



COMMUNIQUÉ

The Newsletter of **LA SOCIÉTÉ GUERNESIAISE**

Spring Issue 2014 No.83

Guernsey's Local Research, Natural History and Conservation Society

AGM 2014

The AGM will be held at Les Cotils in the Reading Room on Thursday 27 March beginning at 7.30pm for the purpose of transacting the following business:

- (a) To hear the report of the outgoing President, Mr Rodney Collette.
- (b) To elect a new President. Council will propose that Mrs Pat Costen, currently Vice-President, should be elected as President. Any other nominations for President should be sent to the Secretary, supported by a seconder, to reach her by Thursday 13 March.
- (c) To receive the annual statement of accounts.
- (d) To elect the officers and members of the Council. Three Ordinary Members of Council are retiring: Richard Lord, Richard de la Rue and Mike Deane. Richard Lord does not wish to stand again. Richard de la Rue and Mike Deane are eligible for re-election, both of whom have been proposed by Pat Costen and seconded by Kate Lee. There is one vacancy for an Ordinary Council Member. Please note that Council would particularly welcome a candidate with good organisational/money-raising skills. Nominations to fill this vacancy, supported by a seconder should reach the Secretary no later than Thursday 13 March.
- (e) To appoint accountants.
- (f) To consider any other matters or propositions affecting La Société. Any member who wishes to make a proposal at the AGM should submit it in writing, supported by a seconder to the Secretary to reach her by Thursday 13 March.
- (g) To receive the annual report and accounts from Guernsey Environmental Services Limited.

A full agenda together with the minutes of the last meeting and a copy of the 2013 accounts will be available to all members who attend the AGM. Details of nominations for members of Council and all proposals for discussion will be displayed on the Noticeboard at Candie from Friday 14 March.

After a short break there will be an illustrated talk by a representative of the Guernsey Botanical Trust on exciting plans for the proposed development and enhancement of Saumarez Park and its environs.

Membership Secretary

We are looking for a new volunteer Membership Secretary. The post involves two mornings at Candie and a knowledge of Excel.

Kindly contact secretary@societe.org.gg

Subscriptions 2014

Subscriptions for 2014 will be as follows:

- Local Single - £25**
- Local Double/family - £30**
- Overseas (Single, double or family) - £25**
- Students - £5**
- Corporate - £200**
- Single Life - £300**
- Double Life - £400**

Please note Direct Debits are taken in January of each year. Those who pay by cheque, Paypal or cash should please note subscriptions were due on January 1 2014.

If you are still paying by Standing Order kindly amend the amount in accordance with the above rates by writing to your bank. Alternatively you can cancel your Standing Order and switch to Direct Debit. Kindly contact the office on 725093 for a Direct Debit form.

Transactions 2012

If you opted to collect your 2012 Transactions from Candie please note they are still available for collection. Kindly call during opening hours which are Tuesdays and Saturdays between 10am and 12 noon.

If you have not yet replied to the Questionnaire we sent out with the Autumn Newsletter regarding your preferences for the future receipt of the Transactions (collect, by post, by e-mail notification or not wanted) and Newsletters (by post, by e-mail notification or not wanted) then please get in touch with the Secretary by phone **725093** or **E-mail: secretary@societe.org.gg**

Inter-Island Environment Meeting

The annual Inter-Island Environment Meeting was held in Guernsey this year, hosted by La Société Guernesiaise, in association with the Guernsey Biological Records Centre. The meeting took place over three days, from Thursday 17 October to Saturday 19 October 2013.

The first two days consisted of talks and presentations given by various delegates throughout the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. The final day began with an introduction on the Vazon sand dunes and the Pleinmont headland, followed by site visits to both of these areas.

The over-arching theme for the meeting was engaging with the community to promote biodiversity and strategies, and co-operation for action. Topics discussed were diverse and thought-provoking, stimulating conversation amongst those in attendance. Examples of talks included: conservation in Herm; community engagement in marine science, ecosystem services, and introducing a biodiversity strategy in the Isle of Man, to name but a few.

The follow-up to the Inter-Islands has been very positive. All the feedback received has been excellent and everybody who attended found it very interesting and informative. Co-ordination is ongoing by various groups and individuals to highlight and tackle issues raised during the meeting, to ensure progression within this area of work.

A big thank you to the other organisers Andy McCutcheon and Julia Henney for all their hard work, and also to everyone who was involved and attended the meeting. Hopefully the success of last year's Inter-Island Environment Meeting will continue!

Jessica Jennings

Selling La Société

The President and Vice-President were busy over the Christmas period. In December they were both invited to address members of the Chamber of Commerce at their Christmas Lunch and Pat Costen gave a light-hearted but extremely informative talk, drawn on her extensive knowledge of LSG and its history and workings; Rodney rounded off the occasion with a few humorous anecdotes to send them home in smiles.

In January the President was invited to address the members of the Vale WI, which has chosen the Colin McCathie Reserve appeal as its current charity. He spoke on the workings of LSG with particular emphasis on the Vale Pond and its history.

In both instances great interest was shown and it is to be hoped will have attracted new membership, in the case of the Chamber of Commerce, Corporate ones.

Rodney Collenette

Round Table Christmas Fayre 2013



Pat Costen and Kate Lee - Photo courtesy of Richard Lord

Once again we ran a stall at this fayre and made **£274.10**. We were very fortunate to have lots of better quality goods donated by Council member Mike Deane. Setting a price in the face of so much competition is very difficult, and we had to undercharge to a large extent. The most popular item by far was the Lucky Dip and we shall extend that this year.

It was suggested by Richard Lord when he came to take the customary photograph (thank you Richard) and spied some of our plastic tat (not Mike's stuff I hasten to add), that we should be offering more sustainable goods. Indeed. The problem is that buying them in is inevitably expensive. If anyone knows of a source of cheap, sustainably produced goods, please let us know. As this event grows year-on-year the amount of traffic arriving to offload goods in the morning has become enormous and Kate and I were staggering quite some distance with our boxes. We shall be putting out a call for help next time.

Finally, a very sincere thank-you to the Round Table for staging this event for which we are charged not a penny, and particular thanks to Roy Bisson who organises it all.

Pat Costen

Thankyou from the Council

Our thanks to Jurat David Le Conte who has prepared up to date lists of papers appearing in the Transactions. The papers are now fully searchable by title, author and subject, via our website **www.societe.org.gg**

Jean and Gavin Sampson recently retired as librarians and Council would like to thank them for all their help as Société librarians over the years.

Finally our thanks to Sylvia Brouard for sweeping out our Information Centre in the Lower Magazine at Fort Grey last season and to all those members who regularly come to Candie to help send out the newsletters and Transactions.

Obituaries & Books

Les Curtis

Les, who for some years was the Secretary of the Marine Biology Section, died suddenly and unexpectedly in 2012. Those of us who knew him well were shocked and saddened. His widow Diana has most kindly donated his Marine Biology books to La Société. These are being catalogued and added to our Library.

Elizabeth Burrard

Members were saddened to hear of the death of Elizabeth Burrard on September 26 2013. The daughter of the late Sir Gerald and Lady Burrard, Elizabeth came to Guernsey about forty years ago to look after a sick friend for a few months. She fell in love with Guernsey and stayed. She joined La Société and became an active member of the Archaeology Section. When she became too ill to remain in her own home she moved into Summerland Nursing Home and gave her archaeology books, and others of local interest, to La Société. These are being catalogued and added to our Library. She asked that donations be given to La Société in her memory.

Volunteer Sought

Simon Coombe is looking for someone to type up a transcription list of George Bramall's notes on John Wilson with a view to the possibility of publication. Anyone able to help should contact **Mr Coombe on 257582**

Folio Society to publish

"Toilers of the Sea"



I am delighted to be able to announce, that such has been the response to our campaign to persuade the Folio Society to publish a definitive edition of *The Toilers of the Sea*, that they have decided to go ahead and the book is now in production.

The Toilers of the Sea has never been published with Victor Hugo's original artwork. The 36 images he bound into his original manuscript are absolutely stunning and help bring a whole new perspective to this the greatest of all Channel Island novels.

The Folio Society have now finalized their design, which features Hugo's image of the steamship *Durande* on the slipcase and his famous Octopus on the cover. It is quarter leather bound in a dark brown leather and will be published in April in a limited edition of 1500 copies at £195 each. Islanders can still reserve a copy by contacting **Martin Morgan on Tel: 07722 057 184 or Email: ormm@extraordinaryeditions.com**

A very big thank you to everybody who has helped to publicise the campaign and to everybody who has pledged to buy a copy.

For information or images contact **Martin Morgan Tel: 07722 057 184 or Email: mm@extraordinaryeditions.com or Web: <http://clearvuepublishing.com/home/the-toilers-of-the-sea>**

Co-ordinating La Société's Nature Reserve Volunteers

La Société, as we are all aware, cares for some of the best nature reserves on the island. Much of the maintenance for these sites is undertaken by volunteers. Where previously members of Société came forward to help, over the last few years we have been successful in obtaining assistance for this work from companies based in the island. The so-called "corporate responsibility programmes" release staff members in office hours to work on the reserves and do the work of the Société's Nature Reserve Volunteers.

The advantage of this work is that these individuals are released for a whole day at a time. The maintenance work normally only takes the morning, which means that the afternoons are spent working the way through some of the Land Management Committee's "wish list" of extra work. The best example of this is the Silbe: we have cleared a vast section of brambles, nettles and gorse, in an attempt to restore grassland. Rodney Collenette kindly agreed to provide a budget to buy tools for these work parties. This has had to extend beyond tools and gloves, into a first aid kit and latterly bottles of water - invariably your average office worker does not appreciate how much they will need for a full day's work!

I supervise these events, and use my own employer's corporate responsibility programme (as well as a few days' holiday) to take the time to supervise these teams. So far, the events have been without incident, although the number of tools damaged or destroyed is far more than I would have expected - mainly caused by individuals who get carried away with what they are doing. I seem to spend most of my time running around, keeping an eye on people, but it keeps me fit! The variety of individuals who have attended these events has also been diverse, not just in terms of where they come from in the world, but the way they work. The younger tend to work quicker and gung-ho; the older, steadier and wiser. But without fail, they are all glad to get out and do something, and are generally satisfied with a full day's manual labour. The results are often tangible and this helps! I also need to mention the Community Service (CS) teams as they form a valuable part of the maintenance plan. These are organised by my sister (Emma Le Tocq). I realised early on that cleaning out douits and getting dirty, wet and muddy was generally not enjoyed by office workers - even hated. Asking the teams therefore to do this work lead to some negative feedback which made future work more difficult.

Just when this point was sinking in, CS contacted Société to ask if volunteer help was required. It could not have worked out better! Emma agreed that CS teams would take on cleaning out the douits and therefore leave the less messy work to others.

As Rodney mentioned in his Presidents' report for 2013, not only have we been able to have work on our reserves undertaken for free, but often the corporate body makes a cash donation to Société. This is suggested as optional and not mandatory; our overriding aim is to obtain sufficient volunteer work time on our reserves. But the amount raised over the past two years (even after taking into account the cost of the tools purchased) is well over a thousand pounds. The companies involved, and who had committed to further help, should be thanked. They are KPMG, Ernst & Young and Northern Trust.

Although the corporate responsibility programme is a success, this is not to say we cannot undertake extra work: the wish list is only slowly reducing. If you want to organise an event, or know of someone who wants to, please contact me or Kate Lee (secretary@societe.org.gg) or search for "SocVols" on Facebook.

Anthony Stagg *Nature Reserves Volunteers Coordinator*
Tel: 07911 736799 E-mail: responsible@cwgsy.net



Clearing the Silbe Reserve – **Photo Courtesy of Anthony Stagg**

Section Reports

Archaeology

In September we returned to Herm to reinter the burials excavated two years previously to make way for the St Tugual's Chapel soak-away and drain. The bones were examined by Jenny Cataroche and a full report can be read in the 2012 Transactions.

The site selected for the reinterment was an area of lawn in front of The Manor House, close to the cemetery but probably outside it. We did not know the full extent of the cemetery and did not want to uncover further burials, but hoped that we might identify the cemetery edge.

We excavated a long narrow trench (9 x 1.5 metres) north-south across the lawn and encountered bedrock at quite a shallow depth - which made for hard work. Three burials were identified at the extreme north end of the trench and these we recorded and left in situ; immediately beyond the most southerly of these was the line of a cut and to the south of this the bedrock was higher - we had found the southern limit of the cemetery. It appears that the cemetery either avoided the high bedrock, or more likely, that the bedrock had been dug away to create the cemetery.

The bones - wrapped in cotton shrouds and with each skeleton or group of bones wrapped individually - were placed in the trench. Archaeology Officer Philip de Jersey gave a talk on the excavation (see photograph) and afterwards the Anglican Dean, the Very Rev Paul Mellor and the Roman Catholic Dean, Canon Michael Hore, gave the service of reinterment.



Photo courtesy of Pat Costen

In October the Section Secretary led a guided walk of the archaeological sites at L'Ancrese, we were lucky to have reasonable weather and the event was well-attended. It is planned that we will organise another such event in the spring, this time focussing on a different part of the island.

On Saturday mornings we have continued our project to repair the Brothers' Cemetery in Rue des Frères.

The cemetery was originally attached to a Franciscan Friary on the site of Elizabeth College and after the Reformation was used as a parish cemetery. Most of the memorials date from the 18th and 19th centuries and include some eminent Guernsey characters. Philip de Jersey gave a talk on the cemetery and the restoration project at the end of November.

Donovan Hawley and Laurie Waite of the Clifton Antiquarian Society spent a chilly November weekend making a measured drawing of a possible prehistoric monument on the beach at Rousse. This site was first recorded by Andrew Fothergill, when he visited the area to photograph two stone cists for his book *Megalithic Guernsey* (2006).

The cists were discovered in 1916 and are at the top of the beach; they are usually covered by sand and pebbles but are sometimes revealed after storms. They were excavated soon after their discovery (TSG 1916, p328-330) and because they are rarely seen, it is uncertain how much survives. The new site is further down the beach, below the mean high water level and washed by the sea most days (see photograph). It is certainly an unnatural looking feature and may be man-made, possibly prehistoric in origin. It could be the remains of a small cist-in-circle, such as the one at L'Islet or those on Le Petit Monceau in Herm.

The Clifton Antiquarian Society is hoping to return in the summer to further study both the new site and the cists.

Winter and spring, particularly after storms, are a good time to look on the beaches for changes in the sand/pebble heights which can reveal land surfaces usually hidden.

In January a large area of peat was uncovered at Vazon. This peat was laid down around 4400-2700BC, during the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods, when this section of wooded coast was inundated by rising sea levels. If during explorations you find artefacts of interest on eroding sites around the island then do report them either to La Société or to Guernsey Museum, so that they can be recorded.



Photo courtesy of Laurie Waite

It was regretted that the talk scheduled for January 30 'Neolithic Stepping Stones' had to be postponed. It will now take place on **Monday 24 February at 8pm, Frossard Theatre, Candie.**

Astronomy

Dr David Falla FRAS is one of our founder members; in fact it was he that founded the section in 1972. Dr Falla or David as we call him suffered a stroke towards the end of last year at his home in Aberystwyth near the University, where he has lectured in Astrophysics for many years. Although his mind was not affected, movement became difficult. But we understand through his brother Geoff that there is much improvement and we all wish David a full recovery.

We were all looking forward to that comet ISON. When it first appeared in the world's largest telescopes it promised to be a really bright object, so bright that we would see it in the daytime. All it had to do was to go around the sun and we would watch it as it passed by on its way back in the direction from which it had come. But its trajectory was always going to take it very close to the sun and sure enough it did not survive the intense heat. It was a shame because there are many things poorly understood about comets and this would have provided astronomers with an excellent view.

In 2012 we were given some very beautiful pictures by the Candie museum which had featured in a display of the solar system. They are quite large and set on wood making them quite heavy to hang on the walls. Our Landlord Mrs Lenfestey suggested we install a picture rail and now they make a fine site for all our visitors.

We continue to receive visitors to our open evenings where we explain how our telescopes work with the computer and get to use them if the sky is clear. In our small lecture theatre seating twenty we can give illustrated talks and show short films. We are particularly pleased when we receive group bookings from social clubs and Schools.

Our telescopes are quite large and it is good to share them with all who have an interest. We finished 2013 with a Christmas meal at the Swan. It was an evening enjoyed by all and a fitting end to the year. 2014 started with an open evening on January 9th. This was in association with the BBC Stargazing Live programme.

The BBC sent us some special astronomy calendars which we were able to hand out to everyone. It was a good clear evening and well attended. We are now looking forward to 2014.

Frank Dowding

See the Stars with Large Telescopes

Visitors are welcome at Guernsey's Astronomical Observatory on **Friday 7 March at 7.30 pm**. There will be a talk or slide-show, plus observing if clear. Donations are welcomed and assist with running and maintenance costs. We suggest adults £2, children £1.

The Observatory is in La Rue du Lorier, St Pierre-du-Bois. Perry's Guide reference 21 E3. Parking is usually available at La Houquette School, Rue des Paysans. From the school go 100 yards up the road, then left onto Rue du Lorier, then immediately right, behind a large bunker. The road is dark, so a torch is advisable. For further information and directions see **www.astronomy.org.gg** or call **255215**.

Botany

Events

Saturday 1 March at 2.30pm, Saumarez Park - to look at sand crocus and lichens. Meet in back car park at 2.15pm. **Perry's Ref Pg: 15 G1**

Saturday 5 April at 2.30pm, Moulin Huet - to look at bluebells, daffodils etc. Meet in car park at 2.15pm. **Perry's Ref Pg: 30 D3**

All venues provisional. Please refer to the previous month's newsletter for confirmation. **Contacts: Hazel Hill Tel: 244879 or Hazel Gray Tel: 239449**

Members will receive a monthly newsletter, either by post or email. Please send a cheque to Soc. Guernesaise Botany Section with your details to **Jean and Gavin Sampson, The Ferrers, 1 Milton Gardens, Rue Cauchée, St Martin, Guernsey GY4 6NU Tel: 234430 or Email: gavsampson@cwgsy.net**

Entomology

Any queries kindly contact Rich Austin on **Tel: 721915** or **e-mail richmond.austin43@gmail.com**

Family History

Events

Wednesday 19 February at 7.45pm, Frossard Theatre, Candie – Talk by Gillian Lenfestey on Livres de Perchage.

Wednesday 19 March at 7.45pm, Frossard Theatre, Candie – Talk by Linda Le Vasseur about her Husband's Grandparents.

The Section Room at Les Vauxbelets will be open for research on the first Saturday of the month from 10am to 12 noon and on Wednesday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm.

Contact Edith Le Patourel – Section Secretary

Any Family History queries should be addressed to The Family History Section, PO Box 314, St Peter Port, Guernsey GY1 3TG.

Geology

Events

Thursday 6 March at 8pm, Planning Meeting, Grange Lodge Hotel. We have a few spare dates if anyone has something they want to see, come along and we'll try to fit it in.

Saturday 5 April at 2pm, meet in Moulin Huet car Park. Children and ordinary members walkabout at Moulin Huet to look at raised beaches and caves.

Contact: Andy Dorey Tel 252123 or E-mail andydorey3@gmail.com

Historic Buildings

Events

Saturday 22 February at 7.30pm, Frossard Theatre, Candie - The Curious Medieval Houses of the King's Mills.

Saturday 15 March at 7.30pm, Frossard Theatre, Candie - Were Medieval Farmyards in Front or Behind Guernsey Farmhouses?

Saturday 22 March at 7.30pm, Frossard Theatre, Candie - The Emergence of Front Gardens.

Saturday 5 April 7.30pm, Frossard Theatre, Candie - Garden Railings in Front of Town and Country Villas.

All Winter, Spring and Autumn meetings begin at 7.30pm and will be held at Candie Museum Lecture Theatre or in the adjoining Section Room. New members or visitors are always welcome to attend, but should contact John McCormack, the Section's Secretary, **on 720303 or e-mail mrjam@cwgsy.net** beforehand, in case of alterations or final instructions.

An annual charge of £10 is due at the beginning of the year, payable by those who expect to attend regularly.

Marine Biology

Events

Saturday 15 March to Sunday 16 March - The Shore Thing Training Weekend. Fiona Crouch from the Marine Biological Association (MBA) in the UK is coming to Guernsey to carry out a weekend of intertidal surveying training. This will enable those involved to take groups out and complete intertidal surveys, recording the data correctly following the Shore Thing processes. If you would like to be involved, please contact **Jessi Jennings: marinebiology@societe.org.gg**

Sunday 30 March 12:30 - 2pm - Ormer Event Meet at Lihou slipway at 12.30pm for the annual Ormer Event. Please wear appropriate footwear i.e. wellies. Survey forms, clipboards etc. will be provided. For more information email **Jessi Jennings: marinebiology@societe.org.gg**

Nature Conservation

Over the years the function of this section has changed. At one time it oversaw, among other things, the purchase of land and the management of our reserves. With the development of Environment Guernsey and the setting up of the Reserves Committee the section has lost its way a bit.

However, members particularly enjoy the summer outings to our reserves and to many other areas of the island with different people lending their expertise in their chosen field. Discussions about the way forward began in November and then at the January meeting, after much more discussion, the following decisions were made: The section will be renamed **The Natural History Section**; There will be nine outdoor meetings each year and one indoor planning meeting in January; The meetings will draw upon all the disciplines of natural history; The meetings will be open to all. They will be free to Société members and non-members will be asked to make a small donation; Each meeting will have a named leader; Although each meeting will be based on one particular discipline it is expected that other areas will be touched upon.

Denise Thoumine who has led the section for some years now would like to step down. She will remain as Secretary until July when Lesley Bourgaize will take over. Jane Gilmour who led the section for many years before Denise and who remained to support Denise throughout, has also signified that she is retiring. She will however remain a member and lend her expertise on some of the outings.

Events

Saturday 15 March at 11am - Marine Biology. Meet Lihou Island headland car park (P.12 A5). Leader Lesley Bourgaize. Please bring wellingtons, nets and clear containers.

Sunday 27 April at 8.30am - Ornithology Outing. Meet at La Blanchés Carrière Road. Park in entrance to Le Grande Pré (P.7 G4). Walk round the reedbed then on to Bordeaux. Leader Trevor Bourgaize. Please bring your wellingtons and binoculars. If you are interested in being involved please contact **Denise Thoumine on 723003.**

Ornithology

Since my last report Autumn has come and gone and with it our Summer visitors. The mild weather has meant fewer Autumn migrants and a look at the British Trust for Ornithology's Birdtrack project shows this: swallows, yes swallows, have recently been seen in Cornwall, East Sussex, Dorset and other areas of the UK. The last time a swallow wintered in the British Isles was in 2009. So, keep watching, as the recent bad weather in England may drive them and others to our shores.

The highlight of our Autumn was the arrival of the Common Rosefinch near the end of September. This attractive little bird breeds far to the east and north of us and winters in India.

When a rare bird arrives here in this technological age, an increasing number of photographers seek to take photographs of it. We therefore ask them to please remember the Birdwatcher's Code of Conduct UK, which put concisely says:

- 1. The welfare of the bird MUST come first.**
- 2. Our actions should not damage habitat.**
- 3. Keep disturbance to a minimum or none.**
- 4. Rare migrants have often travelled great distances and are particularly susceptible to harassment and disturbance,**
- 5. Respect the rights of landowners/managers.**

A local code is being prepared as I write; to learn more please join us at our monthly meetings held on the first Thursday of each month in the Frossard Theatre, Candie at 8pm.

Nancy Ogier

Affiliation with Blue Dolphins Sub Aqua Club

You may have seen on the Facebook page recently the exciting news that the Blue Dolphins Sub Aqua Club (BDSAC) is now officially affiliated with La Société Guernesaise. This affiliation has been eagerly hoped for and anticipated by members of the diving club itself, as well as the Marine Biology Section of La Société in particular. For those of you unfamiliar with the Blue Dolphins, here is some information on the diving club that may interest you. **BDSAC** is Guernsey's largest and oldest diving club. Being based on an island with rich maritime history gives fantastic opportunities.



Environment Guernsey is the wholly owned company of La Société Guernesaise. • We manage La Société's nature reserves and undertake numerous land management contracts for various States of Guernsey Departments, the National Trust and private individuals. • We also run the Guernsey Biological Records Centre and provide an environmental consultancy service. For all aspects of conservation advice and contracting, please contact us.

Guernsey Tobacco Factory, La Ramée, St Peter Port, Guernsey GY1 2ET
Tel: (07781) 166924 • Email: jamie.hooper@cwgsy.net • gsybiorec@cwgsy.net



Rocky reef & kelp reef with all the life they include, a world war two wreck, a Gallo roman wreck nearly 2000 years old, rocky pinnacles, plentiful scallop beds, a sea grass bed (where at least one seahorse has been seen), beautiful shore sites, a Napoleonic watch tower and countless bits of wrecks including a few rather large anchors, most within 3 miles of the boat mooring. The BDSAC vessel, a purpose built 7.5M Ribcraft with 150Hp Suzuki and its own mooring is also always available.

These are just a few things that make Blue Dolphins Sub Aqua Club in Guernsey popular to residents and visitors alike. The marine coast of Guernsey is littered with snippets of history lost beneath the waves. The club offers the opportunity to learn more about Guernsey's past, and present, which is abundant in the marine life found in our waters.

A number of events for 2014 are currently being planned which will feature Blue Dolphins, including a lecture series on a variety of maritime topics, and will be hosted via a number of the La Société Sections (Marine Biology, Archaeology, Geology and Geography, Nature Conservation and the Junior Section), or under the banner of Blue Dolphins themselves. As an affiliated group, all La Société Guernesaise members are welcome to attend these events.

This affiliation will increase La Société exposure in a perfect and relevant environment, and provide the opportunity for residents and visitors to become involved. The information and experience that Blue Dolphins Sub Aqua Club and its members can offer the Marine Biology Section, and indeed other sections, will be invaluable.

**For more information on Blue Dolphins, please visit the Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/bluedolphinssac>
or Email: bluedolphinssac@gmail.com**

Legacies and donations in lieu of flowers

Members are reminded that it is possible to make La Société a beneficiary of their will. Money or property can be left for general use, or if desired for a specific purpose.

They are also reminded that donations in lieu of flowers can be made in memory of members who have died.

Officers and Council Members

Officers:

President	Rodney Collenette	249021	president@societe.org.gg
Vice President	Pat Costen	264500	
Secretary	Kate Lee	235380	secretary@societe.org.gg
Honorary Treasurer	David Cranch	07781 120915	treasurer@societe.org.gg
Membership Secretary	Denise Thoumine	723003	membership@societe.org.gg
Editor of the Transactions	Richard Hocart	254693	editor@societe.org.gg
Reserves Committee Chairman	Jane Gilmour	700024	
Land Management & Conservation Officer	Jamie Hooper	266924	
Volunteer Co ordinator Reserves	Anthony Stagg	722351	
Archivist	Pat Costen	264500	

Section Secretaries:

Archaeology	Tanya Walls	727614	archaeology@societe.org.gg
Astronomy	Frank Dowding	255215	astronomy@societe.org.gg
Botany	Vacant		
Climate Change	Andrew Casebow	722245	climate.change@societe.org.gg
Entomology	Rich Austin	721915	entomology@societe.org.gg
Family History	Edith Le Patourel	721566	
Geology and Geography	Andrew Dorey	252123	
Historic Buildings	John McCormack	720303	mrjam@cwgsy.net
History & Philology	Bill Gallienne	265529	history@societe.org.gg
Junior	Pat Costen	264500	
Marine Biology & Zoology	Jessica Jennings	07839 250558	marinebiology@societe.org.gg
Nature Conservation	Denise Thoumine	723003	
Ornithology	Vic Froome	254841	ornithology@societe.org.gg

Associated Groups:

The Alderney Society & Museum	The Secretary	823222	
Alderney Wildlife Trust	Roland Gauvain	822935	
Bat Group	Pat Costen	264500	
Blue Dolphins Sub Aqua Club	Jessie Jennings		Email: bluedolphinssac@gmail.com
Guernsey Conservation Volunteers	Angela Salmon	721163	
G.S.P.C.A.	Steve Byrne	257261	
Friends of the Priaux Library	Gavin Lanoe	246715	
La Société Serquaise	Jo Birch	832788	
National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens (Guernsey Group)	Tattie Thompson	239444	
Lé Coumité d'la Culture Guernésiaise	Dr Harry Tomlinson	255891	
Guernsey Meteorological Observatory	Martin Crozier	237766	
WEA	David Le Conte	264847	
The Guernsey Botanical Trust	Ivan Le Tissier	07911 719115	
The Guernsey Beekeepers Group	Chris Logan	07781 422909	

In addition to the Section Secretaries being Council members, other Council members are:

J. Hooper (co-opted), Miss Jane Gilmour (co-opted), Mrs Sylvia Brouard, Ms Judith Keen, Richard de la Rue, Mike Deane, Richard Lord, Miss Jessica Jennings, Adrian Nicolle, Mrs Lawney Martin and Miss Julia Henney.

Office Hours: Please note that with effect from 1st June 2013 our office at Candie will be open to the public on a Tuesday and Saturday morning between 10am and 12 noon. The office will be closed on Thursday mornings.

Tel: 01481 725093

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