



Volunteers are needed to help at the: Open Day; Viaer Marchi and the West Show. If you can help at any of these events please contact David Montgomery [web@friends.org.gg](mailto:web@friends.org.gg)

# The Friends of the Priaulx Library

ISSUE 2

SPRING/SUMMER 2011

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Guernsey Literary Festival:  
12th to 15th May 2011**

Tickets available through the Guernsey Arts Commission website [www.festival@arts.gg](http://www.festival@arts.gg)  
Booking line 07781 401026  
12.30 to 2.30pm week days.

### 12th May 2011

"Murder in the Library". A murder mystery evening with costumed actors 7.30pm.

### 13th May 2011

An appreciation of G B Edwards. Professor Chaney, to whom the novel "Ebenezer Le Page" was dedicated, leads a panel discussing the work and its legacy, from 2pm to 3pm. This appreciation session will be repeated on 14th May from 4.30pm to 5.30pm.

### 15th May 2011

"The Written Word" Panel discussion at the Literary Festival "Hub" on the reading experience, featuring Tim Binding, Amanda Bennett and Adam Clayton

### 16th May 2011

"Island Books" Panel discussion featuring Ella Berthoult, Amanda Bennett and Jason Monaghan.

## **Guernsey Photography Festival**

### 1st June to 30th June 2011

Outdoor photography display on the lawn of the Priaulx Library. The theme is "identity".

### Saturday 18th June

Priaulx Library Summer Open Day from 10am to 4.00pm

### Monday 4 July

The "Friends" will have a stand at the Viaer Marchi at Saumarez Park

### 17th & 18th August 2011

The "Friends" will have a stand at the West Show

### 2nd November 2011

Quiz Evening

## President's Report for the April 2011 AGM



In presenting last year's report I mentioned that our key objectives for the forthcoming year were to focus on (a) raising the public profile of The Friends in supporting the Council's efforts in making our heritage more accessible and relevant to a wider audience in the Bailiwick and beyond; (b) more effectively co-ordinating, motivating and activating our team of volunteers and (c) raising funds through a targeted new membership drive. In this context I am pleased to report that good progress has been made in several respects. For example, for the first time and armed with a smart new marquee and tasteful merchandise we successfully reached out to the community by taking part in Le Viaer Marchi event to good effect. Our volunteers helped with new and existing projects including valuable support in the scanning of considerable quantities of documents at the Library—and not least of all our membership growth increased to an annual rate in excess of 30%.

In addition to the development of new events your Committee has continued to run established fund raising activities with the result that we have been able to fund the purchase of books and equipment

which the Library would otherwise be hard pressed to finance from other limited resources.

With possible capital projects on the horizon, our efforts in this context, in support of the Council, are likely to be particularly appreciated. I should add that we have been fortunate, particularly in these more challenging economic times, to have received from and via members several generous donations for which we are most grateful.

In parallel with our more routine work I for one have been very pleased with the success of special projects such as the Guernsey Heroes of the Royal Society series of lectures and exhibition ably led by Jurat David Le Conte. Our next such project, this time under the leadership of Evan Ozanne, involves a focus on local military matters for which there is so much scope for creating a stimulating programme.

For the coming year and in line with our Constitution we aim to continue to support the Council under Jurat Claire Le Pelley's leadership and Amanda Bennett's team to best all round effect.

This will entail an increased focus on our financial objectives, improved communication and better co-ordination of our resources. In all such endeavours, I certainly appreciate the free time and hard work which my colleagues on your Committee put into this organisation and take this opportunity to sincerely thank them, not least of all Bill Robilliard for his meticulous work; he retires at this AGM as Treasurer, a position he has held ever since The Friends was founded by the late Mike Burbridge and colleagues over six years ago.

We shall try to keep you updated with our progress through the regular, new format Newsletters which we hope you enjoy; please feel free to suggest any particular items of interest which you would like to see featured.

Finally, if you are able to help with any of The Friends' activities for the good of the Library and or you are able to encourage new members to join us, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Thank you very much for your continuing support.

**Peter Walpole**  
President

## Library Merchandise for sale

The Library is open throughout the year - Monday to Saturday 9.30am to 5.00pm. You can purchase various books, note cards, calendars, mugs, pens, bookmarks etc. You can also purchase beautiful black and white photographs of Guernsey. Photographs can be framed or



printed on canvas. There is a large selection of photographs available for purchase.

You can select your picture from a comprehensive list of images.

Historic photographs of Guernsey make wonderful gifts for family and friends or you can treat yourself to a personal gift.

See page 4 of this newsletter for more information and please visit the Priaulx Library's on-line shop [www.priaulxlibrary.co.uk](http://www.priaulxlibrary.co.uk) to view items available for purchase.

## Introducing two new Committee Members:



**Eric Grimsley** was born in Buckinghamshire. He made Guernsey his home in 1975 when he moved to the Island (with his wife, Sue) to teach Technical Studies at St Peter Port School. Eleven years later he was appointed Head of Design Technology at the Grammar School, retiring in 2004. As a Scout he became a Queen's Scout at 16. He was the first Scout leader to lead a full Guernsey contingent to the 18<sup>th</sup> World Jamboree in the Netherlands in 1995. He served twelve years as Deputy Bailiwick Commissioner from 1998 to 2010. In 2004 he was awarded the movement's highest honour, the Silver Wolf, for his services to Guernsey Scouting. Eric has written two books "Martello Towers", published in 1986 and "Going Forward" a history of Guernsey Scouting.



**Margaret Mechem** was born in Guernsey. She has worked in office administration, credit control and Human Resources, and is currently working for HSSD as Payments Supervisor, Finance. She has two sons, and two grandchildren. She enjoys reading, holidays abroad, fine dining and exercise classes, which include several Zumba classes every week! Margaret has an interest in the life and history of Guernsey and joins the Committee in the position of Treasurer.

# The Quaker Movement in England

The Society of Friends (The Quakers) began in England circa 1650, following the turmoil of the English Civil Wars. Under the guidance of the founder George Fox it was formed from „scattered Baptists“, disillusioned soldiers and the unhappy, uncertain and restless common people of England.

The Movement began in the North in 1651 and 1652, soon moving to the South. The first formal Meeting was held in Durham in 1653.

The name “Quaker” originated when founder George Fox told a Magistrate to “tremble (quake) at the name of God”.



**George Fox - Founder of the Quaker Movement**

Quakers believe there is something of God in everyone and they value all people equally. They believe that each human being is of unique worth.

Another suggestion is that the name derived from physical shaking that occurred with religious experiences at Meetings. There are over 200,000 Quakers worldwide, with 10,000 being in England.

Quakers emphasise direct experience of God rather than ritual and ceremony. They do not have clergy - and meetings are often held in silence.

# The Quaker Movement in Guernsey

The Quaker Movement came to Guernsey in 1776, when Claude Gay (a French Quaker who was married to a Guernsey girl) had to visit an Officer of the Court to obtain copies of transactions relating to her property on the Island.

Whilst in Guernsey, Claude Gay met Nicholas Naftel, a grandson of a well known local clockmaker. Nicholas introduced Claude to his brother Thomas and his friends Peter and Margaret Le Lacheur.

Sometime later they formed the nucleus of the Guernsey Quaker meetings. However, it was not until 1811 that the local Quakers had sufficient funds to build their own Meeting House at Clifton.



**A woman preaches before an assembly of Quakers in London in 1723.**

Meetings continued during the German Occupation. Perhaps these were permitted because they were held in silence.

In the 1980s membership dwindled to a point where Roy Harding, (a member for 40 years) found himself alone at many of the Meetings.

However, in the early nineties attendance increased slightly and today congregations average eight to ten each week.



**In mid March a small exhibition celebrating the bi-centenary of worship at the Guernsey Meeting House was displayed at the Priaulx Library.**

# Evening events

The Library staff can tailor events for individuals and corporate parties.

Library tours can be arranged specifically for you, your business, family and friends. Discover the secrets of the famous historic building of the Priaulx Library and its unique contents.

The Library staff can also arrange book signing events for local authors and lecture evenings.



**Staff and Friends at the Library**

If you have an event in mind and you would like the ambiance of a special historic setting, please contact Amanda Bennett or Sue Laker for more information.

**Telephone: 721998**

**E-mail:**  
amanda.bennett@priaulx.gov.gg  
sue.laker@priaulx.gov.gg

## Candie House in 1798 (now the Priaulx Library)

In 1931, La Société Guernesiais published extracts from a Manuscript written by Mr. William Taylor Money who visited Guernsey in 1798. The full article can be read in the Transactions of La Société for 1931. This extract describes a visit to the estate of Mr. Pierre Mourant of Candie:

"After breakfast, we left our cards at the Governor's and walked with Mr. Dobrée to the new ground...from thence we descended to the seat of Mr. Mourant, who has the sweetest place in Guernsey, about a quarter of a mile from the town, yet so far above us, losing the view of its irregular pile of buildings to command the most picturesque scenery of the other islands, the coast of France, the frigates in the road, and the rock of guards of this favoured land.



18th Century view from Candie

An elegant little summer house, on a chosen spot is the point of view. There among pamphlets, papers, books and telescopes, Mr. Mourant, a martyr to the gout, chiefly passes his day, and furnishes an agreeable resort for his friends"

Pierre (Peter) Mourant purchased the Candie estate from Jean Cornelius in the 1780s and built the present house,



Candie House in 2011. The house was built by Pierre Mourant.

The estate was extremely large, taking in the sweep of land down to the brewery in the East, and the land where the Victoria Tower now stands to the south, including the slope that later became Candie Cemetery.

## Friends' Quiz Evening - 18th February 2011

This year's quiz was again well attended by many of the Friends of the Priaulx Library, with thirteen teams taking part in a well-fought contest of mental ability, acquired knowledge, amassed trivia, and lucky guesses!

This year the competition was won by „Class Act“, who took the prize with a score of 143.

The event was held at Les Rocquettes Hotel and was once again run by the excellent quiz-master Sean McManus. Whilst the scores were being counted the "Friends" held a raffle, once again with some fantastic prizes.

During the evening we raised over £500. This is a great figure and will go a long way in helping us to support the work that is carried out by the Library.



The winning team "Class Act" accepting the Carey Olsen trophy from Russell Clarke, along with a bottle of champagne which was generously donated by Committee member Gordon Dawes.

The next quiz evening will take place at the Duke of Richmond Hotel on 2nd November 2011. More details will follow in our Autumn newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support.



Quiz evening, February 2011

## The First Guernsey Literary Festival

### 12th to 15th May 2011

The Guernsey Literary Festival is organized by the Guernsey Arts Commission.

A wide variety of events will take place during this week.

### 13th May 2011

Appreciation sessions will take place, to learn about the fascinating life of GB Edwards, author of the novel "Ebenezer Le Page" The session is repeated on 14th May.

### Visiting writers include:

Annie Barrows (niece of the author of The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society).

Other well known authors including Tim Binding, Caroline Bird (Poet) Edward Chaney, John Cooper Clarke (Punk Poet), Dan Purdue, Bill Turnbull and Mary Horlock will be visiting Guernsey to participate in the Literary Festival.

For more information visit [www.arts.gg/index.php/guernsey-literary-festival/news-and-speakers/](http://www.arts.gg/index.php/guernsey-literary-festival/news-and-speakers/)



Olivia Chaney, a talented folk singer, musician & performer will also be in Guernsey for the Literary Festival.



## Merchandise available from the Priaulx Library

Carel Toms' and other photographs can be purchased from the Priaulx Library.

A3 size, framed or on canvas £50.00

A4 size framed or on canvas £45.00

For more details about merchandise on sale at the Library or from the on-line Library shop, please visit the Priaulx Library website: [www.priaulxlibrary.co.uk](http://www.priaulxlibrary.co.uk)

Please contact Rob Grant if you would like to purchase any of these photographs.

Mobile: 07781 115028

Home: 01481 711966

Email: [robgrant@generaliguernsey.com](mailto:robgrant@generaliguernsey.com)

Please note that the images featured here are only a very small sample of the images available from the Priaulx Library. Please contact Rob Grant if you would like to see the full list of available photographs.



**Quay**



**Harbour**



**Market**



**Quay and Cow Lane**



**Fruit Export**



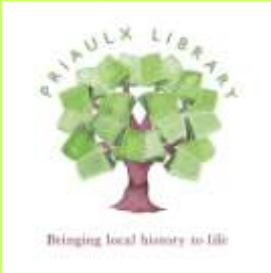
**Tram**



**Picquet House**



**Le Guet**



Please pass this newsletter to your family and friends who may be interested in joining the Friends of the Prialx Library.

Membership subscription details are listed below for your information.

**Thank you for your support**

Please complete this form and return it to the Membership Secretary with your Standing Order form or membership fee:

Connie Wakeham, Cavatina, Houmet Lane, Vale, Guernsey GY6 8JQ

or email: [membership@friends.org.gg](mailto:membership@friends.org.gg)

**CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP**

- Individual annual membership £10
- Family annual membership (two adults and the children of the family) £20.00
- Student in full time education £5
- Non profit making organizations £50
- Individual life membership £200
- Corporate annual membership £250

Any additional donation you might wish to make would be most welcome.

We encourage you, if at all possible, to join by way of a Standing Order. This method saves the Charity administrative and postage costs. For this method of payment please see the form below:

**BANKER'S STANDING ORDER FORM**

**New member's name:**

**Address:**

**Email:**

To (name and address of your bank):

.....

.....

Account number: .....Sort code: .....

Please pay to:

HSBC, PO Box 31, St Peter Port, Guernsey GY1 3AT, sort code 40-22-25, for the credit of The Friends of the Prialx Library, account number 62799405, the sum of £ ..... now, being the subscription due, and hereafter the sum of £ ..... annually on the 1st January until further notice from me/us in writing, and debit my/our account accordingly.

Signature(s): .....Full name(s): .....

Address:.....



**The Friends of the Priaulx Library  
Contact points:**

**Secretary**

**Gavin Lanoe**  
Pine Trees Estate, L'Islet  
St Sampson's  
Guernsey  
GY2 4EX  
E-mail: [info@friends.org.gg](mailto:info@friends.org.gg)

**Web: [www.friends.org.gg](http://www.friends.org.gg)**

**Treasurer:**

**Margaret Mechem**  
E-mail: [mmechem@hssd.gov.gg](mailto:mmechem@hssd.gov.gg)

The Friends of the Priaulx Library was established in 2005. The purpose of this Guernsey registered charity is to support and assist the Priaulx Library in its work.

The Library opened in 1889 after the bequest by Osmond de Beauvoir Priaulx. He stipulated that the work of the Library is directed by a Council comprising: the senior descendant of Osmond Priaulx, two other trustees, two persons appointed by the Lt Governor, two appointed by the States of Guernsey, the Dean of Guernsey and the Principal of Elizabeth College.

The Library holds major local studies and collections. It is also the centre for family history research in Guernsey.

**Membership Secretary**

**Connie Wakeham**  
Cavatina, Houmet Lane  
Vale, Guernsey, GY6 8JQ  
E-mail: [membership@friends.org.gg](mailto:membership@friends.org.gg)

# Why does the Library need help?

The Priaulx Library has had a great deal of success in recent years with the recruitment of professional librarians. Chief Librarian, Amanda Bennett, Deputy Chief Librarian Sue Laker and the team are knowledgeable, friendly and helpful, and can cater for many of your research needs.

Whilst progress has been made with cataloguing collections, (particularly with the newspaper and photographic collections) more work is needed.

Although the States of Guernsey Education Department maintains the building and provides an annual grant towards the basic running costs, the Library still has to be run on a very tight budget. Resources of money and staff are very limited. Consequently many projects are ongoing.

Recently, following a generous donation by the Lloyds TSB Foundation, the Friends of the Priaulx Library raised a significant amount of money to install a lift to allow disabled access to the first floor.



**The Priaulx Library staff can help you research any historical project relating to Guernsey, including tracing your ancestry or Guernsey military and social history**

## The role of the Friends

The Friends of the Priaulx Library support the Library staff in the conservation of books, documents and gets involved in scanning and digitisation projects. The Friends help to raise money for specific projects ie. the provision of equipment necessary for the preservation of Library materials, bigger and better digital scanners, book or newspaper binding, the acquisition of books, maps and the like, book repairs and improvements to the library's facilities, including capital projects.

The Friends help to raise the profile of the Library through membership drives and other events.

**If you have some spare time and would like to join our team of volunteers, we would love to hear from you. Please e-mail David Montgomery at [web@friends.org.gg](mailto:web@friends.org.gg) for more information.**