

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH NEWS

The church that welcomes one and all with closed doors (temporarily)

First Thoughts from First Tower

Elaine McEwen writes, As we move into Summer, I have been reflecting on the changing seasons and I think Spring is my favourite! Don't get me wrong, I like them all for different reasons. I love the summer, especially when the sea warms up and I can go for a swim. (I'm not as brave as some in our congregation who can swim all year round!) I love the lighter nights, the blossom on



the trees, especially the perfume of the blossom on the palm trees (I don't know the correct name for them, but you know the trees I'm talking about!) but most of all I love the birds. The bird song and heightened activity as they



build their nests and raise their young. I've been fortunate in the past few years to have blue tits nesting in my bird boxes which brings me great joy. I had never appreciated before how hard these little birds work to feed their young until they started to visit my bird box. Unfortunately they did not come back this year but I thought I'd share a couple of photos. One of mum, or maybe it's dad, hard at work, and one of the seven fledglings, which according to Spring Watch is a very successful brood.

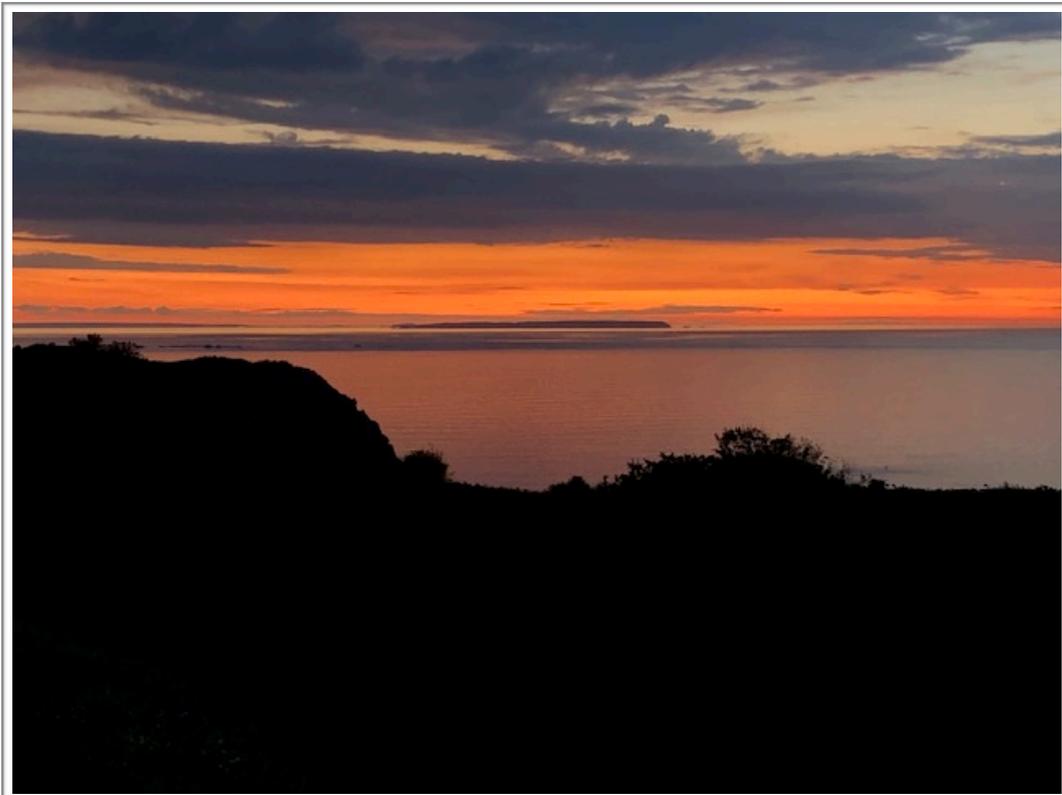
Sinclair Calling...

Musings from home by Jim Sinclair, Week 14 and our freeing from internment continues apace. Level 2 was bestowed on us on 12 June so three of the previous assembled boys' quartet just had to go out (that very day!) and celebrate in the Adelphi. Needless to say a very enjoyable afternoon was had by all. Whilst our internal freeing proceeds incrementally, there is no sign yet of us being able to spread our wings and move off island, either by sea or air. Looking at the media, it seems we will be very reduced in air destinations - certainly immediately - what with the demise of Flybe (they won't be missed but their routes will) and the uncertainty of British Airways abandoning

Gatwick. Will BA abandon Jersey completely or shall we get flights restored to Heathrow? Family matters advance apace too. The weans spent Thursday morning here doing their schoolwork as mummy Kelly had an extra shift in the Dermatology Clinic at the hospital. Looking at their schoolwork, I was amazed at how advanced it is in comparison to my schooldays. Brody is in year 2 at La Moye which is the equivalent of primary 3 in Scotland. In primary 3, I don't remember getting lessons punctuating whole passages. Their English is so far advanced as is their vocabulary - like all other kids in Jersey. Arithmetic/Maths too, he knows all about dodecahedrons etc, we never got that at primary school, we had to wait to high school for stuff like that. The greatest news is the weans slept over last Saturday and yes, there were cuddles. The Editor wondered if there will be photos. Of course there will be, see below. So, all is well with the world, well ours anyway, the rest of it is going to pot.

Blair Country

Sam Blair writes, Dear all, this view was captured on a very still night last week and shows the perfect outline of Sark with Guernsey off to the left. I don't think I have ever seen the other islands looking so clear – even Alderney was clearly visible, albeit to the right of everything in this photo. Combined with an incredible sunset, it really did make for an absolutely wonderful picture. Until next week – Sam x



Classifieds

Columba Kids! - A new twenty-minute online church for children. Contact our minister for how to join!

Online communion - 28th June @ 11am - Please bring your own bread / cracker and wine or grape or any other juice.

Competition News

Some excellent entries this week, though only one that was completely correct. Thanks everyone who entered, it's great hearing from you. This weeks winner? Caroline Ludlow. Outstanding again from the champ.

Answers: 1. Iona Abbey, 2. Charlotte Church, 3. Notre Dame, 4. Kirk, 5. St Basil's Cathedral, Red Square, 6. Churchill, 7. Italian Chapel, Orkney (built by Italian POW's), 8. Abbey Road, 9. St. Paul's Cathedral, 10. Mont St. Michel

This Week's Competition

After week's of sunshine, the past week has been, well, mixed. Therefore, the answer to each question below is a type of weather.

1. Compo, Clegg and ? (5 letters),
2. The name of the prince who ruled Monaco for 56 years.
3. _____ Bay, a city in Ontario, Canada (7 letters)
4. Trinidad's Brian Lara, Barbados' Sir Garfield Sobers and Antigua's Sir Viv Richards are all examples of a ? (6 letters)
5. First name of Mrs Rodwell (nee Platt and Tilsley). She had a long-running feud with her mother-in-law, married a serial-killer, was kidnapped, was driven into a canal and has also been imprisoned. She has also been betrayed on numerous occasions over the past 45 years.
6. "The first time _ _ _ _ (1, 3) a jogger smiling, I will consider it": Joan Rivers.
7. Name of pop group that sang Love is All Around on soundtrack to the film Four Weddings and a Funeral.
8. Surname of Peter, Jon and Dan.
9. "_____ (4 letters) to the Chief": personal anthem of the US President, often played by a military band when the President makes a public appearance.
10. Failed to hit target (6 letters)

Poets Corner

Dylan Green (aged 13) writes, the following poem is writing by Dylan Green. It is a prize-winner in the National Trust Jersey competition. Dylan is the grandson of this week's competition winner.

Green Lands

The sea, the sky, the soft beach's sands,
The cool, fresh winds and the Earth's lush lands,
The nighttime's chill and the morning's bright dawn,
The chirp of the chick and the cry of the fawn.

The moon's silvery light, attracting many a moth,
The fur of the cat, as silky as cloth,
The way the Sun heats up the crispy dried mud,
How the flower blooms from the tiny bud.

This land of wonders, stretching beyond man's sight,
Granted the dolphin its tail and the bird its flight,
And the hyena's laugh and the way the swallow sings,
We have this planet to thank for all these things.

The river's rushing flow and the divot's deep dip,
The ocean's mysteries and the mountain's tall tip,
The light of the firefly, radiating light,
The frog's rasping croak and the caw of the kite.

The fishes leap, and the rhino's silver horn,
The bellowing of the bull and the weep of the new-born,
Silent scuttling of lizards, the sloth's seizing cling,
We can thank the world for everything.

The neigh of the horse as it gallops through fields,
The gazelle's grace and the antlers it wields,
The crawl of the crab and the wit of the fox,
The fruit's sweet taste and the strength of the ox.

The insignificant leaf yet it sustains our lives,
The gentle soft buzzing from beehives,
The delicacy of the butterfly as it lands upon your hands,
And this is all a blessing from the Earth's green lands.

[Any such submissions very welcome. Ed.]

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