hall

27th Golden Age Club 2:30 – Parish Hall

March

12th St John's WI – Parish Hall 7:30 AGM

10th JMC&LCC Motor-X at Sorel 10am-5pm

19th Coffee morning 10am - Church vestry

26th Muriel's Bingo

27th Golden Age Club 12:00 Lunch outing

31st JMC&LCC Motor-X at Sorel 10am-5pm

Weekly Tea Dance

**In the Parish Hall every Monday afternoon
 from 2:00 pm.**

Everyone is welcome to come along and join in or
 just to watch and have a chat.

Other activities at the Recreation Centre

Block Headz Pop Up Lego Club: Emma O'Prey 07797 766 580 blockheadzjersey@gmail.com

Cloud Nine Kids Club: Natalie Quénault – 07700 353 126 natalie@cloudninejersey.com

Hot Yoga: Zelia Leca – 07700 870 777 zelialeca81@gmail.com Sun 9:30am, Mon 6:30pm – offers available

Mind Body Therapeutics - trapeze yoga and hot yoga: Sammy Price – mbtherapeutics@gmail.com

Hot Yoga & Trapeze Yoga – Lorna Kearney 07797 772 593 lornakearney73@gmail.com

Sign Time: (signing lessons) Lisa Hérivel Sat 9:30 07700 795 405 lisapalmer@hotmail.com

Yoga4u: Emma Colston-Weeks – 07797 761 571 Emma@yoga4u.org.uk Teacher of yoga for all ages

I-Move-Freely (Bonhealth): Mandy Bonhomme mandy@bonhealth.co.uk 07797 840 976

Art for Young People Julia Renault a local artist & teacher is seeking more 7 to 16 year olds on Wednesdays 5-6:30pm –
 please book with Julia www.juliarenault.com or call 07797 766 302 to discuss

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