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From the Editor

What a pleasure it is to include in this issue such a charming letter from retired French Colonel, Denis Lecrés. Col. Lecrés is hoping to write a book on ‘Les Écréhous’ and is seeking the help of parishioners who might wish to cooperate in this project. I do hope he receives a positive response.

I’m pleased to say that we intend to feature the Écréhous in our next (May) issue. I spent a number of magical summers with my father on the rocky islets and I look forward to revisiting them. I shall pack my sea-legs.

Thank you again to everyone who contributes to our community magazine, and especially to those who go out of their way to take such excellent photographs. Claire Jehan’s photographs have been such a strength since our very first issue, but I must thank, in particular, David Ward, who made such an excellent job in this issue of recording the Diamond Club’s Christmas Party. When he could have been eating cake and drinking wine with the best of them he took time to snap so many happy faces.

My thanks once again to the Connétable for his enthusiastic and active support, and, in particular, for the numerous articles and photographs he provides. Michel is what my parents’ generation would have called ‘a good sport’, hence the photograph on the next page!

Keep ideas coming in. A chance remark in the Public Hall will often lead to an interesting and unexpected new article, and I can always be contacted on 853035 or at grahamjcrosby@gmail.com.

Graham Crosby

Feature articles in this issue:

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Martin Walton reveals another Occupation mystery

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Louise Tuckwell meets Suzanne Blackstone, artist and adventurer

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Sharon Harmeston explores the history of the Crown Hotel, today’s Checkers Express

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Leslie Allo visits the RNLI Station at St Catherine’s

Cover photographs by Claire Jehan
Having this page as a regular spot gives me a free hand that’s just restricted by word count. Much of Les Nouvelles covers Parish events that have occurred in the previous three months, but of course you also want to know about ongoing and future projects especially if they are likely to affect your next rates bill.

At the time of writing, the team at the Public Hall are busy collating all the Rates Return forms that you have sent back in preparation for the Rates Assessors to start their arduous role. January also sees dog licences, wide-vehicle permit requests and the annual al-fresco permits arriving in the post daily in what is always a busy month.

Building work is progressing well on the new school despite the recent wet weather, and I can imagine the excitement for the children as they see their new school taking shape so quickly. The future use of the existing school will be of great interest to parishioners as it is to be returned to the Parish once vacated. I have already received expressions of interest as well as a whole range of possible suggestions for its use. A Parish Assembly will be held in due course to put all those options to you.

We are currently awaiting the report of the Independent Inspectors following the Examination in Public held in January 2014 of a review of specific aspects of the Island Plan. The St Martin’s Housing Association and the Village Plan Working Party were just about to bring forward propositions regarding a small development of affordable homes for young buyers but that had to be placed on hold during the Review. Both Deputy Luce and I were invited to address the Inspectors at the Examination.

As a result of a survey I had undertaken on the condition of the Parish Depot I decided to seek temporary alternative accommodation and will be seeking the views of parishioners as to whether to refurbish the existing building to an acceptable standard or to dispose of it and seek to build a new Depot.

Planning permission was granted for the proposed Village Green Pavilion / Tea Room and the more detailed plans are now with the Planning Department. Meanwhile the fund-raising team have been busy collecting the ‘pledges’ they had originally received. The sub-group are currently short of approximately £10,000 (hint??) but have raised £90,000 which is an absolutely fantastic response from parishioners and friends of the project. Thank you all.

I very much hope to hold an Assembly in the near future to update parishioners on the impassess surrounding the ownership of the Maufant Village roads. Both Deputy Luce and I can now see why it has taken since 1979, but I think it imperative that an Assembly is held in our term to explain the situation to all parishioners.

Finally, what a pleasing sight it is to drive past the Rectory at night and to once again see the warm glow of lights shining out from the building that is once again being occupied as a family home. We wish our new tenants a happy (and hopefully long!) stay in this most interesting home.

Michel le Troquer, Connétable
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Steve Luce:
Still working together - still trying to make things better

‘Deciding to work together is a little like deciding to start breathing’

I’ve really enjoyed writing my pieces for the magazine; I’ve also deliberately avoided writing about politics: does anyone really want to know what we do ‘in the States’? However, the Editor has invited me to share some ‘political’ thoughts with you, and who can refuse such a request?

My first problem was deciding what to call the article? ‘The Good, the Bad and the Ugly’? ‘My Life in the Big House’? ‘28 Months and Counting’? I could go on and on. I finally decided on ‘Working Together’, which are the two words that I base everything on. When I stood for election my manifesto was based on working together; every time I speak in the Assembly I speak about working together. If we work together we can achieve great things, and we must always try.

There’s no doubt that my work is split into three different, but interconnecting, parts. First there is my Parish work, secondly my Scrutiny work and last (but not least) my work in the Assembly, and for this issue I’ll tell you a very little bit about what happens in the corridors of power.

The States of Jersey is a legislature, and that means that we decide on our own laws. In order to change laws we need States decisions, and that’s one of the main reasons why we sit in the ‘Big House’. We also set our own financial rules, and that means setting our own spending and taxes; and if we do our job properly then there’s lots of different departments that all have to work together. I realise that we don’t always seem to be very ‘joined up’(!), but we are looking to change the rules later this year to make sure we can work better together. Once we have done that I am very confident we can start to deliver a better government for Jersey - one that spends less, delivers value for money, and (most importantly from your point of view) taxes people less; won’t that be nice. To tax less we have to spend less, and I’m looking forward to doing my bit to make this happen.

Maybe I should just say a little about how changes are made. Every time you want to make a States’ decision you need to write a Proposition (usually only a few words), but that also means writing a report to explain what you want to do (usually lots of words!). Once you’ve written your R & P (as the Report and Proposition are known) you ‘lodge’ it with the Greffier which just means sending it all in to be checked, and it is the Bailiff that gets the final say as to whether it’s all properly set out and legal. Everyone is then informed that you have lodged, and after that it’s a waiting game (normally a six week gap before the debate, i.e. enough time for others to propose changes) and then the debate happens. The proposer makes his opening speech, everyone has a chance to say what they think (good or bad) and then the proposer gets a final speech before the vote is taken. We all push our buttons at the same time, and the Bailiff announces the result. That’s a very shortened version, I wish I had more time and space on this page.

Finally: what’s been my most successful proposition so far? I think being able to finally persuade the Assembly that we needed to give some compensation to Terry McDonald for his failed fireworks display was very satisfying. So many people had asked me to do something, I was so pleased to be successful, and to show that your Parish Deputy can ‘work with others’ and make a real difference.

Steve
Parish news
from the Connétable

St Martin’s Bonfire
Thank you and congratulations to everyone involved in the delivery of this great Parish event.
Bonfire photographs
by Claire Jehan
Once again Ted and Betty Tadier and their team have come up trumps.

St Martin’s Poppy Whist Drive raised an impressive £1,222 for the annual Poppy Appeal, and this was boosted by a surprise donation of £100 from Norma and Geoff Ryan. The couple live in South Africa and have for many years holidayed in Jersey for about six weeks a year during which time they always enjoy playing at St Martin’s Tuesday Whist Club. The photograph shows Ted and Betty presenting a cheque for the Connétable’s Fund following their weekly Whist Drives in 2013.

And special congratulations to Ted and Betty who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary with their family and friends in January at the St Brelade’s Bay Hotel.

The Connétable has recently received this most interesting letter from Monsieur Denis Lecrés, a retired French colonel.

Any parishioner interested in helping Col. Lecrés with his book should contact him at La Tuque de Cabalsaut, 47240 Castleculier, France.

Dear Sir,

As it is my intention in the very near future to write a book concerning Les Écréhous, I am very interested in contacting you, of course, and persons of your Parish who know history, stories, tales, smugglers, ‘la fraude’, about this very little archipelago which has a very magical charm.

First time I went to Les Écréhous I was 15-years-old, and now I am 72. I knew as well as possible the strange and sympathetic Alphonse Le Gastelois; and at the same time I encamped on Maitre Ile to explore all the reefs with my boat. It was in 1969, and since that time I visit Les Écréhous every year when there are not too many ‘Frenchmen stray’.

I should be most obliged if you would send to me all documentation about that. No problem to pay. It will be one work, our book.

Yours faithfully,

Colonel Denis Lecrés, retired officer

Below: Photograph courtesy of Colin Griffiths

Centenier Peter Searle: Honorary service recognised

By Michel Le Troquer

Although each Parish has its own method of recognising voluntary work undertaken by members of its local municipality, the Honorary Police Association, after consultation with the Comité des Connétables and Comité des Chefs in 2010, undertook formalising that of the Honorary Police. Inscribed glass plaques are presented by the Association on the completion of nine and eighteen years’ service respectively.

The nine-year award is normally presented at a Parish Assembly but the 18-year award is presented by an invited guest during the Annual General Meeting and Dinner of the Honorary Police Association. Although many parishioners have given of their time to serve in the Honorary Police the number who actually complete six or more terms in office is somewhat limited and the association like to recognise the feat at the formal ceremony where a VIP guest makes the presentation.

It came to the notice of the Connétable that Centenier Searle had in fact completed nearly 20 years’ service but had not received his 18-year award. Following some research the situation was finally resolved with the assistance of staff at Grouville Parish Hall confirming the service Peter had spent in that Parish as an Honorary Officer before moving on to St Martin in 2002.

At a Parish Assembly held in November 2013 the Connétable congratulated Centenier Searle and said he was delighted to present him with his delayed 18-year service award. He thanked Centenier Searle for the work he had undertaken as a Constable’s Officer and a Centenier in both Parishes and over such a prolonged period. The Connétable also thanked Peter’s wife Felicity for all the support she gave to Peter undertaking his role and for the support she too gave at many of the events held in the Parish.

Below left: Ted and Betty celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary

Below: Ted and Betty present their cheque to the Connétable
Maufant Youth Centre

By Michel Le Troquer

The Parish of St Martin are delighted to be supporting Maufant Centre once again this year and recently signed off the ‘partnership agreement’ with the Department for Education, Sport and Culture.

Both organisations are committed to the development of youth work in the Parish and to this the Parish have agreed to work in partnership with the Maufant Youth Project Committee of which the Connétable is a now member. At the last Rates Assembly in St Martin the parishioners approved a further grant of £12,000 for the forthcoming year in order to help support our young people.

Although the Maufant Centre is outside the Parish (just!) many young parishioners use it as their ‘club’ with sessions that are held on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays for different aged groups. ‘Off-of-centre’ activities are also held during the year around the Island and it was encouraging that club members participated at Parish events, as a club and promoting their work, during the past year. Although the centre may be outside of St Martin it is ideally located to serve Maufant Village and within easy reach of the majority of parishioners. It is also on a good bus route (for some!).

Andy Harris is now well established as the Senior Youth Leader for the Youth Project and would be delighted to hear from anyone interested in joining the club or from any adult or parent willing to become a member of the Youth Project Committee. He would also be happy to answer any questions you have about the centre and may be reached on 851649, mobile 07797 758297 or on email andrewharris@youthservice.yc.je.

Parish Officials sworn in

By Michel Le Troquer

Congratulations and thank you to Mr John Poole and Mr Clifford (Bob) Pallot who were re-elected in November for a further three-year term as Rates Assessors for the Parish. John is the Chairman of the St Martin’s Assessors and was first elected as a Rates Assessor in 1997. Prior to that John served terms in the Honorary Police as both a Constable’s Officer and Centenier. It is no surprise that the Assessors are correctly identified as ‘Experts’ in the Rates book and Parish website. The wealth of knowledge John has accumulated over such a long period, a time when we were still filling in those long narrow Returns before the Rates Law changed in 2005, is a source of expertise that many other parishes would be delighted to hold on to.

Bob was first elected a Rates Assessor in November 2012 to complete the term of an Assessor following an early resignation. Bob must have enjoyed the role and working with the four other Assessors as he offered himself up for re-election. Although he is still building up his Rates skills Bob has served in other roles in the past including many years with the Honorary Police and of course, as the very successful Chairman of the St Martin’s Battle of Flowers Association back in the 1990s.

Information regarding the whole issue of ‘rates’ was described in the last edition of Les Nouvelles, and we thank Sue De Gruchy for her clear explanation as to how the system works!

Mr Rhys Lewis was elected as a Constable’s Officer for the Vingtaine de Rozel at the same Parish Assembly and took his Oath of Office at the same sitting of the Royal Court. It is great to have people volunteer for honorary positions in the Parishes and even more so when they are young men, keen to keep up the traditions of honorary service for their community. To be sworn in before the Royal Court on the same morning as two stalwarts of the Parish must have been inspiring for Rhys. We are delighted to have Rhys on board and wish him all the best in the demanding but interesting role.
Parishnews

Gorey Fête 2013

By Michel Le Troquer

Congratulations must go to the dedicated Gorey Fête and Gymkhana Committee who despite the disappointment of the cold and wet 2012 Fête pressed ahead with another in 2013, details of which were covered in the autumn edition of Les Nouvelles. Anyone who has organised such a large event knows it takes some time for all the invoices to be received and accounts to be settled. However, after that task was finally completed a decision was taken that, as in previous years, profits would be shared between a number of local charities. A small sub-group put together recommendations that are brought back to the full committee for consideration. Members think it is harder deciding which charity to choose (or leave out) than actually organising the Fête!

At a presentation evening held on Friday, 15 November 2013, over £17,500 was distributed to 30 local charities, £5,000 more than had been possible in 2012. Although too many to mention in Les Nouvelles representatives of the various charities attended the informal reception at the Public Hall to receive their cheques, and they were able to speak with members of the Committee as well as discussing their fundraising efforts with other fundraisers. Present at the event was Mr Roy Jeanne and Mr Ray Le Cornu of the Jersey Mutual Insurance Society who have kindly sponsored Gorey Fête and the annual November Bonfire for many years.

As has become the custom, many of the committee members then made their way to dinner and spent an enjoyable evening in one of the many excellent restaurants that we have to choose from around the site of the fête – Gorey. Of course 15 November 2013 was ‘Children in Need’ day and as the committee relaxed and the wine flowed their fund-raising continued with a dare! Treasurer Stephen de la Haye was targeted, in particular his beard (that’s what he called it but we’re not convinced?), and the pint glass was passed around as a collection pot. Over £200 was raised before Committee member Roger Burton carried out the shave with a razor and shaving foam hastily produced by a very organised hotel manager! Stephen’s hair was out of bounds but we can understand that! Other patrons of the restaurant joined in the fun and also contributed to the pot. Well done Stephen and we are sorry that you have allowed it to grow back; you looked younger without it!

Top: The Gorey Fête Committee
Above left: Roy Jeanne, Lester Richardson and Ray Le Cornu
Above: Stephen de La Haye in the steady hands of Roger Burton
Below: Artttttttt
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How to find us: With the Zoo on the right hand side, go through the crossroad and take the 1st turning left on bend and look for our sign.
By Katie Dunn

This summer St Martin entered two floats. The senior float was based on Snakes & Ladders and the junior’s was based on the game of Monopoly. The juniors did an amazing job winning an award this year, particularly as they design, build and decorate their own float. Many of them are now so skilled they are able to work on the senior float.

At our recent AGM we said a very sad farewell to Pauline Perchard who has been our secretary for many years and has been a hairstalling mentor to many. She will be very greatly missed and we would like to say a huge thank you to her for all she has done for St Martin’s Battle of Flowers.

Ian Barrette also stepped down from the role of Chairman. Ian does every job there is going and will be greatly missed. Fortunately he is still going to be available for us to call upon his expertise and knowledge and for that we are very grateful. A huge thank you to Ian and please don’t stay away for too long!

We would also like to thank the St Martin’s Flower Arranging Association for the wonderful displays they made for the float and Kizzy Germain and Natalie Reynolds, along with their team of ladies who kept us very well fed.

Last year we were fortunate to have a shed to build our float in but this year we are not so lucky. All the building work will have to be done in our giant marquee. We are hoping to put this up on the old depot site. Because of this we will only be entering the senior float this year as there simply isn’t room to accommodate both floats. This also means we will need more help than ever building our float as well as erecting the marquee.

We would love to welcome anyone on board to help with the float whether you have building or flowering skills to not. We are a very friendly bunch and happy to show you the ropes. We have a wonderful time during the lead up to the Battle itself and have a few social events too. Our first will be a Bingo Night on 7 February in the Public Hall. On Saturday 8 March we will be holding a Variety Show and the Miss St. Martin’s Competition. If you would like to take part in the show (anything goes!) or put yourself forward for the Miss St Martin’s Competition then please call Katie Dunn on 07797 721000 or J-P Guegan on 07797 840994 or email hello@stmartinbof.uk.

Above: Paul Guipel, Ian Barrette and Pauline Perchard
Below: The new St Martin Battle Committee
Clubnews The St Martin
Diamond Club
Christmas Party
Guest of honour: Sir David Kirch Photographs by David Ward

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Gentle Yoga With Sonia Ahier-Kerr

‘Without Yoga, my life would be like tea without sugar’ - Kathleen

The word Yoga might evoke thoughts of contorted bodies or of obscure eastern philosophy, but this is far from being Sonia Ahier-Kerr’s approach; for her and for her students Yoga provides a gentle and civilised way to relax and above all to achieve a sense of physical and mental well-being. Not that the spiritual side of Yoga is ignored; Sonia always includes a little introduction to the spiritual side and encourages discussion of the various forms of that ancient tradition.

The emphasis in the class is on relaxation, balance and posture, all of which is immediately evident when you meet her students. Everything is done to suit the various ages and states of health. For Annie ‘Yoga is good for me because I feel better and more relaxed after the class. It is also good for my asthma’ and for Eileen it is ‘Disciplined, but relaxing and rewarding.’

Sonia has been practising and teaching Yoga for over 30 years, and some of her students have been with her for at least 20. They are part of a relaxed and happy group who meet in a small class the Berni Centre in the large room on Thursday mornings. As Sonia explains: ‘Yoga is in no way competitive neither is it a religion, but, in addition to the physical postures (they are not referred to as exercises except when practising breathing), there is a vast philosophical side of which many folk are totally unaware.’

Certainly the class demonstrates, through its relaxed and friendly atmosphere, the success of Sonia’s approach. As Valerie says: ‘I’m getting older but Yoga keeps me moving’ whilst Patricia finds it ‘Very relaxing for “yesterday’s teenagers” and not too strenuous.’

The Gorey Boat Owners Association’s 50th Anniversary

In our November Issue we celebrated the Club’s 50th Anniversary with an extensive photo spread.

It is a pleasure to highlight, in this issue, the Vin d’Honneur that was held in November for former Chairmen and life members.

At this event a very generous donation was made to the CI Air Search.

Above: Former Chairmen of Gorey Boat Owners Association
The planning for our Christmas Party began quite early. As you will see from the photographs it was a lively and colourful affair. The Connétable and the Rector were two of our guests this year. We had a ‘bring and share supper’ with members bringing along their favourite recipes, some savoury and some very scrumptious desserts. We do our own entertainment which this year included a quiz, some amusing poetry and prose and, to round off, some energetic carol singing. Gareth Malone would have been delighted! A splendid raffle rounded off the evening.

We are very proud that St Martin’s WI carries on the tradition of entertaining ourselves. Our glamorous mask competition attracted a lot of entries and the winner, as judged by our invited guests, was Jo Blackiston. We also voted for the winner of Joy’s Cup. This is awarded to the member who, in the opinion of the other members, has been really helpful to St Martin’s. The winner was Jo Blackiston. We also gave out small gifts to members whom the committee felt had given that little extra to our WI. We were delighted that, as part of the proceedings, Helen Horton brought along a collection of masks which she had acquired over the years, and they made an interesting backdrop to our competition.

2014 will certainly prove to be a very busy and interesting year. As this is the centenary year of World War One we are having that as our topic in January followed by a Burlesque in February and Making a Memory Box in March - a very varied selection. We plan to have a World War One commemorative event later in the year. We try to have a broad variety of speakers and events throughout the year to satisfy all tastes and interests.

In January members will be voting for the Resolution from a meaty list of four which they would like to see debated and voted on at our national AGM which this year is being held in Leeds. St Martin’s WI is lucky this year to have a delegate at the conference. Whichever Resolution is passed the WI will petition HM Government to assist the WI in implementing it. We would like to attract more parish ladies to our WI and to this end we are holding a free Coffee Morning on Saturday, 22 March to spread the word about this lively and interesting WI. We are also having a Quiz Evening on 25 April.

Shirley Groombridge

It is with great sadness that we report the death of one of our members, Shirley Groombridge. Shirley was a very keen member of our Evening Book Group and we are reading one of her choices in March. She was also very helpful in whipping us into shape, with tolerance and patience, for our Eisteddfod performance two years ago and was a stand in when we performed the piece at our Christmas Party that year. The photograph shows Shirley having fun at the WI. We will miss her.
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Evening Dinner
(subject to availability)
There are many groups, clubs and organisations in the Parish of St Martin and a warm welcome will be extended to you should you wish to join any. If you have just moved to the Parish and wish to make new friends or are just interested in doing something different then please call the contact number shown for the relevant organisation. You will be made welcome and you’ll wonder why you didn’t do it sooner!

Club Secretaries are invited to contact the Public Hall and forward details of their organisation if missing from this inaugural list and we learn of new clubs and groups all the time. We would also appreciate if you could keep us updated with any changes within your organisation in order that we publish the correct information. Thank you.

### Parish clubs and organisations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Club/ Organisation</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Baby Clinic</strong></td>
<td>St Martin’s Public Hall every Tuesday afternoon.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Catholic Women’s League</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Elizabeth Etienne on 851234.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gorey Boat Owners Association</strong></td>
<td>Contacts with committee members solely by email: see <a href="http://www.boa.org.uk">www.boa.org.uk</a>.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gorey Gymkhana and Fete Committee</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Jennie Moseley on email <a href="mailto:secretary.gfc@gmail.com">secretary.gfc@gmail.com</a> or St Martin’s Public Hall.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maufoot Youth Club, St Saviour</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Youth Centre on 851649 or the Youth Service on 449394 for more information.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mobile Library Visit</strong></td>
<td>Every Tuesday 10.15 -11am, Parish Car Park opposite Public Hall.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rozel Rovers Football Club</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Lester Richardson on 07797 725755.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Shape up to Music</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Jayne or Julie on 864569. St Martin’s School on Tuesdays at 6.30pm or Sundays at 10.30am.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Catherine’s Sailing Club</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Commodore Simon Le Huray on 851111 or committee members on <a href="mailto:stcs@jerseymail.co.uk">stcs@jerseymail.co.uk</a>.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Martin’s Battle of Flowers Association</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Ian Barette on 851995 or Pauline Perchard on 851792 or Paul Gicquel on 854927. Regular fundraising events throughout spring and spring. Annual float building from March onwards.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Martin’s Bonfire Committee</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Jennie Moseley on email <a href="mailto:secretary.gfc@gmail.com">secretary.gfc@gmail.com</a>, or St Martin’s Public Hall.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Martin’s Conservation Trust</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Chairman Gerald Le Cooq on 854234 or Secretary Antony Gibb on 863211.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Martin’s Diamond Club (over 60’s)</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Christine De La Haye on 852223. Meet first Thursday every month at Public Hall for regular talks, outings, lunches and events.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Martin’s Flower Club</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Sandra Le Vesconte on 852256. Meet first Wednesday at Public Hall at 2.30pm unless first Wednesday is the 1st of month.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>St Martin’s Football Club</strong></td>
<td>Contact: “Honest Nev”, Neville Ahier on 862482.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>St Martin’s Jumelage - Twinned with Montmartin-sur-Mer</strong></td>
<td>Contact: President Gerard Le Cooq on 854234 or Secretary Karen White on 852062 or Membership Secretary Collette Quinn on 852997. Regular social gatherings, meals and visits to France.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Martin’s Junior Battle of Flowers</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Ian Barette on 851995 or Kizzie Germain on 857338.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>St Martin’s Parish in Bloom</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Kay Laverty on 853041.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>St Martin’s Petanque Group</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Judy Eden on 721601. Meet on the Village Green Saturday and Tuesday at 2pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>St Martin’s Rifle Club</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Sue de Gruchy on 851682 or David Germain on 851656.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Martin’s School Children’s Gardening Club</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Kay Laverty on 853041 or Head Teacher Sarah Briggs on 851812.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Martins Support Group</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Barbara Le Troquer on 851936 or Jean Crosby on 853035 or Megan Gaudin on 856753.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Martins Women’s Institute</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Anne Pasturel on 730409. Meet at Public Hall, second Mondays at 8pm.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Toddler Group</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Camilla Glover-Green on 07797 816200. Meet Methodist Centre Wednesdays 9.30 -11.30.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3rd Jersey Scout Group</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Group Scout Leader Hayley Dewar on 639452. Group meet at Berni Centre behind the Catholic Church on Monday evenings: Beavers 6-8 years - 5.45pm - 6.45pm Cubs 8-10 ½ years - 7pm - 8.30pm Scouts 10 ½ -14 years - 6.45pm - 8.45pm.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Whist Drives</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Ted and Betty Tadier on 852612. Every Tuesday evening 8pm at St Martin’s Public Hall.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Young People Church Club</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Gordon Cobden on 853053. Group meet Methodist Chapel Hall on Friday evenings 7pm - 9pm. Ages 11 to 20 years.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>St Martin’s Methodist Wednesday Group</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Marian Arnold 851520. Meet every third Wednesday at 7.30pm at Methodist Hall.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rozel Rovers Football Club</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Lester Richardson on 07797 816200. Meet at Public Hall.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>St Martin’s School Children’s Gardening Club</strong></td>
<td>Contact: Kay Laverty on 853041 or Head Teacher Sarah Briggs on 851812.</td>
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| Coins, Medals, Commemoratives, Tokens, Sovereigns, etc. | |
| Old Bottles, Stoneware, Old Brewery/Chemist/Dairy/ Garage/Pub/Shop Fittings. | |
| Display Advertising, Cabinets, etc. | |
| Enamel Signs, Old Posters, etc. | |
| Architectural Items. | |
| Vintage/Antique Garden Items – Benches, Statues, Fountains, Sun Dials, Edgings, etc. | |

GRANITE
Troughs, Mushrooms, Flagstones, Cobbles, Quoins, Lintels, Steps, Garden and Architectural Features, Yorkstone Paving, Anything considered.
German Occupation remains in St Martin By Martin Walton

I am sure that you would have recognized the last edition’s ‘mystery’ fortification as No. 14 Gorey Pier. The photograph showed a German 3.7cm anti-tank gun on the first floor and a machine gun embrasure at ground floor. From here they would be able to cover the harbour area. These guns were part of Resistance Nest ‘Hafen Gorey’

A recent photograph of No. 14 is shown (below) Resistance Nest ‘Hafen Gorey’ also included the biggest bunker of the Parish which was situated where coaches now park. The bunker, which housed a large German 7.5cm anti-tank gun, was demolished in 1972. The photograph is courtesy of the CIOS.

The last picture shows a large coastal artillery gun being pushed up a narrow country lane in St Martin. Where is this and who is the man who is sensibly standing out of the way on the hedge?

All will be revealed in the next edition.

Resistance Nest ‘Hafen Gorey’ in total, consisted of the following:
1x German 7.5cm ant-tank gun
1x German 3.7cm anti-tank gun
1x French tank turret with a 3.7cm gun and co-axial machine gun.
1x German MG34 machine gun.
2x 40cm searchlights.
4x flamethrowers.
All manned by one NCO and seventeen other ranks (plus four custom officials).
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St Catherine’s Lifeboat Station

Leslie Allo meets Michael McNally, RNLI Helmsman

RNLI Jersey is part of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution which operates across the UK, Channel Islands and Republic of Ireland and which is made up primarily of volunteers united by selflessness, skill and courage. They operate from two lifeboat stations, at St Helier and St Catherine’s, the latter station being next to the martello tower in St Catherine’s Bay.

I spoke recently to one of these dedicated volunteers at St Catherine’s station, Michael McNally - Business Development Manager at Jersey Post by day and RNLI Helmsman when required.

RNLI training is very professional: after an initial period of about a year training on Island the new crew member will go the RNLI’s training college in Poole on a week’s intensive training with RNLI instructors. This involves both theory in the classroom and practical sea-based training. The crew member completes about three more months of training locally and then has to pass an assessment prior to being made a full crew member.

Ongoing training is continuous as the RNLI operates a competency based training programme which ensures all crew are continually reassessed throughout their service life. Michael trains with the rest of the crew and at regular intervals with RNLI training inspectors who visit from the UK to ensure that the crew stay up to date with best practice.

Crew members are on call one week in three, their duty period running from midnight on the Sunday for seven days and, during this time, if their...
pager is activated they have to be prepared to stop whatever they are doing and make their way to St Catherine’s without delay. This can present its challenges as it can happen whilst out to dinner, at work and, on many occasions, in the small hours when they are fast asleep! Michael said that most Jersey employers are very supportive of staff who are also lifeboat crew.

One of Michael’s most memorable experiences occurred several years ago when the lifeboat crew were called late one night to assist a French yacht that was struggling in heavy seas. It was wind Force 6 – 7 from the north east making it quite rough conditions. They located the large yacht about a mile north of Bonne Nuit Bay where the owner had anchored to ride out the storm, however his anchor was not holding in the rough seas. The occupant was so pleased to see the crew arrive and instead of waiting for the lifeboat to come alongside his stricken vessel, the Frenchman leaped across the hazardous sea onto the lifeboat which was smaller than his yacht!

They landed him at Bonne Nuit where he was checked out by an ambulance crew before being taken to St Helier for the night. His yacht was towed to safety by the St Helier Lifeboat which had also been launched to assist.

Michael was also involved in the recent search for the missing light aircraft, which was the first incident of this type that he had attended. As soon as they started to find the wreckage it became clear that this was a tragic accident which was not likely to have a good outcome and this memory will stay with Michael for a long time.

Michael emphasised the three things which should be considered as essential to safety whilst at sea in a small boat:

- Lifejacket – to be worn at all times - it really is not much use locked in a cupboard if it has to be put on quickly
- VHF radio, switched on and monitoring Channel 16. Alerting the coastguard on this channel is the quickest way of summoning help if you are in trouble
- Flares – make sure they are not out of date and you know how to use them.

The RNLI only exists because of its dedicated team of volunteers and paid professionals. Whatever your skills, the RNLI St Catherine’s would love to hear from you if you would like to be involved with this national charity, but which has a significant local impact. There are plenty of ways to be involved with the RNLI, from simply becoming a member, where your contributions will help pay for the training and equipment which allows their volunteers save lives at sea, to fundraising, to actively becoming a crew member, lifeguard or shore side helper. Further information is available from the Operations Manager, Nigel Sweeny on 851161 to have an informal chat in the first instance.
Louise Tuckwell meets Suzanne Blackstone

Suzanne Blackstone feels very lucky – lucky to live in Jersey and in particular, lucky to live in Gorey, which she calls ‘the jewel in Jersey’s crown’. Visiting her 1783 cottage overlooking Gorey Harbour, it is easy to see why. With its beautiful sea views from almost every room, her home provides inspiration for painting that many artists would have to travel a long distance to find.

Not that Suzanne, a well-recognised name in the Channel Islands art world, is afraid of long journeys. On the contrary, she is so well travelled that a short time in her studio looking at her work feels like an illustrated world tour. For someone with a 500 year family history in Jersey, who loves island life and now can’t imagine living anywhere else, it comes as a surprise to hear the extent of her travels. It doesn’t take a lot of time with her, however, to recognise the free and adventurous spirit that made them happen.

This spirit was nurtured in the heart of Rozel, where Suzanne grew up with three brothers and extended family nearby. A secure and comfortable childhood with hours spent sailing in family boats and a fascination with Geography at Jersey College for Girls ignited a desire to leave Jersey and explore the world, as soon as possible. School over,
Artist and Adventurer

Suzanne left for London, enrolling in Fine Art at Hornsey College of Art. Life in London didn’t appeal, however, and Australia beckoned, so after a year she responded to an ad in the newspaper and joined a group travelling overland to the Far East. This turned out to be the beginning of a three-year adventure, most of it in Australia. Supporting herself with various jobs, such as nannying on a sheep station and running a youth hostel, Suzanne travelled through and sketched more of the Australian countryside than most of the locals will ever see.

Time there was cut short by a car accident, but after a trip home to see family, Suzanne’s wanderlust was still irresistible. Cookery classes in London qualified her for work in ski chalets in Switzerland and ultimately for work on yachts sailing around the world. It was this time that changed the course of her life. A broken mast on a sailing trip to the West Indies caused an unscheduled layover in Antigua and it was here she met her future husband Chris, an Englishman who had been in the West Indies for ten years. A pit stop for repairs led to marriage, three daughters and ten wonderful years in Antigua. It was here that Suzanne realised that island life was definitely for her – here was a landscape as beautiful as it was different from Jersey’s, but with the same bright, clear light producing the vibrant colours she has always loved to paint.

Chris’ work as an accountant led the family back to Jersey nearly 30 years ago, and life since then has been more settled, allowing Suzanne to set up her studio and spend more time doing what she loves – sketching and painting. She finds inspiration everywhere around her in Jersey – the north cliffs, St Catherine’s Woods and Les Écréhous being favourite spots. In years gone by she loved to paint onsite, including from the family boat, but the equipment is feeling increasingly heavy, so now onsite work involves sketching and most of her painting is done from sketches in the studio.

For Suzanne, sketching is pure joy and much preferred to working from photographs, as her sketches bring back to life the sights, sounds and feelings she experienced while drawing them (unfortunately this can include seasickness!). Suzanne says she is a painter, ‘not an Artist with a capital A,’ but after meeting her and seeing her work, this author would certainly put the capital there.

Suzanne and Chris are now empty-nesters but somehow life is busier than ever. Vegetable gardening increasingly competes for Suzanne’s time, but painting will never be squeezed out entirely. With their daughters now living off-Island, life involves travel to see them and of course, the old wanderlust has never disappeared, so overseas travel to far-flung destinations continues. However, Jersey will always be home.

Would she ever consider moving from her Gorey home? ‘I do love the evening light and would love to live in St Ouen for a while…but my husband won’t emigrate!’
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The Crown Hotel

By Sharon Harmeston

I’ll get back to you’ was my reply to the insurance company when asked how old the building is that we have recently moved into.

Being keen on family history it wasn’t long after the boxes were unpacked that I also started to wonder about the origins of the building. Checkers Express, as it is known today, is a lot older than I first thought.

The 1851 census records it as the ‘Crown Hotel’, owned by a Philippe Vardon (33), ‘District Postmaster, Ironmonger and Hotel Keeper of the Crown Hotel.’

Ten years earlier, on the 1841 census, it is his father, also called Philippe, who is registered as the head of the household. This census does not list the building but, as it is the last listing for that area and close to the church, I’m presuming it’s the same property. Searching the public registry records, there are 181 entries going through the Royal Court for Philippe Vardon. Unfortunately transcribing them has been impossible due to bad handwriting, so we will never know the exact date when the building was first constructed, but sometime in the 1830s seems very likely.

Going back to the 1850s, ‘The Postal History of Jersey’ records that the Postmaster-General appointed Philippe Vardon as a Receiver on a salary of two pound and two shillings per annum on 2 July 1850. In January 1853, a survey was carried out on all sub-post offices to establish the number of letters posted in each. In one week, 137 letters were posted from the Crown Hotel Post Office making it the fifth highest in the Island. So, the Receiver’s salary was increased to four pounds per annum. That same month, it was agreed that a pillar box be erected in the village at a cost of seven pounds and cleared three times a week.

In 1866, innkeepers were disqualified from filling the post of sub-postmaster so Mary Ann Vardon (22), daughter of Philippe, took over as sub-postmistress.

By 1881, the Crown Hotel was in the hands of George Vardon, Philippe’s brother, who died shortly after, in 1882. The Crown Hotel was then taken over by Charles Pallot, who was listed on the 1901 census as Inn Keeper and his wife, Isabel, as Post Mistress. It was no doubt at that stage that the name was changed to Pallot’s Crown Hotel. The 1911 census records the property as Crown House with the sub-post office now located in Central Stores, which today is known as the Village Tea Room.

I must get back the insurance company.
St Martin’s FC continues to consolidate on the pitch and the first team have made steady progress in the Championship with an excellent 4-1 victory against Beeches in December leaving us a healthy mid-table at Christmas.

Additionally, the team have had some cup success with an excellent 3-1 victory against the previously unbeaten Grouville Reserves in the quarter-final of the Willis Cup and now face Jersey Portugese in the semi-final which will be held under the floodlights at Les Quenevais on Wednesday, 5 February.

Our reserves continue to astound in league and are a fantastic third in Division Two and in real contention for promotion if key players can remain injury free.

Off the pitch our attempts to secure long term sponsorship are still ongoing and the club continues to be predominately run on players subscriptions and fund-raising which barely covers the day-to-day running costs such as league/cup affiliation fees, pitch fees, training fees and kit.

Ideally, we are looking for a local business who would like to have their name and telephone numbers placed across our teams shirts and training kits, and, in addition, we would advertise the company logo on our established Twitter and Facebook pages. If anyone wishes to benefit from direct sponsorship then please feel free to contact Andy Clark on 07797 7812522 or ‘Honest Nev’ on 862482.

As always and especially now with the transfer window open, St Martin’s is very keen to add local talent to both the first team and reserves and if any local lads wish to join their local club then feel free to contact Andy Clark on 07797 812522 or Eddy McGarty on 07958 017773.

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St Saviour’s Bowls Club welcomes new members from St Martin

By Paul du Feu

St Saviour’s Bowls Club is your nearest bowls club. We will be restarting during April – weather permitting – and members will be eager to get used to the outdoor greens after a winter indoors or in warmer climes.

The club is situated next door to the cricket stadium at Grainville and members use the club’s free parking area just below the club green (slightly hidden and unknown) or next to the cricket pavilion.

With over one hundred playing members the club will be taking part in all the Island inter-club leagues with many also participating in the Island knock-out championships. The club is not, however, just about these keen competitive players.

St Saviour’s has its own internal ‘friendly’ leagues and competitions plus regular social occasions throughout the season.

The club is open seven days a week running three sessions a day (10.00am, 2.00pm and 6.00pm) with a steward attending each session. There are ‘roll ups’ every day.

Whether you are ‘competitive’ or just looking for an outdoor, social hobby bowls could be the sport for you.

Just call me on 732441 / 07797 733304 or email at tigersjersey@hotmail.co.uk to get started in April or any time during the summer. The club has shoes and bowls you can borrow (flat soled shoes with no pattern are needed).

Bowls is for all ages. Just give me a call and give it a try.

Where Are They Now?

St Martin’s Tug of War A-Team, 1970

By Alan Mollet

Standing from left to right
Les Quenault: a St Martin grower for many years
Gerald Richardson: had his own water tanker business. Now living in Australia
Peter Le Corre: had his own ‘Pink Paraffin’ business. Used to live where the Ronceray Nursing Home now is.
Graeme de Gruchy: a grower in St Martin. Then employed by the Parish as foreman.
John (Jack) Maret: had his own building business. Took over from his father J.P. Maret. Sadly no longer with us.
Tom Maret: took over the family business from his father at the Forge. Sadly passed away last year.

Sitting from left to right
Alan Vautier: also a grower at La Fosse. St Martin. Now living abroad
‘Bunny’ de La Mare: a grower in St Martin. Sadly no longer with us
Charlie Richomme: a grower in St Martin. Farmed at Faldouet Farm and past President of Rozel Bowlers FC.
Jack Jahan: also a grower in St Martin. Turned his farm into a family guest house. Passed away a few years ago.
Alan Mollet: worked for the fuel company for many years. A past President of Rozel Bowlers FC and still lives at St Catherine’s.
As we have turned over the last page of the calendar and as we wave goodbye to 2013 we can only hope for more favourable weather conditions in 2014. December was once one of the busiest months of the year on Jersey farms as growers worked to harvest all the cauliflowers and calabrese crops to reach the UK markets in time for Christmas. Only Christmas Day was taken off, and then the hard work started again on Boxing Day, as in mild weather the crop had to be cut every three days. Today, with the massive increases in freight and labour charges, the crop is no longer economically viable, and very few winter crops are grown for export.

The potato standing is finished and the seed waits all neatly stacked and lit in the insulated sheds ready for planting. The tractors and planting machinery have all been serviced and are ready to go the moment the weather allows.
Plough Sunday is a way of celebrating farming and the work of farmers. Traditionally, work in the fields did not begin until the day after Plough Sunday: Plough Monday.

The second Sunday in January is traditionally Plough Sunday in rural areas across the UK and in Jersey, when farmers gather in the church with a horse-drawn plough to ask for God’s blessing for the work on the land for the coming year.

The first ploughs were used in the 6th millennium BC in Egypt; they were crude wooden implements pulled by oxen.

Plough design has come a long way since then, with most Jersey farms using a four furrow hydraulic turnover reversible plough. However, the cotils are still ploughed with a small horse drawn plough; many still used today are over a hundred years old and pulled up the cotils by a winch.

Ploughing is still the most important part of a potato crop; the plough buries all the surface debris and green manure crops bringing up the clean, fresh undisturbed soil ready for planting.

St Martin continues to celebrate a tradition which goes back to medieval times.

God speed the plough and the ploughman, the farm and the farmer.

God speed the plough, on hillside and in valley; on land which is rich, and on land which is poor; in countries beyond the seas, and in our homeland.

God speed the plough, in fair weather and in foul, in success and disappointment, in rain and wind, in frost and sunshine.

May the ploughman’s hope be fulfilled in a plentiful Harvest.

And finally, for the intellectuals amongst you we offer the following quiz

What do you call a gap along a hedgerow sometimes adorned by two granite pillars?

A. A green waste dump
B. A car park
C. A dog’s toilet
D. A field access gateway

Please respect the countryside and leave gateways clean and clear.

St Martin

Winter 2014
Leisure

Plough Sunday: 12 January 2014

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What do you call a gap along a hedgerow sometimes adorned by two granite pillars?

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Please respect the countryside and leave gateways clean and clear.

St Martin

Winter 2014
Leisure
Happy New Year from everyone at St Martin’s School

We had a fabulous end of term with lots to celebrate! Our school choir sung at various venues and particularly enjoyed singing at the Diamond Club’s Christmas Party and the opportunity to sing in De Gruchys!

Our Nursery children dressed up in nativity costumes to sing songs to their parents while children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 performed ‘A Little Bird Told Me’ which recounted the story of Christmas.

The children in Key Stage 2 helped us finish term on a high with their production of a ‘Midwife’s Crisis’ which they performed for friends and families at the Methodist Church; the children’s excitement and enthusiasm for Christmas meant that school was an enjoyable place to be!

2014 is going to be a very exciting year for us as we continue to see the school grow. At the start of the Spring Term we were able to go on site for the first time. Wow! There feels like there is going to be so much light flooding the building, and the outside areas really help us to connect with the surrounding areas.

Now it’s time to make some of the tricky decisions about carpets, colours and flooring. St Martin’s School is looking forward to a bright and busy new year!
Ask any young person at St Martin’s School who Mr Kearns is and what he is like and you can guarantee that they’ll come back with ‘the caretaker’, ‘the cricket coach’, ‘the maintenance man’, ‘the lollipop man’, ‘the minibus driver’, always smiling and joking (and even wearing shorts in winter!)

Ian Kearns is always present at the school, wearing a number of guises. You will see him with a paint brush or screwdriver in his hand, maintaining the inner cogs of the existing school building or guiding would be Shane Warnes on the cricket pitch. You’ll also see him driving the distinctive red St Martin’s school bus, taking excitable youngsters on little trips, and you’ll recognise him in his fluorescent jacket as he safely guides youngsters across the road in the absence of Mrs Mollet.

I recently met with Ian, whose roles are very important in the daily life of St Martin’s School, with the new building now taking shape and growing fast. Ian first started at St Martin’s School as caretaker in 1992 and he has been associated with the school for 18 years.

As one of only two male members of staff, Ian told me, with a smile, that he gets all the heavy lifting jobs along with all the messy and smelly ones! However, he stressed that he does get an awful lot of support from the Head and Deputy Head along with other members of the teaching staff - we have all heard Miss Briggs on so many occasions stress the importance of the St Martin’s School motto ‘We all join in’.

With regard to the new school, I asked Ian if he could highlight the limitations of the present school building and how the new one will provide exciting new spaces, and he said that the limitations of the present school building are various - mostly to do with size. The library, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 computer areas and the kitchen area for Key Stage 1 will all be larger in the new school. Also, and very importantly, they will not be used as a walk-thru by the students and teachers, which is what currently happens. There will also be a music room which the existing building does not have, lovely new classrooms each with their own store and cloakroom, a multipurpose meeting room, group rooms for the children, parent rooms, a quiet room, a sick room and last but not least an office for the caretaker!

Many features of the new school will be of immense benefit to the students in their education: the computer equipment will be state-of-the-art; the gym will have new equipment, the library will be a place of sanctuary and the new nursery department already looks fantastic, with its own outside play area designed specifically for that age group.

With exciting times ahead, I wondered what Ian was most looking forward to. ‘I’m most looking forward to the efficiency that the new school will provide - a well thought out and planned environment that will provide a happy and relaxed atmosphere but also the willingness of the students and teachers to work well together and make sure that they use their new school to its utmost capacity’.

What does Ian feel might be lost from the present school when the new bigger one is built? He smiled and said: ‘Well - firstly the smell of damp and the various pockets of hot and cold air throughout the school due to a slightly aged central heating system! But seriously, the old school does of course hold many happy years of memories - I often see students now in their teenage and young adult years who I watched grow up from the tender age of three! The old school, although past its sell-by date as a school, does have a long history and thus has a very lovely atmosphere which the new school will wish to create for itself.’

Very soon this new building will become the familiar place of learning for our Parish youngsters.

Do you have any thoughts about the new school or any memories of your time at the school? Are you an ex-pupil or ex-teacher and would be willing to share your experiences then I would love to hear from you.

Email: Leslie Allo at allos@jerseymail.co.uk.

Leslie
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A service of healing

You are welcome to come and join us in the Lady Chapel of the Parish Church every Wednesday morning at 10.30am for a quiet and simple service for healing and wholeness.

The service is a lovely opportunity to focus on God’s desire for the wholeness of our bodies, minds, and spirits, and to receive individual prayer and the laying on of hands if desired. People attending the service come from a variety of churches and enjoy the chance to recharge spiritual batteries and enjoy the peaceful presence of God together.

The service varies in content each week and usually lasts half an hour. Afterwards, refreshments are served and people have the chance to stay and chat if they have time. New faces are always welcome!

Sunday Worship in St Martin

Church of England
St Martin’s Parish Church
Church Lane, La Rue de la Croix au Maître, St Martin, JE3 6FW
Tel. 07797 939692 or email stmartinschurchjersey@gmail.com
Rev Geraldine Baudains (054294 or baudains@jerseymail.co.uk)
8.15am
Quiet service of Holy Communion to begin the week
10.30am
Parish Communion with Sunday School SMART Groups
Last Sunday of the month
Family Service
Wednesday 10.30
Healing Service
Gouray Church
Gorey Hill, St Martin (www.gouraychurch.co.uk)
Revel Canon Dr Gavin Ashenden (053255, mobile 07797 828454, vicar@gouraychurch.co.uk or gavin@ashenden.org)
8am
Holy Communion
10.30am
Family Service (1st Sunday of the month): Holy Communion (2nd/5th Sundays)
6.30pm
Holy Communion (1st Sunday of the month): Evensong (2nd/5th Sundays)

Methodist
The Methodist Chapel, Rue Belin (wwwci.methodist.org.uk/Jersey/StMartin)
Rev Liz Singleton
Tel. 840795 or email lizsingleton60@gmail.com
10.30am
Sunday Service
6.30 pm
Evening worship at Georgetown Methodist Church unless otherwise advertised

Catholic
Our Lady and the Martyrs of Japan, La Grande Route de St Martin
Father Philip Harris & Deacons Tony Ward and Christopher Walters
(east@catholicchurch.org.je)
Saturday 6pm
First Mass
Sunday 9am
Mass
Our Lady of the Assumption, Gorey Village, Gorey, Grouville
Sunday 6pm
Mass
From Jerry Collins, Parish Secretary

Rates
Those of you who have not yet completed and sent back your Annual Rates Returns for 2014 are urged to do so as soon as possible. Any changes you have made should be checked against the Assessment Notice that you will receive in April.

2014 is going to be a busy year – as well as the two Visites du Branchage, we have a Visite Royale in August as well.

Parish Elections in 2014
There are also a large number of Parish elections due this year:

March marks the end of term dates for one Procureur, one Centenier, two Vingteneurs and a Constable’s Officer.

Four further Constable’s Officers reach their end of term dates between May and July, followed by another Vingteneur in September.

The next General Election is in October, at which we will be voting for the Parish Connétable and Deputy.

One more Constable’s Officer reaches end of term in November, then in December it is the turn of the other Procureur, one Centenier and all the Roads Committee and Inspectors.

We will need to make sure the ballot pencils are sharpened!

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www.parish.gov.je

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Gareth John

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Dates for your diary

### March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>National Catholic Women's League (CW) coffee morning in Berni Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>CWL Meeting - Presbytery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Flower Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Diamond Club – Talk on Owls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Miss St Martin’s event Public Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>WI Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th</td>
<td>The Songsmiths: St Martin’s Methodist Church 8pm (Proceeds to Jersey Cheshire Home)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st</td>
<td>Jumelage Quiz Night St Martin’s Public Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>WI Free Coffee Morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th</td>
<td>Mothering Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>31st</td>
<td>Year 6 Residential Trip to France (to 4 April)</td>
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### April

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Flower Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Diamond Club AGM</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>CWL Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>St Martin’s School Open Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>School Spring Celebration at Parish Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th</td>
<td>Ecumenical Palm Sunday Procession – gather at school at 10.00 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th</td>
<td>WI Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>18th</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th</td>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st</td>
<td>Easter Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th</td>
<td>Jumelage Football at Le Couvent (provisional)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th</td>
<td>Jumelage Sunday Lunch at Hotel Ambassadeur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29th</td>
<td>St Martin’s School Summer Term starts</td>
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### May

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Diamond Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Early May Bank Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Liberation Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Parish Liberation Day lunch at Hotel Ambassadeur</td>
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### June

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Governor’s Walk in St Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>CWL Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Diamond Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Car Boot: Village Green - Parkinson’s (enquiries to Carole-Anne on 864407)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>WI Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>St Martin’s Football Club AGM at Public Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>13-15th</td>
<td>Jersey Festival of Cycling events in St Martin and Island</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14th</td>
<td>Catholic Church Fête at Our Lady, St Martin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>Car Boot: Village Green: Prostate Cancer (Carole-Anne 864407)</td>
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### July

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Flower Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Branchage visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Diamond Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Car Boot: Village Green - Cancer Relief (Carole-Anne 864407)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>CWL Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>Copy deadline for August Issue of Les Nouvelles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th</td>
<td>Parish Festival on Village Green (provisional)</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th</td>
<td>WI Meeting</td>
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### August

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Visite Royale in St Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Diamond Club outing</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th</td>
<td>Battle of Flowers</td>
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<tr>
<td>15th</td>
<td>Battle of Flowers night parade</td>
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<tr>
<td>17th</td>
<td>Car Boot: Village Green: Age Concern (Carole-Anne 864407)</td>
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<tr>
<td>21st</td>
<td>Gorey Fête</td>
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<tr>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>August Issue of Les Nouvelles distributed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th</td>
<td>August Bank Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31st</td>
<td>Car Boot: Village Green - Cancer Relief and Donna Annand Melanoma Charity (Carole-Anne 864407)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Miss St Martin 2014
St Martin’s Battle of Flowers are looking for talented people of any age to take part in our variety show. Would you like to enter the Miss St Martin’s Competition? Variety show and competition in the Public Hall 8 March 2014 Please call Katie 07797 721000 Dance, sing, play music, act, make us laugh – anything goes!

We would welcome any information at the earliest opportunity regarding a Parish event that you may be organising so that we can circulate it in our next edition.
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\(^3\) Blackrock ETP Landscape, December 2012

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Homemade sorbet
Pan fried fillet of bream with crab risotto and white wine sauce
Chargrilled sirloin steak with shallot jus and Dauphinoise potatoes
Spinach and ricotta ravioli with Provençale sauce

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