

Elm Tree planting
in new Memorial Garden Field
on Tuesday 21st February 2017



St John Constable Christopher Taylor and Jersey Electricity's Health, Safety and Environment Manager Andre de St George braved fog, drizzle and mud this morning to plant the parish's final Elm tree opposite the Parish Hall as part of the National Trust for Jersey's project to restore the Island's Elm population.

To mark its 80th anniversary in 2016 the Trust sought help to plant 80 Elms across the Island and launch a 'Wildlife Hedge Fund' to plant 1km of hedges a year around the charity's 600 verges of agricultural lands. To encourage more of its customers to move from paper bills to ebills, Jersey Electricity donated £5 for every person who switched last autumn, raising £3,000 for the Trust. Over half of JE's 50,000 customers now receive ebills. Those who also pay them by Direct Debit receive a £3 discount off their quarterly bills.

Lands Manager Jon Parkes said: 'Seventy five of the 80 Elms have now been planted across 10 parishes, the remaining five are destined for La Feverie, Trinity, a National Trust property, and St Ouen;'s Manor

Constable Taylor, said: 'The Trust planted the first five Elms for us at various points around the Parish, including the Cemetery, Allotments & Sheltered Housing. We have been waiting for a secure cattle guard to be erected before planting this last one. Our plan is to turn part of this field into a new Memorial Garden for parishioners to enjoy as well as badly needed extra car parking for the school and church. We've planted all our six Elms with an eye on the future. They will be magnificent in their various settings in years to come.'