

A photograph of St Martin's Church at dusk. The church is a stone building with a prominent square tower and a tall, pointed spire. The tower has a circular clock face. The church is illuminated by warm lights, and a path leads towards the entrance. The sky is a deep blue with some clouds. The foreground shows a garden with flowers and a path.

St Martin's Cloak

October & November 2025

St Martin's Parish Church Directory

Rector	Rev 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	Stuart Lawson	235470
Church Flowers	Susan Banfield	susanb@cwgsy.net
Coffee/Craft Mornings	Sallysara Windsor	256342
Church Office	Claire Holliday	231197
Youth & Children's Minister	Claudia Evans Cox	07781 165077
Youth & Children's Minister	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

Les Camps Methodist Church Directory

Minister	Rev Anne Richardson	01481 239144
Leadership Team	Yvette Barbe	07911 733721
	Jean Carre	07781 427947
	Robyn Craig	07911 712272
	Don Lowe	07911 715712
	Vonnie Mahoney-Bougourd	07781 139992
	Andrew Redhead	01481 233150
	Sarah Snell	07911 718812
Discipleship & Small Group Coordinator	Helen Mahoney	07911 712271

Welcome to the October edition of the Cloak

We have devoted much of this edition to celebrating acts of kindness and service across the parish and beyond:

- an inspiring interview with the founder of Eleanor Foundation about their work in Tanzania.
- charities which enrich the parish; Heartbeat, the Boxing Club and Guernsey Cheshire Homes.
- nutritious food is on the menu; our School links pollinators and food, our soup kitchen returns with a warm welcome and we check out home grown veg.
- the community plan team present proposals based on over 200 ideas from parishioners - still time to get involved.
- a remembrance day installation of 1,250 poppies for the Church.
- two stalwarts of the parish receive a special mention - Ben Gregg and Vic Martin who are retiring.
- look out for the seasonal parties, markets and celebrations.

Enjoy!

Photographs & Anecdotes

If you have taken any photographs* or have any parish anecdotes you would like to have featured in the Cloak, please send them to:

cloak@stmartinschurch.gg

Cover by Vivien Hawkins - Dusky Church

St Martin's Cloak

Covering the Whole Parish



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The Editorial Team
C/O St Martin's Rectory
La Grande Rue
GY4 6RR
Tel: 238303
cloak@stmartinschurch.gg

* Photographs should be portrait

Rector's Letter

Dear Friends,

This summer I had the privilege of visiting the church that we helped to raise the funds to build in Pevtsite, Bulgaria. The church building is now completed, and they invited me to speak at its commissioning and thanksgiving service. It was a wonderful evening celebrating the work that goes on in the village, amongst many of the poorest and most marginalised people. A large part of the Church's work is to provide a soup kitchen and clothing bank for those in need, and I was able to see the work in action first hand and meet the people that they help. The community is predominantly Romany, and they mostly work as harvesters for the roses that grow in the valley, producing between 70-85% of the world's rose oil, which is used in perfumes.



Volunteers preparing food donations to be given out freely to those in need.

During my message, I spoke of God's faithfulness and our responsibility of being faithful stewards. I shared with them that our Parish Church was first consecrated, in a service of thanksgiving over eight hundred years ago, and before this, a wooden church existed, meaning that there has been a church in St Martin's Parish for almost one thousand years! This is a testimony to both God's faithfulness and to the faithful stewardship of the people of St Martin. This became the focus for the rest of the evening with many of the people, including the leader of the community, exclaiming that they want to see this work continue for another thousand years!

Thank you to everyone who supported this project. Together, we raised a total of £20,000, which was enough to build the church, and locally they raised the funds to provide the furniture and air conditioning.



The church seats around 100 people and was packed for the commissioning service.

God bless,
Rev Daniel

The background shows the walk through the village to the Church

Parish Matters

Firstly, I would like to personally welcome Rob Prow to the position of Constable. With his experience both in the States and Civil Service I believe he will bring a wealth of knowledge to the role that will benefit the parish.

The end of a glorious summer has seen the completion of building works on the parish hall that has taken three years. We have a refurbished Douzaine room, offices and library. The library is accessible Monday to Friday 9am to 12:30 pm through the office entrance for all to enjoy.



Purpose built parish library

The working gang have given hundreds of free hours during this time, and we have calculated that this has saved the ratepayers over £100,000, so we are most grateful to them all.

We now have a screen for presentations in the hall along with an updated PA system that is available to rent. There is disabled access upstairs, a disabled toilet and a kitchenette with the Douzaine room (the Ben Gregg Room) available at an hourly rate for meetings with a screen for presentations.



Douzaine Room available for booking - contact info@stmartinsconstables.com

Autumn brings the hedge inspections and on 1st October the Douzaine will be out in their Cantons. We ask that hedges be cut back fully to the roadside boundary, as we have had several issues this summer, especially on bus routes. Please conform to the requirements.

We have five bright red bins around the parish for dog mess. I urge you to use them for your dogs rather than the general waste bins.



Refurbished office.

November will see Remembrance Sunday and by that time we will have completed a new granite wall and path at the front of the hall either side of the memorial to give better access for disabled people.

November will also see the parish elections take place. We require a Constable and three Douzaine members. Nominations will open the second week in October and forms are available from the office. Both are very rewarding roles and whilst the Constable position requires someone who is not in full-time employment, the Douzaine can easily be carried out by those with a full-time job.

I encourage younger people to stand and get to know the parish and learn from those who have done it for years.

Ben Gregg will step down at the end of the year after 25 years' service on the Douzaine. We thank him for his service to the parish including as the Dean of the Douzaine. It takes huge dedication to give up so much time that mostly goes unnoticed. He has benefited St Martin's parish immensely and we wish him well for the future.

Enjoy the last quarter of the year.

Dave Beausire
Senior Constable



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OPENING TIMES

Monday - Saturday: 8:30am - 5:00pm

Sunday: 9:30am - 5:00pm



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St Martin's Parish Church

Special Services and Events:

Sunday 5th Oct	10am Harvest Service (then bring & share lunch)
Friday 17th Oct	7.30pm GU10* live concert in Church
Sunday 19th Oct	10am Rotary Shoe Box Service
Sunday 2nd Nov	6.30pm Service for the Departed
Sunday 9th Nov	10.45am Remembrance Sunday
Sunday 23rd Nov	Christ the King
Friday 28th Nov	Guernsey Jazz Orchestra
Sunday 30th Nov	1st Sunday of Advent
Sunday 7th Dec	Children's Carol Service - Lunch at Hotel Jerbourg
Wed 10th Dec	6.30pm Heartbeat House Carol Service

* Sea shanty & folk music group

Regular Services and Events:

Our regular Sunday services are:

- 8am** Book of Common Prayer
- 9.15am** Bubble Church (at the Community Centre)
- 10am** Holy Communion
- 10am** Junior Church (at the Community Centre)
- 6.30pm** Evensong

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

A short service held upstairs at the Community Centre, followed by refreshments.

Roundabout Parent and Toddler Group

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

Coffee/Craft morning

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

Youth Group

Thursday at 7pm - St Martin's Community Centre

More details on church notice board or email claireh@stmartinschurch.gg

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**

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.

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.

Connect after school club

Thursdays at 3.15pm - Les Camps Methodist Church Hall (Term Times)

*For further information please contact Helen Mahoney
helenmahoney@methodist.org.gg or 07911 712271*

Eleanor Foundation*

I recently met with Allister Carey to talk about the work and aims of the Eleanor Foundation. It was created in August 2012 following the tragic death of his youngest daughter, Eleanor, when cycling in London. She had been studying International Development at London Metropolitan University and believed strongly in the importance of sustainable development. She was passionate about the significance of water, sanitation and hygiene 'WASH' issues. The Foundation was therefore established by her family and friends with a view to addressing those matters that were of importance to her.

The Foundation has been working in North West Tanzania since the beginning of 2014 and was principally facilitating the installation of improved water sources in rural communities in the districts of Chato (Geita Region) and Biharamulo (Kagera Region). This work has now expanded to include sanitation and hygiene, particularly in schools, and the construction of health care facilities.



Clean water is "a game changer"

Allister explained how the provision of clean water sources was not simply a change in life style but a complete game changer in the lives of the people affected. The provision of clean drinking water, combined with improved sanitation and hygiene, leads to significant reduction in the incidence of waterborne diseases. This in turn results in improved health giving children the opportunity to achieve better educational outcomes and, for communities, providing more time and opportunity for productive activities.

In more recent years, the Foundation's work has developed with the support of special needs education through the provision of desks, beds and mattresses as well as specialist equipment such as braille machines, which are now enabling visually impaired primary school children to sit (and pass) the National Examinations.

Allister's eyes shine with passion and satisfaction as he talks of these things. It is important to understand that the Foundation does not regard itself as an aid organisation but one that is undertaking development activities which are permanent in nature and carried out in partnership with local government and communities. The projects undertaken are discussed and agreed with the people on the ground in Tanzania. Local communities are now providing up to 20-25% of the cost of materials and labour which also boosts the local economy.

Three small health facilities have been established which cater for out-patients together with a maternity unit and a pharmacy. They are manned by medically qualified local government workers and much of the initial construction work was carried out by the local communities. Each has a deep borehole provided by the Foundation together with effective sanitation and hygiene facilities. The Foundation also assisted at a larger healthcentre by installing a deep borehole together with a solar power back up system, essential during power outages.

These facilities are providing accessible healthcare services for around 100,000 individuals who would otherwise have to walk considerable distances, 20-30 kms, to receive treatment. In total, they support at least 2,000 births annually as compared to 422 in Guernsey in 2024.

Currently, the Foundation is completing a new borehole to provide water at a primary school with 1,000 pupils together with the local village and surrounding area with a population of around 9,000 people. A further borehole is also being drilled to deliver water to a rural health facility, together with a primary and secondary school.

New improved toilets are also being constructed at a further seven schools, one of which has been supported by a donation from St Martins Community Centre. "We're hugely grateful for this support. The existing construction

was overcrowded and the cause of disease and infections. We are also able to pipe water from a nearby borehole to ensure there is safe water for handwashing and cleaning purposes" Allister commented. "It's transformative".



Toilets under construction supported by SMCC

In a little over ten years, the Foundation has constructed close to 140 shallow wells benefitting over 100,000 people, five deep boreholes, new toilets at close to 50 schools plus three health facilities, the vast majority of this work being located in remote rural areas. It's estimated that at least 10% of the combined population of the two districts (1,042,000) have benefitted in one way or another.

There is a recognition that more needs to be done. Many more remote villages without clean water, schools with totally inadequate sanitation, and access to healthcare remains a challenge. Communities see the benefit of working with development partners. The aim of the Foundation is to maintain its strong relationship with local government and communities.

Eleanor Foundation

The Foundation has been accepting unwanted bicycles since 2013, the cumulative number now exceeds 5,000. Bikes are transported to a Colchester based organisation "Re-Cycle" before distribution to remote rural locations.



"Recycled" bicycles awaiting a new owner

A bicycle will help a child get to school, a woman to carry water or firewood or a healthworker to reach more patients.

The Foundation is quick to acknowledge the remarkable financial support it has received from a variety of sources over the years. "Without this support we would have achieved nothing", remarked Allister. It costs £2,000 to build a shallow well serving 800 people; a deep borehole costs about £8,000 to drill plus £5,000 for a pump, storage tower and distribution.

100% of donations are applied to projects and can be easily made through the website eleanorfoundation.co.uk.

And if you have a serviceable bicycle you no longer need, the Foundation will be pleased to take it away!

Richard Corbin







Children with hearing impairment being taught in sign language at the special needs school in Biharamulo.

Christmas Colouring Competition

Entries are welcome from children in the following age categories:

0-3 years 4-6 years 7-9 years 10-12 years

-  Collect picture templates from the office open 9am to 12.30pm (Monday to Friday) or request them by email at: info@stmartinsconstables.com
-  Entries are FREE and must be received at the St Martin's Parish Hall (Constables Office) no later than Thursday 27th November 2025 to have a chance of winning a prize in one of the age categories.
-  Return all completed masterpieces to Hayley le Boutillier (Constables Clerk), St Martins Constables Office, La Grande Rue, St Martin, GY4 6LQ.
-  All entries displayed in the Parish Hall and judged by Parish officials.



Good luck and have lots of fun!!!

Merry Christmas everyone.

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GRAND RUE, ST MARTIN'S
Telephone: 238422 Fax: 239698 Email: service.valpys@guernsey.net

St Martin's Meadow

St Martin's Rights Squad is a group of children aged 8-11 who are passionate about children accessing their rights locally, nationally and globally. They attend a club after school every Monday. Each year they select one topic based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, this year it is Article 24:

"...the right to...nutritious food."

They had the idea to attract more pollinators to the school environment as they learnt how important pollinators are for us to have fruit and vegetables. The GHA¹ kindly gifted them a field to work with.



Meadow with path and outdoor classroom

The children then hatched a plan to create a 'St Martin's Meadow'. They worked with Angela Salmon from the Nature Commission to find out what type of pollinator plants were already in the field.

They identified over twelve species and then worked with the Pollinator Project and GROW to identify other native pollinators which could be added e.g. oxeye daisies and poppies.

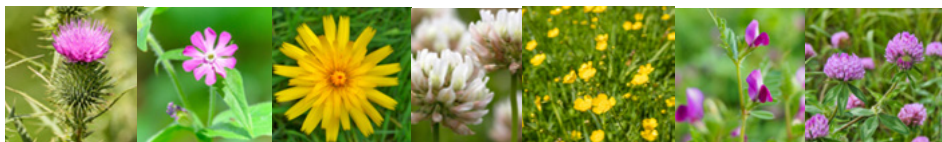


St Martin's Right Squad in action

A path and central outdoor classroom was mown in the field.

The Rights Squad is hoping the 'St Martin's Meadow' will not only attract pollinators but will also be a beautiful place for children to learn.

Clare Giles
Headteacher



1. Guernsey Housing Association

MENSOC?

What is MENSOC you may ask? A trendy new brand of male hosiery perhaps? No, it is the St Martin's Church Men's Society. This intrepid band of all ages meets once a month on a Wednesday evening. They undertake a variety of activities.

These have included air rifle shooting, bowling, pétanque and quizzing on an annual basis. Military matters feature highly as you would expect and have included visits to the Guernsey Occupation Museum, the Mirus Battery and the German Naval Headquarters built during the Occupation.



However, there have also been a wide variety of other evenings which included a talk from Little Green (a sustainable energy business), a wood turning demonstration and a tour of Mr Raymond Evison's clematis growing operation. Both the Guille-Allez and Priaulx libraries have been visited. Members have also given talks on subjects such as sailing to France and walking the Camino de Santiago.

Some members occasionally gather together for a relaxed meal after the evening activity, and a Christmas Dinner is normally held in the convivial surroundings of the Commodore's Room at the Guernsey Yacht Club.



You may wonder whether it is open exclusively to men. It is true that whilst the majority of attendees are men, women do occasionally accompany male friends and relatives if appropriate. There are no conditions for membership, and all are welcome. The annual subscription is just ten pounds and attendees occasionally help cover the modest cost of food or a guide or other cost associated with the activity.

Patrick Banfield is the hard-working Society Secretary, and he does an amazing job, especially in organising events and informing members of forthcoming activities. Please do contact Patrick if you would like to receive dates of forthcoming meetings on patrick@cwgsy.net

Richard Corbin

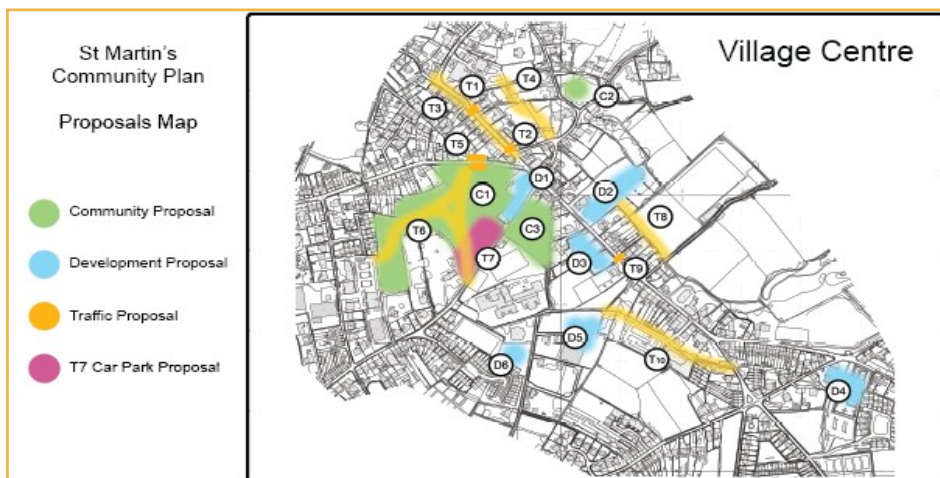
Community Plan

St Martin's Community Plan has reached the draft stage and has recently been published for parish-wide review. The Community Plan committee have been working hard through the last nine months to reach out and establish what parishioners, businesses and visitors to the parish want to see change in the natural and built environment.

The process began in January with a call out for volunteers to form the committee, with ten parish residents responding. Once formed, with Graham Winn as Chairman, the committee reached out over a period of nearly three months to ask parishioners to tell them what they liked about St Martin, what they would change, and what specific ideas they had for improvements to the parish.

With over 125 responses, including replies from youth groups, the primary school, the football club and many other parts of the community, there were over 200 ideas submitted for consideration.

With many overlaps and common themes, the committee generated a total of 62 proposals for changes to the parish, placed under the headings of Community, Development, Transport and General. An exhibition was mounted in May to coincide with the parish Liberation Day celebrations and feedback was invited on all the proposals. The exhibition was also available online and in print form, and a total of over 1,000 comments were received through the 2-week open period.



Key development proposals based in and around the centre of St Martin.

Since then, the responses have been collated and formed into the Draft Community Plan, which contains 52 proposals, including a flagship new 'heart for the community' park. The park, which could see a new children's playground, community gardens, an orchard and outdoor events space created adjacent to the Community Centre, could provide much needed space for all members of the community to come together on special occasions, as well as supporting everyday health and recreation.

As the parish-wide consultation comes to a close and the responses are collected and any adjustments made to the draft document, the committee will be preparing to submit the Community Plan to the Development & Planning Authority.

They will carry out their own island-wide consultation, following which (with any further adjustments made) the Community Plan will be voted for adoption as supplementary planning guidance, to give the community, property owners, developers and the planning service a clear understanding of measures that the people of St Martin would like to see instigated for the betterment of the parish.

The Community Plan will not place any obligation on landowners, the States of Guernsey or the Constables and Douzaine to make changes, but it provides a blueprint for change. Those with the means may then come forward to make it happen.

continued...



The flagship 'Heart for the Community Park' showing some of the ideas.

Get involved...

How to take part in the St Martin's Community Plan consultation.

Parishioners can:

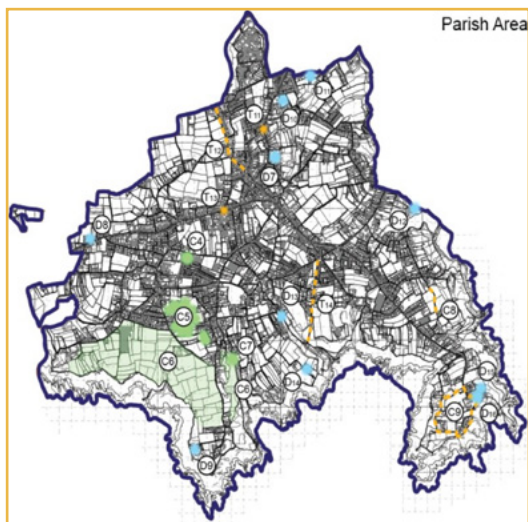
1. View the draft plan and leave comments online at:

https://link.edgepilot.com/s/e6d6bfd8/w5Q_aJMr9kGsTmZOAApyg?u=https://www.corbeau.gg/smcpdraft

2. Email comments to info@stmartinsconstables.com
3. Collect a printed copy from the Constables' Office, La Grande Rue, St Martin, GY4 6LQ, and return it there with any comments.

The consultation closes 5pm on Wed 8th October 2025.

Plan Committee



Recipe

Sloe Gin

Ingredients:

500g of ripe sloes
250g of caster sugar (white or golden)
1 litre of good quality gin

Method:

Remove the stems from the sloes, prick them, and then freeze for 24 hours. Put the frozen sloes in a clean, airtight jar (approx 1.5. litres) with a lid.

Add the sugar evenly over the sloes and then pour in the gin. The jar should be kept in a dark place; e.g. cupboards or the garage.

During the first 2 weeks, remove, turn and shake the jar before replacing it. Do this until all the sugar is dissolved. Then leave the mixture in its dark place, without disturbing it, for approx 3 months. Be patient and allow the mixture to settle.

Strain the sloe mixture through a muslin and decant into clean, dry bottles. Seal, date and label.

The sloe gin is now ready to drink but it will improve and mature over time, so the drink-it-up feeling does not apply here.

One year I didn't realise I had a bottle at the very back of the dark shelf until 2 years later. It was DELICIOUS.

Rosemary Bishop-White

Wordsearch

Hidden in the grid below are the names of twenty-one places in the Parish of St Martin. Answers on page 30.

S	T	M	A	R	T	I	N	L	A	S	B	C	D	E
A	F	O	G	H	I	J	L	E	V	A	L	L	O	N
U	K	U	L	M	N	O	P	S	Q	I	A	A	G	J
S	L	L	E	S	C	A	M	P	S	N	B	B	A	E
M	E	I	R	S	A	I	C	A	R	T	O	A	N	R
A	S	N	T	C	R	L	U	G	L	S	U	R	D	B
R	A	H	L	A	M	A	Z	E	A	B	V	B	L	O
E	U	U	V	L	E	F	W	S	M	A	E	A	I	U
Z	B	E	X	A	L	O	Y	L	O	Y	E	R	O	R
M	R	T	Z	I	A	S	B	E	Y	C	D	I	N	G
A	E	E	F	S	G	S	H	H	E	I	J	E	R	K
N	T	L	M	N	O	E	P	U	Q	R	S	T	O	U
O	S	C	R	A	D	L	E	R	O	C	K	V	C	W
R	L	E	P	I	E	D	D	E	M	U	R	S	K	U
Z	Y	X	W	L	A	B	E	L	L	I	E	U	S	E

ST MARTIN
SAUSMAREZ MANOR
MOULIN HUET
LES CAMPS
CARMEL
LES PAGES
ICART

LE VALLON
SAINTS BAY
LA BOUVÉE
CALAIS
LA BARBARIE
LA FOSSE
DOG AND LION ROCKS

LA BELLIEUSE
JERBOURG
LE HURUL
CRADLE ROCK
LE PIED DU MUR
LES AUBRETS
LA MOYE

...with thanks to Gary J Vaudin

Always Remembered

Many of us will recall the inspiring and remarkable display of nearly 900,000 ceramic poppies at the Tower of London in 2014 creating a compelling visual commemoration of the fallen during WW1.

Notwithstanding the impressive nature of this display, I always had the view that smaller installations could still carry great emotional power.

It was during 2017, as I visited areas of the Somme in France which saw some of the most ferocious fighting and loss of life in 1916, I was captivated by the poppies which flowered prolifically in the fields in mid-July. They pushed their way upwards amongst the ears of corn reminding me of the symbol the poppy had become to us all on Remembrance Day and of those dreadful times.

In October 2023 the idea of having a display of poppies in St Martin's church around the time of Remembrance Sunday was discussed at the Craft Group, but it was undecided as to what form and style the display should comprise.

However, it was not until November 2024 that Sallysara Windsor, Brenda Harper and I took up the challenge and began to formulate the idea for a display which would be altogether significant, unique and distinctive.

As the wearing of a poppy is a tradition with its roots in WW1 and has become a symbol of remembrance in the UK, the Craft Group felt it would be fitting that the display should be ready in 2025, during which we would be celebrating not only the 80th Anniversary of Guernsey's Liberation, but also to mark the 80th Anniversary of the end of WW2 in Europe and the Far East.



Knitted, crocheted or felt poppies were made.

Sallysara and Brenda began making poppies in earnest in December together with the help of many other ladies including those from the Craft Group.

My idea for the display was that it should look like a waterfall using a thousand or more poppies flowing downwards in an ever widening cascade of red from the ceiling to the floor against the granite seats in the church porch.



A fitting reminder comprising 1,250 poppies.

Hopefully the vision, which together with an accompanying image of a solitary soldier with head bowed, would portray a fitting reminder to all those who entered the church of the names of the fallen in two World Wars who never came home; never to be forgotten; always remembered.

A wooden framework was thus created and cloaked with a green backdrop on which was to be fixed the poppies. Three choices of making the poppies were made available depending upon each person's preference and could be knitted, crocheted or made from felt. The felt poppies comprised five petals shaped and sewn together to create the flower with a center black whorl.

The knitted and crocheted poppies are of one continuous row, increasing and decreasing the stitches as required thus forming the petals. Each poppy was then sown on to the base fabric making them secure.

In late July 2025, after much crafting and sewing, the display comprising 1,250 poppies was finished.

Brenda, Sallysara and I are very appreciative and indeed indebted to all the ladies who gave of their time and efforts in making poppies for the display and helped with the project.

We hope the display will grace the church porch on Remembrance Day 2025 and for many years to come. It does so with the anticipation that the poppies bring people together with their own stories, commemoration and hope for the future; they have much to say about the universality of war and the anguish of suffering and loss.

Roger Harper

Heartbeat

Heartbeat (formerly Wessex Heartbeat) offers vital support to the families of patients from Guernsey, and we know many of you on the Island are familiar with our work in the community.

We welcome loved ones of patients having cardiac surgery at the University Hospital Southampton. With only a three-minute walk from Rotary Heartbeat House, our 24 bedroom "Home from Home," provides a safe and comforting place to stay at a very difficult time.

Over the years, we have built strong connections with our friends in the Bailiwick of Guernsey, and we are thrilled that the support we receive grows from year to year. We have strengthened our existing relationships, and continue to connect with new supporters, whilst raising awareness of the essential services we provide.

We hope to expand our reach, ensuring more people know about the help available to them when they need it most. Heartbeat receives no Government or Statutory funding, therefore relying solely on the generosity of our supporters to keep our doors open.

Families stay free of charge at Heartbeat House for as long as they need to. However, a one off non-refundable £50 key deposit is required when you check-in.

The running costs for the house is around £90,000 a year, a service that continues to provide innovative support and comfort for anybody who needs it.

The most important thing is that loved ones are relaxed and settled. We also offer pastoral care and a listening ear from our wonderful team.

Thank you for your support to our charity now in its 33rd year. Please spread the word and let your friends and family know about the help we offer to those in the Bailiwick of Guernsey.

Tina Tolley

Head of Business & Donor
Development

Enquiries and bookings:

Weekdays - 9.30am - 3.30pm

Tel: 02380 390548

Weekends - 10am - 1pm

Mob: 07596 219574 (only weekends)



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St Martin's
PARISH CHURCH

Light up a Heart

Christmas Celebration

Save the Date

Wednesday 10th December 2025 - 18:30

St Martin's Parish Church, Guernsey GY4 6RR

Come along
and enjoy
mince pies and
mulled wine

Free Entry
Advanced booking
preferable. However, if
it's last minute, please
join us!



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Soupy Thursdays

Should you have passed the community centre or the parish hall on a Thursday after 12pm you may have heard the sounds of laughter and the scraping of bowls!

Since the beginning of 2023 there has been a soup kitchen run by a group of volunteers and supported by local businesses. We offer a choice of 2 soups each week, one made by a kind individual and one by one of five generous local hotels. We run between the end of October and Easter.



We started off having 4 litres of soup from each donor but quickly realised that we would need more. We now use between 12 and 16 litres each week. On average we have about 15 – 30 regular guests, with an age range from 2 to 80+.

The five local hotels, La Barbarie, Les Douvres, the Captain's, La Villette and the Queen's have been incredibly supportive, and we thank them wholeheartedly. Thanks also to 'Printed in Guernsey' for making our roadside sign and for the generous support from the parish and the Church.

The kitchen will return on 23rd October with soups and free tea, coffee and biscuits, from 12-2pm.

Finally, we could not manage without our group of helpers who turn out to serve, chat and wash the dishes. A big thank you to them all and we hope they will be back next October!



"We are so delighted to welcome back the Warm Space Soup Kitchen run by the wonderful Sara Dorey and her team of volunteers. This is a free space for anyone regardless of the parish you live in. Please do spread the word and know that Sara and her team will welcome you and make you feel at ease."

Rebecca Silk

If anyone would like to be involved either as soup maker or helping on the day please get in touch on doreys@cwgsy.net or 235845.

Sara & Peter Dorey



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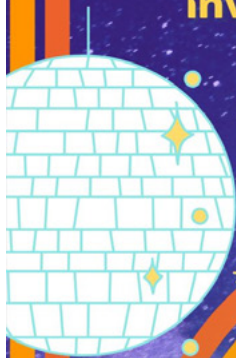
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St Martin's Parish

invites all children aged 4-11

to our annual, community:



Light PARTY!

Saturday 1st November
4-5:30pm



St. Martin's Community Centre



Join us for disco fun, games, crafts, food and more!

Dresscode: SUPERHERO !

**Please go to our website or Facebook to sign up. For more information
contact Natasha on natashal@stmartinschurch.gg**



Light Party

The word "hallowe'en" actually means "the eve of all hallow's day" – in other words, the night before the church's festival celebrating All Saints.

A Saint is sometimes thought to be an exceptionally holy person – someone really special, who did extraordinary things because of their faith in God.

The famous saints are all amazing examples of what it's like to live God's way. But in the Bible, St Paul calls all Christians saints – a saint is simply a friend of God, who seeks to live their life according to God's purposes. When someone is christened, they truly become a Saint, so All Saints' Day is a celebration of the whole family of God.¹

Annually we hold our popular Light Party. This year it is held on Saturday 1st November from 4-5:30pm. This is a chance for Primary School aged children to dress up as superheroes. and enjoy music, food, craft and a small talk on "Who's your Superhero?"

Booking is required to avoid disappointment. You can book by going to our website: <https://www.stmartinschurch.gg/> and clicking 'What's On' and 'Holiday Activities'.

Claudia Evans Cox

1. Church of England - Things to do with children in Autumn - 'Share a little light'



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Guernsey Boxing

The Guernsey Amalgamated Boxing Club provides a positive focus in the community for children and adults through sport.

Boxing however is not just a sport it is a lifestyle which has been proven to guide children and adults in the right direction, enhancing their discipline, confidence, athleticism and concentration whilst improving mental health and wellbeing. All the qualities needed to be successful in school and in life in general, enabling them to become positive citizens within the community.

Through our boxing development officer we provide access to boxing for the whole community. We run sessions within schools, for the over 65's, enrichment for traineeships at college, Parkinson's Guernsey classes and amateur sessions.

We never turn anyone away due to non-payment of subs. We accept all abilities. We have worked with neurodivergent youngsters, downs, ADHD and a young man registered blind. We run one to one sessions for referrals from welfare, schools and the Bailiwick Social Prescribing team.

The club's premises in St. Martins are in **desperate need of renovation**, and the club is carrying out various fundraising events.



Open day at the Boxing Club in St Martin.

Unfortunately the cost of building materials and labour has increased considerably since lockdown, so we are reaching out to the community for help. Every penny counts.

Mandy Hobart

Boxing Development Officer



**AMALGAMATED
BOXING CLUB**

Mandy showed me the club in the Summer; talked me through the various classes available to girls and boys from age 8; the senior sessions and the partnership with Parkinson's Guernsey. There are strict standards around safety and conduct (no swearing). I left inspired. Editor.



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Guernsey Cheshire Home

The tabletop sales at St Martin's Community Centre have become a real highlight, thanks to the energy and dedication of organiser Eve Porter.

Eve has worked at Guernsey Cheshire Home for 25 years, and she describes it as a "second home." Her love for the residents, alongside her passion for fundraising, shines through in every event. With the current cost-of-living pressures, Eve's goal is twofold:

- to raise much-needed funds for the Cheshire Home, and also
- offering the community affordable ways to shop.

The sales include pre-loved clothes, handbags, books, bric-a-brac and more; all at pocket-friendly prices. Popular features have included "Fill a Sack for £10" deals, and the upcoming sales will introduce dedicated £1, £3, and £5 tables.

Since starting her fundraising this year, Eve has already raised an impressive £4,000. These funds have paid for a much-needed new television for the residents' lounge and will soon cover the cost of a special meal out for residents and staff. For Eve, the joy of fundraising comes not only from raising money but also from bringing people together for a shared cause. Donations welcome, particularly clothes, handbags, and raffle prizes which can be dropped off directly at the Guernsey Cheshire Home.

The Community Centre is delighted to support these sales by providing space, and are thrilled to see how successful and popular they have become.

The next tabletop sales take place on Saturday 4th October and Saturday 22nd November 2025, from 10am to 12 noon. Do come along, grab a bargain, and help support the wonderful work of the Guernsey Cheshire Home.

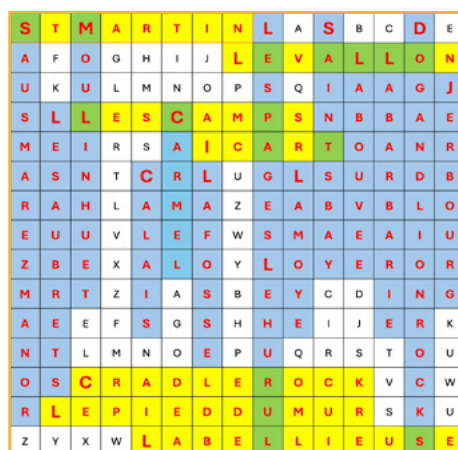
Rebecca Silk
Operations Manager

Answers

Name the Road (Aug Edition).

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. La Rue des Frenes | 7. La Bellieuse |
| 2. Les Hubits de Haut | 8. La Grande Rue |
| 3. Icart Road | 9. La Rue Maze |
| 4. Jerbourg Road | 10. Route des Coutures |
| 5. La Mare Denis | 11. Forest Road |
| 6. La Bellieuse | 12. Saints Road |

Wordsearch



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Grow Your Own!

I was chatting before the Palm Sunday service at the Community Centre. The topic of the weather came up (when doesn't it?) and how lovely the sunshine was. And it was. But my strawberry plants were dying from thirst. It was April and my strawberry plants were dying of thirst!

We continued to chat about the plants and how much my daughter, Natasha, and I grow. There's always rhubarb (in various stages of wilt this summer) down the far end of the garden and the strawberry plants have completely overtaken the other large veg trug.



Natasha loves home grown potatoes (another trug full) and there have at various stages (and with varying degrees of success) been mange tout, peas and Brussel sprouts (although the caterpillars had more of these than we did), carrots and beetroot, tomatoes of different sizes and lettuce. The beetroot was particularly successful as the leaves made great salad as well as par boiling to be roasted with Mediterranean vegetables - delicious both hot with dinner and cold added to salad.

So growing things was learnt from both my parents but dad (Derek Sweet - I'm sure some will remember him) was particularly inspirational. He'd start trenching the garden by hand, turning the soil and adding fertilizer (often rotting seaweed) in February - at least one trench each morning before work - and knew that if he could get the first seed potatoes planted by my birthday in March then mum (Jane Sweet) would have new potatoes for her birthday in June. He was proud to be able to feed his growing family from his garden and lean-to conservatories, and he grew an enormous variety.

Everything listed above plus runner beans along the front of the garage, broad beans and French beans, cucumbers with the tomatoes and melons in the front conservatory and so much fruit that he'd make into jam and strain for jelly - I loved it all except for the gooseberries!

He had apples, pears, and figs (which he would sell to Da Nello in a good year) in what we grandly termed the orchard. Did you know that the best way to stop the birds from eating all your figs is to create a mini greenhouse around each one? Nothing fancy - a small plastic bag tied around the branch with a little bit of wire. And in the fruit cage (tall enough to stand in and covered in netting to protect them from the birds) were raspberries, strawberries, black and red-currants, loganberries and those gooseberries.

The rhubarb was fertilized with horse manure - he used to swear by it - but I find the tubs of chicken manure from one of the garden centres or B&Q are just as effective. Feed it for the stalks to grow thick and water it for them to grow long. And other than that, it looks after itself.



Potatoes are a little more challenging as you need to bank them to get a good size crop. So we plant them in the trug when it's only half full of soil and then add more as the plants grow. They are ready to be harvested when the flowers die off. They don't need much extra feeding as adding fresh soil to bank them adds more nutrients.

And yes, it really can be that easy. So I challenge you! What can you manage to grow next year for your table? We're branching out from rhubarb and strawberries into pink-currants and tayberries now. But I think I'll give beetroot another go next year along with the new potatoes. They both really are a favourite of ours - what's yours?

Liz Lugg

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Vic Martin

Vic Martin will shortly be hanging up his keys as Verger of St Martin's Church for the last time after around 12 years of service.

But this is not the only role he has fulfilled for the Church. He completed approximately 75 years as a server at Communion, having started after his first communion aged 10 or 11. In addition, he was the People's Church Warden for 15 years and a bell ringer before the church bells were automated.

Vic is typically modest about this huge amount of service and was surprised that we wanted to mark his dedication and achievement. He has served with four rectors; Reverends Cogman, Trickey, Keirle and Foot. He has seen various changes over the years. Pews were taken out of the North Aisle to create the Sanctuary, and the church organ was moved forward and completely rebuilt.

In those earlier times the servers' duties included kneeling upright at the altar during some lengthy liturgy. Vic recalls one occasion where he had not eaten breakfast before going to the 8 o'clock service and he fainted whilst kneeling for the communion liturgy. He passes it off as nothing serious and all in the service of the Church.

The Verger's role includes unlocking and locking the church daily and switching on the heating in winter.

He used to help carry coffins in the days when he worked as a carpenter for Mr Henry Davey who acted as an undertaker at that time.

In his role as Verger it was necessary to light the Pascal candle which stood by the coffin, ensure that the service ran smoothly and clear up after it was over amongst other duties. Services are streamed nowadays and have been received as far away as Australia.

Vic always wore a robe which identified him as a person who could be approached for help and avoided confusion for onlookers while he was going about his duties. In fact, he laments what he sees as a reduction in formality within the church setting. The rites and practices of the Church of England have always been important to him.



Vic taking some well earned recreation

The role of People's Warden used to involve the keeping of books of account in a historic ledger which had to be submitted to the Constables of the Parish for presentation to the Ratepayers for approval. The Warden represents the people of the Parish whereas the Rector's Warden assists the Rector.

Vic was paired with the late David Hughes as Rector's Warden for many years who shared Vic's views on how things should be done which resulted in a very satisfactory relationship between them. Together they made a formidable team.

Vic believes that good relationships are vital to the smooth running of all aspects of the Church. He also feels that the various roles which he performed are vocations to which he was called and that he would not have been able to perform them satisfactorily otherwise. He regarded them as 'the icing on the cake' of his church life and membership.

Those of us who have benefited from his years of devotion and service can be very grateful for this being the case.

Richard Corbin

What is a Verger?

"...a layperson who serves the church by assisting with the organization and conduct of public worship. Historically they used to carry a virge (staff or mace) to clear and lead processions."



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German Workshops



The photograph above depicts my trusty Honda van parked on a pad of concrete located at the junction of Les Hurettes, Les Martins and Les Pages. That pad is but the remnant of a concrete roadway that, depicted in the photograph below, provided access to the field beyond.



During the German occupation, the field was the site of wooden sheds that housed military workshops for the maintenance, repair and servicing of captured French tanks.

They also housed other vehicles such as cars, halftracks and trucks, and personnel, chiefly tank crews attired in the Panzer troop uniform comprising a beret, a hip-length, double-breasted jacket and trousers of black wool.

The uniform was practical in that the beret concealed an inner crash helmet of rubber that afforded some protection of the head, the black colour made oil stains less visible and the short jacket was less likely to be caught in machinery. The trousers sported tapered cuffs with drawstrings and tapes so as to fit into laced ankle boots. A mouse-grey shirt and black tie completed the outfit.

During the Battle of France from 10th May to 25th June 1940, the unified armed forces of Nazi Germany, designated the *Wehrmacht*, captured 1,704 Renault FT light tanks and 161 Char B1 heavy tanks.

A German tank division, namely Panzer Abteilung 213 that was formed in France in November 1941, was solely equipped with some of those captured tanks. Assigned to the 319th Static Infantry Division that was deployed in the Channel Islands between mid-November 1940 till the liberation on 9th May 1945, Panzer Abteilung 213 arrived in Guernsey in the early summer of 1942 a short while after the sheds referred to above had been constructed.

Of tanks deployed in Guernsey, eight were Renault FT-17s of which two are depicted in the adjacent photograph that was surreptitiously taken by Frank Le Page. The photograph shows the tanks at La Rue des Caches outside what is nowadays Fitzgerald's Photographic Services.



Mostly manufactured in 1918, the FT was among the most revolutionary and influential tank designs in history, the first modern production tank to feature its armament housed within a fully rotational turret. By the time of World War II, however, it was obsolete and of little use in other theatres, hence its deployment in the Channel Islands.

The photograph below from the John Wallbridge collection depicts French Char B1 'bis' tanks that were among the most powerfully armed and armoured of battle tanks of their day.



Seventeen variants were deployed in Guernsey.

Five had been converted from Char B-2 (f)s to flamethrower versions following replacement of the tank's 75mm hull gun with a flamethrower unit in a ball fitting.

Of the Char B1 tanks deployed in Guernsey, two of them were concealed in a greenhouse off Les Bas Courtils in St Saviour and were stationed near the airport.

Camouflaged with nets and covers of corrugated iron, seven of the tanks were distributed in fields between the workshops and Les Pages. Also camouflaged, the rest were concealed in cuttings under trees, mainly on properties more or less all the way along the road on the west side of Les Pages.

The final photograph from the Royal Court collection depicts a Char B1 tank inside one of the workshops in St Martin. It is mounted within a mobile gantry from which hangs a chain hoist used for vertical lifting and lowering of heavy loads.



Gary J Vaudin



St Martin's Christmas Market

Monday 1st December 2025

6.00pm – 8.30pm

**Carol Singing with the Guernsey
Concert Brass Band at 6.15pm
St Martin's School Choir at 6.45pm**

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