October, 2026

constables@stpierredubois.org
01481 264638

NEWSLETTER

ST. PIERRE DU BOIS



Meet your Constables and Douzeniers

Constables
Tim Langmead (senior constable)
01481 265590
Carl Jenson (junior constable)
Retiring Nov 2026

Douzeniers
Le Marche Canton
Mrs Claire Jehan (Chef) - 01481 263223
Mr Tony Talmage - 07911 719084
Mrs Nancy Golland - 01481 265421

Canton de Rocquaine
Mrs Gloria Dudley-Owen (Chef)
Ms Jill Bray - Retiring Nov 2026
Ms Tanya Hind - 01481 266180

Canton des Adams
Mr Al Brouard - 01481 263618
Dr David de Lisle - 01481 263077
Mr Nick Moss - 07911 743399

Canton des Yvelius
Mr Mark Dunster (Chef) - 01481 263700
Mr Colin Dodd - 07781 165298
Mr Richard Ashplant

Venue Hire

The upper floor of the Douzaine rooms and the community hut are both available for hire at very reasonable rates. Please contact Debbie Ashplant, parish clerk, to book.

Tree Lighting

The parish Christmas Tree will be lit at a service in the church and at Les Buttes on the 4th December. We're hoping a special visitor will join us beside the Douzaine office chimney on the night too!

St Pierre du Bois Parish Office

Opening Times

Tuesday: 1600 - 1900
Wednesday: 0900 - 1200
Thursday: 0900 - 1200

Quick Updates

- Hedges and streams to be cut and cleared
- Dog Tax due in January
- Light up the Parish compeition - and a bottle of champagne for Christmas Day!
- Christmas tree lighting - 4th Dec

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Let's bring some SPARKLE to St Peters!

Do you like to light up your house or garden over the festive period? We know that quite a few in the parish do, so the Douzaine is planning on holding a little competition to find the favourite display in St. Peter's!

TO ENTER please either email the douzaine office with your name, address and contact number or pop in to fill out a paper entry form. By entering you are agreeing to be included in a map (that we will try to produce, depending on entries!) giving a walking route past some of the displays for parishioners and visitors to enjoy. Please enter by the 5th of December.

TO WIN send a photo of your display by email to the constables by the 15th of December. This photo will be shared on Facebook.

TO VOTE add a heart to your favourite picture on Facebook or call into the office to give a paper vote.

The winner will be announced on 23rd December and will recieve a bottle of champagne for Christmas Day!



Winter Fun for our Canine Tax Payers!

Dog Tax is due in January of each year, for all dogs, with the exemption of assistance dogs. Payments of £10 can be made in person during office hours (by cash, cheque or card), by post, enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope, or by phone.

Beach restrictions are now lifted, as of the 30th of September - enjoy!



Landowner Responsibilities

Streams

Controlled stream owners must cut vegetation and clean streams so an unrestricted flow of water is ensured, twice a year between 1st to 15th of June and 15th to 30th September. Inspections are carried out by Douzeniers.



Hedges

Hedges bodering a public road must be cut back between 1st to 15th of June and 15th to 30th September every year.



Noxious Weeds

Reports relating to noxious weeds can either be made to the Douzaine Office or to the Agriculture, Counrtyside and Land Management Services on 01481 221161.

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An Interview with the Dean of our Parish - Al Brouard



Good morning, Dean!

As Dean of the Douzaine, I wondered if you could tell us a little about your role?

The Dean is regarded as the senior Douzenier and works with the Senior Constable, who holds the most important Parish role. Some Douzaines elect their Dean from among their number; St Pierre du Bois, by tradition, confers the position on the most senior member (the longest serving).

Times have changed since the days when I joined, when tweed jackets and ties were the order of the day, though not as far back as when we wore stovepipe hats! However, the philosophy remains the same: to do the best for our Parish.

The Dean chairs the Parish meetings, provides guidance, and, as I mentioned, works closely with the Constables who undertake the administration supported by the Parish Clerk.

Can you give us a bit of background history on the Douzaine and its functions?

The origins of the Douzaine are lost in the mists of time but may date back to prehistoric times. The first recorded mention of a body of twelve is in the 'Extente of Guernsey' in 1248, some 800 years ago. [St Pierre du Bois – by Marie de Garis]

The Douzaine divides the Parish into four Cantons: Rocquaine, Les Adams (L'Eree), Les Marchez, and Les Yvelins (which contains the Church). Each Canton has three members, the chief of whom is the Canton Chef. They take responsibility for events in their Canton, and this includes the checking of hedges and streams, Bornements (permission when building near the public highway), and any other matters which may arise, such as collapsed walls.

Besides the twelve Douzeniers, there sit the two Constables. They are, in effect, the executive officers of the Douzaine and hold the bank accounts. Legally, they represent the Parish, for instance in the sale of Parish land.

Constables and Douzeniers are all volunteers and work together for the benefit of the Parish. We all share the same objective, but each person brings different skills, experience and ideas. It is that blend of talents, working together for the good of the Parish as a team, that I particularly enjoy.

And its relevance today?

It is fair to say that the role has changed over the years, as many of its former responsibilities have been taken over centrally by the States, including education, policing, and responsibility for supporting those less fortunate. However, some of these connections still remain through links with our schools and community policing.

The Douzaine still has a valuable role to play in Parish life. This is not only through its administrative functions, such as refuse collection, overseeing hedge cutting, and managing Parish property, of which we have a fair amount (the Church, Rectory, cemeteries, land, Post Office building, Salle Paroissiale (Douzaine Room), and Community Hut); it also supports and encourages other groups and events within our Parish. The Liberation Commemoration and Floral St Pierre du Bois are just two examples.

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An Interview with the Dean of our Parish

What do you enjoy most about being on the Douzaine?

It is a very interesting role and an opportunity to support what is arguably the best Parish on the Island, although the other Parishes may not agree!

It has also proved to be an excellent stepping stone for Islanders considering standing as a Deputy in the States, providing valuable experience of Parish affairs and administration, while offering the opportunity to help others and develop new skills.

For me, it has been the camaraderie, the insight it has given me into the Parish, and I am sure it helped when I stood as a candidate in the States elections. I have met some really interesting people through the role and have had the privilege of working alongside some excellent organisations.

Things do not happen out of thin air; they require people who are willing to contribute their time and effort. We need people who are prepared to help make things happen, to support our Parish both now and for future generations. There are no particular qualifications or specialist skills required, just a willingness to serve and a desire to help keep St Pierre du Bois a great place to live.

At present, there are vacancies for both Douzeniers and a Junior Constable. If you have ever considered becoming more involved in Parish life, why not give it some thought? It could be you?

Thank you, Al, that's been most interesting.

For further information or for an application form to join the Douzaine, please contact one of the Douzeniers, the Constable or call the Parish Office. The closing date for nominations is the 24th October 2026.

Stay in Touch

stpierredubois.org

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St Pierre Du Bois

"Together, small steps create big change."

A Note on Bonfire Night

If you are hosting a private event with fireworks, please remember that you must officially log your display via the States of Guernsey Events Portal to ensure local pet owners and livestocks farmers in the area are safely notified. Thank you for your support with this.

www.gov.gg/events

