



Summer 2021  
Issue 54

# L'Étaile du Nord

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Parish of St John



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**50**  
**YEARS**  
of active service

See Page 24





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# Dear Parishioners...

Welcome back to our 54th edition of L'Étaile du Nord. There is a huge selection of fantastic diverse articles for you to peruse over your morning coffee or afternoon tea. As life starts feeling its way back to a normal rhythm, we can see by the diary and the events information spread through these articles, that we are going to have a very eventful summer.

We were able to celebrate our 76th year of liberation with a little more style than last year, though we are still waiting for the time we can have a really good party. My family and I had the fortune of seeing the old cars pass the Parish Hall and Church, many dressed all over, with driver and passengers looking the part. We have two stories from parishioners, Joan Tapley and Pat Donne Davis (nee Miller) who lived through the occupation. Joan tells us what life was like at St John's School during the occupation; and Pat of how her parents moved from Guernsey to Jersey during the occupation, something maybe not that many people were able to do.

We hear from The Grow Project - a fantastic initiative in the heart of Sion. My family and I had the privilege of planting and naming a tree. We hope to be regular visitors and volunteers as it develops and grows into a great space for the island and local community.

After several years of campaigning to make Sion a safer and more family friendly village, the government launched a consultation on Sion. This was due to close on 18 June. Please do take the time to read the article from the campaign coordinator and reflect on how this could be a first step towards enabling a safer Sion Village community.

I am looking forward to visiting the JAYF open gardens this year, with two open gardens being in St John. We have an article that lets us delve more into the delights of les Chassess, St John, with some photos that highlight some of the beautiful features you will see if you go visit, while munching on JAYF's famous cream teas. JAYF has also been chosen as the charity representing the St John's boundary challenge. A challenge created by Phoenix-A1, who has launched a website and challenge to get us to walk all 12 parish boundaries. A little different from my old parish challenges! A friend has just walked the St John's boundary and it took her 4hrs or a distance of 19.9km. I think I need to get practicing and also find the time to put on those hiking boots and head out to explore our borders. I heard there was talk in the west of the parish of 'doing a Belgium farmer' and moving the boundary rocks to make St Mary's bigger, I better get walking before the route shortens.

I would like to thank all those that take the time to contribute to the fabric of this magazine, without you there would be no magazine, so you are highly appreciated. If anyone would like to contribute in any way they feel they can please get in contact.

Happy reading

Editor

*Hilary Jeune*



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# 100 YEARS of the Parish Crest

by Sarah Grison

We are all very familiar with the St John's parish crest, which appears on every road sign in the parish, heads up newsletters, and even graces the front of this magazine. You would be forgiven for thinking that this well-known symbol has been embedded in the parish's psyche since time immemorial, but in fact, 2021 marks the centenary of the parish having a crest at all, and the one devised a hundred years ago was completely different to the one we see today.

In 1921, ahead of the Royal visit by the King, our Duke, George V and Queen Mary, Major NVL Rybot, of La Société Jerriaise, provided concepts for 12 new parish crests as part of the official celebrations which were then illustrated by Alfred G. Wright, a local artist and teacher. St John's crest, as seen by the King, was of a lamb resting on a book, with the familiar oak green background, since the church is dedicated to St John of the Oaks.

By 1923, Major Rybot had revised the crest to depict a gold Maltese cross on a green shield and at some later point, the gold cross was further changed to silver or white, as we now know it today.

It's interesting to note that islanders were not particularly enthusiastic about embracing the crests in the decades following the Royal visit and it wasn't until the 1960s that they started coming into regular official use and were finally adopted as cherished emblems of each parish.



## Jersey Royal COMPETITION SUCCESS for St John's School

St John's School gained a huge accolade this week at the judging of the annual Primary School Jersey Royal Growing Competition, sponsored by the Lion's Club. The whole school gathered in the playground while Mrs Surcouf and Mr Le Rossignol judged each class's entry, counting and weighing the potatoes grown by each class. Year Three had the greatest weight and number of potatoes in the school. Representatives from Year Three then represented St. John's School at a Celebration Event hosted by Genuine Jersey at St. Clément's Parish Hall where they received the Island Champions award for growing the greatest weight of potatoes in the island!

Grouville school were also named Island Champions for growing the greatest number of potatoes in the island. A huge well-done to all the pupils, staff and particularly Mrs Surcouf for such a huge success, for maintaining this link to Jersey's heritage and for inspiring the next generation of Jersey Royal Farmers!



# Words from THE CONSTABLE

## *Dear Parishioner,*

I've always enjoyed reading L'Étaile du Nord, this magazine gives a great snapshot into our local community and I'm delighted to be able to contribute an article for this edition as your new Connétable.

My thanks to all those who have given me such a warm welcome, by the time you read this I do hope that you will have received my leaflet. It has taken much longer to deliver these than expected, as having expected to have four weeks before being sworn in, this date was brought forward by the Royal Court meaning I have had to hit the ground running.

Whilst expressing thanks, I would like to thank my predecessor Chris not only for his time in giving me a detailed hand over, but also for his many years of dedicated service to the Parish.

As we hopefully enter the last stages of the pandemic, we can begin to look forward to some normality. Events are slowly starting again at the Parish Hall and it was good to see parishioners taking interest in the Island Plan roadshow in May. The results of the survey carried out by the Comité Rural de St Jean are now available on the Parish website.

A number of fields had been submitted for the Bridging Island Plan, none of these have made the first cut and based on the results of the survey, I will be looking to take an amendment to the States to try and get additional sheltered housing for St John included; both rental and affordable.

The two main issues parishioners have raised with me since taking office have been speeding and parking. We have a consultation at present about traffic at Sion. I would ask that you please be considerate, when either driving through the Parish and or when parking on public roads.

The Parish system relies on volunteers to make things happen. We are lucky in St John to have a close and engaged community and I'm grateful to all those who already make an active contribution to our Parish. We're now looking for volunteers for an adopt a lane scheme and if you would like to get involved, please contact the Parish Hall.

We also need more people to join the Honorary Police. I had a brilliant experience when I joined the Honorary Police upon first moving to St John's nearly three decades ago. It's a great way of learning new skills, making new friends as well as helping your local community. Please don't hesitate to contact myself or the **Duty Centenier** on **866560** if you'd like further information on what is needed.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my first few weeks representing our Parish and I look forward to connecting with many more of you in the weeks ahead.

Kind Regards

*Andy*





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# Comité Rurale **UPDATE**

The Minister published the draft Bridging Island Plan covering 2022-2024 on 19th April, and the consultation period runs until 12th July. You may have noticed or attended the roadshow in the Parish Hall on 19th May or one of the webinars run by the Island Plan team of the States, but if not copies of the documents are available in the Parish Hall or on this webpage [www.gov.je/planningbuilding/lawsregs/islandplan](http://www.gov.je/planningbuilding/lawsregs/islandplan)

The consultation is open to all islanders via the States website on this link <https://haveyoursay.gov.je/consult/islandplan/> and we would urge Parishioners to take part as this draft Bridging Island Plan is not just a stopgap document. It does have considerable significance for the future vitality and sustainability of the Parish.

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING

In the Summer 2020 edition of this magazine, the Parish set out its proposals and sites for;

- Affordable homes for first time buyers (Fields 525, 531 & 534),
- Affordable step-down homes (Field 236), and
- Sheltered housing (extension of Maison le Vesconte – Field 229).

The survey undertaken by the Comité Rurale indicated the high level of support for those initiatives among Parishioners, and the Parish has substantial lists of people who have expressed an interest in each of those categories.

Unfortunately, **Field 525** (affordable homes and a playing field next to the primary school) was the only site zoned for affordable housing in the Parish in the draft Bridging Island Plan, and the other sites were all rejected for a variety of reasons. The Comité Rurale intend to try to challenge this through this consultation process and the Public Inquiry which will be held in the autumn.

Constable Andy Jehan, Senator Tracey Vallois and Deputy Trevor Pointon have had and are due to have another meeting with the Minister about the implications for St John. They will have a final opportunity to try to amend the draft Island Bridging Plan by lodging amendments when it comes to the States for debate early next year.

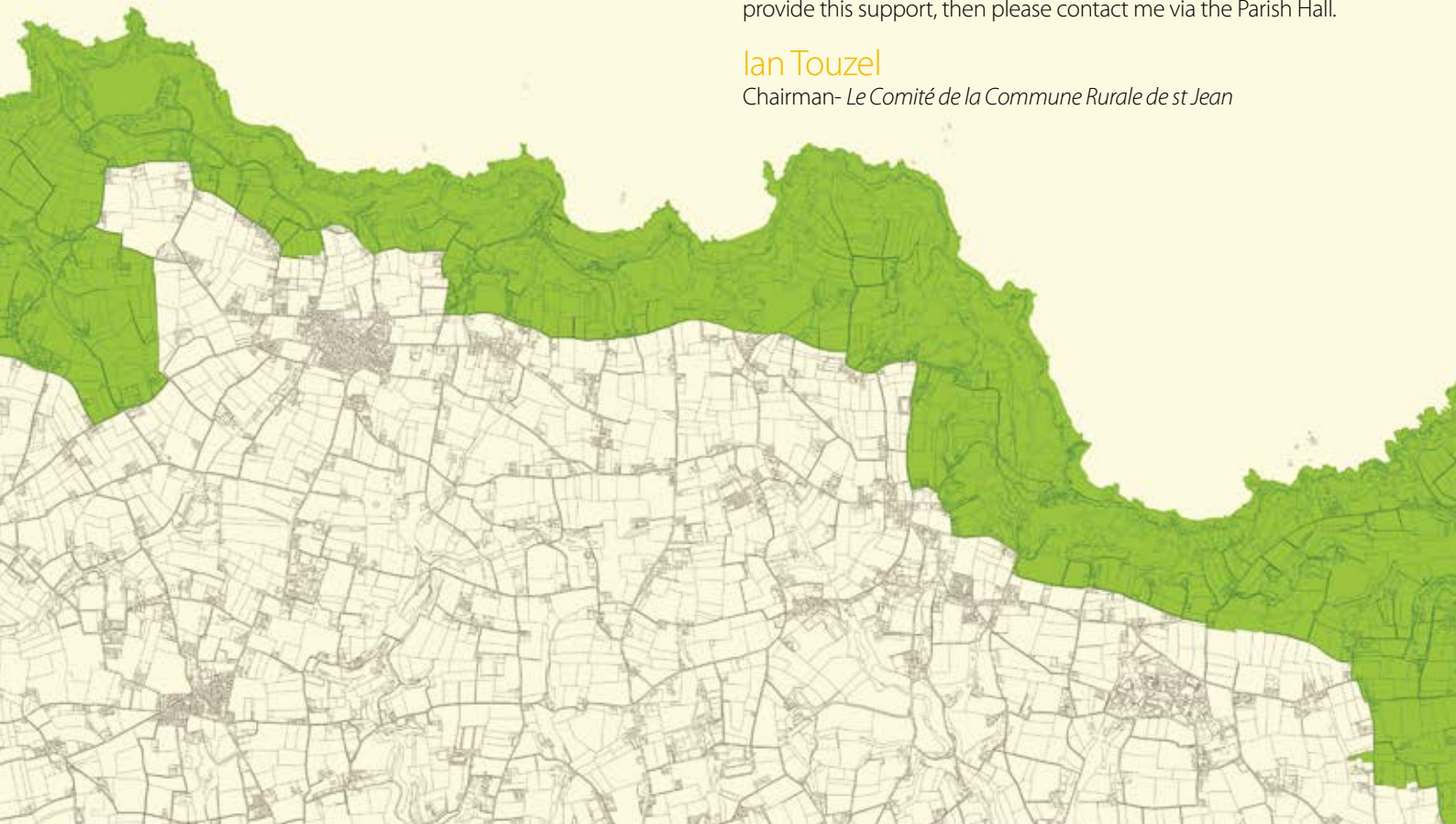
Coastal National Park (“CNP”) – a Boundary Review report was published in February this year and this document is a key element of the draft Bridging Island Plan. Within the boundaries of St John this would result in a significant increase in the land area and number of homes that will now be within the designated CNP. The Comité Rurale is concerned that the project team and consultants employed to produce the report do not appear to have consulted widely with the residents and landowners affected by this proposed change or the Jersey construction sector, and the report does not give adequate consideration to the economic and practical consequences for those affected.

The Map provided does not include road names, however hopefully there is sufficient detail to allow you to confirm if your property or land is within the proposed CNP boundary or not.

Vacancy – The Comité meets once a month on a Monday evening and needs some administrative support with the running of the Comité, minutes and correspondence. If you would like to join to provide this support, then please contact me via the Parish Hall.

Ian Touzel

Chairman- Le Comité de la Commune Rurale de St Jean





# NEWSLETTER

## Rights Respecting School Council Summer Term 2021

St. John's Primary School are currently working hard towards becoming a Silver Accredited Rights Respecting School. The Rights Respecting Schools Award recognises achievement in putting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) at the heart of a school's planning, policies, practice, and ethos. A rights-respecting school not only teaches about children's rights but also models rights and respect in all its relationships: between teachers / adults and pupils, between adults and between pupils.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child is the first legally binding international instrument to incorporate the full range of human rights—civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights. In 1989, world leaders decided that children needed a special convention just for them because people under 18 years old often need special care and protection that adults do not. The leaders also wanted to make sure that the world recognised that children have human rights too.

pecting School Council'. Elected children from Years 2-6 meet fortnightly to discuss the impact that the 'rights' are having within our school. We believe that listening to the pupils is of the highest priority and that their views should not only be listened to, but also acted upon. Therefore, as a school, we include the children in many of the decisions that we make. For example, the children shared their views about our school field to the elected government officials during a public enquiry. Also, the RRSC and the Eco school entered a competition where they were awarded a monetary prize. From this, they drew up a plan of how to spend the money to improve the local environment and create a design with the support of the PTA. As a result, a new outdoor sensory space/outdoor classroom was generated. The pupils invited members of the community to an opening ceremony to celebrate their success in winning this 'Environment Award'. These are just a couple of examples demonstrating how the voice of our pupils impacts on developing and improving St. John's School. We will keep you posted on any future developments and news from the RRSC.

Article 12 from the UNCRC: I have the right to be listened to and for my views to be taken seriously.

### The RRSC – The Rights Respecting School Council



## ST JOHN the WI

St John WI meet on the second Tuesday of every month except August when we generally enjoy a summer day out. Like all clubs and associations the passed 14 months have been challenging, when Covid restrictions permitted we managed to enjoy a few small events.

*We would love to meet any ladies who would like to join our St. Johns WI.*

From May 2021 we have now started having meetings back in the Parish hall. Please contact **Terina Le Couilliard** on **07797 741281** or email **tlecouilliard@yahoo.co.uk**.



Afternoon tea at St Brelades Bay Hotel was enjoyed by two separate Small groups in April 2021.



St John WI met for a picnic on St Martins Green in August 2020.



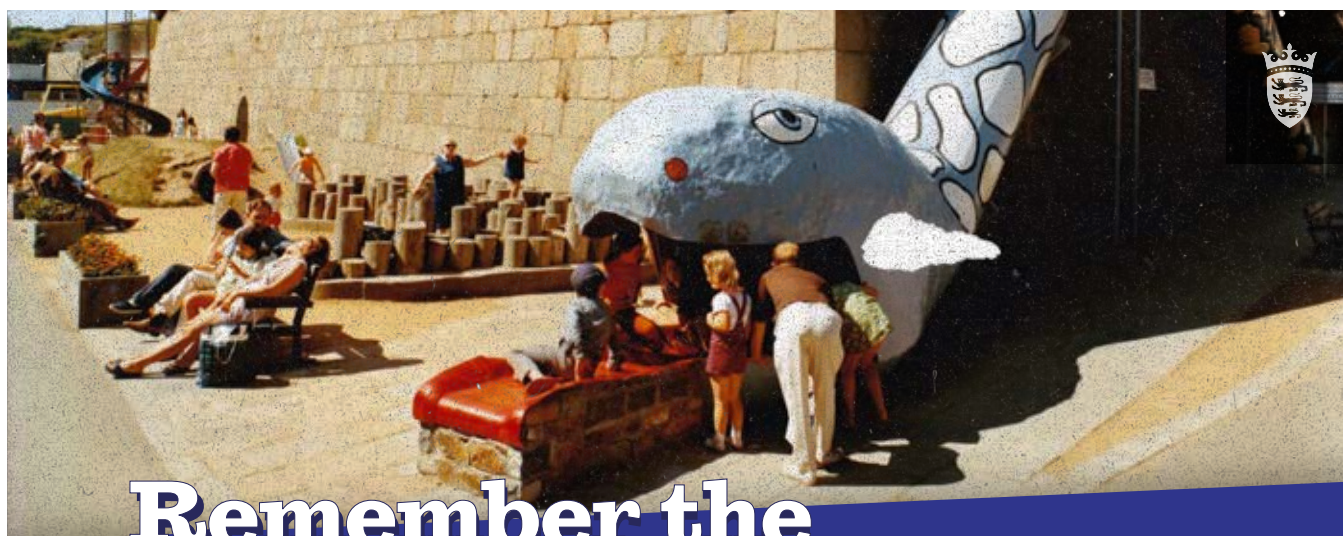
A very wet walk around St John





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## **Remember the good old days?**

Fort Regent is a key part of St Helier's skyline, steeped in history and, back in the day, was a top family attraction.

The Government of Jersey has shared a vision to transform Fort Regent into a first-class cultural and leisure destination, to be enjoyed by Islanders and tourists... and we want your views.

The opportunities for its future are endless. So, whatever your age and interests, be a part of designing the Future Fort.

Visit [gov.je/FutureFort](http://gov.je/FutureFort) to have your say.



# Jersey's Housing Challenges

Reflections from Deputy Pointon



A very warm welcome to our new Connétable Andy Jehan. The challenges confronting the Connétable especially in relation to the Bridging Island Plan are significant and the work of the Comité Rural in support of a general parish planning direction will assist the Connétable in establishing the part that St John will play in the future of our island community.

Much of the discussion has centered on a lack of affordable housing in the parish, not only for younger people, but also for people aged over fifty five looking to downsize. This affordability trap means that younger people may never own their own homes and older people selling realise insufficient surplus capital to fund a downsize.

How does the trap affect people? Some younger people have to continue to live with their parents or pay high rents in the open market and older people have to stay put preventing a possible family home re-entering the market to house a new family.

Many people wishing to buy simply do not have sufficient disposable income to save for a deposit, after paying rent. Some of these people have relatively high incomes, but are unable to make the leap to home ownership because they have limited disposable income.

This pandemic has allowed us a variety of experiences, some good and some bad, bad that our hospitality and retail industries have suffered, bad that people have been isolated from family and friends, bad that we have all been travel restricted along with the many, many more negative effects that have affected all of us.

I ask, with all these negatives what on earth could be considered a positive result of the pandemic?





Well, some businesses are developing new trading models, moving to local online fulfillment, i.e. food, clothing, pet supplies and household goods delivered to your home.

Families and friends have become used to maintaining relationships at a distance using their phones and other electronic devices. Businesses interacting online are going from strength to strength. The Government of Jersey and the States Assembly have for some time functioned at great pace in a virtual world and in many spheres still does, although States Meetings are gradually becoming physical events again.

## What has all this to do with the availability of affordable housing?

A great deal I have to say as I know of at least two people who have left this island because they were unable to afford a home in the market, the first being Jane's Jersey born cousin who was in the island throughout the occupation, worked as a Civil Servant for most of her working life and brought up two children, she had to rent what she considered to be her family home. She had never been able to afford to save to buy.

Once children were independent, she retired with a reasonable retirement lump sum that prompted her to move off the Island and buy a quiet village property in the West Midlands where she lives to this day. A decision taken in 'normal times'. Notably the retirement lump sum was not sufficient to secure a home here in Jersey.

Fast forward twenty five years and another woman, this time in her forties, who has lived in the island for thirty years, is working for an international finance company, and bringing up two Jersey born children whom she is funding through College and University and also has to pay 'market rent' is unable to save for a deposit that would allow her to obtain a mortgage.

As you would expect she does not qualify for social housing because her income is too great. She is feeling pretty trapped.

Then Covid 19 strikes and gradually work moves from the office to home where she is able to keep in touch with all the people around the world whose activities she is responsible for supervising. This is the Covid moment.

**Why should she struggle into the office every day when she can get straight down to work at home, reduce her carbon footprint and reduce her overall expenditure?**

**Furthermore, if she could move her centre of operation to a financially friendlier jurisdiction, continuing to work for the same company, why would she not consider making online virtual working the norm?**

The trigger point arrives when her landlord announces an increase in rent prompting a target move date.

With the now adult children catered for she decides to leave the island and resettle in the Midlands. The intention being to save for that elusive deposit and buy a property to which her children would also be able to resettle if they so wished.

I tell this true story because for many years a large section of this society has been property disenfranchised and the situation is deteriorating. We worry about our undergraduate and graduate students returning to the island, but if we do not address this crisis housing challenge we will lose them.

Jersey will lose many more productive people if parishes cannot facilitate the provision of affordable homes for hard working middle income families.





Since the last edition of the parish magazine, we have been ticking away from our base at St John Recreation Centre, trying to provide the young people with some normality in their youth sessions as the Covid restrictions continue to relax.

Young people have enjoyed many of our usual and regularly offered activities, from baking cookies and cakes, to enjoying a kick-around and other games on the incredible bit of green space we have access to outside of the centre. Our attendees have been grateful that we have been able to continue to provide them with "something to do, somewhere to go and someone to talk to." As a team, we too are very grateful that we have been able to provide support and development for these incredible groups of young people, and have been so very impressed with their commitment, their attitude towards extra rules and restrictions, and of course their patience with us during this unprecedented year. We truly are very blessed up here in St John.

Alongside our usual offer, we have recently been able to invite advice service Brook into the centre to be on hand for informal conversation with any young people who may have any questions regarding healthy relationships. The young people very much enjoyed being able to ask whatever came to their minds, however weird and/or wonderful. We believe this type of informal discussion to be vital in supporting our young people as they grow into young adults, discovering the world around them and experiencing all the changes that come with this life transition. We hope to provide some more formal, informational sessions with Brook leading into the summer. Thank you Brook, we learnt a lot and had fun in the process!

## Summer Programme

We are currently working on putting together our 'Summer Programme'. Traditionally, in the summer holidays, the project will mainly operate from outside of our base at St John Recreation Centre – and look to provide opportunities for our young people to get involved in a range of activities. Last year, for example, despite Covid restrictions, we were able to run several surfing sessions, coasteering and paintball to name a few. These activities are organised in line with what the young people request to be involved in, whilst also trying to challenge them and make the most of the usually long and lovely summer weather we experience in our beautiful island. We hope to release our summer programme and collect interest in the activities over the coming weeks, so keep an eye out should your young person wish to be involved! I look forward to updating you with what we get up to!

## Year 5

We are absolutely delighted that we have, finally, been able to welcome our next cohort of young people into the project – St John's Year 5 students. In a normal year, this group would have been invited to join us from September as they first transitioned into their new school year. With this in mind, I am sure you can only guess how excited they have been to join us for their first few nights at club, 8 months later than they would have liked! With the restrictions on group sizes being relaxed, we finally got the go-ahead to make their dreams a reality! We have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the new faces so far and look forward to supporting them through their youth club journeys over the coming years. If your young person is in Year 5 and is keen to join us, please contact the youth worker Mark for more information.

## Contact

If you have any questions or require further information about the youth project, please do contact **Mark** via [markpatterson@jys.je](mailto:markpatterson@jys.je) at your soonest convenience.

## Opening Times

Leading up to the summer holidays, we will continue to operate on the same days and timescales that can be seen below. If there are any changes then we will always do our best to ensure you are informed in due time. Entry fee for all sessions is £1, which goes straight back into supporting the day-to-day operation of the project.

<b>TUESDAY</b>	Intermediates	(Year 7 and Year 8)	<b>7pm to 9pm</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Seniors	(Year 9 +)	<b>7pm to 9pm</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	Juniors	(Year 5 and Year 6)	<b>7pm to 9pm</b>



# UPDATE





# The end of the road?

**Sometimes, it can feel that the debate over road speed is divisive. There is a host of stock characters: the nimby, the mamil, the gas-guzzling SUV, the frustrated sports car, the boy-racer... who all have their opinions about the freedom to drive or cycle unimpeded. Yet, most of us are just normal people who live on or near a road and all of us use the roads to get to where we want to be.**

In our parish, we are very lucky to have a lot of green space but sometimes straight country roads (major or minor) can be the worst kind for accidental speeding and thoughtless driving. When the roads are relatively straight it's easier to build up speed; we can't see any pedestrians, there are few cyclists, so what's the problem with driving at the speed limit?

I think the reason there are few pedestrians and cyclists out in our parish is because it is very frightening, and it feels dangerous to walk or cycle along many of our roads. Those who do are generally confident, able-bodied, adults and even for them, it is often unpleasant to feel squeezed between a high wall or verge and a vehicle travelling at 30 or 40 mph.

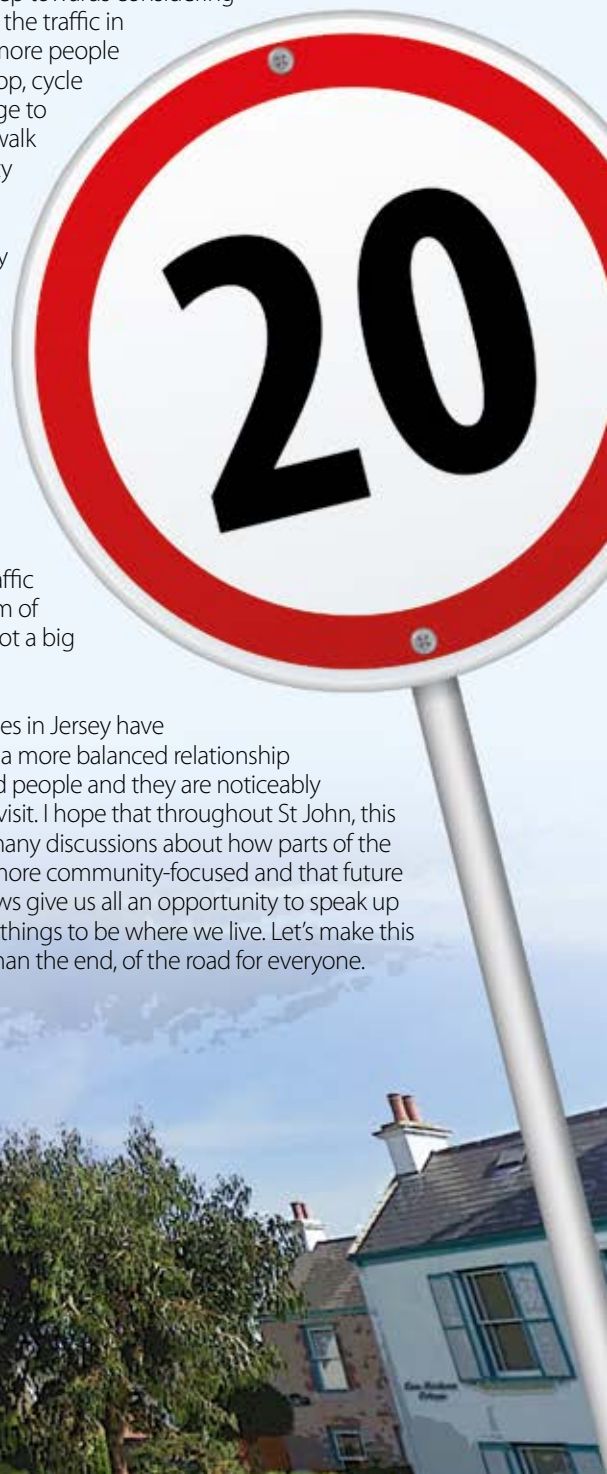
For the rest of us, children, those who are unsteady on our feet, wheelchair users, the hearing or sight impaired, the elderly, those with dogs that pull on the lead and adults pushing babies in pushchairs just don't often attempt it - and perhaps they are the very people who need safe, accessible, local roads the most. This might be why few pedestrians and ordinary cyclists use the roads: because none of these people feel that the roads are for them. It is taken as read: roads are for vehicles, not people. Strange as it may sound, however, this has not always been the case...

In recent times, people have seen the sense in reversing some of what, at first, looked like 'progress' when it first appeared: plastic bags, plastic packaging, fast fashion are just a few examples. What if we thought about roads more as really convenient pathways for people, rather than just for vehicles? Many of the roads we now use emerged from the paths and tracks between fields that our ancestors walked, rode and drove carts along. They enabled communities to come together. Yet now they divide communities. Of course I'm not suggesting that we all return to horses and carts, but there is a sense in which 'progress' has put the cart before the horse; the car before the people. Reversing this over-step is not only possible but it could bring many benefits to people in our parish.

**What if it were different?** What if 'going for a walk or cycle' didn't mean having to get in the car to drive somewhere else? If simply walking out of your front door felt possible and it was a nice thing to do, maybe we'd all do it more often? We might even bump into the neighbours, see the kids from down the road on their scooters, nip to the shop or have an evening stroll to the pub without having to worry about the car. Maybe, in time, businesses might start to see the potential in our smaller residential areas and a cafe or shop might open up because more people are around?

We have a unique opportunity now, thanks to the tireless work of a few individuals, to rethink how we use our roads and what we prioritise. No-one wants to prevent cars and traffic, we all benefit from vehicles, but we have a chance now to imagine a future where they do not dominate our residential spaces. The speed review in Sion is a first step towards considering whether slowing the traffic in order to enable more people to walk to the shop, cycle through the village to reach the lanes, walk to the community gardens, the pub or the church could bring many benefits to those of us who live here. And, let's be clear, if you're driving at 20 rather than 30 for the length of the village it might add 20 seconds to your journey to the traffic jam at the bottom of Queens Hill. It's not a big sacrifice.

Many other villages in Jersey have already achieved a more balanced relationship between cars and people and they are noticeably calmer places to visit. I hope that throughout St John, this initiative sparks many discussions about how parts of the parish could be more community-focused and that future road speed reviews give us all an opportunity to speak up for how we'd like things to be where we live. Let's make this the start, rather than the end, of the road for everyone.





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## THERE'S DESIGN AND THEN THERE'S STYLE



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# Occupation Stories

I was born in Guernsey on 26 June 1940, two days before the island was bombed. Mothers in the maternity hospital were told to get their babies from the nursery, in case it was hit. My Father was working at the harbour and a workmate just feet away from him was killed in the attack – I could have been fatherless at two days old!

My father (Dick Miller), a Guernsey man, had met my mother (Marjorie Bird from Birds Bakery) after a Muratti football match in Jersey in the 30's; they married in 1938 and settled in Guernsey.

By 1942 mother was expecting again, father didn't want to work for the Germans and food shortages were making life hard. Her family must have suggested trying to get to Jersey, where the bakery business made things a little easier. I remember my parents telling me they had to see the German Commandant to get permission, and this was granted, with the condition

that they could not return to Guernsey. My mother's brother, Harold, then applied to the Jersey Commandant and managed to get permission to take a pantechicon to Guernsey to bring back all their furniture - I still have their solid oak dining table and chairs and the bill showing they were hand made in London in 1938 for the princely sum of £14-10s!

They were not given a specific day to travel

and had to go to the harbour to see if there was a boat going to Jersey. Eventually, on 23 April 1942, a lovely sunny day, we left Guernsey on a river barge. I was 22 months old and my mother told me that the German sailors were kind and piled boxes of Guernsey flowers around my pram to shade me from the sun. It must have been a relief to arrive safely and to show me off to my Jersey grandparents for the first time.

During the rest of the occupation my father worked at the Summerland factory, making shoes and sabots and after the Liberation he joined the family bakery doing the delivery rounds. They were a very happy loving couple and had 61 years of married life together.

I'm not sure how many people were allowed to move from one island to the other during the occupation, or if we were just very lucky to have been given permission to do so. Certainly, at every census the apparent inconsistency between my place of birth and number of years of residence in Jersey is queried!

My father & mother made friends with one of the British liberating soldiers, Wally Moore. They invited him & his wife Vi on holidays in Jersey. Also every year dad & mum sent them a Christmas cake until the late 1980's.

**Patricia Donne Davis** (née Miller)



My Yoga classes are called hot yoga with Zelia up at St John's Recreation Centre.

# Hot Yoga

with Zelia

**Sunday morning new time 8am**  
**Mondays and Thursdays 6:30pm**

It is a 1 hour 30m class, but once in the yoga room it does not feel that long, obviously it is hot, but I do adjust the temp to comfort of the students, by turning the heaters off throughout the class open the windows and the door accordingly. It is a very friendly environment and group of people that love practicing yoga and have a very strong connection and energy, it suits all level's, and we adjust the postures and also have a fun.

To improve or even to just maintain flexibility, strength and overall wellness, it allows the body to de-toxify and get rid of stress and simply just have -Me time- as time is so precious and looking after ourselves is so important.

Yoga is not a competition just simply a way to make us feel great physically and mentally.

**Namaste.**

Contact for more information Zelia:  
**zelialeca81@gmail.com**



# Community Allotments

by Martin Whitley

Life on St John Community Allotments moves on apace to match the demands of nature. Usually the risk of frost has passed by now, and with longer days there comes more sunshine and time to be on the allotment. Though the droughts, wind and frost of May made us all wonder when the sunshine and warmth would come. The site is full and we have a waiting list of Parishioners for a plot. The latest to join the allotment team are Alice and Adrian who recently took on a vacated plot earlier in the year. We are truly a microcosm of society with young allotmenters like Darcie-Wren who appeared in our last Parish magazine to those who have been retired for... well many years. The occupations and interests of our part of the Parish are varied and interesting.

## But what is everyone doing in June?

### HARVESTING

Beetroot, broad beans, cabbage, cauliflower, early peas, lettuce, rhubarb, spring onions, radish, spinach can all start to be harvested now. Lifting the earliest potatoes towards the end of the month and continue earthing up the rows of your other varieties is for many an exciting time with dreams of a 'good feed of Jersey spuds'. I noticed that many took the chance of early planting and have sadly suffered the late frosts of May.

June is the end of the asparagus season, so time to stop cutting and give the plants a top dressing of general fertiliser to help build up the crowns for next year. But we start to harvest the first of our soft fruits.

### Sowing and Planting

Successional sowings of beetroot, lettuce and winter cabbage seeds can all be done now – following the instructions on the back of the seed packets, but it is worth starting them off in trays indoors and then transferring them outside after a couple of weeks. Sowing every 2 - 4 weeks for a continual supply of produce.

Brussels sprouts, cabbages, cauliflowers, celeriac, courgettes, outdoor cucumbers, French and runner beans, leeks, pumpkins, squashes, sweet corn, outdoor tomatoes are all being or are already planted out into their final position now. As with all young plants watering carefully and protecting from birds with netting.

### General

- Hoe at every opportunity to remove weeds and break-up the soil is the favourite pastime of our allotmenters. A little sarcasm there perhaps!

- Training climbing beans and continuing to put in supports for the peas whilst watering along the rows of peas to swell the developing pods.
- A few plots have a 'cloche' and are now watching they don't dry out or overheat.

### Pests and Diseases

Many will be watching out for aphids (black fly on broad beans and greenfly on various crops) and thrips on brassicas and spraying the plant with soapy water (diluted washing up liquid) or squashing the flies with their thumb and finger. Whilst others will be wondering what an aphid is. Carrot fly is a particular problem between May and September – when female flies lay their eggs. There are varieties of carrots on the market that have been bred to be more resistant to carrot fly, but none are 100% proof. But our soil is a little bit 'thick' for carrots and not many allotmenters grow them.

Cabbage root fly is attacking the roots of the brassicas. Female flies lay the eggs on the surface of the soil next to the stem of the plant. When transplanting out young plants, some place a piece of carpet (or cardboard or fleece) around the base of the plant to create a collar, this will stop the flies from laying their eggs on the soil.

There will be many other challenges for our allotmenters but one thing we can be sure the allotments will be busy and nature will challenge us all.

As always if you are a Parishioner and interested in an allotment pick up an application form from St John's Parish Hall. Be warned that there is a waiting list for this very special pastime.







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Our Hospital

[ourhospital.je](https://ourhospital.je)

# The Green Willow

## environmentally friendly gifts

Whilst some of us spent lockdown watching box sets, two St John's Mums developed a brand new Company and website, The Green Willow. Clara and Shelley's company mushroomed from a playground idea to a fully fledged business in only a few months, starting just after the first lockdown ended.

The initial idea was to look at a gift/gift hamper business, but it was their children that inspired them to look at environmentally friendly gifts. The Company name was also inspired by our planet and the need to look after it, both women love the beauty and symbolism of a Willow tree. To compliment the business name the baby gift hampers are given the names of trees.



After doing copious amounts of research, Clara and Shelley noticed a distinct lack of safe, good quality baby items such as dummy clips. So, a huge amount of time has been spent verifying the quality of products they offer, ensuring not just safety but also that products are eco/fairtrade/organic/earth friendly. The whole ethos of The Green Willow is that all products, including the packaging is environmentally friendly

This love of our planet and wanting to protect it for our children was reinforced when research into products found some startling information, such as the first toothbrush was developed in the 1930s and will take approximately a thousand years to decompose. The Company has found a reasonably priced alternative in bamboo toothbrushes that together with their packaging are completely compostable.

They both have favourite products, one being the Eco party bags, instead of being stuffed with plastic, they include seed bombs, twig colouring pencils and educational but fun activities. As parents of young children, Clara and Shelley wanted to be able to offer an alternative that would not end up in landfill and take hundreds of years to decompose. They hope that the activities provided will engage children for longer than the not so fantastic plastic toys and encourage play and chat, particularly with the scavenger hunt and seed bomb!

Another favourite product is the Wooden teething rings that have been branded with the company name. Shelley felt that the pressure to buy gifts for new babies can lead to people spending a small fortune, but these teething rings are only £3.50 and are presented in a gift made from recycled card.

The ring was branded by a local company Purple Panda, and they love to work with other local businesses and also sell locally handmade organic soaps, macrame rainbows....and more.

If you needed any more incentive to visit The Green Willow, Clara and Shelley offer free delivery on all products to any St John address!

Their website is

[www.thegreenwillow.co.uk](http://www.thegreenwillow.co.uk)

and Facebook page is The Green Willow Jsy



The Green Willow





# School life in the parish during the occupation

by Sarah Grigson

With 120 years educating the children of the parish, St John's school has long been a central part of the local community. One ex-pupil, Mrs Joan Tapley, née Rondel, recalls her school life there during the Occupation.



Joan started at St John's School in 1937, shortly before she turned five. Her mother had an old green coat which her Gran unpicked and turned inside out to provide her with a new coat in the school colours. On her first day, her Mother sat her on the carrier on the back of her bike and pedalled her from their house, north of Haute Croix on La Rue du Bechet ès Cats, to the school gate where she was met by some cousins.

Under the watchful eye of the Headmaster, Mr Journeaux, the school pushed their pupils hard. If they were bright, they moved up the classes rapidly and could be in the top class by the time they were eight and a half. Joan was one who was singled out and within four months of starting school she was receiving an extra 30-minutes of tutoring at lunchtime.

By aged seven, she was cycling herself to school. She would pedal an extra quarter of a mile past the school to leave her bike at her aunt's farm, rather than pile it up with her schoolmates' bikes in the shed in the girls' playground. She'd then have to run back to school in order not to be late.

*"You knew everyone, as you walked everywhere," Joan recalls. "I knew everyone between home and school, and beyond. And everyone knew everybody's business."*

During the Occupation, knowing each other's business could have spelt trouble, as Joan points out. *"Friends had five kids and had Germans billeted on them, but the kids never revealed any secrets. They killed a pig illegally once a year; they would keep it in the cellar and feed it like mad. It never made a sound as it was so well fed and happy!"*



Joan, front left, standing near the school

Another friend of the family in the vicinity hid his lorry under a heap of straw for the duration of the war. *"The kids never told. We knew where there was a Russian boy that people were keeping as one of their family. Nobody ever said a word. It was a secret, and a secret must be kept. It must have been instilled in us kids."*

Joan's house was in the military zone. Right from the start of the Occupation, the Germans started to mine the cliffs along the north coast, putting up wire fences and warning signs. Joan had a young beagle called Gyp and one day her Mother asked her, *"Have you got Gyp with you?" "No,"* Joan replied. Then they heard an explosion from the cliffs behind them. Gyp had gone up to the coast to go rabbiting and stepped on a mine.

One difficulty for parents of young children was what to do at Christmas time. *"Parents told their kids that Father Christmas couldn't come as the Germans would shoot him down!"* Joan remembers. *"Occasionally he managed to bring something small, but the children were told not to talk about it."* As new toys were scarce, parents used to swap old toys through the Evening Post's Exchange and Mart.

The occupying forces made German a compulsory lesson at school. A Swiss lady, Miss Bocklinger, came to teach the St John's pupils and Joan recalls learning German folk songs. *"Some parents threatened their kids – 'Don't you learn any German!' so those children would mime the songs and the others would sing louder to cover."*

Opposite the school was St John's Hotel where a branch of Organisation Todt were billeted. Joan remembers one of the German officers coming to the school to listen to the youngest class sing. Their teacher, Miss de la Haye, played the piano and the children sang 'O Tannenbaum' and 'Die Lorelei'. *"The German sat there with his little spaniel next to him. He was fat, twice the size of anyone we knew, and at a time when we locals were tightening our belts."*

Indeed, what Joan remembers most about her childhood in the Occupation was everybody trying to put food on the table. During the school week she would have a lunch of soup with her aunt who lived nearby. Her mother would give her five slices of bread on a Monday and Joan would have one per day. In trying to keep the family fed, her mother used to say to her father, *"Jé m'casse la tête!"* a local saying that literally meant she was breaking her head, as she was so worried.

Keeping hold of any food you did have, was another problem. *"Our hens were near the road and as soon as you heard the cackle to say they'd laid an egg you had to run and get it, so it wasn't stolen. We kept our hens in barrels at night, with bamboo perches my father made. We would bring them into the*

*scullery overnight. One evening, near the end of the war, we forgot to bring them in. We came home in the pitch black, and all the hens had been stolen. It was probably the Germans as they were starving at this point."*

St John's was well known as a good school, and as a keen student, Joan had to work very hard to keep up with all the schoolwork. *"I used to get up at 5am to get my homework finished,"* she recalls. Her hard work paid off, as in 1944, after two and a half years in the top class, she took the 11+ exam and came second in the island. She won a scholarship to Jersey College for Girls and her name was inscribed on the scholarship honours board in the school hall at St John's where it remained until the board was removed years later.

*Now, more than 75 years on, Joan is a teacher herself, teaching Jèrriais to a group of students to help keep up the language.*



Joan, aged 7



# Green shoots start to appear

## The **GROW** Project

by Sheena Brockie

Deep in the heart of Jersey is a very special parcel of land. The seed of an idea only first imagined in December 2020 is now a fully blown horticultural project with huge potential – impactful in so many different ways.

Grow aims to create Jersey's most inclusive community horticultural project through the sensitive transformation of agricultural land into a regenerative, sustainable and multi-crop

environment, and we aim to harness that by building a strong community around our fully functioning smallholding.

The Grow project is situated in field H1115, due north from Surville Cemetery at Sion, and is owned by the Parish of St Helier who have entrusted the land to us for community benefit, and whose help and support have been invaluable to the project. When Grow took over the field it was under a cover crop of mustard and radishes. With the help of Jersey Royal, the cover was cut and returned to the soil to provide nutrients, ploughed and sown with a clover/grass crop. A blank canvas on which to launch the project!

Fast forward three months and our initial tranche of tree planting has been completed, thanks to the support of the St Helier Youth and Community Foundation, who have 'seeded' the project. We follow a type of silvoarable agroforestry known as 'Alley Cropping'.

This method integrates trees and crops within the same field, and we have planted a large mix of differing fruit and nut trees to offer local food diversity. The tree planting was carried out with a mix of community, business and school groups over a three-week period in April. Each tree was given its own identity by the tree planter, a name by which it will be known going forward, and its location within the field was mapped on What.Three.

Words. This also allows us to record other actions such as pruning, fruit yield and biodiversity monitoring over time to create a 'life history' of that particular tree. We're excited to be able to follow these individual journeys from saplings to mature, fruit laden specimens.



smallholding. It is being tended by the community for the benefit local biodiversity, whilst providing nutritional food to those who do not readily have access. We will aim to make a significant positive impact on the physical and mental wellbeing of Islanders whilst also providing an in-depth education programme (from pre-school age through to adult education), as well as provide an awareness on issues such as the effects of biodiversity loss, the climate emergency, sustainable transport and responsible soil management. Research has identified that there is a real interconnectedness between human well-being and the natural





The majority of the field boundaries are thick with mature native trees and hedgerows, a defining feature of our rural landscape in Jersey. Hedgerows are super important as they provide food and shelter for the island's wildlife, and act as corridors connecting fractured habitats. One of the projects we have completed with volunteers this year is planting a 45-metre section of missing hedgerow, using blackthorn and hawthorn whips purchased from the Jersey Trees for Life cheap tree scheme.

Hedgerows are also vital for healthy and diverse pollinator populations. Pollinators are vital for food production and biodiversity, but globally they are in severe decline. To this end we have been working with our volunteers to sow large pollinator patches in the centre of our tree alleys, where our growing beds will be in the future. These pollinator patches will always form part of our core crop rotation plans.

We have built a comprehensive monitoring plan as we'd love to prove the effects on the biodiversity of the field as we farm



regeneratively. We are carrying out earthworm counts, botany surveys, butterfly transects, bird, bat, small mammal and reptile surveys as well as soil sampling; something we hope to offer put to our wider volunteers shortly.

Lockdown has reminded us of the restorative impact getting outdoors can have. We want to harness the positive energy of 'Vitamin Nature' and create a nurturing, inclusive environment where people can benefit from the physical and mental wellbeing that comes from being outside and connected to nature, growing, harvesting, collaborating and learning new skills. By working together and taking a holistic approach we can make meaningful changes. Grow is a positive force for good – for both people and the planet.

Loneliness and isolation are rapidly increasing social issues in Jersey, with increasingly younger people identifying as feeling lonely or isolated. Gardening with Grow is a wonderful community activity and regular attendance will bring a real sense of belonging and purpose to many of all ages, helping to build self-esteem and confidence, communication skills and a real sense of purpose.

Volunteers and visitors are at the very core of the project. We have huge plans and believe we can provide an amazing project on so many levels, but we cannot do that without an amazing group of volunteers. On Wednesday evenings we continue with our watering gang – making sure our 100 fruit and nut trees are kept well hydrated. For the next few weeks we are concentrating on the admin side of the project but will soon be throwing open the gates for volunteers to help with monitoring, sowing more pollinator patches and underplanting the trees with fruit bushes, herbs and flowers.



Keep up to date by following  
**@growjersey** on social media.





This Summer marks the end of 50 years of active service in the Honorary Police for one well known Parish resident. In June, on reaching his 75th birthday, Philip Rondel has to retire. He hopes this will not mean the end of his service to the Parish as there are other roles which are not age dependant.

Philip recently met with me and the conversation roamed over his voluntary work in the Honorary Police, initially in the Parish of St Helier from 1970 to 1980 and then from 1983 in his birth Parish of St John.

From 1973, Philip was a Centenier in St Helier and responsible for presenting cases in Court. St Helier, being a very busy Parish, meant a lot of work for the Centeniers. In those early days they worked closely with the CID of the States Police in investigating and prosecuting cases. One of the officers Philip worked closely with was Peter Turner who eventually became Deputy Chief Officer of the States Police. One of the high profile investigations they worked on was the Paisnel case.

Another time Philip had to go to Paris to bring back a married couple who had served time for offences in France but were also wanted in Jersey. He went with a male and female officer from the States Police but Philip was the only one who could speak French and before the French magistrate would release them to Jersey's custody, Philip had to present the case to the French Court. He was successful in 8 out of the 9 cases against them and having brought his charges back to Jersey, Philip was given the honour of presenting the case in the Royal Court.



# *Celebrating* **50** **YEARS** *of active service*

We have to remember that all this service is voluntary and at the same time he was building up his successful business as a plumbing and heating engineer and bringing up a young family. He would like to pay tribute to his wife, Wendy, as without her support he could never have run a business and done all his voluntary work.

One of Philip's abiding interests is the sea. He spent a year in the Merchant Navy and later passed his skills on as an Instructor for a few years with the Sea Cadets. He has been a member of the Royal Yachting Association since 1970 as well as a member of the RNLI since the same time. He is presently a Governor of that Association. Locally he has been involved with the Bonne Nuit Boat Owners, has been a Trustee of the Channel Islands Air Search and also of the Jersey Lifeboat Association. Until 2016 he held a

# Philip Rondel





RYA/MCA Yacht master Commercial Certificate, but this could not be renewed because of ill health. Philip has given years of his time to all these organisations along with his Parish commitment.

From 1983 he has been continuously involved

in serving St John's Parish. He has served in most roles except those of Procureur and Roads Inspector, perhaps saving those for "retirement". Apart from the police roles he has served two terms as Deputy for St John from 1994 to 2014 with a short break in the middle. In 2014 he was elected to the highest office in the Parish, that of Connetable. Within Government he chaired or sat on a number of Committees and Scrutiny Panels. For instance, the Jersey Transport Authority for air and sea routes, regularly meeting with the French, English and Guernsey Authorities.



His favourite role was that of Connetable because as well as the political element, he was dealing daily with Parish affairs and parishioners and that was the most fulfilling aspect. Over the years in Parish matters there have been many changes. Some things have perhaps been made easier but others more difficult, as for instance Data Protection Laws can make it harder to identify individuals who may need help. He is proud that under

his administration the Recreation Centre was given help and the playground beside the Church was established. Both of these providing facilities for children and young people.

One of Philip's roles in St John for several years was Civil Emergency Liaison Officer. I am sure in the years up to 2008 when he was in this role, a Global Pandemic because of Covid19, which closed down much of the world, was not really envisaged. In reality that is what the Parish authorities and the Island Government have been dealing with over the past 14 months. It has meant much extra work but the successes have been very satisfying. There was much cooperation between Parishes and this may be a blueprint for the future.

Philip and Wendy have always worked as a team and had the support of their children and their families. Wendy was instrumental in founding the Golden Age Club for Senior Citizens and for many years ran the Poppy Appeal and Remembrance Coffee Morning for the Parish. Philip is an elder Statesman and a fund of knowledge for those younger people who offer their services today. The Honorary Police may have to lose his active service but there are other roles he could fulfil and we offer our gratitude for all he has given to the Parish and the Island.



# onnel

By Rosemary Bleasby



## Introducing THE JERSEY SOCIETY IN LONDON

Celebrating its 125th anniversary in 2021

Founded in 1896, the Jersey Society in London is an association for people interested in Jersey life – past, present and future. Originally intended for people living in and around London, today's members are much more widespread, including many in the Island itself.

The Society has and continues to provide a link for folk with a Jersey connection. During the Occupation it served as a vital support to the many local societies set up around Britain for the benefit of refugees from the Channel Islands.

Three main meetings are held each year – in February, May, and October. The venue is usually the Vincent Rooms, Westminster Kingsway College, Vincent Square, London SW1P 2PD ([www.thevincentrooms.com](http://www.thevincentrooms.com)). Members and guests can enjoy a drink and socialise before having supper, followed by a presentation from an invited speaker. An additional fixture is an annual Boules Match with members of the Guernsey Society.

2021 marks the 125th Anniversary of the Society and a special dinner in planned for October, details of which will be published nearer the time.

### The Bulletin

The Society's 40 page Bulletin, printed in colour, is published twice a year.

*Copies are posted to members as part of their subscription.*

Regular features include reports of Society meetings, articles of Jersey interest both contemporary and historical, reviews of new books by the editor and other contributors, and a wry end-piece by Barbara de Caux. Perhaps the most avidly read section is a digest of Jersey news over the previous six months by Rod McLoaghlin which offers a balanced and gently sceptical perspective on Island events.

*Contributions from members and others are always welcome.*

### Becoming a member

The annual subscription is payable on 1st January: £10 (standard), £5 (students) or £15 (for family membership). New members are always welcome.

To join and for more information, please visit our website at [www.jerseysocietyinlondon.org](http://www.jerseysocietyinlondon.org)

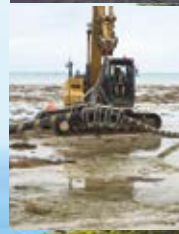
*The Spring 2020 Bulletin featured two interesting and well illustrated meeting reports: Georgina Malet De Carteret on The National Trust for Jersey, and Jonathan Renouf on Jersey and Climate Change*



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# HOROSCOPES by Mystic Greg

## the only clairvoyant fisherman in Bonne Nuit!

I have spent many an evening glaring up at the constellations while bobbing on my faithful little vessel around Cheval Rock. I have always felt their calling and an urge to unlock the mysteries they hold. Then during a particularly clear night in lockdown the whole world and its meaning became apparent. Combining this with the ancient art of seaweed reading the Bonne Nuit Horoscope series was born. So read on and unlock what your future holds!

### ARIES March 21-April 20

Your brave nature can lead down two paths, like trying an extra hot curry from the restaurant on the pier. It can blow your world literally or pass smoothly and open a new world of cuisine. The seaweed reads that fortune favours the bold, and if you don't succeed there's always another tide later in the day. Never give up!

### TAURUS April 21 to May 20

You are like the granite of the bay, tough, steadfast and often scratches my boat. A fender is often useful to act as a buffer when I come to land the catch. Find your fender over the next few weeks to keep the results positive.

### GEMINI May 21-June 20

Very few know there is a direct connection between the position of the planets and the crispiness of seaweed on the sand of the beach. When Uranus is close to earth beware of the extra crispiness of the vraic.

### CANCER June 21 to July 22

Cancerians always feel empowered when near Bonne Nuit waters and no more so than this month when the little nippers have snipped 3 of 10 of my pots, blighters!! Now is the time to show your strength and harness the power of home.

### LEO July 23 to Aug 22

The skies have been clear and the cormorants flying in particularly interesting patterns. It can only mean one thing, now's the time to roll the dice and test your luck.

### VIRGO Aug 23 to Sept 22

Limpets are clever things, they know when to open up, stick tight and make their move when all's safe. Virgos might benefit from being a bit more limpet in the near future.

### LIBRA Sept 23 to Oct 22

It's important to keep your balance on a boat, especially if there's a bit of swell and a few cans of Mary Ann to wet the whistle. Keep your thoughts and deeds balanced or you might end up overboard.

### SCORPIO Oct 23 to Nov 22

I've seen some spectacular sunrises and sunsets on my boat. All celestial movements are planned and choreographed and as a Scorpio you like to make plans and be busy, but sometimes acting on the spur of the moment can be just as fun, give it a try.

### SAGITTARIUS Nov 23 to Dec 21

You can often see two full moons in the bay. One in the sky and one when I join the many sea swimmers. I find it even more refreshing 'au naturelle'. It is, while swimming, I get to examine the seaweed and do my best work, multitasking if you will. Take the opportunity to get the most out of every day and every activity it will reap dividends.

### CAPRICORN Dec 22 to Jan 19

Love can not be predicted but it is possible to decode its intentions through examining the seaweed. At dawn take some shoreline seaweed that is fresh and clean from the bay, spin 3 times clockwise and throw it over your left shoulder. The letters the seaweed spell will be in the name of your loved one. If you are not too dizzy to read them.

### AQUARIUS Jan 20 to Feb 19

The wind and tides have been lively in the bay recently so a favourable outcome is possible but caution must be advised not to jump too quickly off the pier and allow others to join the fun with you.

### PISCES Feb 20 March 20

As a water sign, and as the sea waters warm up so does your energy and drive to succeed. Try something new and it'll go swimmingly.







# JAYF

Jersey Association for Youth and Friendship



JAYF is kindly supported by



**AZTEC GROUP**

# Les Chasses *La Rue des Chasses, St John*

On Sunday 4th July Les Chasses, the home of David Roberts, will be the second of this year's series of private gardens open to the public in aid of Jersey Association for Youth and Friendship. JAYF is a small local charity providing safe and secure accommodation for vulnerable young adults and is celebrating its 60th anniversary



Les Chasses is a beautiful old Jersey granite house surrounded by a delightful parkland garden which has undergone a considerable amount of work over the past few years.

The house is approached by a box-lined driveway leading to a courtyard containing a planted cider crusher and a characterful old pump. The lawn to the side of Les Chasses has beautifully planted herbaceous and mixed borders and trees leading to the walled garden at the rear of the house. A lavender coloured wisteria covers both wall and house and the trees include a magnificent tulip tree (Liriodendron), weeping willow (Salix), ginkgo (Ginkgo biloba), apple (Malus domestica) as well as palms and various magnolias.



The bamboo and camellia lined path at the rear of the garden leads to the Pine Walk and on to the spring-fed pond where rafts of ducks have made their home. There is an abundance of wildlife to enjoy in the bucolic setting of the garden and Neil and Ali from Birding Tours ( Jersey ) will be leading a guided tour around the grounds.

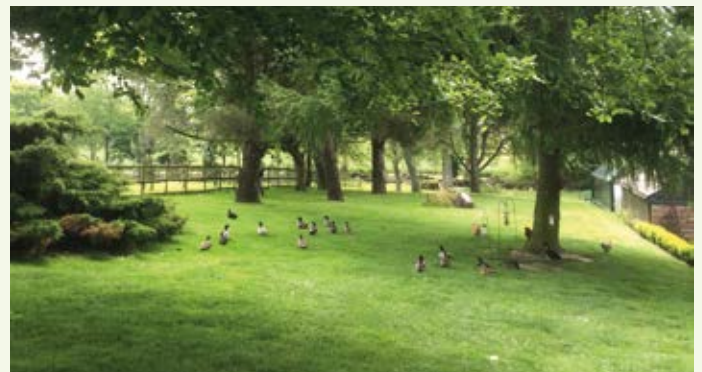
Amble back along the tree lined walk where many pines (Pinus sylvestris) have been planted in order to encourage

a squirrel corridor. A vegetable garden, greenhouse and a lawn planted with larch, spruce and pines and a sunken garden lead to the tea area where our usual delicious Jersey cream teas are available.

**Please come along to explore and enjoy this glorious garden which will be open between 2pm – 5pm. Admission £5.00**

All proceeds raised go to JAYF to provide safe and homely subsidised accommodation to young people aged between 18 and 25 years who would otherwise be homeless through no fault of their own. With limited hostel places available, JAYF's housing is now in higher demand than ever, so the charity is planning to purchase a fifth hostel to reduce the number of islanders on their waiting list.

In the meantime, for more



information about the Open Gardens and other fundraising initiatives, please visit JAYF Open Garden page on Facebook or get in touch with **Sally Langlois** at [enquiries@jayf.org.je](mailto:enquiries@jayf.org.je).

## JAYF Open Gardens 2021

### SUNDAY 20TH JUNE

Beau Desert, La Rue de la Garenne, Trinity JE3 5FE

### SUNDAY 4TH JULY

Les Chasses, La Rue des Chasses, St John JE3 4EE

### SUNDAY 11TH JULY

Domaine des Vaux, La Rue de Bas, St Lawrence JE3 1JG

### SUNDAY 18TH JULY

Woodlands court, La Route des Cotils, Grouville JE3 9AP

### SUNDAY 1ST AUGUST

St John's Manor, Rue de la Mare Ballam, St John JE3 4EH

### SUNDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER

Oaklands, La Rue d'Elysée, St Peter JE3 7DT



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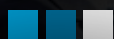


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# Upholding a Legacy

## 101 Years of St John's FC

For over 100 years, St. John's FC has graced the parish's every other Saturday afternoon. From the inaugural match in 1919, the club has been a constant, and an important component within the local community.



Andy Moon - First team manager, John Medcalf - Goalkeeper coach  
Barry Hardisty - Assistant Manager, Nigel Perree - President, Paul Cotillard - Secretary

The club is made up of a small committee - who are all volunteers - and 85 players. Players represent **"The Johnnies"** First, Reserve, Over-35, and Walking Football teams. Paul Cotillard, the Club's Secretary, is the longest serving member, and has had connections with the parish through his Grandad, and Mother who used to run the village café. When asked what he'd like to tell parishioners about the club in their 101st year, he said **"St. John's parish and football club has been an important part of my life for a few generations now. It was the first club I had ever signed for in 1992, and I've continued my run**

**ever since, earning a spot on the club's committee in the early 2000s. It's an honour to be involved with such a highly-regarded club, to support players aged 16 and over, (right up to 58 in Luis Bento's case!) and our community of members are incredibly dedicated to the success of this great football club."**

### Exciting news for The Recreation Centre

The committee's ambition to provide first-rate facilities, to improve the players and coaches, has proved their desire and willingness to fundraise to be exceptional. The club received an incredible boost from the FA, when earlier this year a donation of £10,000 was awarded to St. John's FC, to improve the playing surface at their home venue, The Recreation Centre. However, in order to attain such a lucrative investment, the club must commit a further £5,000 to secure the coveted funding package.

Naturally, the club's players and volunteers have rallied to contribute via "subs" (an annual contribution to support the running of the club) and other collective incentives, such as raffles, prize draws and competitions. When asked how difficult he thought it would be to raise the money, Nigel Perree, Club President and parish resident, responded by saying that **"It'll be worth all of our time and effort if we can improve the club's and the parish's facilities. The JFA are doing great things with the Jersey Bulls, so this is a really great opportunity for the Parish's future**

**footballing stars, as well as our current crop of players and coaches. The funding will go a long way. We've struggled for some time with the playing surface, be it mole hills, weeds, goal mouths with little or no grass, it hasn't always been the best location to display close control and skills. We hope that is now a thing of the past."**

*More on that over the next few issues.*





## The Jayson Lee Memorial Match

As we all know life is short and full of sad moments. As it was when Jayson Lee died unexpectedly during a Veterans' Football League match in 2009. It was shocking to all of those who knew him and had played with him.

Ever since, a commemorative match has been held each year, and The Recreation Centre played host this time round in April. A team is selected, still with players from the same side as Jayson, alongside representatives of St John's FC, to compete against a team from the States of Jersey Police, where Jayson worked.

As ever, this year's memorial match was presided over by members of Jayson's family, including his son Dylan, now aged 18. Dylan has represented – and scored! – for St. John in this match for the last two seasons, breaking the deadlock with a clinical strike from the penalty spot.

St. John earned a comfortable victory, coming out with a 7 – 0 triumph, and some familiar names on the scoresheet: Arthur Illingworth and Carl Duncan scored twice each, Josh Lamy and Richard Moulson also found the net, and of course, Dylan Lee, Jayson's son with a memorable and fitting strike.

Jayson's family continue to raise money for Jersey Hospice, and you can show your support at the Jayson Lee 10k Memorial Run on Sunday 15th August 2021, starting at 9am from FB Fields. More information on the event can be found at

[www.jerseyhospicecare.com/event/jayson-lee-10k-memorial-run/](http://www.jerseyhospicecare.com/event/jayson-lee-10k-memorial-run/).

## Walking Football... Invincibles?

Scoring goals never gets old. Aimed at players over the age of 55, and hosted at Springfield Stadium on Sunday mornings, the Santander International JFA Walking Football season has seen St. John take the league by storm. Recently crowned champions of the inaugural season, The Johnnies must remain focused, as they are just one game away from playing all 16 without ever tasting defeat! We wish them the best of luck in their final game of the season against Rozel Rovers.



Adrian Huet & Jack Guille

## A Token of Our Appreciation

In testing and unpredictable times, the unwavering support of our sponsors has been absolutely vital to the survival of our club. We would like to take this opportunity to extend a massive thank you to our brilliant sponsors; Trevor Griggs of Advisa Wealth, and Steve Romeril of AC Mauger. Their kind donations enable St. John's FC to compete in four local leagues, providing opportunity to players of all ages and abilities.

## Fancy Joining In?

In preparation for the 2021/2022 season, we'd be thrilled to welcome any new members in joining our great club, whether playing, coaching, or volunteering in any capacity. In addition to match days and training, there is a long and detailed list of

components that are required to successfully run a football club, so while there's always something to do, please be assured that there's no obligation to commit to or fulfil a full schedule.

If you are interested in becoming a member, or would just like to chat, exchange memories, photographs and stories about our club's history please contact **Nigel Perree** on **01534 865113** or [ncperree@gmail.com](mailto:ncperree@gmail.com).

## Come on you Johnnies!

The JMC & LCC celebrated their 100th Anniversary in 2020, but due to COVID 19 we were unable to celebrate in the style we would have liked.

Moving to 2021 and Moto-x is now in full action at Sorel Point and all the race and practice dates are on our website

[www.jerseymotorsport.com](http://www.jerseymotorsport.com)

The track at St John has been used for a number of years and the Club are very thankful to the residents of St John for their continued support.

Should anyone be interested in taking up the sport, then please contact the General Secretary on email: [secretary@jerseymotorsport.com](mailto:secretary@jerseymotorsport.com)



Photos by Stuart Logan



# Ask *Irene*

**St John's Agony Aunt – have you a question?**  
*She will have an answer*



There are all sorts of places to find answers – google, back of the book, bottom of your teacup, smarties. Here in St John, down a green lane near Sion we have found our very own St John's Agony Aunt. During our brief encounter she solved my problem (the answer was M'n aérodresseux est rempli d'andgullies). She has agreed to be our very own St John Agony Aunt. If you have a problem, please do send it to the editor and Mrs St Johnnais will have an answer. One parishioner has done so:

*I have fallen in love with a french fisherman but given what's happened recently between France and Jersey my family say I should call the whole thing off! What should I do Irene?*

Ah hang, an affair of the heart. You know, I have been known in my time to be a bit of a Jersey trawler and dabbled with the odd "marin bot"! It's very hard ma luv when the family is involved. You know my sheg Monica had an interest with a french onion farmer many, many years ago. They met in Jersey back at a time when French boats were able to come to Jersey without being fired at by the Militia from Elizabeth castle, or charged by a local peule in his boat. Ah such a long time ago!

I always remember Monica and I talking through the pros and cons as life as a French housewife, I think there are one or two things you probably need to think about or at least consider:

Firstly, do you look good in stripes? I know they say stripes are slimming ma luv, but I 'm just not sure that is the case for everyone. So just make sure that you are happy to spend the rest of your life in striped clothing. Personally, I like spots, that's just me though!

Secondly and probably most importantly is how much do you like fish? I know Monica didn't like onions, so this caused some concerns for her. I think we all dabble from now and then in some seafood cuisine but ah bah crie, I'm not sure I could be filled with winkles and cockles every day! However, if the above two are for you then I think you have to go with your heart deary! Get yourself down to South Pier Marine (Tell Phil Le Brocq I sent you), buy yourself a dingy - make sure you pack some essentials, such as a grolliebag, some bean crock, a pushdeng and a massive bag of Jersey wonders and paddle your wee heart out and go and tell your little Jean Pierre how much you love him!!

*Your family will come around eventually deary if it's true love; after all, it could be worse..... He could be from Guernsey!!! Bouonne cache*



# A Journey into the Known *A fun adventure for all.*



During the deepest days of 'Lockdown 1', like many I was pondering 'How can I pass the time?' So, I decided to go for a walk and after strolling to and from St Aubins numerous times I thought what's next? I was looking for something a little bit different and hence came up with the concept of walking around each of the parish boundaries (or as close as possible). Off I went with a camera, a GPS and a determined mindset and now having completed all twelve parishes, I would love to share my routes with everyone and help local charities at the same time. Do you fancy a challenge? Why not try a few of my trails and see how many you can complete.



I guess a good place to start is at your back door, the JAYF St John Journey. As local parishioners you will more than likely know many parts of the route, especially the popular beauty spots of Sorel, Bonne Nuit Bay and my personal favorite the Mourier Valley. Although the route starts and finishes at Les Fontaines pub (great grub by the way) it is a circular trek so feel free to start wherever you want.

If you would like a detailed description of the route, please visit the website of Phoenix-A1 at [www.phoenix-a1.org](http://www.phoenix-a1.org). There you will find some photos and some downloadable route map files for fitness trackers etc. For no cost you can also sign up to become a member and receive recognition for your achievements by the way of virtual certificates for each route achieved. Don't be put off if you feel you can't manage the whole distance, just do what you can and enjoy it. For those fitness aficionados out there you can always run or cycle the route but please take extra care on those cliff paths, some may not be best suited for cycling.

Another aspect to my challenges is establishing links between local charities to help promote them and encourage much needed donations. The current pandemic has been very hard on everyone, especially charities who have had their primary sources of income severely hampered by the cancellation of events. As a result, I would encourage all who take part on these challenges to donate to the partnered charities. The St John Journey is partnered with Jersey Association for Youth and Friendship (JAYF) who help provide **"safe and homely accommodation to young people aged between 18 and 25 years who would otherwise be homeless through no fault of their own."**

Enjoy the challenge, capture lots of memories and consider donating to a very important cause.

The power is within you.

**Matt Evans**  
Phoenix-A1





# St. John's Parish Church

Church news and forthcoming services and events

by Rev. Beverley Sproats, Rector of St. John's Parish Church.

'Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee: how great thou art!' How great it was to worship God in song again at Easter. After a few months of online-only worship, it was lovely to return to worship in the church building at the end of February. We are continuing to livestream services and several people regularly join us online. It was a joy to sing again from Good Friday onwards, albeit with face coverings and social distancing. We look forward to restrictions being eased further and singing without masks!

The **Prayer Course** that ran over Zoom during Lent was thought-provoking and inspiring. We explored unanswered prayer and looked at God's absence as well as presence in the bible and watched video interviews with people who had experienced times of unanswered prayer.



Little Oaks Sunday Club exploring the Easter story



Church decorated for Easter Day.

After an online service in lockdown for Mothering Sunday last year, this year it was a delight to be back in the church building and for the children to hand out bunches of flowers to the congregation.

The **Good Friday Hour** at the Cross service was a solemn service reflecting on the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus, presented in a dramatized reading from Mark's gospel.



Little Oaks Easter egg hunt after Easter Day service

**Easter Day** was a joyful opportunity to praise God for the resurrection of Jesus. The church was beautifully decorated by the Flower Team. Around 10 children came along to Little Oaks Sunday Club to learn about the Easter Story and enjoyed an Easter Egg hunt in the churchyard after the service! It was wonderful to hear the bells ring out again after being silent for several months. Bellringing practice has resumed on Tuesday evenings 7.30pm-9pm and new members are always welcome!



Shortly after Easter, the nation mourned the death of **Prince Philip**. The church was open for private prayer and a bell was tolled 99 times to mark Prince Philip's 99 years. The bellringers rang a **Quarter Peal** in honour of Prince Philip and tolled a bell before his funeral. A Quarter Peal was also rung in late April in memory of **Peter Clarke**, former Tower Captain of St. John's.



Quarter Peal for Prince Philip

**The 76th anniversary of the Liberation** was celebrated with the St. John's Group of Churches service on Liberation Day. After the service, everyone lined the road outside church to cheer on the spectacular Jersey Old Motor Club cavalcade as it passed by. Once again, the church was beautifully decorated.





Church beautifully decorated for Liberation Day Celebration service

In April we welcomed the next Connétable, **Andy Jehan**, and look forward to working with him and the municipal Parish to bless the community in St. John. We are grateful to the municipal parish for their support and excited that work has started to repair the church clock!

A men's breakfast took place at the Prince of Wales, Greve de Lecq, that combined good food and good conversation. Look out for the next one sometime in July!

I hope that you can support your local church for **Gift Day**. This year, St. John's Parish Church Gift Day will be held on Sunday 27th June 2021, with a special service at 9.30am. This is close to 24th June, the day of our patron Saint, John the Baptist, after whom St. John's church is named. I am grateful for the regular financial giving of many church members and parishioners and offer my thanks. I also invite your support for the Gift Day on 27th June, to give a one-off gift, to avoid a deficit at the end of the year and maintain healthy reserves. The target this year is **£12,000**, in line with previous years. Gift Day contributions go towards paying the Parish Share to Jersey Deanery which this year is set at **£50,000**. This payment, from our own income, is to resource the Anglican Clergy in the island, including stipendiary clergy. The church also has other running costs and expenses for ministry and mission and Gift Day helps to support this.



If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact **Beryl Vautier**, Church Treasurer, on **863263**. If you would like to make a donation to Gift Day, please send a cheque payable to St. John's Parish Church to The Rectory, La Rue des Landes, St. John, JE3 4AF, or contact Beryl for bank transfer details, or donate online at [tinyurl.com/2021giftdaystjohn](http://tinyurl.com/2021giftdaystjohn) or scan the QR code.

**Coming up, services are now in church and livestreamed to Facebook.**

Usual services are 8am **Traditional Holy Communion** and 9.30am **Contemporary Holy Communion**.

Special services coming up include Sea Sunday at 10.30am on Sunday 13th June 2021 at Bonne Nuit bay, and St. John the Baptist Day service at 9.30am on Sunday 27th June 2021 at St. John's Parish Church when we also have our Gift Day.



We hope to re-start **coffee & croissants mornings** 10am-11.30am on Tuesday 20th July 2021, more details to follow.

**Little Oaks Sunday Club** for children aged 3-11yrs continues to meet on the first Sunday of the month at 9.30am, meeting next on 6th June 2021 for action song, bible story, games, crafts and activities. Recently Little Oaks made Easter pebble pictures, and explored Jesus being the vine and us being the branches through chalk pictures. The church is open daily for private prayer 9am-3pm.



Little Oaks Sunday Club\_chalk pictures exploring Jesus is the vine and we are the branches

Follow the Church Facebook page for more details of church services, courses and forthcoming events.

[www.facebook.com/stjohnschurchje](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnschurchje)

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



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St Martin

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# It's nearly summer...

Celebrating St John's diverse languages through seasonal poetry – A parishioner has submitted this beautiful Portuguese poem.

## *Os Meninos do Lago*

by Gabriela Lins

Corriam sem problemas,  
sem todos esses sistemas  
que nos aprisionam as mentes,  
escondem os dentes.

Meninos no verão são pureza,  
são alegria,  
são natureza,  
são euforia.

Como deveríamos ser,  
assim eles são.  
Para que amadurecer?  
Para que a supressão?

Vamos correr sem problemas,  
sem todos esses sistemas  
vamos libertar nossas mentes,  
mostrar nossos dentes.

They ran without problems,  
without all these systems  
that trap our minds,  
hide our teeth.

Boys in the summer are purity,  
They are joy,  
They are nature,  
They are euphoria.

As we should be,  
so they are.  
Why mature?  
What's the suppression for?

Let's run without problems,  
without all these systems  
let's free our minds,  
show our teeth.





# What A Load of BALLS

Summer approaches and it is time to move 'Games' outdoors. Blow off the winter cobwebs and for those more senior, stretch those hamstrings and show the young'uns how to do it. When thinking about which game to write about that involves the simple orb there were just too many.

On thinking of which is the best ball game, many hinged on the need for an accessory as well as the sphere in question. What enjoyment there is with four jumpers, a football and the wide open space of the Rec. A couple of rackets and tennis, badminton, squash and even rounders are available. However, this time I've kept the concept as clean and simple as I can. This is a game for all ages, abilities, and ideal for any number of players. All you need is a ball (ideally a softball as you'll see) and you're ready to play one of the greatest outdoor team games in the world. Stingers. Why there is not a world championship yet I do not know, perhaps we start with an inter parish, then a Siam and then we're going global.

**Simply put, Stingers is 'it' with a ball.  
Sounds easy?..... read on.**

Find a nice space a lawn, park or the beach. I recommend setting boundaries to begin with, however according to the earliest records of this game in the Tottenham archives from 1960 the game was first played with no boundaries. A few obstacles like trees and sheds are ok and keep it interesting, also gives one a chance to hide behind and catch one's breath. One catcher starts the game, everyone else runs off within the designated area. The catcher runs around to catch someone, to do this they have to throw the ball below head height to hit them anywhere on their body. Once hit you join the catching team, once everyone has been hit the game ends. But add these extras and it transforms the game. When there is more than one catcher no-one can run with the ball, it must be passed between yourselves. Teamwork and communication are key to not exhausting yourself, as well as half decent throwing and catching. The catchers can throw as soft or hard as they like hence the name (but be nice and age appropriate). Catchers can get as close as they like.

Those not caught have a form of defence, they may punch the ball away to deflect a shot made at them. At advanced level this develops into being able to 'hold' the ball to hit away as long as it is in clenched fists. If the catcher catches a deflection or touches someone 'holding' the ball they are then caught.

Try it, you will love this game, my tips are work as a team, sympathetic passes, don't be a hero and let off wild shots, choose a smaller area to start with, choose a soft ball, seniors stretch there is a lot of running and have plenty of fluids nearby. Sounds like a team strategy for the visiting Lions training session, Warren I am at your service.

# PARTY HQ



## PARISH DIARY



### June

- 18th Closing Sion Road Safety consultation  
28th Muriel's bingo Parish Hall

### July

- 4th JAYF open day, Les Chasses  
8th Branchage  
13th St John WI - Pétanque St Quen pitch 14:30  
21st Rates assembly  
27th Muriel's bingo Parish Hall

### August

- 1st JAYF open day, St John's Manor  
10th St John WI - Visit to Elizabeth Castle  
18th Visit Royal  
24th Muriel's bingo Parish Hall

Golden Age Club events are hoping to start soon but due to restrictions on the amount of people allowed in the Parish Hall the club cannot start immediately, but all members will be notified by telephone when the club can commence.

WI all ladies welcome to join - see contact below

For Church updated events check Facebook page

## PARISH CONTACTS

- Bell Ringing** Justin Read - 888484  
**Bingo** Muriel Poisson - 863184  
**Bonne Nuit Boat Owners** Linda Carter - 864828  
**Brownies** Donna Tupper - 865728  
**Caesarean Bell Ringers** Diane Nelson - 481898  
**Church Rectory** - 861677  
**Duty Centenier** - 866560  
**Football Club** Nigel Perrée - 865113  
**Friends of Bonne Nuit** Gary Romeril - 861972  
**Golden Age Club** Wendy Rondel - 863667  
**Magazine Parish Contacts & Diary** - 866880  
**Recreation Centre** - 483696  
**Recreation Centre Caretaker** - 07797969522  
**School** - 861692  
**Shooting Club** John Renouf - 861908  
**Skateboard Association** Sophie Kilpatrick - 07700862188  
**Twinning Association** Stephen Masters - 862880  
**Woman's Institute** Treena Le Couillard - 07797741281  
**United Reformed Church** Mike Ruskin - 482366  
**Youth Project St John's Rec.** - 280548

## L'ÉTALE DU NORD



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### Parish Hall opening hours

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Wednesday: 9:00am-1:00 & 2:00pm-7:00pm

### Closed all day on Thursday

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