

L'ÉTAILE DU NORD ★ STAR OF THE NORTH

Parish of St John

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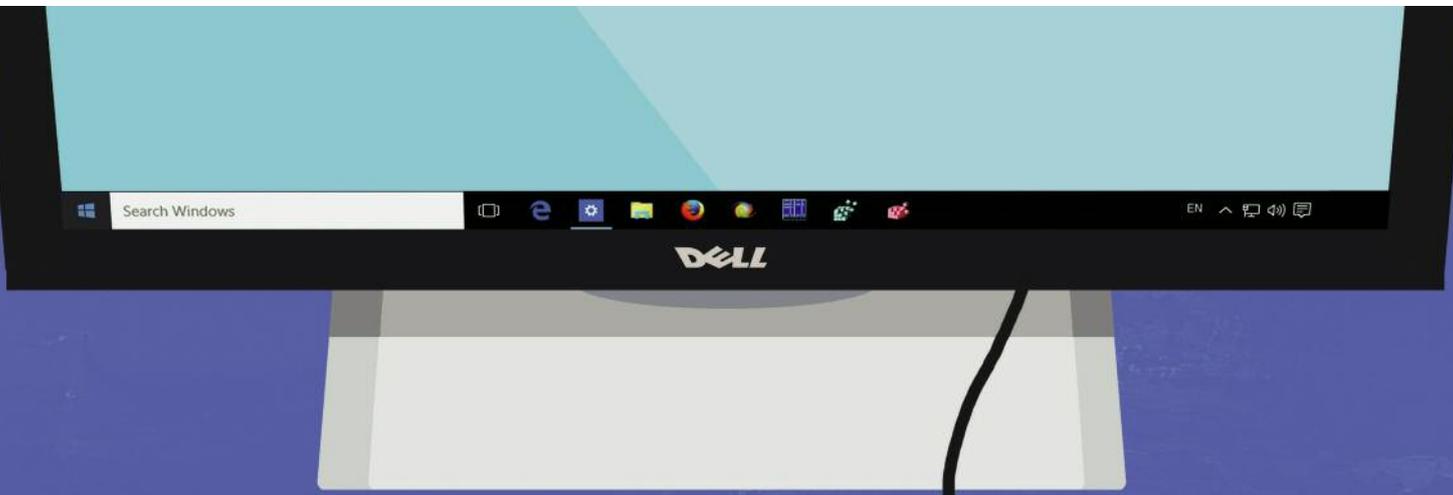
Good-bye and Thank-you to Reverend Andy and Sarah-Jane Thewlis

Following God's call

After twenty-one years as Rector of St John, Andy and Sarah-Jane Thewlis will be leaving St John in October, as Andy takes up a new post as Team Vicar in the Savernake Team, in the Diocese of Salisbury, with particular responsibility for All Saint's, Burbage and St Nicolas, Chute with Chute Forest.

In January 1995, during the service of induction, Andy rang the church bell seven times. Afterwards,

a member of the congregation, who had counted and assuming that the number of tolls was an indication of how long the new minister would stay, asked if he would be Rector for seven years. Andy replied, "The number of tolls was a deliberate choice, not indicating calendar years, but is a biblical number indicating wholeness and that I would serve in St John until the time I felt God's call to another place."



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The right time to move on

Thirteen further years of ministry, until retirement, in this beautiful Island where the sun does sometimes shine and the scenery is gorgeous may appear to be an attractive proposition. However, Andy explained, "Just like the fishermen who Jesus called to be his disciples, we sensed God calling us, as a couple to a new ministry, and have felt led to a new post, where our experience and gifts will be valued and, in partnership with others, our ministry will flourish. Our prayer and desire, in the words of one of the songs which we sing at the 11am service in the Parish Church, is 'to serve the purpose of God whilst we are alive.'"

Naturally, Andy and Sarah-Jane are excited about the challenges and opportunities of their new responsibilities for leading two churches and are looking forward to moving to the North Wessex Downs, which is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The vicarage, in the village of Burbage, which is six miles south of Marlborough, although in need of complete redecoration inside and requiring white goods for the kitchen and utility room; furniture for the study and curtains, plus light fittings, throughout, does have the potential to become a lovely home.

New opportunities

Andy has already calculated the journey times to all the football grounds of Championship teams, ten of whom are to his great delight within a two hour drive from their new home! He is already eagerly awaiting spending Saturday afternoons watching his beloved Huddersfield Town playing at grounds which he has not yet visited, including: Fulham, Cardiff, Burton Albion and Wolves. Sarah-Jane herself is particularly thrilled that the small High Street, in the quaint Market Town of Marlborough, is home to ALL of her favourite clothes shops!

Inevitably, the couple are currently riding a roller coaster of big emotions. Andy explained, "Whilst we're excited about the new beginnings that this move offers, we do love Jersey and will miss its beaches with views out to sea, but most of all we will miss the many people who have touched our lives and become our friends."

With respect to dates, Andy's last service as Rector of St John will take place at 10.30am on Sunday 16th October, and will be followed by refreshments in Church. All are invited and it is hoped many parishioners and friends will join them to say farewell.

Packing and removal to Wiltshire, with Lily the Labrador cross; Frasier the cat; Claus the goldfish and hopefully, Solomon, Rahab, Jezebel and Naomi their four ducks will follow, in readiness for the start of a new phase in their lives which commences with a licensing service taking place in Burbage, on Wednesday 23rd November.

Andy and Sarah-Jane may be missed, but the life of the parish church will continue and the Dean of Jersey, Revd Bob Key, will be meeting the church wardens Rosie Bleasby and Nicholas Crocker and the Constable of St John, Chris Taylor, to begin discussions relating to future ministry provision. In the short term, one of the two Vice-Deans will be appointed as *ministre desservant* to look after all worship and pastoral matters once Andy and Sarah-Jane have left.

Thanks to the people of St John for their friendship and prayer

Concluding, Andy reflected, "It has been a privilege to have been Rector of St John, so we offer you our heartfelt thanks to the people of St John, and across the Island, for friendship and prayerful support over the years. We will leave with many happy memories."

The words of the Matt Redman song, '10,000 reasons', which can be viewed on YouTube, expresses the couples hopes and prayers, both for themselves and for their many friends in Jersey at this time of new beginnings.

The sun comes up
It's a new day dawning
It's time to sing your song again
Whatever may pass
And whatever lies before me
Let me be singing
When the evening comes

Bless the Lord O my soul
O my soul
Worship His Holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I'll worship Your Holy name

The Star of the North Committee are delighted to thank Andy for his hard work and dedication over the years to the parish magazine. He was a founding member and has always played an integral part in pulling together the content in his unique position at the centre of parish life – even if he liked to push those deadlines!

SUNDAY WORSHIP IN ST JOHN

THE PARISH CHURCH *Every Sunday*

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.30am Holy Communion with traditional hymns
- 11.00am Contemporary Worship, with Little Oaks Children's Group

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- Holy Communion, monthly, as advertised



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Dear Parishioners...



Parish Tea Party to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's 90th birthday

What weather! Well, I'm not going to talk about that, it's too depressing. However it does make me a little more optimistic as I live in hope that it will get better.

Congratulations to the Bonne Nuit Boat Owners Association who are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Sark to Jersey Rowing Race. Anyone with a connection with Bonne Nuit talks with pride about the race and now, having reached this great milestone, I wish them the very best for the future. Talking of milestones the Queen is celebrating her 90th birthday this year and the Parish hosted a Tea Party in the Parish Hall to mark the occasion. I am pleased to thank Karen Cotillard and the WI for their excellent cakes, sandwiches and help in serving the teas. The afternoon was a great success due mostly to their hard work. There was a very large Birthday Cake which Mrs Pulley baked (and I confess I did help a little as the cake was too heavy for her to lift) which I believe rounded off the afternoon perfectly.

I have been asked about Planning Applications and what does the Parish do? Well, a copy of all Planning Applications made in the Parish, are sent to the Parish Hall. So any Parishioner wanting to see the Plans of any application can come to the Parish Hall and inspect them. The Roads Committee check over all Planning Applications to make sure entrances and driveways will not cause any traffic issues. The Comité Rurale, which was established to

look at Planning Applications and to help progress village developments, then examine the plans and will make comments if necessary.

'Surgeries' with Tracey and Chris, planning issues, States Financial plan on show – come and see us

Our Deputy, Tracey Vallois, and I have been holding 'Surgery' in the Parish Hall on the first Wednesday of every month between 5 and 7pm. There have been one or two good meetings, so anyone with a problem please pop along and we will try to help.

The States have just published the MTFP (Medium Term Financial Plan) which sets out States spending for the next three years from 2017–2019. There is a copy in the Parish Hall so if you want to know how your taxes are going to be spent, come along and have a look. If you have concerns you can make an appointment to see either myself or our Deputy.

Housing: I have been asked "is the Parish looking to build any houses?" The answer is simple, if there is a need then yes the Parish will build some houses, so if there are any young couples with strong Parish ties looking for their own home in the Parish, please get in touch with me.

Finally, may I wish all Parishioners a happy summer and let's hope the sun shines!

Chris Taylor, Connétable



50TH ANNIVERSARY SARK TO JERSEY BOAT RACE



Lawrence Carter's Paternoster

Everybody knows Bonne Nuit is special, but for the Sark to Jersey rowers it is more than just a picturesque little bay. Every year, after they've fought their way across the open sea like a Viking fleet, it's the first place they land.

Some will be jubilant, having tested themselves to their physical limits and performed well. Others will be frustrated at a slow time or a wrong course to the Paternosters. They will all be utterly relieved to be back on dry land.

The link between the bay and the Channel Islands' most prestigious rowing race is no accident. The event was originally the idea of four members of the Bonne Nuit Boat Owners Association who looked across to Sark from Les Fontaines Tavern one Sunday afternoon in 1966 and decided it should be possible to row across to our neighbouring island. They were inspired by the transatlantic journey of Chay Blyth and John Ridgeway, the first Brits to make that crossing in 1966. Sark? No problem, they thought.

First Race 1967

On the day of the first race in 1967 it became clear just how much of a challenge this race would be. Only about half of the 50-strong fleet made it to Bonne Nuit after the tide turned and the wind came up. But every one of the rowers in the motley collection of craft had a seafaring tale to tell. The race legend had begun – and it's still captivating people today.

On 2nd July this year an impressive 85 crews were lined up to row the 50th race, with many veterans dusting off their oars to make a return. Rowers as old as 79 and as young as 15 were due to take part but were thwarted on the day by strong winds and wave heights that would have made the crossing unsafe. Hopefully, by the time you read this they will have been able to complete the race on another day as they had the continued, steadfast backing of sponsors Willis Towers Watson, which is much appreciated.

Last year the first boat to round Cheval Rock and cross the line was a Jersey men's four and in 2014 the winners, again a Jersey four, set a new record time of 1 hour 47 minutes and 13 seconds. Some of



Bonne Nuit 1967



the slower boats took more than three hours – and that's the beauty of this race; fast and slow all set off from Sark's Dixcart Bay together making it a truly inclusive sporting challenge.

Jersey v Guernsey

It's also one of the most keenly fought inter-insular competitions. Jersey and Guernsey compete for the Le Poidevin Cup, which is calculated using the top scores from each class. Every boat could count towards the final score. Over the past 50 years Jersey and Guernsey have taken the top honours almost the same number of times with, perhaps, our Sarnian cousins having the edge. But it is a friendly battle. When the race was cancelled on 2nd July, many Guernsey rowers travelled across by ferry for the evening event, which was paid for and had to go ahead. They did this not because they like to party but to support the Jersey Rowing Club team who go to such great lengths to organize the event. This kind of supportive rivalry is another reason why people love this race so much.

Through the generations

The Sark to Jersey tradition has been passed down through families, with generations rowing either together or against each other. The current organisers also include Steve and Phil Carter from the



Dixcart Bay start of race

BNBOA, whose father Lawrence was one of the four founders at Les Fontaines half a century ago. Lawrence gave up his sentinel's post at the Pater-nosters only a few years ago but his sons continue to play an absolutely essential role on race day.

If the weather is kind one year and you've never seen the finish, join the crews at the water's edge in Bonne Nuit. You will never have seen a group people who love that bay so much. The Sark to Jersey is here to stay, let's hope for another 50 years!

Tracy Mourant



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LES MATHIONNETTES – ‘Northern Lights’

Jonathan Plunkett, Chef de Police talks to Rosie Bleasby

Interesting heritage

Although Jersey born, our Chef de Police, Jonathan Plunkett, has a very interesting heritage. His official title is the Honourable Jonathan Plunkett, Lord Louth. He has not used it as yet; he inherited the title on the death of his father. The peerage is a very ancient one and was granted to Jonathan's ancestors by Henry VIII in 1541. It is an Irish peerage and County Louth is on the border of Eire and Northern Ireland. The history of Ireland at this time, as it often is, was very turbulent and Jonathan believes that more than one ancestor was declared an outlaw although the peerage was eventually regained.

It was Jonathan's grandfather who settled in Jersey in the 1920s and married a Jerseywoman from the Gallichan family. They had to evacuate at the beginning of the Occupation but returned in 1947 when Jonathan's father had finished his education. Jonathan and his four siblings were born and educated here.

Jonathan himself, attended De La Salle and Hautlieu schools and later trained as an electrical engineer. For nine years he made his career at sea as an engineer on board cargo ships and oil tankers. He worked for London & Overseas Freighters, known to many as 'London Greeks' as it had Greek owners. With them Jonathan travelled to many parts of the world, some more salubrious than others but, as he terms it, not quite the experience of the modern day cruise passenger! Eventually he came ashore in Jersey as by now he had a young family and in time began work as an electronics engineer at Jersey Airport where he is to this day. The work has changed over the years with the advance of technology and is now very much computer based.

Part of St John's parish life

Fifteen years ago, Jonathan came to live in St John and a few years later became a member of the Honorary Police. Eventually he became a Centenier and, in 2011, Chef de Police. Jonathan is a familiar figure around the parish organising his officers for traffic patrols, road checks, parking cars for funerals etc. There are many and varied roles for the Honorary Police in a country parish; cows, sheep and dogs have all escaped and caused problems at times. Sometimes the duties are not so pleasant as in the case of sudden death or road traffic accidents. In Jonathan's early years as a Centenier he was often presenting cases in court three or four times a month but in recent times this has been infrequent. Citizens of St John being much better behaved these days! There is certainly no trouble at all from young peo-



Jonathan Plunkett

ple, which was very good to hear. Jonathan is quietly proud of the fact that the Honorary Police can solve problems and be a force for good.

In his spare time Jonathan enjoys reading and riding his motorcycle. His son emigrated in recent years with his wife and two young sons to New Zealand and lives near Christchurch where he works as an air traffic controller. A trip to see them will, he hopes, take place in the not too distant future. His daughter is a weather forecaster with the Jersey Meteorological Office.

Jonathan devotes a huge amount of time to the service of the parish and, with his fellow honorary officers, is a very reassuring presence at many parish events. An Irish peer, born in Jersey, settled in St John and still to visit his ancestral home.





It seems incredible that a year has passed since Lady Butlin opened the Youth Project and Football Club extension at the Recreation Centre. In that year, however, a lot has been happening with many new user groups deciding to locate to the Centre.

We now have eight different user groups using the Main Hall in the winter, with the Jersey Gymnastics Club having sole use of it during the summer. We also have eight different groups using the yoga studio, seven of them running different types of yoga classes, seven days a week throughout the year; the eighth group runs a dance class! The new Youth Project area is also starting to gain popularity with five different groups now using the space on different days and at different times. In addition to these multi-user facilities our more bespoke facilities such as the skateboard

park, squash court, shooting range and football pitch are all attracting high levels of usage.

In the ten years since the management team took over the administration of the Centre the number of people using the Centre has more than doubled allowing parishioners, and in particular children, to benefit from the first-rate facilities.

The Centre is now running profitably with the facilities in a good state of health, kept spotlessly clean by our excellent caretaker / cleaner Tom.

If any readers would like to experience these facilities first hand then you are very welcome to visit the Centre. If you wish to join any of our user groups please contact the nominated person from the user group list below who would be delighted to hear from you!

User Group Contacts

User Groups	Contact	Phone / Email	User Groups	Contact	Phone / Email
Activity Club	Natalie Hitchcock	077003 53126 nataliehitchcock@gmail.com	St John Football Club	Nigel Perree	077977 78673 ncperree@gmail.com
Billy B Café	Mario Pirozzolo	280159 empire@localdial.com	St John Shooting Club	John Renouf	077977 67703 johnmrenouf@msn.com
i-move freely Studio	Mandy Bonhomme	077978 40976 mandy@bonhealth.co.uk	St John Skateboard Club	John Fosse	861688 jsyscrew@gmail.com
Jersey Archery Society	Liz Pomroy	077977 30569 fourteenforty22@hotmail.com	St John Tennis Club	Tina Spencer-Nairn	077977 57407 spencernairn@hotmail.com
Jersey Cricket Board	Ron Halliwell	485858 norrups@gmail.com	St John Youth Project	Bill Moore	077978 19958 billmoore@jys.je
Jersey Gymnastics Club	Ben Frith	077977 78629 benfrith@yahoo.com	Tennis Coach	Rychlund Aldrige	rychlund@hotmail.com
Jersey Model Aero Club	Darren Dupre	077977 19897 info@jmaonline.co.uk	Absolute Yoga	Julia Hilton	077979 61598 juliaburkhardt@yahoo.com
Jersey Motorcycle & Light Car Club	The Secretary	secretary@jerseymotorsport.com	Bikram Yoga	Karen O'Connor	077979 61598 juliaburkhardt@yahoo.com
Jersey Warriors Kickboxing Club	Tom Pieprzowski	077979 69522 tom-pepper@wp.pl	Hot Yoga	Amanda Cassar	amanda@essentially.yoga
Les Freres Toddlers Group	Alice Honey	077977 55982 lesfrerestoddler@hotmail.com	Inner Space Yoga	Justine Taylor	077978 21933 innerspacejersey@hotmail.com
Model Car Club	Mark Jordan	077978 50112 markphillipjordan@hotmail.com	Post Natal Yoga	Kayleigh Dunning	kaymdunning@gmail.com
Sign Time	Lisa Herivel	077007 95405 lisampalmer@hotmail.com	Vinyasa Yoga	Emma Colston-Weeks	077977 61576 emma@yoga4u.org.uk
Squash / Racketball	Franck Matthews	077008 83155 franck.matthews@gmail.com	Sanjeevani Yoga	Manju Hegde	728961 sanjeevani-yoga@hotmail.com



St John's very own children's holiday Activity Club, Cloud Nine



Cloud Nine Activity Club May half-term

Natalie Hitchcock, parish background

I am a St John's girl through and through. The Parish has been my home for the last 25 years. I grew up here, attended St John's Primary and we still have our family home in Clos de L'École. All of my happy childhood memories involve the Parish or the people in it in some way. In May 2016, I registered my first Company (a children's Activity Club) which provides care for 4–12 year olds in the school holidays.

I had hands-on experience in all the different areas in this venture, however putting together and making the first jump was still hard. I put it off for many years, turned down numerous venues and hesitated for various reasons as something always didn't feel right.

Due to being involved in the early discussions many years ago when I was a Voluntary Youth Leader, I had always followed the development plans for the Recreation Centre with interest. When I learned that the long-awaited extension had finally been built, I jumped at the chance to view it and instantly knew that it would be perfect for my Activity Club vision.



What a popular tortoise

The challenge of a new business

I am not going to lie; starting the business from scratch has been pretty scary on occasions. I have had to just put my head down, plough forward and just try to convince myself to trust that I was on the right path. There was only one moment where I held my head in my hands in despair and looking back now I think



Skateboard fun



Burning off some energy

that was actually pretty good going! We had a really successful first week of operation in May half-term and all the children who attended rebooked for the Summer Holidays – numbers for the summer period have exceeded all my expectations.

The support I have had from my family, fiancé, friends and my son has been incredible; it really has been a team effort and I will forever be thankful for their help in making things turn into reality. The Recreation Committee and the Parish have been very encouraging and fully supportive. It's great to see the Centre thriving again and I am really excited to be a part of the vision to develop it back into the hub of the Parish. There are so many user groups again now and I love seeing the Centre being used to its full potential and filled with the laughter of Cloud Nine children. Long live St John's Rec!

*Natalie Hitchcock
Cloud Nine Activity Club*



WORLD TOUR

MANY TICKS OFF THE BUCKET LIST! (PART 2)



The small desert island in Fiji

Still buzzing from our month in New Zealand, we landed on the beautiful island of Fiji. We had planned for a day of relaxation until Rob met a man on the beach hiring jet skis. The next thing I knew I was on the pillion seat riding around the bay enjoying the scenery from a different viewpoint, and the next day saw us on a sailing schooner heading for one of the many desert islands around Fiji. There were many activities available, but Rob and I decided that we would like to be able to snorkel out to the coral reef. Rob had snorkelled before so he set off with the group. Once my instructor felt that I was confident enough, he took me out to the reef. It was absolutely amazing to be swimming amongst the brightly coloured tropical fish. I was able to hold a blue star fish and was the only one in the group to see a small sting ray! Back on dry land for a delicious traditional Fijian lunch and a stroll around the island which took 15 minutes before getting back on the schooner and returning to the hotel.

From peace and tranquillity to non-stop Las Vegas for the final few ticks. All the hotels are spectacular with huge themed foyers and special attractions. We were staying in the Luxor which is built like a giant pyramid and had a huge sphinx in the foyer and also outside the hotel. One hotel even had a motor car museum on the fifth floor, but our favourite hotel was the

Bellagio. It had a lake in front and every half an hour over a 1,000 fountains would raise up out of the water and perform a choreographed dance to music. Truly magical! In the evenings we went to two amazing shows. The Tournament of Kings featured jousting on horseback, sword fights and a fire breathing dragon! We also went to a Cirque Du Soleil Show



Above: Down inside the Grand Canyon standing just above the Colorado River

Below: Beryl outside The Luxor Hotel, Las Vegas



with amazing acrobats, tightrope walkers and trapeze artists. Everything in Las Vegas is very spectacular and over the top, but full of excitement and fun.

However, our main reason for being in Las Vegas was to visit the Grand Canyon and the Hoover Dam. First of all we took a helicopter flight over the canyon and then landed on a small plateau inside the canyon about 50 feet above the Colorado River. Once the helicopter blades had stopped it was so still and quiet with just the birds and the lizards scampering around. Back to the landing strip and a coach ride to the West Rim of the canyon and the spectacular Skywalk built in 2003. This is a horseshoe-shaped cantilever bridge with a glass walkway suspended 4,000 feet above the riverbed. From the walkway we could really appreciate the full majesty of the canyon and the wonderful natural rock formation of a giant eagle.



The Eagle Rock formation at the Grand Canyon

On the next day we visited the Hoover Dam, an incredible feat of engineering started in 1931 and opened in 1936. It stands 726 feet above the Black Canyon, is 660 feet wide at the base and 1,244 feet across the top. Built during the Great Depression at a cost of \$49 million, around \$860 million in today's money. We went on a tour inside the dam and saw the 17 massive turbines which supply 1.3 million homes with hydro-electric power and learnt all about the construction of the dam and the hardships that the workers had to endure. Back on the surface walking along the top of the dam it was easier to comprehend the sheer size of the structure, especially when we looked over the edge! Halfway across there is a stone monument

The Hoover Dam



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marking the border between Arizona and Nevada so we stood with one foot in each state.

And so we had come to the end of our travels and it was time to go home with countless wonderful experiences and memories and many ticks off the bucket list, but many more still to do!

Beryl Vautier



WE NEED YOUR OLD COMPUTERS!

Call on local businesses and government departments to donate old machines to help improve the computer literacy of Island's schoolchildren



Springfield pupils with their recycled computers

A Jersey charity has come up with a novel way to boost the computer skills of Island schoolchildren at a fraction of the cost of a more orthodox approach. The White Knight Foundation has been recycling sets of old computers from local companies and installing the revitalised machines into Springfield Primary School. Charity trustee, Bill White, says: "we wanted to encourage computer learning from an early age so as to open up job opportunities in the future. It seems to me that computer work is ideal for a small Island as it can be performed anywhere and requires very little space."

The Foundation teamed up with local law firm Voisin and trust company Volaw who recently invested in new computers for their staff. The companies gave Springfield Primary School 20 of their old machines after the data had been wiped. White Knight then replaced the memories and hard drives and installed the Linux Education operating system. Further help was given on the design of a dedicated computer room, which has recently been completed.

Sam Cooper, Springfield headmaster, commented: "the contribution of computers by Voisin and Volaw and the work done by White Knight is hugely appreciated. Recycling old machines has had a magical effect. The computers are being used in the teaching of a variety of subjects and the children cannot wait for lessons to begin."

Georgina Jeffries, Head of Marketing, Voisin and Volaw added: "Until meeting White Knight Foundation I did not realise that redundant machines, which would have been discarded, could be reused in such a beneficial way and be so welcome in Jersey schools. It's been excellent to be involved in such a forward thinking project that is a true investment in the Island's future. I would encourage other businesses to donate what they can, as every machine makes a difference." White Knight urges any company or government department, which is considering new computers, to get in touch so that other schools can benefit from the old ones.

Bill White can be reached on 07700 704677.



From the United Reformed Church

When you read this we shall be well into summer, although as I write two consecutive days without rain seem a distinct impossibility. And it is not just the weather that is unsettled as no one seems to know quite how the UK's decision to leave the EU will affect us.

One thing I can assure you of, however, is a warm welcome at the United Reformed Church in Sion. This year it was the turn of the north wall to be repainted so if you approach from that direction you should have no difficulty in spotting our terracotta building.

Our Sunday morning Service is always at 10.30 a.m. We have a variety of people leading us in worship which ensures we don't get too set in our ways. Familiar hymns certainly but new songs also but everything we do is Bible based. After the Service there is no need to hurry away as we always make time for a chat over a cup of tea or coffee.

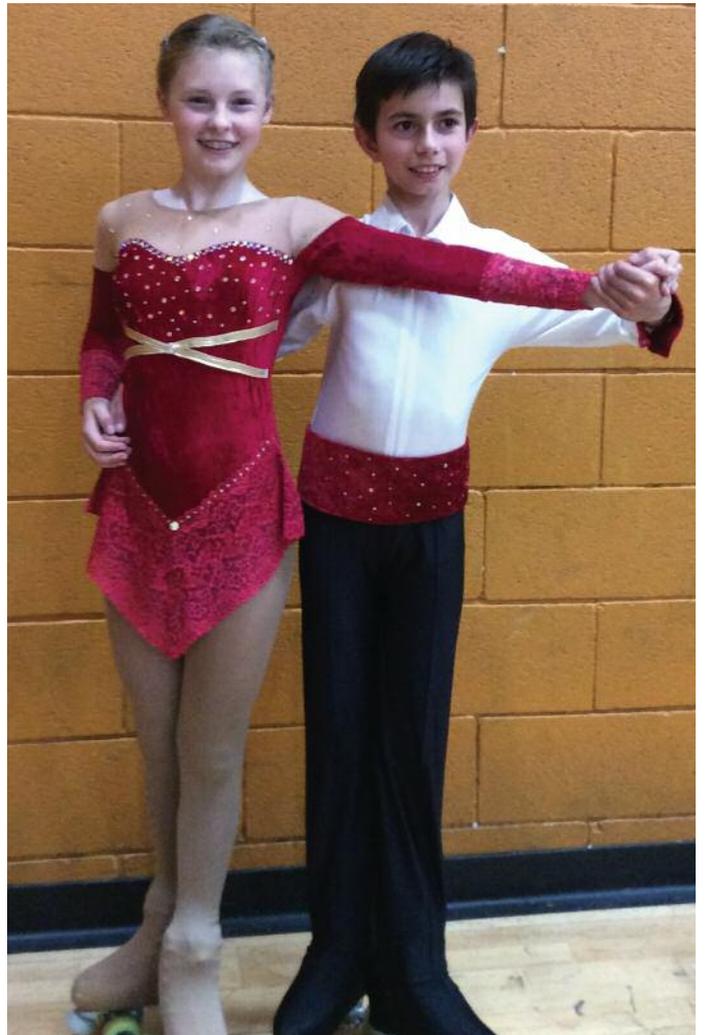
If you have not been inside our Church in recent years you, like many others, will be surprised just how light and welcoming it is following the major renovations of some 15 years ago.

We are here every Sunday (and at other times as required) to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to our neighbours, of whom you of course are one.

Do give us a try. You will always be most welcome.



British Artistic Roller Skating Champions



Representing Great Britain Kiana Jade and Isaac

During June this year a group of youngsters from Regent Skating club travelled to the UK to take part in the British Championships for Artistic Roller skating.

The group did well with two youngsters Kiana Jade Dupré (13) and Isaac Tarrant (10) qualifying to represent Great Britain in the Cup of Europe Competition for couples, which is to be held in Italy in November this year. They had to do two compulsory dances and a free dance. They have been dancing together for about a year now and each received a gold medal and the first place trophy in the Espoir class.

Isaac also won a gold medal and cup gaining British Championship for his solo dances and additionally qualified for the Cup of Europe Competition in the Solo Mini class.

Congratulations to them both and wishing them the best of luck in the contest in November.

Rosemary Dupré



Sion is a small rural area in St John. Most of its history is connected to the countryside with farming as the dominant profession. However, the area was popular enough to be the site of chapels from two different religions with some notable incidents taking place in the local community. Sion was the location of the first Nonconformist place of worship erected outside St Helier and since the demolition of the first Halkett Place Chapel, the oldest still standing. St John's Congregational Church was set up by François Perrot. He is said to have originally preached on Sunday afternoons and on Thursday evenings in the house now known as Beauverd, situated near where the chapel now stands, which was the home of Jean Le Sueur.

On 29th April 1809 Le Sueur donated some land which formed part of the property to Perrot for the purpose of building the chapel. The cost of the project was £250, although a considerable amount of time was donated by farmers who were members of the congregation who helped with the building work.

Congregation split – major falling out

The Church fostered a loyal congregation but this was tested at the turn of the twentieth century. A major falling out took place between the minister, Reverend Guillaume François van der Beken, and those loyal to him on one side and some of the Trustees and Deacons of the Church on the other. Accusations flew on both sides from claims of taking money that was not owed to them to allegations of physical violence and threats. This remained an internal matter until a court case took place in November 1900.



St John's Independent Church

More trouble

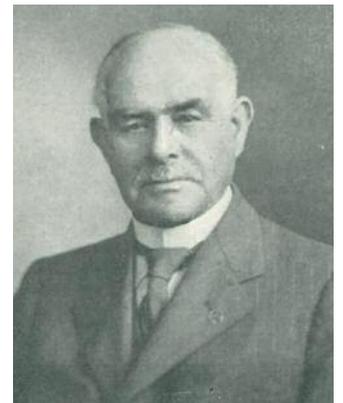
John Poch, a 30-year-old from Trinity, was at an anniversary service held in Sion Methodist Chapel sitting in the porch overlooking the church. His family had been on the opposing side of the minister in the argument and so when he saw van der Beken below he started throwing missiles, including sweets and pieces of bread, in his direction. The following day van der Beken, accompanied by the Constable of Trinity, went to Poch's house demanding an apol-

Sion – 'What's Your



Sion Temps

ogy. Poch's father intervened saying he would prefer his son to break his neck than to apologise to van der Beken. A court case was brought with the Magistrate fining Poch £1 and ordering him to keep the peace. After this a number of letters appeared in the *Jersey Express* from both sides giving different sides of the story. Eventually this calmed down and the Church continued to function under the stewardship of Geoffrey Allpress.



Revd Geoffrey Allpress

A desire for a Methodist Chapel in Sion was stated in the early nineteenth century with prayer group meetings being held in the area. Those attending did not want to offend the Independent Church and so construction of the chapel did not start until the 1820s. In 1826 the Trustees of the Methodist Chapel of Sion bought a piece of land on the corner of Rue des Servais and La Grande Route de St Jean.



Our Street's Story?



Passé 1939

Photograph courtesy of the JEP

This building, now called Chapel House, was the site of the first Methodist Church.

In the 1870s it was decided that the building no longer met the needs of the community and that it would be desirable to build a new one. Consequently the Trustees bought land from Jean Corbel junior in November 1879, with work starting the following year. It stayed as a Chapel until 2014 when it was sold to be developed.

Shootings at Sion

In January 1895 a shooting mishap took place opposite the Chapel. To celebrate the marriage of a couple some young men of the locality decided to follow the old custom of firing shots into the air outside their house and commenced doing so at midnight. Unfortunately one of the guns was overcharged and ended up exploding, shattering the elbow of one of the young men and the fingers of another requiring the hand to be amputated.

This wasn't the only shooting incident in the area. The previous year Philip John Cooper and Philip Francis Bower were shot when inspecting Cooper's field in the Sion area. They had seen a piece of paper

stuck on the top of a hedge and when approaching it were struck by a shower of small shot in the head and face. They were severely injured but did recover enough to find the culprits, Eugène Le Roux and Bienaimé Lebellés. They discovered that Lebellés owned the gun and was attempting to sell it to Le Roux who wanted proof that it worked well. That proof was offered at the very moment Cooper and Bower were passing. Lebellés offered 10 shillings in compensation but after this was refused both perpetrators quickly departed the Island to their native France.

Jersey Milk – watered down!

A crime of a different nature more in keeping with Sion as a rural district took place in 1901. Mr Cory, a milk merchant, reported John Rive Laurens under suspicion that he had been adulterating his cow's milk. When the honorary police had it tested the report came back from the States Analyst Mr Toms stating that the sample was made up of at least 7% water. Laurens denied the charge saying that he had been giving parsnips to his cattle and that may have affected the milk produced. Unfortunately the Magistrate wasn't convinced and he was found guilty of the charge and was fined 10 shillings.



Sion – Godfrey 1849

These are just a few stories uncovered by the Jersey Archive team in the course of researching for our 'What's your Street's Story?' programme.

Archives & Collections

ONLINE

Remaining Programme for 2016

20 Aug – La Motte Street	19 Nov – Longueville
17 Sep – Gloucester Street	17 Dec – La Rocque
15 Oct – The Weighbridge	

Talks are at 10am at the Jersey Archive. Call 833300 or email archives@jerseyheritage.org to book a place.



News from the Pews



Refurbished vestry

Over the winter and spring of this year a small, but dedicated team of four undertook the task of cleaning and redecorating the small building adjoining the church.

On completion of the painting additional shelving was created in existing cupboards; new light fittings were added; the fuse board was upgraded; new carpet tiles with cushion backing were supplied and fitted by Tower Carpets, who very kindly loaned temporary carpeting during the works to enable the launch, in January, of our new Little Oaks Children's group. New units were fitted to create a small utility room, which is currently being used by the church flower ladies to store their equipment and a kitchenette was created down one side of the Rector's vestry. This included the installation of a fridge, microwave grill oven and con-



New kitchenette

stant hot water on tap for hot drinks. Howard and his team at La Haute Cuisine were brilliant at bringing our vision to reality; and the rooms have also had beautiful blinds, supplied by Aspect Blinds, fitted to all windows, including the French doors, which was some achievement! This means that in dark evenings during the winter these can be closed to make the rooms warm and cosy.

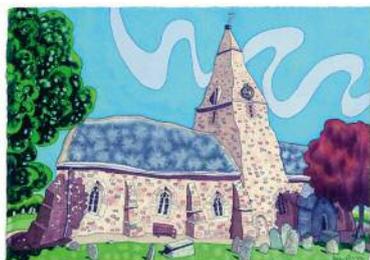
The refurbished and redecorated building is a small legacy of Andy and Sarah-Jane's ministry in St John, who undertook the work personally along with Rob and Beryl Vautier, who did the majority of the work and to whom the parish truly owes an enormous debt of gratitude.

The vestry is currently used for the Thursday morning Prayer meeting and Sunday morning Little Oaks Children's Group, but is available to use at all other times of the week, excluding Wednesday evening when the church bell-ringers meet and Thursday evening when the church host a meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Please contact the Rector, on 861677, if you would like to discuss using these facilities on either an occasional or regular basis.

Harvest Celebration, 10.30am, on Sunday 25th September. Do consider joining us for our traditional Harvest Festival where we come together in thanksgiving to celebrate God's care and provision. As in recent years, we shall be thinking of others through our prayers and practical support, so ask parishioners to bring along tinned or dry food goods, which will be donated to the Friends of Ecce Homo, for distribution amongst the poor in Romania. After the service do stay awhile to enjoy beautiful homemade cakes, all to be donated by members of the church family.

Sunday 16th October, is the day the whole parish is invited to join together for a service of thanksgiving, at 10.30am, on the occasion of Andy and Sarah-Jane's final service in St John. Do join us for worship and afterwards, over refreshments in church, make time to say good-bye to our Rector and his wife as they move off Island to take up a new post in Wiltshire. All are very welcome to this special service.



A service for everyone

8.00am – Book of Common Prayer Communion

9.30am – Holy Communion with Traditional Hymns

11.00am – Contemporary Worship



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Tuesday Knitters



Back row L to R: May Flowers Jill Higginbotham
 Front row L to R: Connie Clements, Joan Dobbs,
 Odette Touzel, Audrey Cornall

For over forty years a group of ladies from St John and either friends or those with close connections, have been meeting to practise their creative skills for the benefit of the local community and beyond. Today it is knitting but the original impetus for the group, begun by Mrs May Manton and Mrs Beryl Le Sueur, was creating cross-stitch kneelers for St John's Church. When that project was completed the group was perfectly poised to become the nucleus of those who met in St John's Church vestry to create the St John's panel for the Occupation Tapestry. Mrs Odette Touzel and others went on to embroider the tapestry panel celebrating St John's parish life which now hangs in the parish hall and a further tapestry, the Treasures of Jersey for the RHJS headquarters at Trinity.

In recent years the ladies have been supporting the local charity, Mustard Seed, by knitting beautiful blankets for distribution to the charity's clients in Romania. The blankets are colourful and cosily warm and mean some poor family will sleep better in the winter. In order to raise cash for Mustard Seed and other charities the group knit winter hats. These are sold at the local fashion store, Crème, by Mrs Eileen Le Cuirot, and the money used for transport costs etc.



Much needed colourful blankets for Romania

It was a pleasure to spend a morning with these ladies at the home of Mrs May Flowers, and to be reminded of the time forty years ago, when I wielded my own inexperienced needle on one of those church kneelers.

Rosie Bleasby



EYECAN. *Supporting and Empowering Sight Impaired Islanders*



Meet the team

The Jersey Blind Society, founded in 1886, is Jersey's oldest charity. For most of its existence the scope of the charity's support was limited and developments to the service rare, however in the last few years a great deal has been done to remedy this situation with gaps in provision identified and responded to creatively.

The organisation has now developed into a service specialising in rehabilitation. To reflect the change of focus and its new breadth of provision the charity's branding has changed to EYECAN, a name which conveys a more positive, user-friendly service.

The charity's base at Westlea, St Martin, is a centre wholly dedicated to the needs of the client group. In addition to offices and accessible toilets it features a large Day Centre space, Art and Craft room, Salon in which hairdressing and chiropody are provided, Meeting Room, Rehabilitation/Resource Room which incorporates a training kitchen, a Sun Lounge and a working garden. The centre houses a growing large print and audio book library whilst an audio newsletter featuring Jersey, and sight related news, has proved a popular initiative.

EYECAN prides itself that the service it offers enables sight-impaired islanders to reach their potential attain or retain independent living and achieve inclusion in school, the workplace and society. As Conrad Coutanche, EYECAN's president remarks, "It is our aim to support people with a sight impairment to live and work as independently as possible and to enjoy life to the full".

A growing staff team, and a large community of volunteers supporting the work undertaken by the charity, is overseen by EYECAN's Operations Director who manages the Day Centre and the

day-to-day running of the charity. A Day Centre Assistant supports the smooth running of the Day Centre whilst the Premises and Catering Manager ensures the Centre is well maintained and that delicious, home cooked meals are served to all Day Centre members. The Community Team, which provides clients of all ages with support tailored to their needs, works closely with the Eye Clinic, Health and Social Services, Social Security, Education, Jersey Employment Trust, Andium and many other agencies to ensure clients receive assistance and consideration wherever it is needed. The business of the Community Team is supported by an Administrator.

EYECAN's Rehabilitation Officer for the Visually Impaired (ROVI) provides specialist assessment and training comprising communication needs, daily living skills and mobility advice and techniques, whilst the charity's IT Specialist trains clients to use technology designed to make information accessible to people with sight problems.

EYECAN's Welfare and Advocacy Worker supports clients in meetings with other Services, endeavours to ensure that clients' questions are addressed and that opportunity is provided for them to have their say in order to influence future provision. This team member also works to ensure that clients receive the specialist equipment they need to support their independence.

The Community Team, often assisted by clients, also provides sight impairment awareness training to numerous services and organisations so that staff there can provide a more insightful, supportive and confident service to islanders with impaired vision.

Children's events, organised by EYECAN, enable young clients and their families to socialize together, share information, provide mutual support and, of



Peter at a raised garden bed



Artist Edward

course, have fun. To date the youngsters have experienced abseiling, kayaking, a Seafaris expedition, zooming down zip wires at Creepy Valley, handling snakes and giant bugs at Durrell and all the great activities and features at aMaizin! Adventure Park. Events and activities for sight impaired adults are also arranged by the charity with African drumming proving particularly popular and exhilarating.

The traditional and popular twice weekly Day Centres for older clients, featuring home cooked meals, a wealth of activities and entertainments, regular outings, and supported by minibus and volunteer transport, are now supplemented by a Wednesday Activity Day which provides clients with art, craft and gardening activity. Sight impaired artists achieved three gold certificates and a best in class at the Eisteddfod this year and clients' artwork is proudly displayed throughout the Centre.

EYECAN can boast a beautiful and productive vegetable and herb garden, worked and maintained by clients who first raise plants from seed in the wheelchair accessible greenhouse. Freshly picked crisp and tasty garden produce now regularly features in the light lunches served to Activity Day participants.

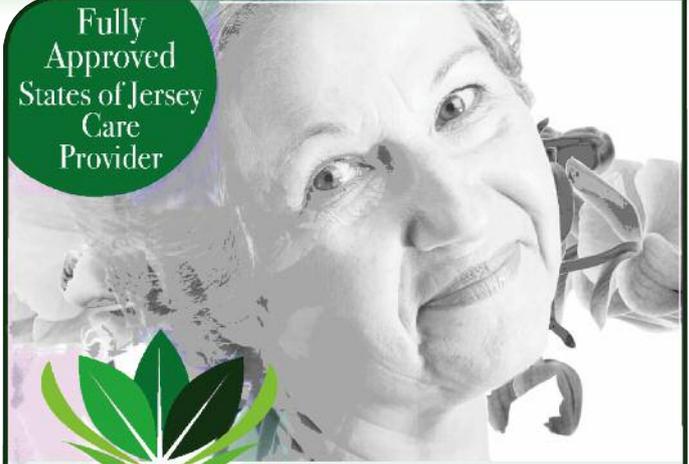
In line with EYECAN's objective to prevent islanders from acquiring problems with their sight the charity regularly raises awareness of eye health in the media and also, subject to financial review, provides funding to enable islanders, who might otherwise struggle to afford it, with free eye tests.

If you, a family member or friend, has impaired sight please don't hesitate to contact us. We look forward to hearing from you.

For further information about EYECAN visit our website www.eyecan.je or phone 841034.

Sarah Shaw
Welfare and Advocacy Officer

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ST JOHN'S SCHOOL CLASS OF 2016

Year 6 school leavers

Eight years of learning and taking risks, has prepared me for the unpredictable future. Nobody can foresee and control what lies ahead but St John's school has laid the foundations on which I can build my educational life. I'm proud to be member of this community. I'm proud to belong.



There's a difference between being a student and belonging. To be a student, you only attend something, whereas to belong, you must feel secure. I, personally, feel like I belong at St John's and it will therefore be a very emotional time when I leave. I appreciate the support and trust the teachers have given me. They have helped my confidence grow, like a seed. Now I feel tall and strong, knowing strategies and solutions to my learning life.

Another aspect of St John's school that I will never forget is friendship and how everybody is so kind and supportive, no matter who you are. My friends have always been helpful, showing fairness and kindness. I will never forget my primary school friends and I will miss them very much, as I turn to the next chapter in my life. When times have been tough and I have required a helping hand, Grace, Kula, Brenna, Georgina, Freya and Amelia have stood by me. From the beginning of nursery and to

the end of year six, these six girls have shown me their inner beauty; friendliness. In the future, I hope to have the same amount of loyalty in my friends from secondary school as I do with my sympathetic, caring friends from primary school.

Thinking, learning, caring, three words which transformed academic lessons into intriguing, helpful opportunities. Throughout the years, Thinking, Learning, Caring, has been our school motto and having been a part of this community for eight years, I understand the depth of this motto. Thinking, learning and caring is something you must do to succeed and accomplish your goals, which is what St John's school is all about.

My time at St John's school has been extremely life-changing. Many opportunities have proceeded my way and I have said yes to each and every one. For example, the Christmas production and the French trip. I am exceedingly grateful for all that St John's school has done for me, in order for me to succeed in life. I look forward to seeing my talented friends' futures and wish everybody good luck. Thank you, St John's, for unforgettable memories, and goodbye. I will miss you but I have to move on

Mia Murphy



Next adventure – Secondary School

Comments from other class members:

No other school has ever worked so hard to make every single pupil a better learner. People might just think of St John's School as any other ordinary primary school. However, there is something special about this school.

Ben McNaney

I have been at St John's School for eight years of my life. Throughout my time here, I have gathered lots of memories and knowledge to help me grow as a learner and a person.

Brenna Dubois

I have become a much more independent learner. This school has laid the foundation of my future. Thank you St John for the incredible learning experiences you have given me.

Jadyn Dupré

Fun at St John is paramount. Teachers ensure that lessons are fun and exciting to do.

Jasper Macdonald

I have had many great years at St John's learning everything I know. My favourite subject has always been maths and I still enjoy it now.

Daniel Farnden

One of my best memories at St Johns was when our class went to France. As it was amazing interacting with different people, I never thought I would be able to work with.

Oliver Tomlinson

Thinking, Learning, Caring: our school moto. What does it mean to me? Throughout my time at St John's School I have learnt to have resilience and confidence. Without these attributes I would not be the learner that I am today.

Kula Dickson

Through eight years of fun and education, I have learned and achieved many things. My confidence has developed with the many opportunities, including the Christmas production (where I played the role of Kai).

Isaac Knight



St John's Youth Project



St John's Youth Project is having a busy summer. All age groups have been involved in a host of activities ranging from meditation and healthy eating nights through to surf lessons.

We have a fantastic group of young people that are up for getting involved in all sorts of things. The trained youth workers support them to help out with running the tuck shop and organising activities, encouraging them to develop skills for their future.



Change to Sessions from September 6th
 Please note that from September 6th 2016 our sessions will change. Years 7, 8 and 9 will be on a Tuesday night so we can use the sports hall. Please see the table below.

TUESDAY	INTERS	SCHOOL YRS 7, 8, 9	7.00 – 9.00PM
WEDNESDAY	SENIORS	SCHOOL YRS 10 – 13	7.00 – 9.00PM
FRIDAY	JUNIORS	SCHOOL YRS 5 + 6	6.30 – 8.30PM





Surf Lessons at St Ouen We went on the minibus to St Ouen for a surfing lesson. The teachers showed us different techniques and helped us to catch waves and stand up. I managed to stand up which felt amazing! It was brilliant fun and we are doing it again soon. Chloe; Age 11



Sponsored Jump Update In the last edition we were about to attempt to jump the equivalent height of the Burj Khalifa (829m) from the diving boards at Aqua Splash. I am pleased to say that we succeeded and raised over £200! Thankyou to everyone for sponsoring the young people who jumped.

The money young people raised jumping off the Aqua splash diving board has been helping subsidise paint balling sessions which everyone has enjoyed!



St John's Youth Project have taken part in youth club football games against St Mary, St Lawrence and La Pouquelaye over the summer. So far we have won two and lost one... The games continue!





The Jersey Warriors Kick Boxing club kindly ran a taster session for us which was fantastic. Thanks Tom! Here are some of the juniors getting involved...



We have a thriving youth project at St John and one that the whole Parish should be proud of. The project relies on volunteers to help supervise sessions and sit on the Project committee. We are currently desperate for some new members to help out on the committee. The commitment is small; they meet about five times a year with a remit to support the project with fundraising ideas and advice on the running of the youth club. There is no contact with young people in the role. We have a thriving membership at the club. It would be brilliant to see members of the community make a commitment to the continued success of the project. If you have any questions or are interested in helping out please contact St John's youth worker Bill Moore on 07797 819958 or email billmoore@jys.je

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If you find other injured wildlife please phone the JSPCA on 01534 724331 or your vet – you should not be charged for wildlife.

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<http://jerseyhedgehogs.co.uk/Jersey Hedgehog Preservation Group>

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Help the Parish Administration Team reduce their blood pressure!

Parish Secretary Sue Rodrigues talks to Jo Falla about the pleasures and frustrations of parish work



*Kieranne Grimshaw, Sue Rodrigues,
Nick Lane, Sue Baudin*

Sue takes a great deal of pride in the Parish of St John and the well-being of all the Parishioners. Sue, together with the other staff employed at the Parish Hall, work tirelessly to ensure that the necessary Parish Administration always runs smoothly.

She tells me how much satisfaction the team get from organising events such as the Liberation Day party, Senior Citizen's Christmas lunch, Santa's visit for the youngsters and very recently the Parish tea party to celebrate the Her Majesty The Queen's 90th birthday. A lovely community spirit exists in St John and the Administration do their best to encourage this to flourish.

All of these kind of occasions take a good deal of planning to put together. Sue and her three part-time staff do this with great pleasure, knowing that the people of St John look forward to them immensely. There is, however, another side to their work which sometimes takes a disproportionate amount of time: chasing parishioners for their annual routine paperwork.

Rates

The Annual Schedules are sent out at the beginning of each year and must be completed and returned fifteen days after they are sent out; normally 15th January. It is vital that the parish has the correct information about owners and occupiers of all land, properties and fields to enable the setting of the Rate. These funds go directly to the running of the Parish and contribute to Island's taxes.

Nobody likes receiving a bill, but the Rates Demand is just that; a bill which is payable on demand and a legal obligation on every owner and occupier. The staff constantly have to telephone, email and write to people to make sure that they pay within the three-month deadline. The Administration does not want anyone to be charged the extra 10% surcharge and do all they can so that this can be avoided.

Sue stresses that if anyone is in genuine financial difficulty about paying their Rates, the Constable's door is always open for a discussion on the way forward. There is also a popular and efficient 'Standing Order Club' which enables Parishioners to

pay a little each month to meet the following year's rates. Please contact Sue for further information if this service may be of assistance to you.

Dog Licences

Everyone with a dog knows that they need a dog licence – a form must be returned by the end of January with a payment of £5. Again, many hours are spent reminding owners to do this and the £5 fee doubles to £10 if the payment is received after 31st January.

Electoral Registration

These forms are sent out annually in April so that Parishioners are entitled to vote at any Parish/Island elections. Everyone who lives in the Parish should return them to the Parish Hall by 1st July because if three years go by without the receipt of a registration form it puts the person's right to vote in jeopardy and no one wants that.

St John's is a well-run Parish; please support Sue and her team by helping to reduce the time and money spent on chasing! THANK-YOU.



St John Football Club

Season 2015–16

The season just concluded was a successful one at St John. Under the guidance of Lucas Parker, the first team came 7th in the Premiership, their highest position in over a decade. The season started with 15 teams in the enlarged Premiership and was split into Premiership and Champion divisions at Christmas. Every team played the each other three times, home, away and at the neutral Springfield. With only a small squad, St John did extremely well to finish as high up the League as they did. There was also Trophy wins for the Ladies team managed by Neil Baxter and Andy Fortune in the Zenith Cup and The Under 15s, managed by Allan Watts, Dan Andrews and Matt Claxton in the Chairman's Cup.

Season 2016–17

With the new season starting in August, St John are pleased to announce the line-up of managers and coaches for the 2016–17 season, and are pleased to welcome back to the club, Alan 'Postie' Tardival as assistant for the First team and Ramsey Cudlipp as manager of the C team. Ramsey has already caused a stir in the football community in calling for some matches to be played on Saturday mornings, a 10.30am kick-off. While this may not be for everyone, football must look to be flexible and look at other alternatives to Saturday afternoons. The full line up is:

Team	Manager	Assistant
First Team	Joe Byrne	Alan Tardival
C Team	Ramsey Cudlipp	
Under 16	Allan Watts	Dan Andrews and Matt Claxton
Under 15	Vince Roberts	TBA

Junior Academy

In the last edition of The Star, I mentioned that St John had plans to start a Junior Academy. As part of this plan, Dan Garton (Level 2 qualified FA coach) and Laura Byrne, both pictured have recently offered free training sessions for juniors on Saturday mornings. The sessions were well attended, but have now stopped for summer.



Dan and Laura

Due to the popularity Dan and Laura are hoping to begin further Saturday morning sessions starting at the end of August, and would be interested to hear from interested parents of boys and girls of all ages. They would be particularly interested to hear from anyone in school years 1–4. Please contact either Dan Garton 07797-838000, or Nigel Perrée 865113.

Focus on – St John Under 16s

St John Under 16 are coached by Allan Watts and his two assistants Dan Andrews and Matt Claxton. This will now be the third season that Allan, Dan and Matt have coached these players, and it is not without success. The squad of 25 boys have been together for two full seasons and have developed into a cohesive and talented unit under the guidance of Allan, Dan and Matt. With strength and depth, this enables the coaches to select different teams for different occasions.

Last season St John U15 beat Rozel Rovers in the Final of the Chairman's Cup at Springfield. It was a lively first half, but St John's football ability and strength of character saw them through. They eventually ran out 3–1 winners, with goals from Oscar Le Seelleur, Will Dowling and Jonathon Pirie. The team finished third in the Division 1, behind St Paul and St Peter, quite an achievement for both the players and the coaches.

Now a year older, the team will play as St John Under 16, with home games on Sunday mornings at St John pitch. Kick-offs are at 10.30am and match days can be found in the JEP and the notice board in the precinct.



St John Under 16 team

Pitch Maintenance

Ever since I can recall, TTS have maintained, cut the grass and marked the pitch lines at St John. With the planned cut backs, this service will no longer be available. The club are looking at several options, one of which maybe to cut and maintain the pitch ourselves. I would be interested in hearing from anyone who would be willing to help with such a task.

Committee members required

In the last edition of The Star I made an appeal for committed and energetic people to join our committee in order to continue to support and promote our St John's teams and Club. Young or old, men or women, we are still on the look out for members.

Please call St John President – Nigel Perrée on 865113 if you are interested.

Nigel Perrée, President



Leicester City - Champions of the Premiership

Richard Dupré talks to David Rouillé about their long support of the club

While on holiday in the UK at about twelve years of age David Rouille was taken by a relative to a football match. The match he went to see was at Leicester City, thus starting a 70-year relationship as a serious fan of the club.

After his retirement David travelled to see them play when he could, and during the nineties to 2002 he sponsored the match ball on many occasions. This sponsoring at Filbert Street, involved hosting a table of guests for a meal prior to the match, so David invited some of his friends to go with him to these games. Quite a few of us have been with him over the years and have also become avid Leicester City fans, and two of



us who have also taken our sons on these occasions have, we hope, encouraged younger Leicester City fans in the Island.

We have been to Wembley on two occasions for League Cup finals to watch our team win under the then manager Martin O'Neill, but on this momentous year for the club with no really

expensive players it's been a fairytale Premiership win that has given us huge pride in our team.



Standing: Harry Rondel, Richard Dupré, Michel Larose
Seated: Richard Le Sueur, David Rouillé, Carl Hinault

A Leicester City fan born and bred

I must have been four or five when my Dad took me to my first City match at Filbert Street. It was Leicester v Liverpool, and I still remember the balding guy in the Liverpool team who must have been Jimmy Melia. I don't remember the score or anything else about my initiation as a Leicester fan. Whilst still at primary school, Saturday at Filbert Street became the highlight of my week. Until recently I still kept my (obligatory) school diaries that chronicled the heroics of City players such as Mike Stringfellow and Albert Cheeseborough (why do footballers no longer sport such names?). I was obsessed with all things to do with Leicester. I collected programmes, badges, and later the players' autographs. I still have them. My grandad was a season ticket holder and I would often sit on his knee in the 'Double-decker' stand, having been lifted over the turnstile (clubs weren't so money conscious in those days). At secondary school, the school football team had a single complimentary pass to City games

which secured me free entry to Filbert Street for the best part of two years. My heroes were now Keith Weller and Frank Worthington – exceptionally gifted, maverick players. We named our son Frankie.

University came along but I still managed to get back to Leicester regularly to see the City play. We were in the old 'Second Division' then and, studying in the north-west, I was able to savour the delights of Oldham, Bolton, Blackburn, Preston and Blackpool on match days.

Dedication to attending matches

My job as a teacher took me from Manchester to Malaga and finally to Jersey. It was now harder to get to games, although I think I've averaged three games a season since becoming an honorary bean. Nowadays, with a bit of nous, it is possible to watch virtually every game 'live' through the internet. In the meantime, Frankie, our oldest son, became an avid City fan and I think I've managed to keep our



younger son (Alfie) from the clutches of bigger clubs (bribed by a new away strip!)

For half a century I have followed Leicester 'over land and sea' as the terrace chant goes. I've seen a few good Leicester teams, quite a few bad ones, but 'indifferent' probably sums up where the Foxes have been for most of my lifetime. Until the 2015-16 season! After finding ourselves in the higher reaches of the League in November (when the first flag was draped from our bathroom window), the pressure that every game carried made Saturday afternoons almost unbearable. The vocabulary of our sons has certainly been enriched as a result. The pundits wrote our chances off after every game, but we kept the faith. We won the League with a game in hand. People say, "I bet you wish you'd placed a bet on at the start of the season when the odds were 5,000 : 1" Well yes, that would have been nice, but I think that they miss the point. I never thought I would see Leicester win the League in my lifetime, and to witness this, far exceeds any financial windfall.



Alfie, May 2016



Frankie and Kasper Schmeichel, 2012

Experience of a lifetime

We all went back to Leicester a month ago for the Kasabian gig at the King Power (successor to the bygone Filbert Street). This was party time, the 'celebration concert'. The feel good factor in the city was tangible.



LCFC mural

Fans of smaller teams see their club as more than just eleven players. The local club stands for the values and aspirations of the town. And, for the moment at least, my team is the best in England. I could not be more proud of the city of my birth.

Mick Jones

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L'ÉTAILE DU NORD

The magazine is published for the Parish of St John by the Editorial team:
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PARISH HALL

Tel 861999 Fax 864553 E-mail: posj@gov.je
Website: www.parish.gov.je/st_john/

PARISH HALL OPENING HOURS

Monday, Tuesday and Friday
9.00am – 1.00pm 2.00pm – 4.00pm
Wednesday: 9.00am – 1.00pm 2.00pm – 7.00pm
CLOSED ALL DAY THURSDAY

If you would like your event or an article to appear
on the website please email us on posj@gov.je



ST JOHN'S PARISH CONTACTS

Archery: Martin Pomroy – 855479
Bell Ringing: Justin Read – 888484
Bingo: Muriel Poisson – 863184
Bonne Nuit Boat Owners: Linda Carter – 864828
Bonne Nuit Harbour Festival: Neil Cotillard – 07797 797834
Brownies: Donna Tupper – 865728
Carpet Bowls: Shirley Caurel – 863825
Caesarean Handbell Ringers: Diane Nelson – 481898
Constable: Christopher Taylor – 864274
Deputy: Tracey Vallois – 867741
Football Club: Nigel Perrée – 865113
Friends of Bonne Nuit: Gary Romeril – 861972
Golden Age Club: Wendy Rondel – 863667
Honorary Police: 866560
Kickboxing: Tom – 07797 969522
Les Frères Mother Toddler and Baby Group:
 Claire Kybett – 07700 702661
Parish Hall: 861999
Rector: Revd Andy Thewlis – 861677
School: 861692
Shooting Club: John Renouf – 861908
Skateboard Association: John Fosse – 861688
Star of the North (Editor): Jo Falla – 861611
Tennis: Tina Spencer-Nairn – 861716
Twining Association: Ron Le Hérissier – 862010
Women's Institute: Karen Cotillard – 863296
United Reformed Church: Secretary Michael Ruskin – 482366
Youth & Community Trust: Revd Andy Thewlis – 861677
Youth Project: Rosemary Dupré – 866880
Youth Worker: Bill Moore – 07797 819958

Parish surgeries that will be held at the Parish hall

April 6th 5pm 7pm
 May 4th 5pm 7pm
 June 1st 5pm 7pm
 July 6th 5pm 7pm
 August 3rd 5pm 7pm

Parish Pétanque

There are now ten parishes taking part in the Parish Pétanque League and we are very keen to attract more people to play for St John. Pétanque is easy to learn, sociable and played in the fresh air. So if you have a couple of hours to spare come along and try the game and enjoy a cup of coffee afterwards. We are happy to teach anyone and boules will be provided. Support your parish and give Ron Le Hérissier a call on 862010 to find out more.

PARISH DIARY August to December 2016

AUGUST

Mon 22nd		Youth Project closes for Summer Break
Tues 30th	7.30pm	Muriel's Bingo in the Parish Hall
Wed 31st	2.30pm	Golden Age Club meet at the Parish Hall

SEPTEMBER

Mon 5th		Back to school
Wed 7th		Youth Project Opens reopens after Summer Break
Thurs 8th		Battle of Britain Air Show – no school
Tues 13th		WI 'Fun with GO TOURS Holidays' in the Parish Hall
Thur 15th		Visite du Branchage
Sun 18th	10.30am	Harvest Festival at the URC
Mon 19th	7.00pm	St John's School PTA AGM
Sun 25th	10.30am	Harvest Celebration at the Parish Church
Tues 27th	7.30pm	Muriel's Bingo in the Parish Hall
Wed 28th	12.00pm	Golden Age Club Lunch departs from the Parish Hall Hall

OCTOBER

Fri 7th	2.30pm	St John's School Pop-in afternoon
Tues 11th	7.30pm	WI 'Pumpkin & Veg sculpting in Fancy Dress' in the Parish Hall
Sun 16th	10.30am	Rector's final service at the Parish Church
Fri 21st		Last day of half Term
Tues 25th	7.30pm	Muriel's Bingo in the Parish Hall
Wed 26th	2.30pm	Golden Age Club meet at the Parish Hall
Mon 31st		Back to school

NOVEMBER

Tues 8th	7.30pm	WI 'Resolutions meeting' in the Parish Hall
Sun 13th	10.30am	Remembrance Sunday Service at the Parish Church, organised by the St John's Group of Churches
Fri 25th		St John's School Deco Day
Sun 27th	6.00pm	Advent Sunday Service of Remembrance at the Parish Church
Tues 29th	7.30pm	Muriel's Christmas Bingo in the Parish Hall
Wed 30th	2.30pm	Golden Age Club meet at the Parish Hall

DECEMBER

Fri 9th	12.30pm	Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch
Sun 11th	6.00pm	St John's group of Churches Carols by Candle Light at the URC
Tues 13th	7.30pm	WI meeting in the Parish Hall
Thurs 15th		Last Day of term



St John's Inn

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We are closed on Mondays but will be open on bank Holidays



Photo courtesy of Jersey Seafaris

The Co-operative Society's Eco Fund is helping research into Bottle-nosed Dolphins, seen here at Les Écréhous, living in Jersey waters