

April & May  
**2024**

# St Martin's Cloak



*Free Copy*

## St Martin's Parish Church Directory

Rector	Revd Daniel Foot	238303
Rector's Warden	Laura Stockwell	235498
People's Warden	Paul Steele	233203
Honorary Treasurer	Neil de la Mare	237816
Organist & Choir	Joan Le Flem	201108
Men's Society	Patrick Banfield	patrick@cwgsy.net
Ladies of Faith Together (LOFT)	Sara Dorey	235845
Music Group	Joan Le Flem	201108
Cloak Magazine Advertising	Carol Guille	258364
Church Flowers	Susan Banfield	susanb@cwgsy.net
Community Cloak Coffee Mornings	SallySara Windsor	256342
Church Office	Claire Holliday	231197
Youth & Children's Assistant Leader	Natasha Luggar	07781 144222

Find us on Facebook pages:

'St Martin's Church, Guernsey'  
'Roundabout, St Martin's'  
'St Martin's Junior Church'



Details of St Martin's Parish Church and its services can be found at:  
[www.stmartinschurch.gg](http://www.stmartinschurch.gg)



## Les Camps Methodist Church Directory

Minister	Revd Stephen Dallin	239144
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	Sarah Snell	07911 718812
	Marilyn Falla	255535
	Nigel Lewis	265501
	Yvette Adams	07911 733721
Discipleship & Small Group Coordinator	Helen Mahoney	07911 712271

# Welcome to the April edition of The Cloak

Welcome to this spring edition of The Cloak. After what has felt like a particularly long and wet winter, it finally feels like a change is in the air. Daffodils and bluebells bring flashes of colour to the hedgerows, and the cheerful chirping of the birds drifts on the breeze.

On the subject of wildlife, Trevor Bourgaize (president of La Société Guernesiaise) brings us the story of the discovery of the Tansy Moth, which he found in a St Martin’s garden in 2021 - the first time the species had been recorded in the Channel Islands.

Antonia Rainbow has been to visit Rebecca’s Art Workshops at Sausmarez Manor. A must for any budding young artists, Rebecca offers holiday workshops, after school clubs and birthday parties from her new premises at the manor.

And we hear about the vital work of the Leprosy Mission, who are raising funds to carry out critical repairs at Muzaffapur hospital in India.

**Photographs Wanted**

If you have taken any photographs of the parish which you would like to have featured in The Cloak, please send them to:

[cloak@stmartinschurch.gg](mailto:cloak@stmartinschurch.gg)

Cover photo by Euan Duncan

# St Martin’s Cloak

Covering the Whole Parish



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# Rector's Letter

## Dear Friends

### Claudia

We are pleased to announce that we have appointed a new Youth and Children's minister. Claudia is from Guernsey, but is currently living in Cornwall with her husband Will, and will be moving back to Guernsey shortly. She is a bright, friendly and creative young woman who will bring lots of enthusiasm to the work, and I am very much looking forward to welcoming her and Will into our Church and Parish. We will have an interview with Claudia for our next magazine, so please do keep an eye out for that.

### Bubble church

You may have heard that we are planning on running a new service aimed at families with young children named "Bubble Church!" starting at 9:45 on Sunday 14th of April in St Martin's Community Centre. We are extremely pleased to be able to run the service as it will enable us to create a tailored church service for families with children up to around nine years of age. Bubble Church is a Jesus-centred, Bible-based, coffee and croissant-fuelled, thirty-minute church service. It contains music, Bible readings, a short talk, prayers, and involves leading with lots of puppets. To find out more information or to book your place, please see our website [www.stmartinchurch.gg/bubblechurch](http://www.stmartinchurch.gg/bubblechurch).

### Altar Frontals

Many of you may remember Peter Turner who served as our Sacristan (the person in charge of organising items for Holy Communion) for many years. Peter very kindly left a generous bequest to our church in his will, and so we decided to honour his memory by the purchase of a collection of new altar frontals, which will be used during our worship for many years to come. Included in our edition today is a collection of photographs of the altar frontals, and I invite you to come and see them when they are being used in our services. The white altar frontal will be used for the first time for Ascension (Liberation Day) and the red will be used for Pentecost (19th May).



## Food project

I am also able to give a quick update on the food project. At the time of writing, planning permission is being requested for wheelbarrow access to the field adjacent to Rue de la Vallee. Thank you to those who already have written to me expressing interest, if others would like to join the project or find out more information, please email me at [revdaniel@stmartinschurch.gg](mailto:revdaniel@stmartinschurch.gg).

God Bless,

**Revd Daniel**



# Parish Matters

Dear Parishioners,

I hope you all have time to enjoy the light evenings, especially after the dismal wet weather we have had over the winter months.

## Dog Owners

The Constables have received many complaints about dog poo bags being left in hedges and by the roadside. Having picked up the poo in the first place it appears illogical that rather than properly dispose of the bags some owners are being very antisocial and selfish and leaving them on other parishioner's property. This is both a health risk and looks unsightly. If you see anyone behaving in this way then please report them to the police.

There are still several owners who have not paid their dog tax for 2024, which is a legal requirement. The fee is £10 per animal and can be paid at the Constables office.

## Contamination of Waste Bags

The States of Guernsey have advised that from now should any waste bag either black, blue or white contain contaminated material then it will not be collected and a red sticker will be attached explaining why. The incident will also be logged centrally to possibly identify any persistent offenders. One contractor has reported that a radiator

was placed in a blue bag and used nappies in a white bag, clearly not what they are intended for.

## Cyclists on Cliff Paths

Please would any cyclists keep off the cliff and other paths as they are causing damage by churning up the ground, especially in wet conditions. Signs are in place but these are being ignored.

## Christmas 2024 Collections

As the Christmas holidays for 2024 including New Year fall on bin collection days/nights the schedule will be rearranged as follows:

- ◇ The Monday 23rd Dec set out for collection on the 24th remains the same and for the following week.
- ◇ The Tuesday 24th Dec for usual collection on the 25th will move to set out on Sunday 22nd Dec for collection on the 23rd. The same will apply for the following week.
- ◇ The usual set out on Wednesday 25th for collection on Thursday 26th will be rearranged for set out on Friday 27th for collection on Saturday 28th.

There will be further reminders nearer the time but we thought it prudent to inform parishioners as early as possible.

## Financial Timetable

The financial timetable for 2024 / 2025 is set out below:

- ◇ The parish meeting took place on 20 March 2024. The rates invoices will follow in approximately 2-3 weeks.
- ◇ The autumn parish meeting is on 6 November 2024.
- ◇ Committee budgets for 2025 are to be submitted by 9 December 2024.
- ◇ Final draft accounts and ledgers for 2024 are to be submitted by 10 January 2025.
- ◇ Accounts preparation for 2024 commences on 17 January 2025.
- ◇ Annual accounts for 2024 are to be signed by 24 February 2025.
- ◇ The spring parish meeting is scheduled for 19 March 2025.

## Parish Meeting on 20th March

The parishioners at the meeting approved the Remedies (budgets) for 2024 for both the Church Property Management Board and the Constables, upon which the rates are based. After presentation to the Royal Court, the invoices will be printed and sent out within a week. Payment can be made online, by card (both in person or by phone) or cash / cheque. Full details are on the invoice.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ian Browning who has stepped down from the Saints moorings committee for his contribution over the years. Hayley our parish clerk will be undertaking the administration for the Saints mooring committee during office hours.

Those persons who wish to have a mooring at Saints during 2024 please contact Hayley on 238363. Gary Thoume continues to look after Bec Du Nez and Fermain.

## New Bin Lorries

You may be aware that our refuse contractor recently purchased some new lorries. He launched a competition for schoolchildren to come up with a name for each vehicle.

The results were spectacular and the chosen names are listed below. Well done to all those who entered.

- ◇ Trash Gordon
- ◇ Binderalla
- ◇ Bindiana Jones
- ◇ Truck Norris
- ◇ Bin Diesel

**Jeff Wilkes-Green**  
Constable

# St Martin's Parish Church

## Special Services and Events:

**Sunday 7th April 10am** Songs of Praise

**Sunday 14th April 9.45am** Bubble Church Launch

**Thursday 9th May 11am** Liberation Day Service

*Joint service with the Methodist Church*

**Sunday 19th May 10am** Pentecost

**Sunday 26th May 10am** Trinity Sunday

**Sunday 9th June 10am** Leprosy Sunday

*With Chris Stratta from the Leprosy Mission*

**Sunday 16th June 10am** Father's Day

*For more information or to sign up for special events, see the notice board in the church porch, or email [claire@stmartinschurch.gg](mailto:claire@stmartinschurch.gg)*

## Regular Services and Events:

Our regular Sunday services are

**8am** Book of Common Prayer

**10am** Holy Communion

**6.30pm** Evensong

**Thursdays** during the school term: **2pm** Holy Communion

*An informal 30 minute service followed by refreshments held upstairs in the Community Centre.*

## Roundabout Parent and Toddler Group

*Wednesday Mornings (term time) at 10am - St Martin's Community Centre*

## Weekly Coffee/Craft morning

*Tuesday Mornings at 10am - St Martin's Community Centre*

Like us on Facebook **@StMartinsGuernsey**  
or check our website **[www.stmartinschurch.gg](http://www.stmartinschurch.gg)** for updates



# Les Camps Methodist Church

## Services and Activities:

### Sundays:

Worship at **10.30am** with Lightbulb and Crèche for 0–16 years.

Worship at **6pm**

Youth Cell at **7.30pm**

### Alpha Course:

We have our Alpha Course starting on Saturday 6th April **8.30am** to **10.30am**. All are welcome including children who, after breakfast with the grown ups, will be entertained and cared for by our youth ministry team.

*For further information please contact Helen Mahoney 07911 712271*

[helenmahoney@methodist.org.gg](mailto:helenmahoney@methodist.org.gg)

### Cell Groups:

These small groups meet at various times during the day and evening throughout the week. They are an opportunity for fellowship alongside learning how to live a life centred around Jesus.

*For further information please contact Revd Stephen Dallin 01481 239144*

*or Helen Mahoney, Discipleship and Small Group Coordinator 07911 712271*

[helenmahoney@methodist.org.gg](mailto:helenmahoney@methodist.org.gg)

### Knit and Natter:

On the second & fourth Thursday of the month between **2pm** & **4pm** is a chance to sit and knit and catch up with friends old and new.

### Saturday Pop-in:

On the first & third Saturday of the month between **10am** & **12 noon** our church hall is open for people to meet for a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit or two.

### Tuesday Toddlers:

In the hall next to Les Camps church **9.30am** to **11.15am** (term time). Plenty of activities and play for the children. Refreshments are served, then song time is at the end of the session.

*For further information please contact Claire Teed 07781 416124*

# St Martin's Community Centre



*Belles and Broomsticks*

## **New Electric Car Parking Spaces**

We are delighted to announce that the Community Centre now has six electric charging stations in the car park.

Four are reserved for Health and Social Care Adult Disability Service who have a large number of electric cars and vans for their staff and service users. This ensures they can charge vehicles on site ready to be used in the day so that service users can be moved around the island to their various activities. The other two spaces are reserved for users of the Community Centre needing to charge their car whilst at an activity at the Centre. We are delighted to have been supported with sponsorship from Butterfield Bank and are grateful for the support from Keith at Plug-n-go who ensured the project ran smoothly with minimal disruption to the car park.

We look forward to seeing these used and hope they will be a welcome addition to the Centre.

## **Belles and Broomsticks – Local Morris Dancing Team**

I would like to introduce you to our weekly Morris Dancing group who meet here every Monday evening.

They began as an all-female Morris team but now include men and women. They have been performing Morris Dancing in Guernsey for a while now, and have also travelled to the other islands, the UK and France to dance with other teams, which gives them a chance to catch up with old friends, socialise and pick up new dance ideas.

They dance because they love dancing, and it keeps them fit – it's high-energy and also exercises the brain, which is very important! There's also the live music, the meetings with friends, evenings out, and a shared history and interest.

They practice most Monday evenings at St Martin's Community Centre, from

7.30pm, and everyone is welcome to come and give it a try – it's free for beginners. Please get in touch first if you're planning to come along. Full instructions will be given, and trainers are advisable.

If you're interested in giving Morris Dancing a go, call 07781 406224 or 07781 125171, or contact [bellesandbroomsticks@gmail.com](mailto:bellesandbroomsticks@gmail.com).

### Youth Group

Natasha the Church Youth Worker is running a weekly youth group for Year 8 and up during term time. This is held upstairs at the Community Centre, it's £1 entry which includes hot dogs and a hot chocolate.

Every week we offer Nintendo Switch games, a selection of card and board games, table football, a chill area and a craft corner with different art supplies available. The club is run from 7pm – 8.30pm on Thursday evenings.

We are always looking for volunteers to help run these sessions, you don't need to commit to every week we welcome any support to run these valuable sessions. Please get in touch with Natasha Luggar for more information [natashal@stmartinchurch.gg](mailto:natashal@stmartinchurch.gg).

**Rebecca Silk**  
Operations Manager  
[manager@communitycentre.gg](mailto:manager@communitycentre.gg)  
231196

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# Tree Planted for Marc Trickey



*The Very Reverend Canon  
Frederick Marc Trickey*

A crab apple tree (*Malus sylvestris*) was planted in the grounds of St Martin's Community Centre on 21st February 2024 in memory of The Very Reverend Canon Frederick Marc Trickey.

Marc was born in London on 16th August 1935. He was educated at Bristol Grammar School and Durham University, and was ordained in 1965. After a curacy at the Anglican Parish Church of St Lawrence in Alton, East Hampshire, he was, from 1968 to 1977, Rector of St John the Baptist Church in Winnall, Winchester.

He was Rector of St Martin's Parish Church from 1977 to 2002, Dean of Guernsey from 1995 to 2003 and Priest-in-Charge of Sark from 1996 to 2003.

While reading psychology at Durham University, Marc met Elisabeth who was studying French. They married here in Guernsey on 29th August 1963 and brought a son and daughter into the world, Aidan and Anna, both of whom were born in Winchester. With the passage of time, Marc and Elisabeth became grandparents to Ben and Alex.

A diligent and faithful priest, Marc was active and enthusiastic about parish life and ministry. He served the Diocese of Winchester in many ways and during his time on the General Synod (the national assembly of the Church of England), he supported the work of the Church at the national level and through the United Society Partners in the Gospel, which contributes to the development of the Anglican Church around the world.



*Elisabeth plants the tree*



While Dean of Guernsey, Marc was chairman of the Elizabeth College Board of Directors and, at various times, Chaplain of the Guernsey Association of Royal Navy and Royal Marines. He was an active, engaged and passionate supporter of St John Ambulance for more than forty years and was Chaplain of the Commandery of St John. Even in retirement, he faithfully served the Church of St Stephen and its congregation through three interregnums (intervals between appointments to clerical office).

Throughout Marc's life in Guernsey, he served in various capacities on the committees of many States of Guernsey bodies and voluntary organisations, too many to list here.

Together with the late Henry Goodeve MBE and others, Marc was instrumental in motivating the construction of the Professor Shaw Community Centre and served as its chairman until his peaceful death at Les Bourgs Hospice on 7th December 2022 at the age of eighty-seven.

The legacy of Marc's contribution to the work of the Church of England and his ministry in Guernsey will long be remembered.

### Gary Vaudin

*With grateful thanks to The Very Reverend John Guille who delivered the address at Marc's funeral.*

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# Parish Garden Home to New Moth Species

Love butterflies, hate moths? Generally speaking, moths are always seen as a poor relation to butterflies. However, a huge number of moth species, even the smallest (micros), have exquisite markings. Anatomically speaking there is no difference between butterflies and moths, they all form the group Lepidoptera.

There are several assumptions often made about moths. The first is that they all fly at night, when in fact a lot of species are only active by day; the second is that they all eat clothes, when in fact of the 1370 plus species that occur on Guernsey only two will do this. These clothes-eating moths belong to a family called the Tineidae, and while most of this group feed on various forms of fungus, the larvae of two of them will attack items made of wool. These two species may be found indoors, *Tineola bisselliella* and *Tinea pellionella*.



*Tanacetum vulgare*, after which the Tansy Moth is named

The first has only been recorded once since 1898 while the other is recorded annually, although in small numbers. *Tinea pellionella* is the Case-bearing Clothes Moth, which is a tiny moth with an average wingspan of just 12mm. In my home, I record this moth on a handful of occasions each year, but I have yet to find any clothing damaged by caterpillars.

When making your garden attractive to moths and butterflies, resist the urge to be too tidy. Planting native species or their congeners is essential, for example, Hawthorn and English Oak will each sustain well over a hundred species of the larger moths (macros), but *Eleagnus*, *Escallonia*, *Griselina*, and *Euonymus japonica* only host one species of macro moth between them! The resultant lack of caterpillars and moths is not good news for birds, bats, and other creatures further up the food chain. So, the message is clear, if you want to attract wildlife to your garden: go native!

Many moths will eat a variety of food plants, these are known as polyphagous. However, some will only feed on one species of plant, and these are referred to as monophagous. I found one such species in my brother and sister-in-law's garden in Rue d'Eglise, St Martin's in 2021. My brother-in-law describes his garden as a 'wildscape' (although his wife describes it in different terms altogether) so an ideal spot for all forms of wildlife!



*Dichrompha flavidorsana*, the Tansy Moth

The moth I spotted flying around in the sunshine was eventually identified as *Dichrompha flavidorsana* or, to give it the new English name, the Orange-spot Tansy Moth. The identification could only be confirmed after examining its genitalia - sorry moth! This species was new to the Channel Islands and was also recorded in 2022 and 2023 at the same location. As the name suggests this small moth (wingspan 14mm) only feeds on Tansy, *Tanacetum vulgare*, a plant originally grown for medicinal purposes; I believe it was also strewn on floors to deter flies. David McClintock, in his book 'The Wild Flowers of Guernsey', stated that "it can still be occasionally seen".

The only location I know for it in the wild is near L'Ancrese Bus Terminus but, despite searching, I have not found the moth in this area. Whether Tansy is truly an indigenous species is open to debate, however, it must have been here some time as it has the name 'Tenaisie' in Guernesiate. Because of its rarity, this moth is likely to make it onto the Channel Island Biodiversity Action Plan list.

So, John, you need to do nothing other than cut the dead stems to the ground and wait for the moths to emerge in the summer. Readers, if you have Tansy in your garden, or you know of some growing in the wild then please check for moths between June and August when conditions are warm and sunny. A gentle tap on the stem will disturb the moths. Caterpillars will not be apparent as they feed on the roots between September and June. Any information on this species or its host plant can be sent to [president@societe.org.gg](mailto:president@societe.org.gg), [entomology@societe.org.gg](mailto:entomology@societe.org.gg) or [botany@societe.org.gg](mailto:botany@societe.org.gg).

**Trevor Bourgaize**  
President, La Société Guernesiate



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# Rebecca's Art Workshops

The Barn at Sausmarez Manor has a new arrival, Rebecca's Art Workshops, and we're so lucky to have this amazing children's art business on our doorstep. My girls have always thoroughly enjoyed Rebecca's holiday club workshops when they were based at the Scouts Hut in Forest, and it's great that the move to St Martin's has enabled Rebecca to extend her offering with after school clubs and children's parties. So, if you have a budding artist looking to hone their talent, look no further than Rebecca's Art Workshops.

Rebecca is a local artist and an experienced Montessori teacher who has an affinity with children and a passion for creating amazing art with them. What stands out when watching Rebecca run her classes is how calm she is with all the children, and it's this calm that gives her sessions a very relaxing and inclusive feel.

Rebecca's Art Workshops moved to its new home at The Barn, Sausmarez Manor in January this year. Having viewed many potential premises, Rebecca knew instantly when she walked into The Barn that the space was perfect, albeit larger than she had been looking for. This led to a new adventure she hadn't anticipated, a new art studio and shop!

Downstairs in The Barn is a lovely retail space packed full of beautiful local art (some by Rebecca) and lots of handmade goodies. Upstairs is a light and airy studio.

## Holiday Art Workshops

Rebecca offers very popular holiday workshops during the school holidays throughout the year, for children 5-12yrs. Each session lasts three hours and has a maximum of 12 children, ensuring that each child gets Rebecca's focus during the session. Rebecca paints a picture for each session that the children will recreate, and the quality of the pictures at the end of the sessions is amazing. Each child will create a piece that they are genuinely very proud of.

It's not just me that raves about these sessions, Rebecca is always humbled by the excellent parent feedback she receives, like this message from Becky:

**"Thank you so much for this week. 'A' has had such an absolute ball and has amazed herself (and us) by what she was able to achieve. It has been a real highlight of the holidays for her."**



*Children's artwork on display*



*Artwork for sale in the shop*

## After School Clubs

Rebecca offers three after school clubs, on Monday (school years 4-8), Wednesday and Thursday (both for school years reception-year 6), with a maximum of 12 children per session. Throughout each half term, children learn different techniques, artists and mediums and watch their very own portfolio come to life. These sessions are more in-depth than the holiday workshops, with more self-expression and focus on the creative process, and each artist progresses at their own speed according to their age and their own 'rhythm'.

I spoke to local resident Noah Smith (aged 10yrs) about his experience at the Monday after school club, he said:

**"I absolutely love after school art club. I've learnt different art skills each week, using lots of different textures and techniques. Rebecca is really kind and makes things really fun. I feel relaxed, calm and happy every time I go and I really enjoy it."**

## Arty Birthday Parties

Looking for a birthday party with a difference? Then look no further than Rebecca's Art Parties. Each party gives the birthday child and their friends the chance to create a masterpiece, with the theme chosen by the birthday girl/boy. Rebecca's studio can accommodate up to 16 children for parties. Children paint during the first part of the party, then you can either bring your own food to be eaten in the studio, or you can head over to Rob at Patois Brasserie for party food. Whilst the children are eating, Rebecca dries and mounts the children's paintings and displays them on the wall, the perfect backdrop for a group photo.

For more information and to book classes visit [Rebeccasartworkshops.com](http://Rebeccasartworkshops.com) or email Rebecca on [admin@rebeccasartworkshops.com](mailto:admin@rebeccasartworkshops.com). You won't be disappointed.

I wish Rebecca every success with her business at The Barn and know she'll bring the passion of art to many children.

## Antonia Rainbow

*Antonia Rainbow lives in St Martins and is mum to 10-year-old twin girls. She founded Guernsey With Kids to help local families and visitors get the best out of the island. Visit [guernseywithkids.com](http://guernseywithkids.com) for more information on the locations mentioned above, along with many more places to visit.*



# Muzaffarpur Hospital

Hello! My name is Chris Stratta and I'm looking forward to meeting you for your Leprosy Sunday on 9 June. Thank you so much for partnering with us to bring a new outpatient department to Muzaffarpur Hospital in India.

Living in the shadows of society in Bihar - one of India's poorest states - are the least, the last and the lost, people affected by leprosy who are ignored and excluded. These are the very people Jesus showed love to and served in his earthly life. People like Rajisha.

Rajisha lives with her parents and three siblings in Nirmali in Bihar. Her future looked positive. Bright and eager to learn, her proud parents hoped Rajisha's intelligence and schooling would give her a route out of poverty. But then Rajisha began to notice changes to her body that she didn't understand. Strange marks appeared on her face and her fingers stiffened and started to bend inwards, she had a bad open sore on her finger that just would not heal. Thankfully for Rajisha, her parents took her to a doctor who was visiting the village. He told her she had leprosy. Rajisha will never forget that moment, she had heard of leprosy, yet it was always spoken of in hushed tones. Suddenly the world was a dark place.

Rajisha started taking tablets to cure her leprosy. But sadly, the medicine came too late to prevent nerve damage which stole the feeling in her hands.



*Rajisha*

By now, her fingers bent so far into her palms that Rajisha couldn't even feed herself.

In the midst of despair came a glimmer of hope. The same visiting doctor told Rajisha's parents about The Leprosy Mission's Muzaffarpur Hospital. Despite being 100km away, the doctor had heard of the exemplary medical care that was available free of charge. Rajisha's parents couldn't go to the hospital with her. Her mother was too poorly to travel, and her father couldn't afford to take time off work. The journey was frightening, not knowing what was going to happen.

Rajisha waited anxious and alone for many hours outside the crumbling outpatients building. Despite her exhausting journey, there was nowhere to sit inside. Instead, she waited in the oppressive heat. Hours later, a doctor saw Rajisha.

He was kind and began tending to her severe medical needs. She was admitted and, a week later, well enough to have surgery on her right hand to straighten her fingers. In time she will need to have the procedure on her left hand as well.

At just 18, Rajisha's dreams of escaping poverty disappeared with a devastating leprosy diagnosis. The disease stole the use of her hands and left her depressed and hopeless. Can you imagine the fear and anxiety she felt, travelling 100km alone to Muzaffarpur? She didn't know the place or if she'd get the care she needed. Thankfully, Rajisha was given a warm welcome at the hospital. She was so thankful for the loving and caring staff, who became like family to her.

However, the hospital needs urgent attention so that the team can continue to give people the welcome and the treatment they deserve. The need is great, and it's increasing; leprosy rates are three times higher in Bihar than anywhere else in India, and extreme poverty means cases are rising.

Every day over 600 people queue in the fierce sun or monsoon rains, desperate for leprosy treatment. The hospital was built 40 years ago and the roofs have holes, the walls are crumbling, and the infrastructure needs to be modernised.

The current state of the outpatient department is alarming. It floods

during monsoon, offers no proper shelter or seating for waiting patients, and is woefully cramped. It urgently needs rebuilding otherwise the future of Muzaffarpur Hospital is in jeopardy. This is the only place in Bihar where people affected by leprosy can receive free and compassionate care.

The Leprosy Mission is raising money to rebuild a new outpatient department at Muzaffarpur, so that the amazing medics can continue to rebuild the lives and hopes of people like Rajisha. Your gift of just £36 will provide a tonne of bricks for the restoration. £188 would supply two tonnes of cement. If you're able to give more, £442 would fund reconstructive surgery and hospital care for someone like Rajisha. A gift of £2,008 would cover a labourer's wages for the entire build. A gift of £9,275 will build and equip a new consultation room.

We long for people with leprosy to access quality medical care and receive the compassion shown by our Lord Jesus. You can partner in our mission to bring dignity, compassion and hope to people like Rajisha for many years to come.

Please join us at St Martin's Church on Sunday 9th June to hear more from Chris about the work of the Leprosy Mission, or visit [leprosymission.org.uk](http://leprosymission.org.uk) to find out more or to give.

**Chris Stratta**  
The Leprosy Mission



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# The Guernsey Rabbit

Yer, I'm hopping mad I tells you,  
Because, the other day  
Some gunshot caught me unawares  
And blew my end away.  
It's bloney chilly back there  
Now that my fur has flew  
And I can't flash at night to show  
The others where I'm to.  
It's lonely now I'm all alone  
When white tails bob at night,  
But I can't sit down anyway  
Because my skin's so tight.  
I bloney hope it quickly grows  
And then no longer stings,  
Then I can say "Bonjour a tous"  
And not feel out of things,  
But dashee la, although it smarts  
I must forget the pain,  
Caw flippin' heck, that's draughty  
Oh, there I go again.  
Well anyway, before this yer  
My life was bloney great,  
And I took time from nibbling  
To pursue each likely mate,  
So all around the Jerbourg way  
My family is spread,  
For breeding time is any time  
And its too late when you're dead.

We crops the grass around the cliffs  
Up to the farmer's hedge,  
Then we crops his crops by nibbling  
Each plant along the edge,  
And when we eats his broccoli  
We takes the tender parts,  
Which tends to make us rabbits  
Perform in fits and starts,  
And when he planted spinach  
You should have seen the scene,  
All our bloney droppings  
Had turned a brilliant green,  
Well, now it's time for me to go.  
I'm knackered, so I'm fretting,  
Caw dashee, there's a friendly doe,  
On no, I was forgetting.  
So cheeri, thanks for listening  
To a sad buck's lonely plight,  
I'll go in my burrow backwards  
So my end is not in sight.

**Patrick Symons**

*15th August 1988*

*Patrick was a Constable in the Parish from December 1997 to December 1999, and a Douzenier from 2001 to 2006. He sadly passed away in February 2023.*



# Beware Campervan Dwellers

Travelling to France to celebrate the New Year with our daughter and son-in-law was proving difficult. We were booked to leave Guernsey on 27th December, but finally departed on 5th January after our boat was cancelled four times. We took our campervan, although didn't camp as it was too chilly, and spent a lovely week with our family in Beaulieu sur Dordogne then headed back to the boat.

Being delayed for nine days while still at home is one thing, but we couldn't face driving up to St Malo only to be stuck there in the middle of winter if the boat was cancelled. We therefore decided to come home from Caen overnight to Portsmouth, then board the early morning Clipper to Guernsey, as the larger boats are less likely to be cancelled.

The port of Caen is a small town on the coast called Ouistreham. We arrived at midday, parked the van and went for lunch in one of the many restaurants. On returning to the van a French lady appeared, telling us she owned a restaurant and one of her clients had seen someone getting into our van. Looking around the van we couldn't see anything missing or disturbed (fortunately we had our passports and money with us) so we continued on our journey, spending the afternoon driving along the coast road of the Normandy beaches.

About 16 kilometres later, we were nearly at Arranches and could see the pontoons out to sea still there after the Normandy landings. We had stopped to use our toilet in the van when my husband said he could hear knocking coming from the back. He lifted the wooden slatted base of the bed and we saw a face looking back at us. A young man clambered out from under the bed, looked at us and said hopefully "London?"

We told him that we were sorry but this wasn't London. He told us he was from Sudan and must have been about 17 years old. We sat him on the bench seat at the table behind us, gave him an apple and biscuits, and drove back to the car park in Ouistreham. We had to leave the windows open a little as he was a bit smelly, but was a nice lad. When leaving he shook our hands and thanked us.



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By this time it was early evening so we went for our evening meal before catching the boat. This time we made sure we had locked the van, checking all windows and doors. After another pleasant French meal, we got back into the van. I climbed between the seats and into the back to change my shoes for driving and, when switching on the light, I looked at the bed and saw a leg clad in jeans, poking out from under the mattress.

"There's another one!" I wailed at my husband. We shooed him outside and lifted the wooden slats of the bed and sure enough, the same chap who had accompanied us on our afternoon drive was back under the bed. We hooked him out too and my husband followed them out and told them to leave us alone. I stood in the van and remembered there had been three young lads sitting on a bench in the car park earlier. I opened the toilet door and there was the third man, looking a little sheepish.

As they walked off the Gendarme drove up to us. We told them of the trouble we had had but said we were at no time intimidated by them. The police told us that they did seem to be decent lads, they never stole anything or hurt anyone, they just want to get to England.

I just felt such sadness for these lads, and wonder where they are now.

**Carol Guille**

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# The Phantom Horse

Prior to moving to St Martin's, I lived at Les Bas Courtils in St Saviour where I experienced a phenomenon that I have been unable to explain to this day. It occurred within a few moments of reversing my car into the driveway and was witnessed by another person.

Like any accomplished driver, I signalled my intention to turn left into the driveway as I slowed, almost to a halt, outside it. The long, straight section of road ahead was clear as was that behind, which I could see from my rear-view mirror, so I nudged the nose of the car towards the middle of the road in readiness for the reverse manoeuvre. This was a well-practised move, which took only seconds to execute. While reversing the car up the shallow incline of the drive, I saw that one of my brother's friends was in the yard. Within a split second of bringing the car to a stop in the yard and switching off the engine, a frenzied, unbridled, chestnut-brown horse suddenly appeared at the end of the driveway. My brother's friend started at the sight of it. It seemed to have materialised from the direction of Le Gron, the road which, merely moments earlier, had been clear.

Reacting instinctively to the situation, there was no time to consider how I might restrain the spirited animal. Nevertheless, I alighted from the car and cautiously approached the horse. Seeing that I had taken the initiative, my brother's friend moved to assist.

We were within a few feet of the animal when it turned about and bolted whence it had come. We went after it and, in a matter of seconds, reached the end of the driveway, but the horse had disappeared. It could only have headed along the open stretch of road that led towards Le Gron, which was bounded on the left-hand side by a high, earthen bank. A low bank and footpath bordered the opposite side of the road beyond which there was a large, open field. Yet, there was neither sight nor sound of the horse. It had completely vanished. To this day, both its astonishing appearance and disappearance remain an unresolved mystery.

**Gary Vaudin**

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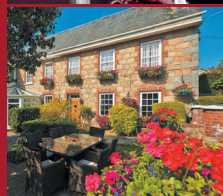
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Constables Office	238363
Parish Hall Caretaker	07781 140831
Email	info@stmartinsconstables.com
Twitter/Facebook	@ConstablesofStM/Constables of St Martin

Cemetery Enquiries	Mr. P. Merrien	07781 140831
Constables	Mr. Jeffrey Wilkes-Green	238008
	Mr. D. Beausire	237878
Welfare Chairperson	Mr. L. Hill-Tout	07781 427747

Douzaine	Mr. B. Gregg	237000	Ms. C. Bauer	235966
	Mr. R. Clark	232852	Mr. L. Hill-Tout	07781 427747
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