

Royal Jersey Agricultural & Horticultural Society

Journal

& 2020 ANNUAL REPORT



Contents

- 1 President's Report
- 2 Secretary's Think Piece
- 2 Re-branding the RJA&HS
- 4 DNA analysis of the Island herd
- 6 Spring Time in Jersey
- 8 Growing for Showing by Tom Robinson
- 10 Early Summer Flower Virtual Show
- 13 Vaccinations - the bovine link
- 14 Cultivate Programme
- 19 Dairy for Development
- 26 The Royal Visit of King George V
- 28 All Island Garden Competition
- 33 Becky Houzé - Jersey's Farming 'Influencer'
- 34 F J Ahier Country Garden Plot Competition
- 36 Seeing is Believing - Presidents at large
- 37 One Hundred Years of the Roselands Herd
- 39 Summer Flower & Produce Virtual Show
- 43 On Farm Challenge
- 46 Life at the Showground
- 49 Fruit, Flower & Vegetable Virtual Show
- 53 Douet Farm
- 54 Society Council Report 2020
- 55 Treasurers' Report 2020
- 58 Agricultural Department Report 2020
- 61 Horticultural Department Report 2020



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President's Report

As the Island emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic and tentatively moves towards "the new normal" the good news is that The Royal Jersey Agricultural and Horticultural Society, remains in robust shape and stands ready to open its doors again to welcome back its members and the people of Jersey! Something to be cheered, not just by those who know the Showground as the Island's leading events venue – but also the huge number of islanders who relate to our central *raison d'être*, namely to extoll the fundamental importance of Jersey's rural character and the richness of its local produce, and to showcase and celebrate these with ever greater zeal.

Even though the island has suffered lockdowns and restrictions, this did not mean the Society went into mothballs ... far from it! True, our lettings calendar was decimated and many fantastic events had to be pulled or indefinitely postponed. This will have caused disappointment and frustration for those hiring the facility, not to mention financial hardship felt by so many of the service providers in the events industry for whom these have been severely testing times. The States support which some have received may have softened the blow to a degree but this is an industry that will need nurturing and it will be some time before it returns to a healthy state. Speaking for the Society, the limited financial help we have received from COVID support measures has been appreciated and has gone some way to redressing the Showground's losses from a year with almost 100% cancellations. Nevertheless, whenever possible we have assisted with the fight against the pandemic, making the facility available to the island without charge. Also we are delighted that our premises were able to be of service to the Royal Court in the early part of the year, for which we did receive a consideration.

The Showground may not have experienced its usual footfall, however much has been happening behind the scenes as our various sections enthusiastically got on with their jobs. Being such a multi-faceted organisation, each department with its own project challenges and work streams, it was great that we were able to adapt and achieve so much. I want to say, on behalf of myself, the Officers and Council, and I'm sure all our members, a huge thank you to our CEO James Godfrey for guiding the team through these uncharted waters. James once again displayed his unwavering commitment to this Society and we are enormously grateful for the extraordinary efforts he has made to keep the ship afloat and sailing in the right direction. James has given a good account of our activities over the past year in his Think Piece, and I would like to echo his thanks to all our staff members who have been simply brilliant in responding to the challenges that these unprecedented circumstances have thrown at us.

It has been a great disappointment to us not being able to hold our full programme of country shows as these have seen a great resurgence in recent times. However we are very much hoping to be able to resume "normal service" for the Autumn Show in October, once again showcasing the very best the island has to offer – from our beautiful cattle to floral and horticultural displays, from produce to prepared fare. Also, to enjoy the contributions of our sister organisations and clubs.

Despite its name this is not a Society that lets the grass grow under its feet! On the contrary, adversity has brought out the best in us. COVID was seen not as a setback but as a challenge. It was great to see how everyone responded, and the innovative ways they found to fulfil the Society's aims. Our horticultural arm was



particularly creative, under the able guidance of Vice-President Martin Preisig and his committees, ably assisted by our brilliant horticultural secretary Rachelle Robinson.

They did a wonderful job in successfully switching the Horticultural show programme to a series of "Virtual Shows" for people, both at home and overseas, to see and enjoy. Likewise, "Springtime in Jersey" enabled all aspects of our beautiful island to be captured in photographs and shared online at a time when social interaction was severely restricted.

Fortunately, easing of restrictions did allow the Garden Competition and the FJ Ahier allotments Competition to go ahead and these were a great success.

Although COVID fears forced the curtailment of our cattle shows the same "can do" attitude I have mentioned did enable the On Farm Challenge to take place – going online for the first time with an international team of esteemed judges. This innovative approach enabled us to showcase our top Jersey cattle on a worldwide stage, and this proved a real success. Once again, thanks to Steve Le Feuvre and his helpers and to sponsors, Islands, for making this happen.

Historically the Society has operated at a loss financially over many years and has had to draw on reserves to balance the books. During my term of office I have been determined to correct this unsustainable situation and ensure that the Society's activities are properly charged for and remunerated. We were on course for a surplus in 2020 until COVID reared its head. However through good cost control, and with the Officers and Finance Subcommittee meeting regularly to review budgets and forecasts, we were able to achieve a break-even position which, in the circumstances, can be seen as a satisfactory result. We also reviewed the performance of our investments and decided to move the portfolio to Rathbones; after a dramatic slump last spring they have recovered well. I am pleased to inform you of more good news - the Society was successful in its bid to the Fiscal Stimulus Fund, meaning we can now proceed with much needed improvements to the Showground facility. Until now these upgrades have just been items on our wish list – but now we can move forward with the installation of a much needed air handling system for the main arena, and fitting up to date IT infrastructure throughout the whole complex.

I am immensely pleased to report that our work in the field of International Development, partnering with Jersey Overseas Aid (JOA), is showing real traction. We are presently active in three African countries, namely Rwanda, Malawi and Ethiopia and are now seeing measurable and significant positive outcomes as our projects mature. By cross-breeding the local cattle with more productive Jersey bull semen the aim is to help smallholder farmers to up-skill through training in artificial insemination, as well as animal management and feeding, with the ultimate goal of building resilience throughout the dairy supply chain. A review of Rwandan project beneficiaries surveyed suggested food security was greatly increased (up from 43% at baseline to 70%) while average hungry months (months spent with inadequate food supplies to fill their needs) had reduced from 2.0 months at baseline to 0.85 months. In 60% of households surveyed, men and women were also making joint decisions regarding their dairy enterprise, compared to 43% at baseline. Elsewhere in this journal you will find detailed reports of each project and I would encourage you to study these – they make fascinating reading. I would like to thank Deputy Labey and her fellow JOA Commissioners, along with Director, Simon Boas, for placing their

confidence in this Society as delivery partners in the development and management of these amazing projects. And, of course, our enormous thanks to our D4D (Dairy for Development) team of David Hambrook and Sam Thomson

In closing, I would like to express my appreciation to my fellow Officers, the Council and all Committee Members for their valued support and continued commitment to our Society - this despite the disruption caused by the pandemic and the difficulty of holding in-person meetings. We are fortunate in having people of this calibre offering their time and input, as we move the Society forward in line with our strategy objectives of upholding Jersey's traditional and core values in a practical and tangible way.

My final word ... if you haven't already familiarised yourselves with the Society's new website I would really encourage you to do so – it's brilliant!
www.royaljersey.co.uk

R J Perchard
President

Secretary's Think Piece

What a year! At the time our last journal went to press we had all heard of corona virus but we had little idea as to the extent of the chaos that COVID-19 would cause.

In comparison to the scale of suffering caused by the pandemic, both at home and around the world, I find it hard to think of the difficulties faced by the Society as anything other than an inconvenience. Yes, we had to cancel our shows programme and postpone the exciting growth of our Cultivate programme, but other than that we have kept all the staff employed and fully deployed, the results of which will be apparent through the pages of this journal.

During the periods of lockdown we had about half of the team working from the Showground and half from home, and as lockdown ended it was clear that everyone was keen to get back to the office. We experienced a wide range of disruption to our normal work, from 'closure' through 'adaptation' to 'business as usual';

- Dave Cottrell and Ross Single had to deal with events at the Showground being closed down from March '20 and we don't expect them to come back in a meaningful way until the end of '21 if we are lucky. In the meantime a programme of planned maintenance was brought forward to ensure that the facilities are ready for re-opening to the public. We were able to help with various community projects to keep systems running. We have also been busy in submitting an application for support under States Fiscal Stimulus Fund for much needed improvements at the Showground.
- Jess McGovern could not proceed with the planned Cultivate Programme but focussed instead on the Society's new website, developing the 'online' leaning resources and expanding the Society's presence on social media.



- David Hambrook and Sam Thomson experienced an increased workload in the Dairy for Development Programme as new initiatives came to fruition, and existing ones were re-designed to account for COVID restrictions.
- Jane Harvey and Jacey Copple, with Dave and Ross, maintained the Herd Book, milk recording, health testing and DNA sampling as the suite of services provided to the dairy industry, with only minor interruption. Although we could not hold any cattle shows we were able to stage the On the Farm Challenge utilising a global panel of judges.
- Rachelle Robinson did an amazing job in successfully switching the Horticultural show programme to a series of 'virtual' events as well as staging the Garden Competition as circumstances allowed.

I would like to thank all of the team at the Society offices, we are very lucky to have such an incredible group of people who always go 'above and beyond' in support of the Society's work.

One of the benefits of 'lockdown' and 'work from home' has been the growth of interest in local food and how it's produced, 'growing your own' and in the countryside in general – the very essence of what the Society is all about. Now that the end of the pandemic is in sight, hopefully, we must turn our attention to how we can build on this new found interest to the benefit of all.

The highly successful schedule of 'virtual' shows demonstrate that we should not be averse to trying new things, and as we look to the future we must recognise that members, current and prospective, will do things differently. We must celebrate our unique heritage, preserve what is best and embrace new initiatives that connect with people who share our interest in rural affairs.

We must also encourage more engagement with agriculture albeit whilst communicating that the general public's 'countryside vista' is in fact a long distance view of a farmer's workshop. In my experience farmers are very happy to engage with people who show a genuine interest in what they are doing, but rather less happy to deal with out of control dogs, crops being trampled, litter dropped or gates left open. It is high time that the Countryside Code is given a higher degree of publicity.

James Godfrey
RJA&HS Secretary & CEO

Re-branding the RJA&HS ?

In March 2018 members were invited to attend a workshop to receive the results of a questionnaire that had been completed by a quarter of the membership earlier in the year. After a day of discussion the members present agreed a series of suggestions for the Council to develop; embark on an education programme, develop the Society shows and events, and consider re-branding the RJA&HS name and logo to modernise the Society's image to better reflect a broader range of interests.

In response the Council formed a sub-committee called the Strategy Working Group and appointed of Jess McGovern as Head of Education and Development. Jess set to work and created the Cultivate Programme which has achieved so much in such a short period of time. Great progress made on the first two recommendations.

So far, so good. The third suggestion, however, proved a little more problematic. Echoes of the 'Post Office to Consignia to Royal Mail' debacle sprang to mind! That said it was agreed that too many people simply referred to the Society as the RJA, or some other garbled combination of the initials. Surely the 'A' and the 'H' in our name are of equal importance, given the significant role that horticulture plays in our activities. What we needed was a more user-friendly, snappy and accurate label for the Society to go by.

Any attempt at re-branding a 188 year old organisation was obviously going to be difficult. Just how difficult became apparent when the PR agency we worked with posed the question "What do you want to do with the name Royal Jersey Agricultural and Horticultural Society?" to which the answer came "It's too much of a mouthful and must be snappier."

"Which bits are important for you to keep?" came the next question, to which the answers came "We have to keep the 'Royal', and we are in 'Jersey', and 'agriculture and horticulture' is what we are all about, and we are a 'society'!" Individually all the elements were important!



Royal
Jersey
AGRICULTURAL
& HORTICULTURAL
Society

The Strategy Group debated this through much of 2019 and after much deliberation and examination of suggested alternative names and logos the committee agreed to recommend to Council that the name should remain as it is. It may not trip off the tongue, but it does describe who we are. Then we were advised that any official change in name would require approval from our Patron and on reflection the committee felt that Her Majesty had better things to do.

With the issue of an official name change put aside the committee turned to the logo and concluded that actually it best represented the name, and that a Jersey cow, despite being perhaps the greatest success of the Society, could not be successfully incorporated into it. Matt Gavey, of Edge Design, re-drew the crest to make the images sharper retaining the crown as a 'Royal' society, the leopards as the crest of Jersey, a wheat sheaf representing agriculture and a rose representing horticulture.

The re-drawn crest will now appear with the Society's name in full but with the emphasis on Royal Jersey and Society in the hope that in future people will refer to 'the RJS' as a convenient foreshortening. Perhaps our forebears got it right after all!

James Godfrey
RJA&HS Secretary & CEO

HRH Prince Philip 1921-2021

The President wrote to Her Majesty The Queen, our Patron, to offer sincerest sympathy on behalf of the members on the death of His Royal Highness Prince Philip the Duke of Edinburgh.

The Queen and Prince Philip are pictured here during a visit to the Society in 1957 receiving 'Beauchamp Oxford Lady' as a gift from the Society for the Jersey herd at Windsor. RJA&HS President, Francis Le Boutillier, introduces Mr Basil Le Brun, the cow's breeder.



DNA analysis of the Island herd

Since the bovine genome was first sequenced in a Hereford breed cow in the USA in 2009, further refinement and analysis now enables farmers to drill deeper into the attributes, whether positive or negative, of their cattle and whether kept for dairy or beef purposes. Before this article reviews how this science is now being utilised by our local dairy herds, it is probably sensible to offer up some general information on genomic data.

The size of the bovine genome is 3 Gb (3 billion base pairs). It contains approximately 22,000 genes of which 14,000 are common to all mammalian species. Bovines share 80 percent of their genes with humans; cows are less similar to humans than rodents (humans and rodents belong to the clade of Suprprimates). They also have about 1,000 genes shared with dogs and circa 94% of bovine genes are generic to all breeds and breed crosses across the species, so those specific to the Jersey breed sit amongst but do account in full, for this remaining 6%.

With most local herd owners, predominantly the younger more technologically adventurous amongst them, keen to avail themselves of this additional herd management tool, a plan was put together early in 2019 to genomically profile the entire Island Jersey cattle herd.

The plan, initially implemented in the summer of 2019, was to have all cattle screened by the end of 2020 until restrictions and limitations around Covid-19 impacted in the spring of 2020. Funded in large part by the Howard Davis Farm Trust and Jersey Island Genetics, the farmers themselves also contributed to the costs of the trial and, as this article is being composed in March 2021, a second phase plan to ensure all female and male calves retained from August 2021 are tested, is being developed.

The reason for screening the full herd was that in order to garner maximum benefit from the process, a base reference population first needs to be established. This base helps set the current parameters for each trait and the tendency, which, depending on the trait being measured, each tend to fit the standard bell-shaped curve depicting the normal distribution for that trait. So, in order to better understand how good the best or, how bad the worst are for individual or composite traits, it was beneficial to have knowledge of the entire population.

Genomic data also invariably removes the environmental influences each animal or herd operates under, so the results show how any animal might perform under a standardised management system. It is quite possible, for the cow with the best genomic potential for protein volume production for example, to be an averaging producing cow in a lower than population average herd, where her potential has not been fulfilled due to external phenotypic influences; the phenotype being the set of observable characteristics of an individual resulting from the interaction of its genotype with the environment.

The old saying 'horses for courses' comes to mind and the use of genomics in dairy cattle breeding is very much about helping farmers identify the best 'horse' (or cow) for the 'course' he or she uses.

Previously, it could only be assumed that any calf was 50% of each parent and estimated breeding values (EBVs) were calculated on that basis. For example, the dam's production index, compared to herd-mates and the wider population, may have been 110% (10% better than average), whilst the sire's production index may have been 80% (-20% of average). It was therefore estimated the calf's production index would be 95%. In reality we know that the progeny of any mating, regardless of species and including us humans, inherit a combination of

genes that both parents have available to pass on. Taking the above example one step further, we also know that each cow or bull carries a range of genotypes (inherited from their parents), not all of which the cow or bull may themselves exhibit, so the basket of genetics this cow and bull have available to pass on to their progeny are not simply what each parent exhibits. This should come as no surprise given how often one of our children exhibits characteristics previously last seen in a great grand-parent!

Genomic testing is not invasive to the animal and can be carried out by supplying a few hairs or a small tissue sample to the lab, from which they extract sufficient DNA and for our programme we are presently contracted to the UK cattle breeding company Cogent. Whilst the samples are collected by Society staff, the farmers can view their results via either a mobile phone app, tablet or desk-based PC.

Results can be categorised into three areas of interest:

Pedigree:

As long as both parents are themselves recorded in the main dataset the testing process confirms whether or not the parentage, as advised by the breeder to the Herdbook, is correct. The system is that precise it not only reports when one or other parent is incorrect, but what the correct parentage is, as long as these animals too are in the dataset. Another reason why it was important to have all animals initially profiled.

Health & Production Traits:

Using official UK* Jersey breed indexes our farmers receive a very in-depth analysis of characteristics ranging from the more commonly used production traits, to physical attributes (Stature, foot angle, teat length etc [all of which impact on management in different forms] to the hugely important fertility trait.

(*For data analysis purposes the Island's Jersey cattle population is combined with the larger UK Jersey cattle population and referenced as such).

Milk Proteins and Haplotypes:

Haplotypes, or recessives, may be good or bad. A haplotype that is defined as good would be that for polled status, with polled cattle naturally not growing horns; so that such cattle do not need to have horns removed where their management requires this is the best option. A negative haplotype would be the Jersey Haplotype 1 mutation, where when two parents that are both carriers of JH1 are mated together, 25% of embryos suffer an early uterine death. Haplotypes are not specific to the Jersey breed nor are they specific to cattle, with similar human conditions also known to be dependent on haplotypes.

Milk Proteins are an area of great interest, not just to the dairy processing industry in general but to Jersey Dairy in particular, as they seek to expand their range of products both for sale in Jersey and as exports to outside markets. Milk protein is not just one single 'product' but comes in a number of forms and science is now helping us understand some forms are better, not just for different dairy product production process, but for us humans too. The A2A2 milk protein, discussed later in this report is just one of a number of forms.

Rapid advances are now being made in both removing deleterious haplotypes from the breeding pool of genetics in the Jersey breed. Jersey Island Genetics, the Society's commercial cattle arm

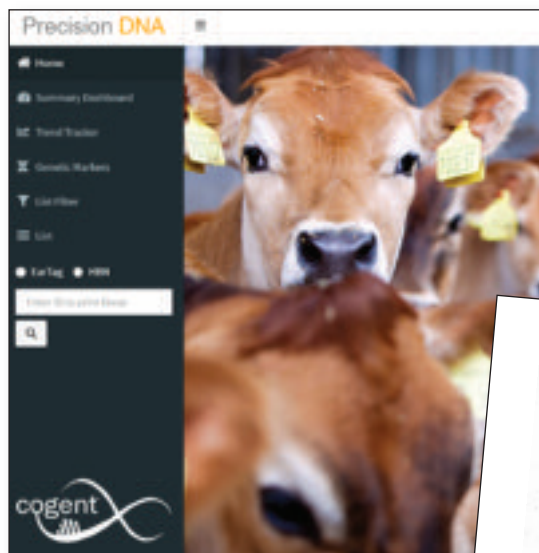
responsible for importing bovine genetics, will not promote for local use semen from any pedigree Jersey bull that is not JH1 Free (JH1F), as well as being a confirmed carrier of the A2A2 beta-casein protein gene. If we look at A2A2 milk as an example, it was noted elsewhere that the Jersey breed globally had a tendency towards this particular form of protein of between 50% and 60%. After screening all cattle on the island, we determined the local average to be 61%, slightly above the expected range. With the decision to move towards increasing the percentage of A2A2 milk protein production in the island's cattle taken some months earlier and farms using bulls that predominantly do not carry the A1 form of this protein, we've recorded that 75% of the female calves registered in the Herdbook in 2020 will be producers of solely A2A2 beta-casein milk.

It is hoped this report, whilst trying to cover many bases in one article, gives sufficient flavour of what is to come, both in future cattle breeding, where science is being proactively used in Jersey to both ensure healthier cows produce our locally consumed milk and that the milk and associated products made from it are the best Jersey Dairy can offer.

Both the Society and Jersey Dairy recognise the considerable level of support given by the Howard Davis Farm Trust to this important ongoing project and wish to record their thanks for the great interest shown by the trustees.

David Hambrook

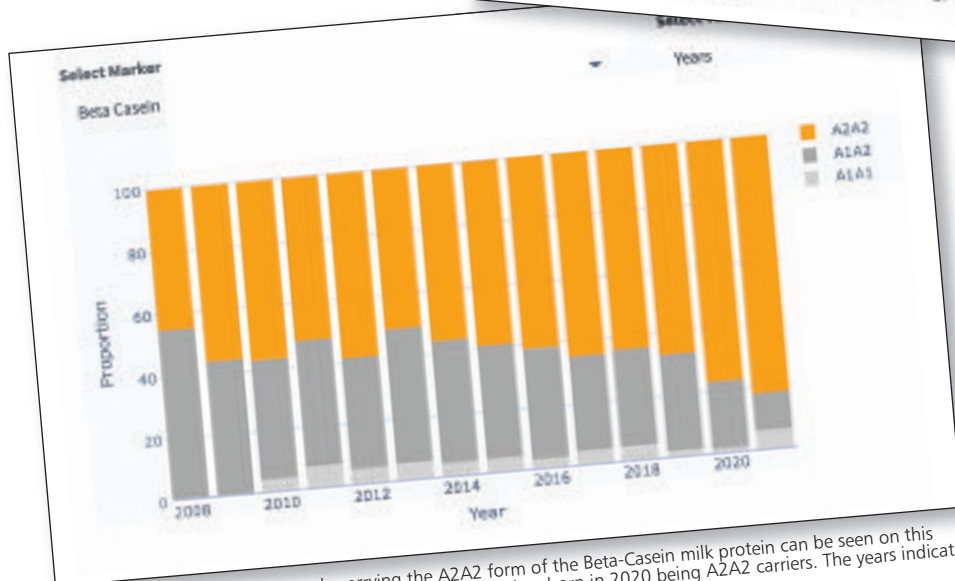
General Manager, Jersey Island Genetics



The Cogent Precision DNA app front page

Presently, the Island herd's top five female Jerseys, as ranked by the primary Profitable Lifetime Index (€PLI) come from two herds, La Ferme in St Martin and Lodge Farm in St Saviour. Resetting the ranking parameters completely changes the top five on most individual traits, where the progeny of individual sires that appear to be dominant in passing on specific genes, good or bad, tend to sit in clusters across the total 4,000+ animals now screened.

Production	Type	Markers and Haplotypes	Pedigree	Search: <input type="text"/>				
ID	DOB	PLI	Milk	Fat	Protein	Fat %	Protein %	Fertil
UK030016701340	2017-04-16	464	718	36.8	27.4	0.1	0.05	
UK030016502272	2020-07-17	425	656	27.7	23.5	0.02	0.03	
UK030016601734	2016-06-30	421	630	30.4	22.2	0.07	0.02	
UK030024401468	2018-03-14	412	547	27.4	22	0.07	0.05	
UK030024401461	2018-02-07	412	571	27	19.7	0.05	0.01	



The increasing dominance of cattle carrying the A2A2 form of the Beta-Casein milk protein can be seen on this graph, located on the Precision DNA app, with 75% of calves born in 2020 being A2A2 carriers. The years indicate the years of birth of the animals genomically profiled.

Spring Time in Jersey

March & April 2020

Following the cancellation of the Spring Flower Show due to take place on the 28 & 29 March, we received a suggestion from a member about holding a 'virtual' flower show using the Society website and our social media platform. After some discussion, Officers of the Society decided to take this idea to another level and came up with the idea of showing photographs and video footage of all that is good in our gardens, allotments and on our farms across our Island, celebrating Jersey in Spring Time. The idea was to help all Islanders have something to get involved in during the difficult time of Covid19 lockdown with most people having to stay at home. We asked islanders to send in photographs or video footage to celebrate Spring to Horticultural Secretary Rachelle of the following:

Exhibits you planned to enter into the Spring Flower Show
Your garden, patio, window box, pots and planters showing Spring flowers
Blossom – trees and shrubs
Flowers and plants in your greenhouse or indoors
Seedlings ready to plant out
Your allotment and what you are growing
Our young people involved in growing
Baking
Aspects of Jersey Agriculture
Cows in the field
Cows being milked / on the farm
Potato planting
Early harvesting
Vegetable processing
Picking daffodils
Harvesting from the sea – oysters

This was a great opportunity to show the beauty and diversity of our wonderful Island in our community but also to the wider world.

157 photos were received during March, April and May from islanders who spent lots of time in their gardens, allotments and on walks around the Islands lanes during their exercise time in lockdown. These wonderful pictures of plants, flowers and animals celebrating our beautiful Island were posted in groups of the Society's Facebook page for everyone to enjoy. Our Chairman's daughter very kindly put together a YouTube video of all the pictures received which was put on our Website and Facebook page, again for everyone to enjoy.

Thank you to everyone who sent photographs and videos to us to celebrate "Jersey in Spring Time" which proved extremely popular and we hope it helped people get through lockdown and everyone enjoyed seeing all the pictures. It was fantastic to see what people had been growing at home, in their gardens and allotments and we are very lucky to live in such a beautiful Island with lots of wildlife, plants and animals to see and enjoy.

Rachelle Robinson
Horticultural Secretary



Children's Art



Apple Blossom



Roseland Heifers in a field at Rue Des Raisies St Martin



Gorse on Jersey's north coast



Stunning Rhododendron at Queens Valley



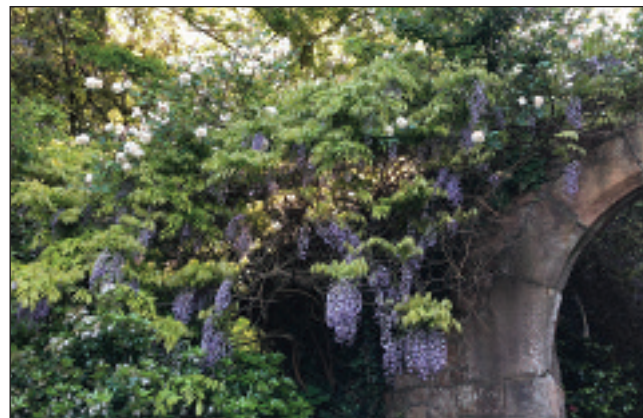
Busy times in the potting shed.



Spring flowers



Blossom that's all too brief.




Beautiful Wisteria and Roses

PIONEERS OF THE JERSEY BREED

The RJA&HS formed the Jersey Herd Book in 1866, and to celebrate 150 years in 2016 we have published 'Pioneers of the Jersey Breed'.

An account of how the breed was established in its Island home, the people who did it and their influential cows. Over 200 pages packed with information and images, many of them seen for the first time. This book is an essential read for any Jersey enthusiast.




£22
£20 to members

Available from the RJA&HS Office

THE DAIRY QUEEN

A HISTORY OF THE JERSEY BREED WORLDWIDE



£30
£27 to members

“The first truly global account of the development of the world's most efficient dairy producing cow”

Anne Perchard MBE
Patron of the World Jersey Cattle Bureau.

Available from the RJA&HS Office

Growing for Showing

by Tom Robinson



Tom's Winning Salad Basket
at the October Virtual Show

Growing vegetables for the Show Bench couldn't be all that difficult I thought, after all, I have a degree in Horticulture from Writtle College where I specialised in Commercial Horticulture and I used to be a Bedding Plant Manager for Gardening Direct. Our local shows in Jersey are run by the Royal Jersey Agricultural & Horticultural Society, where my wife, Rachelle, is the Horticultural Secretary. I sit on the Horticulture Committee and also the Allotment Committee as well, so that coupled with our ponies and dog it means that there is no time to sit and be bored. My Dad had an allotment and so did his dad and they both used to show their veg with success, so it must be in my blood. How wrong was !!! I had entered the shows for the past two years and although I enjoyed some success I never really competed for the bigger prizes.

I realised that if I was to compete for the bigger prizes then I would have to start taking my growing a little more seriously. I had taken on a plot at the F J Ahier Country Gardens, Plot 22, and then my neighbour on Plot 23 gave their plot up so I had then double the area of raised beds to grow in and that coupled with several wooden homemade planters at home and an unheated greenhouse I was set for 2019. It didn't take me too long to realise that in order to have a successful 2019, you had to have put in the work at the end of the previous year in order to organise sowing so that the crops would be ready for a particular show. Turns out that this is not the easiest thing in the world to do and if you are to get good exhibits for the Show, there is a lot of hard work and determination involved.

I had organised myself a sowing diary for 2020 so I would know what I had to sow each week so that it would be ready in time for the three shows run by the RJA&HS and I'd bought the right varieties to see me in the right direction as well. I generally don't have many exhibits for the Spring Show and prefer to concentrate on the June, August & October Shows. The season started off really well, I was growing some Sweet Candle carrots in lemonade bottles as this took up less space and also was a novel way of recycling, I had never grown a carrot before only alien looking ones so it was worth a try. In February the RJA&HS along with the Jersey Branch of the National Vegetable Society arranged for Kevin Fortey to come over and give a presentation about growing giant veg

and I was lucky enough to be given a handful of Cornish Giant Cabbage seedlings to try. I took my experiment with growing in lemonade bottles a bit further when I taped three bottles together to try to grow some parsnips, I had grown the rest on one of my beds at the Country Garden where I had bored holes into the ground and filled with compost. Then the Coronavirus popped onto the scene and bang the season was looking in tatters, with the Spring Flower Show being cancelled at the last minute but then there was light at the end of the tunnel in the form of a Virtual Show where we could send in photos of our exhibits.

The first show in June came and it was time to put the exhibits together, I was so excited to see relatively decent carrots emerge from their plastic bottles. I knew that I had a fairly good selection of veg to choose from as I had grown a lot of early vegetables in my raised beds and had got most of the timings relatively spot on. Then I set about my Vegetable Basket (the main class I love) and after taking about 45 photographs managed to get a nice picture of my basket. Taking the photos was nearly as stressful as the slow and steady car journey from home to the Showground with your prized basket nestling on the back seat! I was so happy when the results came back, I had won Best in Section with my basket and was Reserve Best in Show. It was a wonderful moment as I had never won anything like that before and gave me some reassurance that all the hard work was paying dividends.



Parsnip grown in 2 Litre Plastic
Bottles

As Covid was showing no signs of going away any time soon, we, as a Committee, made the difficult decision to cancel the August & October Shows and replace them with Virtual Shows. Although a virtual show is not the same as having an actual show bench to stage your exhibits on, at least there was the opportunity to show what I had been working so hard to produce. August came and I had some difficulties in getting crops timed to peak for the show and the results were not as good as before but that's showing and nothing to grumble about, it just spurred me on to try harder at the final show in October.



Growers Choice Table at the October Show – an epitome of a Horticultural Show

The RJA&HS held their last Show at the beginning of October and I knew that I had got the majority of my growing right, also at this show was the Giant Vegetable classes. I had been feeding and nurturing my Giant Cabbage (affectionately known to me as Gertrude) all summer and she appeared to be rather large and the foliage was over six feet across. A couple of weeks before the Show I peeked through the netting to find that my prized cabbage was blind and there was nothing there at all, so that pipe dream went up in smoke!!

Aside from my Cabbage disaster I had actually managed to grow a really nice selection of veg to choose from. I spent an entire afternoon arranging and re-arranging vegetable baskets, salad baskets and wheelbarrow displays for the show. The salad basket just clicked and seemed to make itself and fell into place perfectly. There was also a Growers Choice table which you could construct using all the fruit, flowers and vegetables that you had grown at home and at the allotment and when it came together it just looked like the epitome of a Horticultural Show on one table. I was over the moon to find that my Salad basket had won Best in Section and also reserve Best In Show.

So now that the shows for this year are under the belt and a huge amount has been learned, the preparations start for 2021 now



Tom's 2 Plots at the FJ Ahier Country Gardens



Tom's Winning Vegetable Basket at the June Virtual Show

and as we all know a gardener never has a quiet time, just times that are slightly less busy than others. During the winter I built myself a little growing chamber with heat & LED lights as I am trying to grow Pot Leeks this year as I have always been fascinated by them, I have quickly found that they are not the easiest things to grow but that is part of the fun of it all. There is always something new to learn in growing and there are new wrinkles to be found.

Next year will bring what it will bring and with a little sprinkle of luck I may sneak back into the rosettes again. One thing I do know is that I am going to enjoy seeing how it all comes together.



Tom's Planters at Home

Tom Robinson
Horticultural Committee Member

Early Summer Flower Virtual Show

13th & 14th June 2020

Following the cancellation of the Society's biggest Show of the year at the end of March being the Summer Country Fair, Rachelle and the Horticultural Department had more time to devise a plan to hold a Virtual Show for the Early Summer Flower Show normally held alongside the Summer Country Fair. Rachelle put together a suitable Show Schedule whilst working from home in April using most of the classes from the original Early Summer Flower Show with a few changes.

Members and Non-Members (for certain classes) were invited to send in photos to Rachelle by email or post of their exhibits they wished to enter into one of the classes together with the class number and date the photo was taken. A total of 272 entries were received from adults and children and Rachelle sorted all of the photos into class order to send off to the judges to decide on their winners.

Rachelle picked four judges, three local and one visiting from Holland. The photos were sent electronically by We-Transfer to the judges for them to choose a winner in each class and also a Best in Section winner of the photo that they thought was the best overall picture in that section.

Gary Laurent from Jersey judged the Pot Plant and Cacti & Succulent classes with 72 and 43 entries respectively. His Best in Section winner in the Pot Plants was Jennifer Ellenger's lovely Hanging Basket of Mixed Plants in Bloom & Foliage and his Cacti & Succulents winner was Stephen Le Feuvre with his amazing Group of Cacti.



Best in Section Pot Plants – Jennifer Ellenger



Best in Section Pot Plants – Hanging Basket of Mixed Plants in Bloom & Foliage

National Vegetable Society judge Nora Treanor judged the Adult Fruit & Vegetable classes and with 31 entries put forward, she found her Best in Section winner in Tom Robinson's delicious looking Vegetable Basket.

Tony Lindhout from Holland, who was stuck in the Island due to Covid travel restrictions, judged the Cut Flowers. From a total of 69 entries, he found his Best in Section winner in a beautiful "Catherine Cookson" large flowered hybrid tea bi-colour Rose expertly grown by Louise Noel.

Once all the Best in Section winners were received for the Cut Flowers, Pot Plants, Cacti & Succulents and Fruit & Vegetables, Rachelle asked the three Judges, Nora, Gary and Tony to give points out of ten for each of the four winners and the exhibit with the highest points would win Best in Show and the exhibit with the second highest points Reserve Best in Show.



Best in Section Cut Flowers – Louise Noel

With all points received and totalled up, the Best in Show winner with 28 (out of 30) points was a very delighted Stephen Le Feuvre with his amazing display of a Group of Cacti, grown and lovingly looked after by him at home. Reserve Best in Show with 24 points went to a shocked Tom Robinson with his wonderful Vegetable Basket with all produce in it grown by him at his home and allotment at the FJ Ahier Country Gardens. This is the first time that Tom, who is in his third year of showing Vegetables, has won a top prize.



Best in Section Cut Flowers – Large Flowered Hybrid Tea Bi Colour Rose (Catherine Cookson)



Best in Show – Stephen Le Feuvre with his Cacti & Succulents

We were delighted to receive 40 entries from children of all ages across the Fruit & Vegetables, Floral and Art classes. Nora Treanor judged the 17 entries in the Fruit & Vegetable classes and was really pleased with the standard of growing these children attained and awarded 9-year-old Melissa Dean with Best in Section for her tasty looking Jersey Royals.

Honorary Life Member of the Society Collette Bisson kindly judged the Children's Floral and Art classes and had the enormous task of decided on 1st, 2nd and 3rd placings in all the classes entered from a total of 23 entries received. Collette decided on her Best in Section winners as 8-year-old Amelia De Gouveia in the Floral Art section for her innovative "Arrangement in a Recycled Container" and 9-year-old Jenny Wu for her creative painting "My Time at Home" inspired by lockdown. All three children were absolutely delighted to win a Best in Section Rosette and Certificate and all children who entered were given a Well-Done Rosette and a Prize Card.



Best in Section Children's Fruit & Vegetables – Melissa Dean

Collette also judged the 14 entries received in the Photographic class and found her winning picture of a stunning cacti in bloom taken by Stephen Le Feuvre. She also judged the three entries received in the Adult Floral Art class "An arrangement of flowers & greenery from your garden or allotment which was won by Phyllis Gouedart.

We were delighted with the success of our first Virtual Show and extremely pleased with the positive response and to receive 272 entries. We wanted to make the show light hearted and fun for everyone and for exhibitors to be able to showcase what they have grown in their houses, gardens and allotments for everyone to enjoy. All the winner's pictures together with all pictures received were posted to our Facebook page for all to enjoy – thank you to everyone who entered and well done to all the winners. Also, a big thank you to the judges who took on the challenge of judging the entries electronically to pick their winners – something they have not done before. I really enjoyed organising the Show which kept me busy during the unusual time of Covid-19 restrictions.



Best in Section Children's Floral Arranging – Amelia De Gouveia



Best in Section Children's Art – Jenny Wu "My Time at Home" Painting

Results

BEST IN SHOW - STEPHEN LE FEUVRE – GROUP OF CACTI
RESERVE BEST IN SHOW - TOM ROBINSON - VEGETABLE BASKET

Best in Section Pot Plants - Jennifer Ellenger - Hanging Basket
Best in Section Cacti & Succulents - Stephen Le Feuvre - Group of Cacti
Best in Section Cut Flowers - Louise Noel – Large Flowered Hybrid Tea Bi-Colour Rose (Catherine Cookson)
Best in Section Fruit & Vegetables - Tom Robinson - Vegetable Basket

Best in Section Children's Fruit & Vegetables - Melissa Dean -
Jersey Royals
Best in Section Children's Art - Jenny Wu - "My Time at Home"
Painting
Best in Section Children's Floral Art - Amelia De Gouveia -
Arrangement in a Recycled Container

Rachelle Robinson
Horticultural Secretary



Class Winner – 3 Vases of 3 Kinds of Wild Flowers



Winner of the Photographic Class



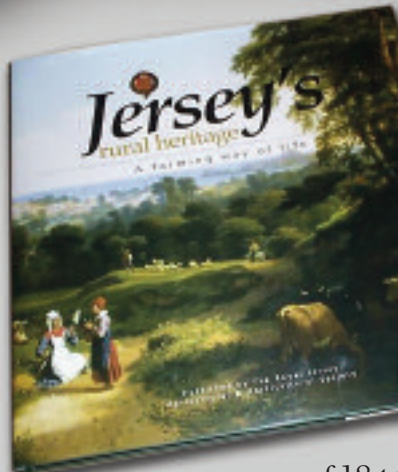
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Vaccinations - the bovine link

The coronavirus pandemic has brought the subject of vaccination into sharp focus and the successful roll-out of effective vaccines to combat Covid-19 is a testament to the science that underpins it.

The word vaccine is derived from the Latin word *vacca* for "cow" and, given this Society's deep association with bovines, I thought it would be of interest to reflect on how the amazingly powerful tool of vaccination, so influential in the history of medicine, got its name from a virus that attacks cattle.

The person credited with the creating the world's first vaccine is Edward Jenner, a Gloucestershire doctor and scientist practising in the late 1700s. He is well known around the world for his innovative contribution to immunization and the ultimate eradication of smallpox, a disease that had ravaged the human race for centuries. Jenner's work is widely regarded as the foundation of immunology although it is true that he did build upon the work of others.

The story goes that, while making his rounds as a physician, Jenner made a surprising observation - milkmaids infected with cowpox, which manifested itself as a series of pustules on the hands and forearms, were immune to the smallpox epidemics that regularly attacked the residents of his parish. Legend has it that Jenner first heard of this phenomenon from a Bristol milkmaid who boasted, "I shall never have smallpox for I have had cowpox. I shall never have an ugly pockmarked face."

Jenner made history in 1796 with an experiment that would cause outrage today; deliberately infecting an 8-year-old boy named James Phipps, who had previously had neither cowpox nor smallpox, with a live "vaccine" made from the cowpox virus. To do this he took pus from the cowpox lesions on a milkmaid's hands and introduced that fluid into a cut he made in the boy's arm. The boy duly developed a cowpox reaction with a mild fever. Six weeks later, Jenner exposed the boy to smallpox, but Master Phipps did not develop the infection, then or on 20 subsequent exposures to the dreaded disease. Indeed, Phipps later married, had children, and lived long enough to attend Jenner's funeral in 1823. Jenner's theory had been correct and vaccination was born. However, the scientific establishment remained sceptical so Jenner had to publish his findings at his

own expense; he concluded "that the cowpox protects the human constitution from the infection of smallpox." It was a groundbreaking conclusion that set the fields of immunology, vaccine therapy, and preventive health in motion.

Medical science has advanced hugely since then, for example with the use of attenuated vaccines, created by reducing the virulence of a pathogen, but still keeping it viable, or "live". The late 19th century saw the arrival of vaccines for rabies, typhoid, cholera and the BCG for tuberculosis. During the 20th century ever greater strides were made in the field of immunology with the development and introduction in the UK of vaccine programmes for a host of illnesses, such as diphtheria, polio, tetanus and the combined MMR vaccine for measles, mumps and rubella along with numerous other vaccines targeted at specific conditions. Not forgetting, of course, the vaccines produced to combat seasonal influenza. And now, thankfully, we have seen the development and roll-out, in record time, of vaccines to protect against the scourge of Covid-19.

But what of the milkmaids, and the cattle themselves? Well, times have certainly changed with regard to the way our milk is produced and processed. The days of the milkmaid carrying her pails of milk from the field or stable are no more; this timeworn bucolic idyll has been replaced by modern and mechanised systems which, though lacking the romantic charm of yesteryear, are undoubtedly more productive, efficient and hygienic. Cowpox is virtually unknown in present day cattle populations, and only very rarely seen in humans, where it appears to be contracted from domestic cats who, in turn, acquire it from the reservoir hosts for the virus in the form of woodland rodents, particularly voles.

Thanks to the success of vaccination, the dreadful disease of smallpox ceased to be endemic in the UK in the 1930s and the last known case occurred in 1978, claiming the life of 40-year-old female medical photographer. In 1980, the World Health Assembly declared smallpox eradicated, and no cases of naturally occurring smallpox have happened since.

R J Perchard
President

Honorary Life Members



Honorary Life Membership is the highest honour the Society can bestow on an individual in recognition of outstanding service or achievement. Recipients of the modern award are:

1996 Sir Peter Crill	2013 Derrick Frigot MBE
1999 Francis Le Ruez	2014 Max de la Haye
2001 Jack Rondel	2015 Charles Le Cornu
2005 Ernest Le Conte	2017 Collette Bisson
2008 John Le Feuvre	2018 Lewis Rondel
2010 Anne Perchard MBE	2019 Pam Laurens
2011 John Hidrio	2020 Graham de Gruchy
2012 Muriel Le Gresley	



Rob Perchard, Society President, with Graham de Gruchy

New Website Launch

Cultivate programme



My role of Head of Education and Development within the RJAHS was established following a members consultation held in March 2018, where it was agreed that the Society should strengthen its profile as a community-centered organisation and put more emphasis on promoting to the wider community the many facets of the Society and what the organisation stands for as there is so much more to it than just a Showground and events venue!

With the generous support of the Howard Davis Farm Trust, my role was created to turn our members' ideas into outcomes. The purpose of my role is to demonstrate how the seemingly diverse activities of the Society are actually closely interconnected, reflecting values that are of core importance to our whole island - such as the land and its stewardship, the provenance of our food and the importance of community. By extolling these key messages, and showing how they relate to everyday life, and by encouraging participation, the hope is that Islanders will connect better with the fundamentals that underpin our rural culture. It is also our hope that people who identify with these values will be minded to join a progressive organisation such as the RJAHS!

One of the ways we have raised our profile, connected with and updated our community is through our regular 'News from the Showground' feature in the Jersey Evening Post. During the year a series of monthly articles presented the story of the RJA&HS to those who did not know the history, and served as a nostalgic refreshment to those long-standing members who remember the journey of the RJA&HS well. Each article has focussed on a different facet of the Society and in doing so have highlighted a range of values that are of core importance to our whole island that the RJA&HS prides itself on.

When looking at how the Society communicates with the general public, we also saw a great opportunity to refresh our website so that the many facets of the Society could be presented in a vibrant and inspiring way. The RJA&HS occupies a key role at the heart of Island life on many fronts - as an organisation that unites Islanders who value and wish to celebrate Jersey's rural heritage and bounty, for example through its excellent shows both horticultural and agricultural, garden competitions, talks and demonstrations, to name just a few. One could go on, mentioning the running of the Royal Jersey Showground, the provision of essential services to the dairy industry, our partnership with Jersey Overseas Aid and the recent launch of our educational "Cultivate" Programme.

After thoughtful consideration to the branding, the functionality and the viewers' experience of the website, our new website is ready for you to explore and we invite you to immerse yourself virtually into the heart of rural Jersey.

We would like to take this opportunity to give special acknowledgement to Matthew Gavey from Edge Designs for encapsulating all that the Society represents within our website. We would like to also thank Kaizen Creative, Freedom Media, Quad Photography and Bam Perspectives for enhancing the website with their media talent and last, but by no means least, we would like to thank our community of members who represent the voice of the countryside and make up the fabric of the Society, your support is integral to our future. Check us out onwww.royaljersey.co.uk

The Cultivate Academy

Since commencing my role in 2018, I have been continually visiting and connecting with the dynamic and passionate community of local producers who grow, rear, catch and cook our local food. I refer to these good people as our local "agri-food sector".

What these agri-food based visits have highlighted to me, as a teacher who has previously taught Geography in Secondary schools, is that many of our young people are missing out on feeling connected to our local agri-food sector because they simply do not know enough about it. Understanding where our food comes from and how it's produced helps us to relate not just with our food but with the seasons, the environment, our island community and to the special island of Jersey.



Trinity Manor Gardening Apprentice
Wills Baker

If we foster the connection between the farm and the plate we should be able to inspire our young people to be curious about the industry, and understand the vital role farming plays in maintaining Jersey's unique culture, its rural landscape, and food security.

In an attempt to play its part, the Society has embarked on an initiative called the Cultivate Programme. There are a number of aspects to our Cultivate Programme which you can learn about by visiting the 'Education' area of our new website. In particular, I would like to highlight the 'Cultivate Academy'. With the help of our passionate local agri-food stakeholders, the Cultivate Academy aims to be a fun learning platform where primary and secondary school teachers and parents, can access fun videos and podcasts which can support learning about our local agri-food sector.

It is here, in the Cultivate Academy, that I have utilised my teaching experience combined with my passion for connecting younger people more to the agri-food sector, to create a Key Stage 3 Scheme of Work that can be used in Geography lessons or even within PHSE lessons or Form time. The seven-lesson scheme of work includes lesson plans and learning resources exploring local food provenance, seasonality and the pioneering

'Dairy for development' programmes run in partnership between JOA, the government of Rwanda and Send a Cow. We are calling this scheme of work, the 'Cultivate Scheme of Discovery' which you can learn more about overleaf.

There is a clear need to raise the profile of the agri-food industry by educating our young people with regards to food and farming; to drive a greater interest in the sector as a career option; and to educate young people overall as to what modern farming and horticulture is all about. These are the aims underpinning not just our Cultivate Scheme of Discovery, but also our Cultivate flagship event that we have called 'Cultivate Young Minds'. Cultivate Young Minds 2020 was due to take place on 24th March, with over 45 Cultivate Young Minds stakeholders from the agri-food sector ready to share their passion and inspire over 100 teenagers invited from each of the Island's secondary schools. In order for members of the public to get the opportunity to meet the stakeholders and also learn about Jersey's Agri-Food sector, we were planning on opening Cultivate Young Minds to the public from 5-8pm.

But, the full effects of the COVID 19 epidemic meant that Cultivate Young Minds could not go ahead and rescheduled date remains uncertain. That however did not stop 'Cultivate Young Minds' from taking positive steps through alternative avenues.

Over the last couple of years, I have had many discussions about raising the profile of 'Horticulture' and 'Agriculture' in Jersey and the importance of creating essential pathways into both these industries. Concerns have been highlighted to me about the lack of opportunities available to young people and also the immense passion from key people working in the industry, keen to offer their time and knowledge to address this trend. At our Cultivate Young Minds event 2019, when asked the question, "Would you like to know more about Agriculture and Horticulture?" 88% of the 80 Cultivate Student Ambassadors said "YES".

David Room (Head Gardener of Trinity Manor Estate) and Olivia Keylock (Deputy Head Gardener) feel passionately about the importance of educating young people in the joys of horticulture. In September 2020, they asked for my input in the launch and the selection process of the Trinity Manor Gardening Apprenticeship as well as acting as an educational mentor to the successful candidate. Professional learning resources that were prepared by Olivia Keylock for our postponed Cultivate Young Minds 2020, were used as an activity in one of the stages of the selection process. This has now come to fruition and the successful candidate, Wills Baker, was selected. He will study for the RHS Level 2 Qualification during his apprenticeship from March 2021 until June 2022. There was an overwhelming response to the apprenticeship offering, the final shortlist of candidates were outstanding, each in their own way.

On behalf of the Trinity Manor Gardening team, we want to thank all those who applied for the apprenticeship. We have certainly taken many positive things from this experience and we are optimistic that there may possibly be some budding gardeners on the horizon.

I would consider this more than just an 'apprenticeship' but an essential positive step in opening the door to our young people to consider a career in Horticulture. On behalf of the RJA&HS, we would like to thank Trinity Manor Estate for offering such a life changing opportunity and to Skills Jersey for their Trackers support to the successful candidate.

The responsibility rests with us all, and Government in particular, who must ensure that sufficient resources are allocated within our educational system. This is especially important for those young people who might be considering making their careers in this sector and for whom, sadly, there are currently very few opportunities on Island to gain qualifications and training.

David Room, Head Gardener of Trinity Manor Estate explains more about the thought process behind creating the apprenticeship.

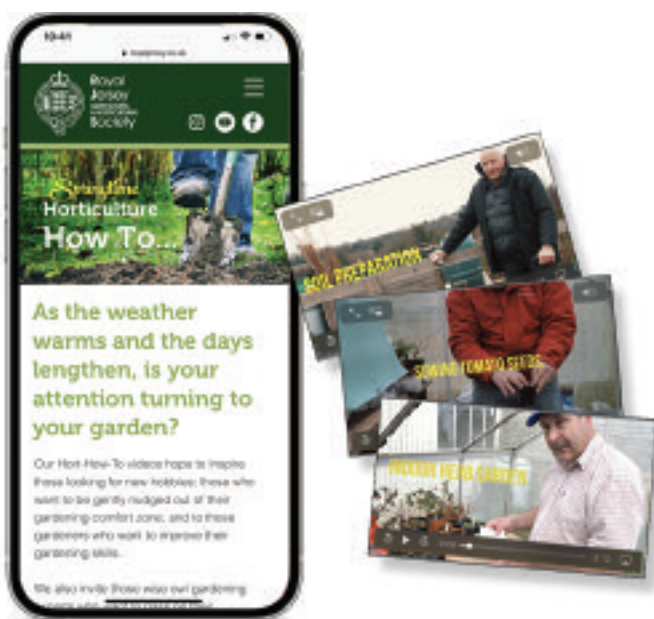
"It has always amazed me that on an island that probably has more gardens per square mile than anywhere else, there are few, if any, opportunities for young people to study and make a career in Horticulture.

Here at Trinity Manor, with the generous support of Pam and Paul Bell, we are happy and proud to be doing our bit towards rectifying this problem, and hope others will be inspired to take up the torch.

Clearly, there is much wasted young talent on Jersey, as was made clear during the selection process to find a Horticulture Apprentice. In the end we appointed a young man, Wills Baker, who is very passionate, and excited to be taking on such a pioneering role. I very much hope that Wills will be the first of a new generation of young, qualified Horticulturalists here on Jersey; a trail blazer; an acorn from which a great Oak tree will grow, perhaps?"

Cultivate Garden Club

Our Facebook group called Cultivate Garden Club is aimed at all ages and all abilities. On behalf of the RJA&HS, we want to provide a learning forum to inspire those looking for new hobbies; those who want to be gently nudged out of their gardening comfort zone; those gardeners who want to improve their gardening skills; and invite those wise owl gardening experts who want to pass on their knowledge and inspire the gardener in all of us. We want you all to feel welcome.



Our Cultivate Garden Club community is continually "growing", with nearly 700 members, there is daily inspiration being posted by our members. There is an abundance of knowledge and expertise which means help is there for you if you have a gardening query. What the group prides itself on is just simply sharing what beautiful plant or flower is catching their eye, whether this be a bright purple broccoli, a striking cacti collection, a bunch of nectar rich flowers or a thriving allotment site.

Nature has a way of relaxing us and for many gardens are a place to unwind and be creative through the use of colour, fragrance, light and texture to create a fully immersive space. It is such an exciting time for all those who love plants and gardens. Now more than ever, gardeners are not only aware of the well-being benefits, they are aware of the changes that can be made towards a more sustainable future, making a conscious effort to grow plants that benefit our surrounding wildlife and make our planet a more peaceful, greener place.

The Cultivate Programme is generously supported by the Howard Davis Farm Trust. We are also very fortunate to have a number of organisations sponsor the Cultivate Young Minds initiative and we are extremely grateful for their support. In particular we would like to thank Islands and Standard Bank for their support during 2020.

Jess McGovern

Head of Education & Development

The Cultivate Scheme of Discovery will provide young people an opportunity to learn about our local agri-food industry in a fun and interactive way. The Scheme of Discovery is designed to help students understand the links between what they eat and the environment around them, as a way of highlighting the relevance that food and farming plays in their daily lives, helping to improve their connectedness with the natural world.

The Scheme of Discovery aims to build on, and collaborate with, the many excellent initiatives under way in Jersey at present to integrate agri-food into the school curriculum and to drive a greater interest in the sector as a career option.

The Cultivate Scheme of Discovery (made up of seven lessons) is aimed at KS3 students and can be taught in Geography lessons over a half term (preferably the Spring or Summer term where food and farming is clearly visible around them). Alternatively, each lesson can be taught as stand-alone lessons for a classroom or form time activity.

The Pearl in the Channel

Where is Jersey?

Why is Jersey special?

What is the landscape of Jersey?

Jersey's Farming Heritage

What is the story of Jersey's farming heritage?

How has Jersey's landscape been shaped by farming?

Sustainable Farming in Jersey

What does our rural culture represent?

Why is it important?

How does the Cultivate programme 'Cultivate Young Minds'?

The Cultivate Programme

What does our rural culture represent?

Why is it important?

How does the Cultivate programme 'Cultivate Young Minds'?





Eat the Seasons

What is meant by 'seasonal foods'?

What are the benefits of consuming seasonal foods?

What seasonal produce can be grown, reared and caught in Jersey?

Dairy for Development

How is the Jersey cow giving families in Rwanda (an LIC) a sustainable route out of poverty?

Food Provenance

Food from an animal case study - The Jersey Cow and Jersey Dairy

Food from a plant case study - The Jersey Royal

Discover more...



Meet '**BEECO**' the bee,
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If you are a teacher who would like to use our local Cultivate Scheme of Discovery to explore and develop a 'sense of place' with your students, please email: jess@royaljersey.co.uk where you can discuss this further with Jess McGovern (Head of Education and Development)





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Dairy for Development

I note I ended the 2019 Annual Report article with the following statement '2020 looks to be an exceptionally busy year, with the Ethiopian project launching too, so there will be plenty to report on in next year's journal.

Little did I realise that 12 months later I would have been restricted to overseeing what are now three major projects in Africa (Rwanda, Malawi and Ethiopia), plus the wider regional promotion of the Jersey breed across East African smallholder farming systems, almost entirely via a PC based communication system, known as Zoom! I am now also linked to more people in Africa on Whatsapp than I am in Jersey and, quite frankly, I would not be without it; though with the different time zones involved in our project work, receiving a stream of new messages, photos and videos when I should otherwise be asleep can be a little frustrating at times.

This 2020 Journal sees three Dairy for Development (D4D) articles reported on elsewhere, one for each of the major projects and all pieced together by new team member Sam Thomson, so this overview of the Society's D4D work is as much an introduction to Sam, whilst also briefly reporting on the wider regional work.

Jersey born with strong family links to some of the greats of the local Jersey cattle breeding community, Sam joins the Society to help in delivering our growing group of projects in Dairy for Development. He previously worked in international development consultancy, working on a range of projects including agricultural research in the tropics. With Sam and I having just four days to get to know each other before Covid restrictions in the workplace meant that Sam was confined to working from home in St Helier for many weeks, I was grateful our skill sets and working practices interlinked so well.

Sam's role involves a variety of work, from catching up with our in-country project partners on their progress, to developing data collection tools for use in the field. Sam is also responsible for proposal writing, and helping coordinate the design of the African Jersey Forum website, scheduled to be launched in 2021.

By taking the liberty of referring to the conveniently 3-legged milking stool analogy, the third leg of the D4D team, dairy consultant Dai Harvey, continues to play a pivotal role in our work. Whilst I know Covid travel restrictions have completely curtailed Dai's travel options, to both engage with his own East African projects and spending time at home in Zambia with his wider family, the contribution Dai makes, from his home base in Oxfordshire, is second to none.

Outside of the three primary projects, we've recently been contracted by Jersey Overseas Aid to help them develop their Dairy for Development strategy, which will sit alongside their other two thematic areas of work, namely Financial Inclusion and Conservation Livelihoods. Further down the road we expect to assist JOA in developing a Theory of Change document and the accompanying Results Framework, where Sam's expertise in this field of work will no doubt prove very useful.

Planning for the 2021 African Jersey Forum, which we were hoping would take place early in 2021 in Ethiopia now looks to be doubtful, so early plans are in place to hold a virtual event later in the year, once we better understand travel options, not just for us but the many African continent delegates we hope would attend.

David Hambrook

Head of Dairy for Development



A scene depicting the simple rural agriculture found in the Chacha area of Ethiopia, where our new project, working with in-country partner Project Mercy, is active



Introducing Sam Thomson (L), the new member of the Society's D4D team on a trip to Myanmar for his previous employer



Sam Thomson engaging with local advisors during evaluation research for a project supporting smallholder farmers in Myanmar

Jersey Inka Nziza Phase II

(January 2019 - December 2021)

January 2020 marked the beginning of the second year of the Society's three-year Jersey Overseas Aid (JOA)-funded project in Rwanda - Jersey Inka Nziza (Jersey 'Good Cow') Phase II. JIN Phase II builds on the work of our first pilot project (JIN Phase I) which ran from 2017-2019 and which was, at the time of its inception, the first multi-year grant project ever supported by JOA. JIN Phase II is delivered along with two key implementing partners; Send a Cow (SAC), a UK-founded international charity which works to improve the lives of smallholder farmers across East and Southern Africa, as well as RAB (the Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board).

JIN Phase II is an ambitious project which aims to improve the management of dairy cows in six districts of northern, southern and eastern Rwanda through an increase in the adoption of Artificial Insemination (AI) services, greater use of Jersey genetics, and improved cattle feeding. The project works with approximately 12,000 beneficiary smallholder farmers and aims to improve their livelihoods by increasing incomes and strengthening food security and gender equality at the household level. Activities at this level - largely implemented by SACR (Send a Cow Rwanda) - include farmer training in improved fodder production, establishment of 300 farmer self-help groups to promote cooperation and improved gender and social inclusion, training support to 300 community animal health workers and 'peer farmers', as well as training and equipping farmers for improved animal management.

Areas of work largely coordinated by the Society include supporting RAB and the wider government of Rwanda in the establishment of a national cattle database suitable for the Rwandan context, with the technical support of Pan Livestock Services based at the University of Reading. We are also, in collaboration with the Centre for Tropical Livestock Genetics and Health (CTLGH), carrying out scientific research into the ideal traits for dairy cattle in smallholder farms in the tropics. A key part of this process is understanding the genetic traits of dairy cattle in Rwanda and the importance to local farmers of different traits in their cattle, such as resistance to disease and fertility performance.

Work under the project in 2020 was largely focused on ensuring that the activities originally planned for the calendar year could be implemented as near to as originally planned as possible in light of the major disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. With David Hambrook having visited Rwanda in January 2020 to support in planning a major research exercise to be conducted in-country along with CTLGH in the early part of the year, it soon became apparent as of March that significant disruption to our original plans would require some creative solutions.

With representatives of the Society and CTLGH unable to travel even after the lifting of initial COVID-related restrictions in Rwanda around June 2020, an alternative plan for carrying out this research exercise had to be devised. Fortunately, SACR (with the support of RAB) were able to take on the challenge. Between July and September, the SACR team visited hundreds of farmers to collect genomic samples (taken from hair from the tail) of a cross-section of cattle, as well as to survey farmers on their preferred traits in dairy cattle. Care was taken to reduce the risk of COVID transmission including extra hygiene measures and the use of face coverings by the team. Over 2,000 cattle of various breeds have been sampled, including Jersey and Jersey-cross cows, and even the Inyambo 'royal' cattle, a variant of the famous horned Ankole cattle of Rwanda. Samples are currently undergoing lab analysis in the UK. Combined with data we plan to collect on milk production and other traits such as health, the findings will increase our understanding of the key traits of a successful dairy cow for a smallholder farmer in Rwanda, to guide future breeding and farmer training efforts.



Collecting samples from Inyambo royal cattle



The SAC Rwanda team check hair samples

While intermittent local lockdowns and travel restrictions have hampered some of the planned work with beneficiaries, there have still been admirable achievements in 2020. Much the same as here in Jersey, the local project team has adapted to the situation, reshuffling activity schedules and getting used to carrying out in-person work with extra social distancing and hygiene measures. The team have also been incorporating elements of COVID-response into their activities, including providing basic hygiene and sanitation training and equipment to beneficiaries. Approximately 2,800 farmers received training in fodder production, with 300 community animal health workers and peer farmers receiving refresher training in dairy cattle management. 82 model cowsheds and 81 model fodder multiplication sites have been constructed in villages throughout the project districts, to provide their local farmer groups with reference points for appropriate dairy cattle housing, as well as techniques for producing fodder for their animals in a more cost effective and environmentally friendly way.



Farmers taking part in a survey to determine their preferred traits in dairy cattle.

The team also took the opportunity whilst carrying out the genomic sampling exercise to collect cattle data for inclusion in the electronic national livestock database we are rolling out as part of the project. This included basic data such as cattle breeds, sex, ages, and eartag numbers, to help RAB and other stakeholders better monitor the dairy cattle population. 14,019 dairy farmers and 2,472 individual animals were registered in the cattle database during project year 2, with plans to further populate the database as time goes on.

RAB information systems specialist Aphrodis Bagirubwira had travelled to the University of Reading just prior to the COVID lockdown to receive training and induction on the use of the database system with the Pan Livestock Services team. As of the end of 2020, the final steps in handing over ownership of the national database to the government of Rwanda were underway. The support of Dr James Hanks and the team at Pan Livestock Services, as well as the team at RAB (particularly Dr Felicien Shumbusho), has been integral in the commendable progress made in this area in the last year.



Aphrodis Bagirubwira (second from right) at Reading University with (left to right) Kulwant Channa, James Hanks and Nicholas Taylor of Pan Livestock Services.

Another aspect of the project is increasing the uptake of AI and the use of Jersey semen. Five pallets of AI equipment together with three cans of 24,000 semen units and 100 Jersey embryos were shipped from Jersey and arrived in Rwanda during 2020, with 13,935 cattle artificially inseminated with Jersey semen during 2020, up from 10,306 in the first year of the project. A total of 2,382 calves sired through Jersey semen provided by the project have so far been identified and registered. It should be noted that this is only those Jersey-sired calves identified and registered in the database, which remains an ongoing process, and that this figure is likely to grow as we continue to record new animals, and new births.



Jersey-sired calves on farm

SACR carried out a project review exercise early in 2020, to review outcomes for beneficiaries after just over a year of the project. While COVID-related restrictions meant that the team

were able to survey fewer farmers than originally planned, results suggested that the project was already having a positive impact on people's lives. 70% of the project beneficiaries surveyed were found fully food secure up from 43% at baseline, and average hungry months (months spent with inadequate food supplies to fill their needs) per year had also reduced from 2.0 months at baseline to 0.85 months. In 60% of households surveyed, men and women were also making joint decisions regarding their dairy enterprise, compared to 43% at baseline.

Our efforts in 2021 – the final year of the project - will be focused on ensuring that beneficiary-focused activities which have been hampered by COVID restrictions can be carried out in full, as well as on completing the handover of the national database. We will also be aiming to fill in gaps in our research into the most appropriate dairy cattle genetics for Rwanda by working with farmers to gather detailed data on productive characteristics, and other traits such as health and fertility, of dairy cattle of various genetic profiles. A detailed final project evaluation is also planned for the latter part of the year. As we come to the end of the project, we will be working closely with RAB, SAC and JOA in order to refine plans for future work in the Rwandan dairy sector in order that we can continue to benefit the lives of the neediest people in Rwanda while maximising ongoing government ownership and ensuring sustainability of the impact achieved.



www.sendacow.org



www.panlivestock.com



**Centre for
Tropical Livestock
Genetics and Health**

www.ctlgh.org



www.rab.gov.rw

Malawi Dairy Growth (MDG) Project

(April 2018 - March 2021)

The Society's involvement in Malawi came about following an introduction and recommendation from Dai Harvey, our D4D Technical Advisor. Following a reconnaissance visit by David Hambrook during the summer of 2017, a successful application to Jersey Overseas Aid (JOA) for funding support was made that autumn, with a 3-year project launching in April 2018.

With historic Scottish connections, Malawi is a small, landlocked and densely populated country with a population of around 17.5 million. Though relatively peaceful in recent decades, Malawi remains at a low level of development, ranking 172nd of 189 countries in the 2019 Human Development Index. With one of the least urbanised populations in the world, agriculture is Malawi's primary employer but productivity is poor with most farmers locked in subsistence or small-scale farming. There are very limited opportunities for non-farm income generation, particularly in rural areas. Local consumption of dairy products is low by regional averages, but continues to grow as populations become more urbanised and incomes increase, and there is a growing dairy sector with a long history of local milk production.

Project partner SHMPA (the Shire Highlands Milk Producers' Association) has been the main actor in smallholder dairy development in Malawi since its formation in 1985. SHMPA has been managed for some 20 years by Brian Lewis, a New Zealander with a dairy farming background, along with a team of dedicated local project officers and field technicians. The association acts as a cooperative of smallholder dairy farmers active in the southern region, the main milk producing area of Malawi, who collectively produce over 90% of milk sold nationally. Membership consists entirely of smallholder farmers selling their milk through MBGs (Milk Bulking Groups), over 50% of whom are female. Through their membership of SHMPA, farmers gain access to benefits including technical training and subsidised farm inputs such as AI (Artificial Insemination) services and cattle feed.



Brahmin type local cow with her Jersey-sired heifer calf, grazing at a SHMPA heifer rearing unit based at a redundant tea plantation.

With the support and oversight of the RJAHS, the project has targeted a range of outcomes including improved economic viability and dairy cattle management among SHMPA farmers, improved extension and service delivery by SHMPA, and support to vulnerable women farmers through an effective heifer loan scheme (see more below). SHMPA membership has grown from around 6,000 at the start of the project to over 10,000 in just under three years, which is testament to the positive impacts for their farmers, and is reflected in the figure of over 7,000 farmers

having participated in training sessions after two years of the project with an original target of 4,300 for the period.

Much the same as with our work in Rwanda and Ethiopia, a key focus of the MDG project has been not only building the capacity of farmers, but that of the technicians and field officers who provide services such as AI, farmer training, and animal health checks. SHMPA's 38 field technicians have been trained in improved AI practices and record-keeping and have been provided with high quality equipment which can stand up to the rigours of use in the Malawian climate. Support in developing training aids has been provided by Dr Peter Edmondson of Udderwise UK. All of SHMPA's AI services are now being provided with Jersey Island semen supplied through the project, with 2,584 farmers provided with AI services between March 2019 and March 2020.



SHMPA field technicians with their new donated AI kit

One of the positive outcomes already observed has been a reduction in average calving interval in SHMPA-monitored cattle. Genetic gains, and improved animal health and reproductive management stand to improve fertility and decrease the length of time for which cows are unproductive between calvings. Our original target was to reduce the average calving interval by 5% (from 20.4 to 19.4 months) by the end of the second project year (March 2020). The 11% reduction achieved, down to 18.2 months on average, has greatly exceeded this target. The estimated cost per day open (days for which a cow is not pregnant, beyond the ideal date for next breeding) to a farmer is \$2 per day (factoring in the value of the calf) per cow. Therefore, a reduction of approximately 60 days in calving interval has the potential to save an individual farmer approximately \$120 a year per cow, or to increase the annual income (as well as milk volume) available to farmers by approximately 22%. Increasing the length of time during the year that farmers' cows are in milk is a significant step towards improving both food security and income.



SHMPA field technician Joseph Alfred making use of project-supplied liquid nitrogen canister on a visit to a farm

The project has not been without its challenges, not least the departure of original project partner VSO (Voluntary Service Overseas), with the mutual consent of all parties, after one year. The last year has of course been impacted by COVID, with major job losses and economic turmoil increasing the vulnerability of Malawi's rural population. Fortunately, as of the end of 2020, COVID's impact on the project has not been as catastrophic as first feared, in part thanks to the Malawian government's decision to designate SHMPA's work as 'essential services', which has helped minimise disruption in services to farmers. While the future impact of the pandemic on milk prices is unpredictable, reduced export of maize bran (a popular cattle feed) due to tightened border controls has had the unexpected positive impact of reducing the seasonal inflation in maize bran prices which usually places strain on farmers in feeding their cattle.

Another area which has been particularly challenging has been conducting meaningful political engagement. Progress in positively influencing government policies related to the dairy sector has been limited, due in a major part to political instability in the country, with Malawi seeing four different Ministers of Agriculture between 2019 and 2020 alone. The challenges in this area, which was chiefly the responsibility of original project partner VSO, was a factor in the decision for their departure from the project delivery consortium. Large meetings and in-person gatherings have also been restricted by COVID, further reducing the chances for SHMPA to voice the concerns of their smallholder farmers on the national stage. SHMPA continues to advocate at national level and enjoys a close working relationship with the national milk producers' association and major dairy processors, but influencing political decisions affecting the sector is likely to remain a considerable challenge.

While there have been challenges at the political level, the successes of the project in improving the lives of poor farmers should not be understated. As in much of the developing world, female dairy farmers in Malawi face particular barriers to improving their incomes and productivity, relative to their male counterparts. These include a greater burden of childcare and other domestic chores and difficulty accessing vital resources such as cattle feed and monetary loans. Matrilineal inheritance customs are also common in the SHMPA region, with inheritance of land and property passing down through the mother's side. Sons leave the farm to marry elsewhere. If a mother passes away, the father will often leave to seek a new partner and his children will be cared for by female relatives of the mother – typically aunts and grandmothers. Also, with high rates of HIV/AIDs related sickness and deaths there are a lot of orphaned children living with their grandmothers. This can leave women heads of households with significant financial responsibility in feeding and schooling children, and limited means to generate income, so the impact of some cash income is significant.



Heifers collected ready for transportation to new loan scheme farmers

The project has sought to address some of these challenges through SHMPA's 'Mkakazi' loan scheme, which roughly translates as 'Milk Women' (mkaka = milk, mkazi = woman) in Chichewa, the local language. This scheme specifically supports vulnerable female-headed households without other major income sources by providing them with an in-calf heifer, and the training and basic equipment needed to care for and collect milk from their new dairy cow. New farmers are selected by their local SHMPA committees, who determine the neediest individuals, and once selected, SHMPA's field team provides ongoing training and monitoring support to these farmers to help as many as possible to succeed in establishing a viable dairy enterprise.



SHMPA project officer Mukanena Zimba catches up with SHMPA women farmers

Over the course of nearly three years, the project has so far supported 820 loan scheme farmers (well over our target of 450), whose feedback confirms a significant impact on their economic and food security. As Mukanena Zimba (one of SHMPA's project officers) writes... "One of the best things is seeing how farmers' lives have really changed since getting a cow. Knowing that you played a part in that change is very rewarding."

As the MDG project draws to a close, the RJAHS and SHMPA team have jointly reviewed our progress, determining some big successes (as outlined) and other areas where we can further improve. A detailed final evaluation exercise is planned for March 2021, and while it is unlikely that the Jersey-based team will be able to travel to Malawi and review our progress in person, a remotely coordinated evaluation will be carried out to collect valuable data to provide lessons for the future.

This will be a particularly valuable exercise following JOA's approval in November 2020 of a three-year extension of the project. MDG Phase II will continue to work with SHMPA in the same region of Malawi, maintaining a focus on the most vulnerable parts of the population. It will, however, also seek to build on the successes of Phase I by further strengthening the services provided to farmers (including through improved use of data and technology), expanding our work on genotyping and research, increasing the focus on environmental and economic sustainability, and enhancing knowledge sharing and coordination with our other projects. SHMPA have secured external funding to support the long-term operation of their loan scheme, as well as focused work on fodder production. We look forward to formally publicising the final results of Phase I, and keeping our membership informed on the progress of Phase II.

UDDERWISE
Global Mastitis Solutions
www.udderwise.co.uk

Ethiopia Dairy Project

(July 2020 - June 2023)

2020 saw the expansion of our Dairy for Development project portfolio to a new country – Ethiopia. Working with local partner Project Mercy, the aim of this new project is to transform dairy cattle breeding as well as dairy production in an area of the central Amhara region over a period of 37 months (2020 - 2023). Our activities intend to promote and integrate Jersey breed genetics into smallholder farming practices in the region, and to increase the quality and quantity of milk produced, consumed, and sold. Through creating awareness of the Jersey breed, farmer and extension worker training, and a community breeding programme, we hope to increase the incomes and food security prospects of approximately 4,500 smallholder farmers and their families. Data gathered through this project will also support the Society's regional work with the Centre for Tropical Livestock Genetics and Health (CTLGH) and Pan Livestock Services, building knowledge on the most desirable cattle traits for smallholder dairy farmers in the wider East African region.

Originally formed in the United States in the late 1970s to provide remote relief to refugees in Africa, Project Mercy established a permanent presence in Yatebon, Ethiopia in 1993 to provide a small-scale education and health programme. Over the years, Project Mercy's remit has expanded from a faith-led humanitarian relief provider to a community development organisation with multiple hubs providing programmes in education, health care and rural development. This has included establishing a cattle breeding farm at ChaCha – a small town approximately 120km northeast of Addis Abba – which has already provided over 130 Jersey-sired heifers to families in need. Through contacts established via our existing work in regional dairy development, the Society had identified Project Mercy as a potential partner and carried out a scoping visit to ChaCha in late 2018. With JOA looking to expand their Dairy for Development portfolio into Ethiopia, there was a clear opportunity to develop a new project, which was designed jointly between the Society and Project Mercy over the course of 2019 and approved by JOA for launch in early 2020.



Project Mercy Director, Bete Demeke, reporting from the field

The project came up against a significant hurdle before it had even begun in the form of COVID, which resulted in a decision to delay the original planned start of March to July. This proved to be a sensible decision with the impacts of COVID including declaration of a national state of emergency and restrictions on regional travel and group gatherings. Disruption continued following the new start date but we were fortunately able to begin project activities that did not require significant travel or any major group gatherings from July onwards.

This included supporting Project Mercy to transfer their ChaCha farm cattle data, which was largely paper-based, into an electronic form, with the support of our long-term partner Pan Livestock Services, based out of the University of Reading. Preliminary analysis of ChaCha cattle data identified fertility issues in the breeding herd, with low conception rates and lengthy calving intervals. This was an immediate priority to address, given the importance of the farm as the main breeding facility for cross-bred calves and an expected increase in demand. The RJAHS connected Project Mercy with dairy consultant Dr Peter Edmondson in late September. Over the period of October to November Dr Edmondson of UdderWise UK had several remote meetings with the team and reviewed available data to provide detailed analysis of the ChaCha fertility issues. The Project Mercy team also met with numerous local experts and organisations to discuss potential issues and solutions.

Dr Edmondson's analysis included aspects such as nutrition, feeding and animal management, and breeding practice (include heat detection and timings). Having electronic data has proved valuable in this regard, allowing the team to analyse data chronologically and graphically and identify potential issues. Dr Edmondson was able to provide recommendations, including for improved Artificial Insemination (AI) practices, heat detection and nutrition. A revised breeding plan is currently being finalised which is set to include a shift to seasonal 'block' calving of cattle, timed to coincide with climate and feed availability for the best chances of success.



Local Begait cattle at Project Mercy's Chacha Farm

As soon as was practical, the team arranged a project launch meeting with local government stakeholders including officials from both the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Finance, livestock experts, Kebele (village) administrators, and livestock development agents from all 13 Kebeles targeted in the programme. A total of 90 individuals participated in the meeting which took place in early September, helping to give the key stakeholders an outline of our planned activities, and encourage their buy-in and support for the project.

The RJAHS management team have also been getting to grips with overseeing a project in a new country and the challenges this brings. Some of these are much the same as in our other projects in the region – challenges with government regulations around imports and exports, infrastructural issues such as reliable access to liquid nitrogen (in which deep frozen semen is stored), and communicating with teams in the field – whereas others have been unique to the new context. Aside from issues caused by COVID, Ethiopia has undergone two major periods of civil unrest in the last year, including conflict in the northern region of Tigray. The situation in the area we are working in has remained stable, but knock-on effects such as travel restrictions and internet shutdowns have made an already challenging launch period tougher.

However, with initial teething problems largely resolved, the project is now firmly underway. The team have begun a sampling exercise, collecting genomic data on nearly 400 local and crossbred dairy cattle for genomic testing in the UK, to provide valuable learning for our local breeding strategy, as well as to feed into our wider work on developing an East African Dairy Profit Index. Working with the Ethiopian National Animal Genetics Improvement Institute (NAGII) – who are a key partner in the project – Project Mercy have also identified the first batch of a planned total of 50 new AI technicians. As this report is being compiled in 2021, they are now being trained and equipped to provide breeding services (using project-supplied Jersey-Island semen) for the project beneficiaries to improve the genetic characteristics of dairy cattle in the project area and increase milk production at the household level.

During November and December, the Project Mercy team were concluding a major baseline data collection exercise, which surveyed over 250 farmers in the project area to gather information on their current livestock resources and practices, as well as the challenges they face in improving their productivity. Respondents were also surveyed on their awareness of the Jersey breed and its traits, and their access to and requirement for specific services. Surveys were designed jointly with Project Mercy for local relevance, and made use of electronic data collection software with offline functionality, which allowed research to be carried out in remote areas with poor connectivity and the data uploaded later for review. The findings of this baseline will provide a valuable benchmark for measuring our progress, as well as guiding the interventions provided to the project beneficiaries.



PM beneficiary farmer with collected forage

The key upcoming work in 2021 includes completion of the AI training course and induction of the AI technicians into practical work, design and roll out of farmer training initiatives, and work with other key stakeholders such as policy-makers and government livestock technicians to enhance their awareness of the Jersey breed and appropriate breeding strategies. An African Jersey Forum event was originally scheduled to take place in Ethiopia in 2021, but with the challenges and risks of coordinating a major public event with participants travelling in from all over the world, it was recently decided that a virtual event would replace the in-person one. Further planning for the focus, schedule and timing of this event will take place in early 2021, with the event to be held later in the year. Details will be publicised through the Society's social media and other channels for those based in Jersey who may wish to follow our D4D work more closely.



Top AI graduate receives award

JOA also funds two other Dairy for Development projects in Ethiopia, one implemented by Send a Cow (SAC) - the Society's partner in Rwanda – and another implemented by the Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF). While these two projects work in different regions and with slightly different approaches to our own, it is our hope to work closely with these organisations over the course of the projects to ensure that the three projects share learning with each other and coordinate national initiatives where appropriate.



Newly graduated AI technicians



www.projectmercy.org



www.joa.je

One hundred years ago- The Royal Visit of King George V 12th July 1921



King George V receives the gift of a prize Jersey cow from Society President Reverend Balleine & Philip Bree

Members and visitors to the Royal Showground will no doubt be familiar with the photograph on the landing at the top of the stairs, depicting the visit to Jersey of King George V, Queen Mary and Princess Mary on 12th July 1921, and the presentation of a cow to HM the King. They are seated beneath a tented arrangement, and the cow, "La Sente's Miss Bronzemine", takes centre stage with her breeder, Philip John Brée, the Revd Balleine, President, and King George, with the Queen and Princess looking on.

In another photograph she has a Class Tag 'No. 12' around her neck and, to the casual observer, one might think that a Show was in progress, attended by their Majesties, perhaps the Summer Show? One might also be forgiven for thinking that an occasion of this nature would have been one of careful and long-term planning. However, a little perusal of the Society's Minute Book for 1921 tells a different story. There were meetings on both the 7th and 14th May, with no mention of the visit. In fact the minutes of 7th May are interesting for a different reason – a letter had been received from the Sous-Secrétariat d'État des Régions Libérées de France, thanking the Society for a gift of cattle. F. J. Ahier then asks the Committee to send some more cattle to "the village adopted by Jersey – Soyécourt" and the President, Mr J. A. Perrée, promises to give attention to his suggestion. Soyécourt is in the Somme department of France, and its church had been destroyed only a few years earlier during the war.

However, at a meeting of the Committee, jointly with the Horticultural Committee on 11th June, the President "gave reading to a letter received from the 'Committee in charge of Decorations for the forthcoming Royal Visit' asking if the Society would undertake to erect a triumphal arch for the occasion". Jurat Lemprière regrets that there has been no official recognition of "the premier Society of the Island". The meeting discusses the cost of an arch and the sum of £25 each is approved by both departments. They then discuss a parade of cattle but "it was pointed out that the length of time of the Royal Visit would not allow it".

On the 18th June, another joint meeting discusses "the advisability of erecting an arch or banner...outside the Offices of the Society, and a small sub-Committee - C. Le Gallais, Jas Harper & A. Head - is named, to get in touch with the Town Hall. Mr Le Gallais also suggests that members residing along the route taken by the Royal Visitors be asked to tether their cattle in fields bordering the road.

However, things must have been going on behind the scenes, for on the 30th June the President stated that "as a result of strong representations His Majesty the King had graciously consented to visit the Show Yard on the occasion of his visit and there inspect a number of cattle." Another sub-committee was elected to "take suitable steps to receive the King at Springfield and to be further empowered to select and purchase a suitable cow for presentation to His Majesty. This sub-committee



The 'pavilion' erected for Royal party at Springfield

comprised Messrs A. F. Neel, E. J. Marett and P. J. Brée. Yet another committee was then elected to select 80 cows and 6 bulls to be paraded on the day (in spite of the comment on 11th June), and to undertake decorations and other arrangements. They were Messrs. J. F. Dutot, C. Le Gallais, A. F. Neel, E. J. Marett, J. W. Labey, C. G. Ahier, E. G. Worboys & P. Desmares and they were instructed to "advertise for exhibitors of cattle". This, remember, being only 2 weeks before the visit. They also decided to hire a banner, at a cost of £5, with the wording "Loyal and Hearty Welcome to our Royal Patron", for displaying at the entrance. It would seem that the idea of a Triumphal Arch first mentioned on June 11th had been shelved.

By the 2nd July they had decided to decorate the windows of the Office Building and the Secretary, H. G. Shepard, was instructed to purchase sufficient flags to decorate the building. They agreed to adjourn to "Monday the 4th inst." when the Committee would meet jointly with the Agricultural Department's Special Sub-Committee. On this occasion, another Committee was elected to view and select the cattle required for the parade – this was Messrs Falle, Brée, Neel, Marrett and Ahier. By this time, it had been decided that a parade of 80 cows and 6 bulls was too much, and only 36 cows were to be chosen. Also a horse, called "75" who was the winner of His Majesty's Cup in 1920, would be paraded. It was further decided " (1) that No Smoking be allowed while the Royal Party would be in the Grounds, (2) that the Members of both Departments be admitted, (3) that a basket of choice fruit be offered to Her Majesty at a later date". They then all adjourned to the Grounds to mark out the enclosure and generally to make arrangements.

Three days before the visit, the Joint Sub-Committee meets at the Show Grounds, along with the Lieut-Governor Sir William Douglas-Smith and his Secretary, Whitaker Maitland, who were acquainted with the proposals. His Excellency suggests various alterations and it is decided to erect a pavilion under which the King would sit and watch the cattle file past. They then proceeded to make the final arrangements and appointed Stewards to act on the day.

And that was that - as far as the Minutes are concerned - although there are small mentions of the visit and the gift of Miss Bronzemine in the Annual Report and in H. G. Shepard's book (100 Years). By the 23rd July it is back to business as usual for a meeting of the Shows Committee, planning the Summer Show to be held on 1st-2nd September, but on the 30th July there is a little note: "The Secretary was authorised to collect all good photographs of the recent Royal Visit to Springfield & to have them mounted in an album, retaining a few for hanging in the Office and Board Room.

Presumably one of those photographs being that displayed on the landing 100 years later in 2021!

As to the selection of La Sente's Miss Bronzemine H.C. (PS 26918), that too remains a bit of a mystery. She was a heifer-in-calf and the daughter of La Sente's Prince and La Sente's Bronzemine, born on June 29th 1919: "Brown. Whole colour, tongue and switch black". Was she bought from Philip J. Brée, or did he donate her? He was after all on the Selection Committee. The Brée family of Grouville had been living at La Sente since at least 1881 and were previously farming in the La Rocque area. Philip John was born in 1849, and his son Philip Ernest (1871) and grandson Philip Oswald (1894) were both farmers.

Christine Gill

The Society has in its possession a silver cup with the inscription:

SOUVENIR OF THE VISIT OF
THEIR MAJESTIES KING
GEORGE V AND QUEEN MARY
TO THE ISLE OF JERSEY 12th

PHILIP ERNEST BREE
FROM
HIS GREAT GRANDFATHER
PHILIP JOHN BREE (LA SENTE)



This Philip Ernest was baptised, at La Rocque Methodist Chapel, on 1st May 1921, son of Philip Oswald. Maybe the Cup was a Christening present?

All Island Garden Competition

14th, 15th & 16th July 2020

Following the cancellation of the Society's first two Shows in March and June, the Horticultural Department were determined to go ahead with the All-Island Garden Competition in July. Changes were made as to how the gardens and allotments entered would be judged to respect the social distancing regulations in place at that time.

It was agreed that we would have only two judges this year and only Rachelle and the two judges would be in attendance when judging the gardens and allotments. We asked all garden and allotment owners that entered to submit with their entry form, a maximum 500-word resume to tell us about their gardens and allotments, their history, how they put it together and what it meant to them. They could also provide a small video or pictures of their garden with the resume if they wished.

The competition was very kindly sponsored once again by Ransoms Garden Centre and there were 21 classes to choose from ranging from formal, informal, patio, courtyard to family and farm gardens plus hotels, parish halls and allotments - something for everyone. Entries closed on Monday 6th July and we were absolutely delighted to receive 47 entries, only 2 less than last year.

There were lots of trophies to be won for all the classes along with vouchers kindly donated by Ransoms Garden Centre for each class being 1st prize a £25 voucher, 2nd prize a £15 voucher, 3rd prize a £10 voucher and all entrants received a Ransoms 10% discount voucher. Entry was free for Members of the RJA&HS and a small entry fee of £5 was charged for Non-Members who wished to enter.

The judges were our Horticultural Chairman Martin Preisig and previous Horticultural Secretary Pam Laurens, both of whom have a vast knowledge of plants, flowers and growing. The judging took place over three long but enjoyable days in lovely sunny weather, Rachelle having put together tight schedules for each day so as to fit everyone in. Tuesday was in the east of the Island, Wednesday west and Thursday town and central with Rachelle providing an enjoyable picnic lunch each day.



Judges Pam Laurens & Martin Preisig

At the end of the three days judging, all the scores were collated to place all entrants in each class and for the judges to choose the winners of the 'Judges Award for Garden Design' and the 'Best Pollinator Friendly Garden'. The garden with the highest points was awarded the Overall Winner.

Having won the top prize two years ago, St John's Parish Hall were thrilled to be Overall Winner again, winning the Andre Ruellan Memorial Bowl, with a fantastic score of 99.5 out of 100, 0.5 deducted for a plant that had died in one of the beds! The judges could not fault the perfection of this Parish Hall garden, with its beautiful display of matched colours and symmetry of planting. Gardener James Bonny was delighted to win having put in many long hours of loving tender care to obtain perfection. Derek Vivian's wonderful colourful courtyard garden won its class with 99 points and close behind with 98 points was Ian & Beverley Le Marquand's stunning garden which was an absolute pleasure to see.



Overall Winner St Johns Parish Hall

The Judges Award for Best Garden Design went to Thomas Davis for his innovative garden creation making the most of a small space but with so much diversity. This was Thomas's first time entering and his garden was 3rd in the New Competitors class. Martin and Pam chose Alethea Steven's informal garden as their winner of the Best Pollinator Garden stating that 'her garden was great for the wildlife with plenty of plant pollinators to attract the bees and butterflies'.

The biggest class of the competition was the Best Floral Parish Hall with seven of the twelve Parish Halls entered, closely following by the popular New Competitor's class with six entries. Seven allotments were entered from the FJ Ahier Country Gardens, Les Creux and St John's Community Allotment sites plus three Vegetable Gardens at Home.



Judges Garden Design Winner Thomas Davis



Small Garden Winner Kris & Joanne Moore



Best Pollinator Friendly Garden Winner Alethea Steven

Thank you very much to our two judges Martin and Pam for expertly judging 47 gardens in three very busy days whilst happily dealing with the social distancing rules. Also thank you very much to all the competitors for entering their amazing gardens which clearly had lots of work put into them with people enjoying being able to spend more time in their gardens during lockdown, the resumes that we received for each garden were fantastically written, very detailed and gave the judges a great insight to each garden they saw. Also, a big thank to Ransoms Garden Centre for once again sponsoring the competition, we are extremely grateful for their ongoing support of the competition and our Society.

Results

Class 1 - Small Garden (less than 100 sq metres)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Kris & Joanne Moore	92	1st
Dave & Jean Le Lievre	90.5	2nd
Bryan Swain	89	3rd

La Chasserie Cup awarded to Winner of Class 1: Kris & Joanne Moore

Class 2 - Medium Garden (100 - 250 sq metres)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Catherine Toudic	84	1st

Vautier Challenge Rose Bowl awarded to Winner of Class 2: Catherine Toudic

Class 3 - Large Garden (250 - 500 sq metres)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Ian & Beverley Le Marquand	98	1st
Janine Ross	96	2nd
Artur Bobak & Przemyslaw Poznanski	94	3rd
Fay & Douglas Huelin	91.5	4th
Jane Harvey	82	5th

Barry Sylvester Memorial Trophy awarded to Winner of Class 3: Ian & Beverley Le Marquand



Large Garden Winner Ian & Beverley Le Marquand

Class 4 - Patio Garden excluding a lawn (less than 100 sq metres)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Helen Barnes	94.5	1st
Dodie Chappell	88	2nd

Pewter Tankard awarded to Winner of Class 4: Helen Barnes

Class 5 - Courtyard Garden excluding a lawn (100-250 sq metres)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Derek Vivian	99	1st

J. Lindsey Perpetual Shield awarded to Winner of Class 5: Derek Vivian

Class 6 - Best Kept Allotment - Small (less than 100 sq metres)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Karen Walters	97.5	1st

Graham Daghorn Perpetual Shield awarded to Winner of Class 6: Karen Walters

Class 7 - Best Kept Allotment - Medium (between 100 – 250 square metres)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Neil Howell	96.5	1st
Janet Seymour	91.5	2nd
Susan Coombes	88	3rd

Selwyn Hamon Trophy awarded to Winner of Class 7: Neil Howell

Class 8 – Best Kept Allotment - Large (more than 250 square metres)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Kevin Roberts	94	1st

JFTU Town & Country Trophy awarded to Winner of Class 8: Kevin Roberts

Albert Bartlett & Sons Ltd Trophy awarded to the Overall Winner of Classes 6, 7 & 8: Karen Walters



Small Plot & Overall Best Plot Winner Karen Walters

Class 9 – Best Kept Vegetable Garden at Home (any size)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Colin De La Haye	97.5	1st
Jenni Liddiard	94	2nd
Richard De La Haye	90	3rd

Prior Cup awarded to Winner of Class 9: Colin De La Haye

Quenault Trophy awarded for the Overall Winner of Classes 2, 3 & 10: Ian & Beverley Le Marquand

Alternate Challenge Cup awarded for the next highest points in Classes 1, 2, 3 & 10: Janine Ross

Class 11 - Informal Garden (any size)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Tim & Stephanie Du Feu	96.5	1st
Julie Howard	92.5	2nd
Alethea Steven	78.5	3rd
Nick McPhail & Jo Carpenter	75	4rd

Channel Island Decks Trophy awarded to Winner of Class 11: Tim & Stephanie Du Feu

Class 12 - Family Garden, a garden to celebrate Family Life, not manicured (any size)

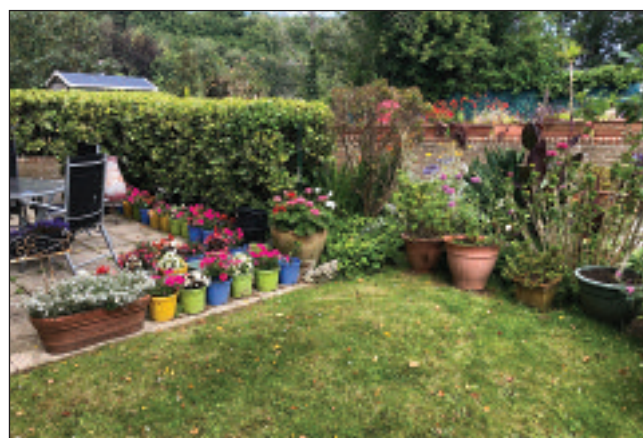
Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Elisabeth Perchard	89	1st
Rox Hayward	72	2nd

Ransoms Garden Centre Trophy awarded to the Winner of Class 12: Elisabeth Perchard

Class 13 – Community Gardens, a garden cared for by a community of people (any size)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Judy Beaumont & Cassie Young (Pomme D'Or Farm Residents)	86	1st

Tourism Trophy awarded to Winner of Class 13: Judy Beaumont & Cassie Young



Community Garden Winner

Class 14 - Farm Gardens attached to either a working or non-working farm (any size)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Richard & Jennie Le Sueur	96.5	1st
Paulette De La Haye	92.5	2nd
Colleen Nicholson	88	3rd

Second La Chasserie Shield awarded to Winner of Class 14:
Richard & Jennie Le Sueur
Channel Industries Ltd Trophy awarded to next highest points
in Class 14: Paulette De La Haye



Paulette De La Haye's Beautiful Farm Garden

Class 16 - New Competitors (gardens only - any size)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Cathy Perkins	92	1st
Ann & Brian Roberts	91.5	2nd
Thomas Davis	91	3rd
Jenny Langlois	90.5	4th
Andrew Rummery	89	5th
Erika Marshall	86	6th

Coronation Challenge Cup awarded to the Winner of Class 16:
Cathy Perkins



New Competitor Garden Winner Cathy Perkins

Class 17 - New Competitors (allotments & vegetable gardens only - any size)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Jennifer Ellenger	87.5	1st
Tom Robinson	71.5	2nd

New Competitor's Rose Bowl awarded to the Winner of Class
17: Jenny Ellenger

Class 18 - Gardens attached to a Hotel or Guest House (any size - professional assistance allowed)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
Hotel De France	95.5	1st
St Brelade's Bay Hotel	90.5	2nd

John Le Sueur Rose Bowl awarded to the Winner of Class 18:
Hotel De France

Class 21 - The Best Floral Parish Hall on the Island (professional assistance allowed)

Name	Score (out of 100)	Placing
St John's Parish Hall	99.5	1st
Grouville Parish Hall	97.5	2nd
St Clement's Parish Hall	94	3rd
St Saviour's Parish Hall	87	=4th
St Martin's Parish Hall	86.5	=4th
St Helier Parish Hall	83	6th
Trinity Parish Hall	77	7th

A & L Ahier Shield awarded to Winner of Class 21: St John's
Parish Hall

Overall Awards

Andre Ruellan Memorial Rose Bowl awarded to the Overall
Winner of the Competition with the most points: St John's Parish
Hall

Judges Award for Garden Design awarded to: Thomas Davis

Jersey Beekeepers Association Shield for Best Pollinator Friendly
Garden: Alethea Steven

Rachelle Robinson

Horticultural Secretary



All Island Garden Competition

Presentation Evening - 5th August

It was decided that, due to the social distancing regulations that were still in place, the Garden Tour due to take place on Sunday 2nd August would not go ahead.

Following discussions with our Chairman and Ransoms Garden Centre, it was decided that the Presentation Evening for the All-Island Garden Competition would be held at the RJA&HS Royal Jersey Showground in the Members Room. This was held on Wednesday 5 August from 6.30pm with 38 competitors and their families attending, we were limited to 40 people due to social distancing restrictions for gatherings. It was a lovely evening with coffee, tea, soft drinks and biscuits being served before the presentation. Pam Laurens, who judged the competition kindly presented all the trophies, certificates and Ransoms Garden Centre vouchers to winners and all entrants with Chairman Martin Preisig, who also judged, reading out all the results. Marije from Ransoms kindly put together a fantastic power point presentation of all the gardens entered to show on the big screen for all to enjoy during the evening - a big thank you to Marije and Ransoms for kindly sponsoring the Garden Competition again this year.

Martin said to all that we were delighted to have so many entries in what had been an unusual year for everyone and he, Pam and Rachelle had thoroughly enjoyed spending time in everyone's lovely gardens and really hoped that everyone would enter the competition again next year.



Joao Pereira gardner at Hotel De France



Richard Le Sueur



James Bonny gardener from St John's Parish Hall



Derek Vivian

Becky Houzé - Jersey's farming 'influencer'

Many of the Society's members will already know that Becky Houzé is the 4th generation of the Houzé family to work at Lodge Farm, alongside her father Paul. They milk 220 cows and have 120 followers. But not everyone will know that Becky has followers of her own – 100,000 of them! She is expert at using social media and has 40,000 on Instagram, 45,000 on TikTok and approximately 10,000 follow her on Facebook. They are from all over the world, average age is 25-45 (1.4% are over 65) and 71% are men. For those of you who don't use social media – like myself – Becky can look up all these statistics while we sit and chat over a coffee in the big family kitchen.

Becky studied Agriculture at Harper Adams University in Shropshire, spending a year working in America, in Wisconsin and upstate New York, as part of her degree course. She had already been using Instagram as a student so it was a natural progression, once she started working at Lodge Farm, to use her old account and to post pictures of her cows with descriptions of her daily round of work. People soon became interested in life on a farm and she tells me that she concentrates on the working aspects of the farm, and the ways in which the cattle are cared for, but says it is important to respond to people's Likes and Dislikes. She is careful to reply to some of the inevitable

not-so-favourable comments by explaining why they do things in a certain way and always emphasising that the welfare of the animals comes first. Being very busy all day she does most of her Instagramming in the evenings.

As we will all have noticed, she appears in the JT advert on the back of buses and she emphasises to me how important the Broadband connection is to her in her daily life – even the cows' feeds and health are monitored using Broadband. She is also an ambassador for Jersey Electricity and Visit Jersey but until recently all her promotional work was given for free. However, that is beginning to change as her Instagram postings were noticed by 'Sheeran Perry', a social media marketing agency based in London and in Jersey which develops the market for people like Becky – who hitherto may have done amazing promotional work for no financial benefit. She now has some interest from a following of agricultural companies, which will mean she will be able to access free samples and to try out their products, as well as clothing companies like Revolution Race (a similar style to NorthFace).

We can expect to see Becky popping up in more places, both in cyber space and in real life, and I am sure we all extend our best wishes and congratulations to her for her hard work in keeping Jersey and our dairy industry "on the map" in the 21st century and hopefully encouraging more young people to follow in their great-grandfather's footsteps.

Christine Gill

Future followers, Becky introducing a Jersey to children at the La Ferme Farm Fun Day



F J Ahier Country Garden Plot Competition

Saturday 18th July

Following the All-Island Garden competition held mid-July, the Horticultural department were very pleased to be able to hold the annual judging of the Plot Competition.

The competition was held on Saturday 18 July at the F J Ahier Country Gardens with a total of 12 plot holders entering. Normally all plot holders and their families are invited to the competition to enjoy afternoon tea after the judging, but due to Covid social distancing restrictions, only the judges and Rachelle attended.

Blessed with lovely sunny weather, the two judges were Colin De La Haye and Richard Noel from Ernie's, who very kindly sponsored the competition again this year. There were four classes for the plot holders to enter being the Small Plots, Large Plots, Double Plots and Raised Beds.

Five entries were received in the Small Plots and the judges found their winner as Jeane Gruchy on Plot 2 with a total of 83 points out of 100 for general appearance, good workmanship, cultivation and layout.

There were four entries received in the Large Plot class and the winner was our Horticultural Chairman Martin Preisig on Plot 41 with 89 points, the win securing Martin the Team St Lawrence Shield for the highest score of the day.

Graham Daghorn with Plots 9 & 10 won the Double Plot class with 82 points beating the other two entrants. Only two entries were received in the Raised Beds class with Tracey Bougourd beating Tom Robinson with 73 points.

Thank you to all the plot holders who entered their plots having put lots of work into them. Thank you also to our two judges Richard and Colin for giving up their time to judge the plots entered.

Results

Small Plot Class			
Plot No.	Name	Points	Placing
2	Jeane Gruchy	83	1st
20	Richard Prouten	80.5	2nd
11	Tracey Bougourd	75	3rd
8	Trevor Bertram	74	4th
22	Tom Robinson	67.5	5th

Large Plot Class			
Plot No.	Name	Points	Placing
41	Martin Preisig	89	1st
49	Maria Martins	86	2nd
42	Jenny Ellenger	76.5	3rd
59	Geoff Mounsey	73	4th

Double Plot Class			
Plot No.	Name	Points	Placing
9 & 10	Graham Dagorn	82	1st
36 & 37	Dot Perks	67.5	2nd
15 & 16	Andrew Norman	47	3rd

Raised Beds Class			
Plot No.	Name	Points	Placing
11	Tracey Bougourd	73	1st
22	Tom Robinson	68.5	2nd

Rachelle Robinson

Horticultural Secretary



Judges Colin De La Haye and Richard Noel with Martin Preisig



Overall Plot Competition Winner Martin Preisig



Small Plot Winner Jeane Gruchy



Double Plot Winner Graham Daghorn



Raised Beds Winner Tracey Bougourd



Well tended plot

Presidents at Pasture - Seeing is Believing!

What has happened to the herds in Jersey since the importation of international bull semen in 2008? From August of last year, four intrepid ex-Presidents of the Society ventured out into the countryside lanes of the Island to discover for themselves, just what progress (if any) has been made to our Island cow.

The four were John Le Feuvre (still dairying with his family at Les Augerez, St Peter), Lewis Rondel, and Charles Le Cornu, both retired, well-renowned Jersey breeders in their day, and myself acting driver-cum-organiser, who collected and eased the "older" gentlemen in and out of the car when needed!

The four represented over 300 years of knowledge of Jersey cattle and the breeding thereof, and all played a part in the discussions eventually leading to the momentous decision to import semen from leading Jersey bulls around the world.

While John and I were accustomed to seeing today's Jersey herds, for Lewis and Charles, it was more adventurous and a step into the "less-known" situation of today.

Just to re-cap, here are some comparisons between 2008 - the year when importation of international bull semen was introduced into the home of the breed; and 2020, the latest year of milk production in the Island.

Island averages per cow...

2008 4,506 kgs Milk 5.20% Fat 3.79% Protein

2020 6,467 kgs Milk 5.52% Fat 3.84% Protein

That is a staggering 44% increase in milk production per cow, 53% increase in butterfat production and 45% protein production.

So, the statistics clearly show that the use of international genetics on our traditional Island cattle have greatly improved the production per cow, and with now just over 2,000 dairy cows in 14 herds to provide for a population of around 110,000, plus high-quality dairy products for export this is vital to the progress of the industry.

So... what about the conformation of the cattle?

The intrepid foursome visited more than half the Island's herds and saw about two-thirds of the milking cows. What was very evident

was the size, scale and dairy qualities, along with greatly improved udders and texture in the cows. Every herd visited had improved greatly in the past decade and farmers were very happy with the results.

John Le Feuvre commented that he "was greatly impressed in the improvement of the cow in the Island, especially with the suspensory ligament trait, ensuring a better teat placement. The strong well-attached udders and better dairy quality equipped the cows for today's modern dairy farming methods".

Charles Le Cornu was equally impressed and admired the cattle, expressing another aspect of improvement in Jersey ... "we have seen very few, if any, cows with facial defects, a trait that was addressed back in the day due to the prevalence of the feature."

Lewis Rondel summed up the general opinion of the group, saying that "we are all greatly impressed with the improvement made in a decade of breeding with renowned international genetics. The production figures prove that the advance made in that time has been no less than exceptional, and seeing these larger herds, we have admired the standard and quality of the cows, and excellence of udders, veining and teat placements, and virtually no genetic facial defects. It has been greatly satisfying to have visited these herds, and we all thank the farmers for their welcome and congratulate them on their outstanding breeding work."

And as for me? Having seen the Jersey breed performing in all types of conditions across the world, I was confident when we were all debating the question of semen importation in the early "noughties" that the decision could only boost the quality and production of our cattle here in Jersey. What we have seen in the past few months visiting farms, has not only justified our decision back in 2008, but the improvement has been significantly better than expected. The result is a cow capable of meeting today's demands in the dairy industry, but it has also heightened our farmers interest in the breeding of their herds. It has been a real joy to visit the farms and to meet and discuss the cows with our enthusiastic group of dairy farmers in the Island today.

It is planned to continue the visits to the remaining herds and to continue enjoying the varied and tasty "pub lunches" on Thursdays! With another Jersey summer soon to be upon us, what more could these four "old gentlemen" want in life?

Derrick Frigot



John Le Feuvre, Charles Le Cornu, Lewis Rondel, Derrick Frigot

One Hundred Years of the Roselands Herd



The herd at Roselands circa: 1934

To reach a centenary anniversary is a notable achievement in any circumstances, but especially so for a dairy herd that has been farmed by the same family for three generations. This represents the epitome of consistent success, dedication and hard work. To give an idea of how exclusive the '100 not out' club is, you wouldn't need more than one hand to count those Jersey herds who can claim membership across the Island and the UK combined.

It was in 1921 that Carlyle Le Gallais established his herd at Roselands in the Parish of St Saviours and registered the herd prefix 'Roseland' in the Jersey Herd Book. The prefix appears before the names of all cattle bred at the farm and animals bearing this identifier were soon being exported to the booming market in the USA. Carlyle purchased a number of cows from the leading breeders of the day, including Francis Le Brocq (Homestead, St Peter) and George Romeril (Surville Manor, St Helier), to form the foundation of his herd, not only diligently selecting the best for his herd but also exporting many in the process as Carlyle became the Island based agent for Max Spann, one of the most influential importers to the USA. The first heifer to carry the Roseland prefix was rather appropriately called 'Roseland Dawn', 29799, by Masterman of Oaklands out of Surville Hopeful, and born on the 12th June 1921.

Carlyle was certainly an astute businessman, and it was not long before his acumen was being called on by the RJA&HS as by 1926 he was elected to serve on both the Finance and Real Estate Committees of the Society. He served as President of the RJA&HS from 1939 to 1950, and was one of the key figures in leading the agricultural community through the difficult occupation years during the Second World War.

In 1949 Carlyle's son John Le Gallais took over the herd and developed the farm to include growing of Jersey Royal potatoes, tomatoes and daffodils. As the number of animals grew and town expanded, the decision was taken in 1969 to re-locate the 25 strong herd to a green field site at Cowley Farm in Maufant. John had a distinguished record of serving the Island in the States and was instrumental in the relocation of the Society headquarters from Springfield to the Royal Jersey Showground in Trinity in the late 1990's.

John's son Andrew Le Gallais studied at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, and returned to the farm in 1976, subsequently he took over the herd in 1987. Andrew, together with his wife Loraine, have continued to develop the herd and completed the re-development of a modern farming unit in 2009. The herd can be seen regularly grazing the permanent pastures dotted with some magnificent standard Oak trees that catch the eye when driving between Maufant and Trinity. Today the herd numbers some 225 milking cattle, and in total some 360 head of Jerseys, producing 1.4 million litres of milk a year.



Andrew & Loraine

Andrew became Chairman of the Jersey Milk Marketing Board in 1999, and successfully saw the relocation of the dairy from Five Oaks to Trinity in 2010. In 2020 Andrew was awarded an MBE in The Queen's New Year Honours in recognition of his service to the dairy industry in Jersey. For a cattle breeder though, winning the Home Bred Group class at the Autumn Show in 2019 is a particularly gratifying recognition of generations of cattle breeding at Roseland Jerseys, as all the animals in the group must be bred at the farm.



Home Bred Group

The Roseland prefix has been long associated with some great breeding bulls, however, few people admiring the bronze statue of a group of Jersey cows in St Helier probably realise that in the bull they are looking into the eyes of 'Roseland Extraordinary'!

To mark the centenary of the Roselands herd I asked Andrew a few questions reflecting on his long association with dairy farming.

Q: Which animals from 'yesteryear' stick out in your mind and why?

A difficult question, in 2019 I produced a herd brochure and in checking the pedigrees of members of the herd I became engrossed in following the breeding lines back for many generations to the founding cows of the herd. A cow that springs to mind is Roseland Winnys Woody, 1259, she was born 27.01.1973, by Winnys Royalist (9665), and out of the foundation stock Roseland Woodpecker 2 (11851, born 12.06.1967), some 25% of the herd feature her in their pedigrees. Her maternal great granddaughter Roseland Sybil's Woody Ex90 was an outstanding cow and the dam of Roseland Premier Felix ET, a popular and successful bull in the Jersey Bull Proving Scheme.

As well as making their mark on the herd here at home, other animals have gone on the play an important role overseas, such as Roseland Salome who was exported to the USA carrying a calf Surville Roseland Sarita whose son Vaulcuse Sleeping Surville topped the All-American Sale making \$56,000 in 1967 and became a widely used bull across that country.

Q: How has the herd developed in recent years, and do you have a favourite cow today?

The advent of importation of semen has given us the ability to tap into global information about top breeding sires, giving us much more predictability in breeding the next generation. This is enabling phenomenal improvements, which are cumulative, to be made from one generation to the next, and I'm finding that the 2nd & 3rd generations, post importation, are becoming

even more exciting. In what is a short space of time, in cattle breeding terms, there have been great improvements in milk components, along with total yields, as well as functional conformation. Given such choice in top class genetics, I am being careful to avoid breeding cows with narrower chest width. We are so fortunate in the Island to farm in such a fertile soil with a temperate climate allowing our capacious cows to eat some of the best forage available, and what better breed to convert this to the highest quality milk possible!

So, to choose my best cow today, I am somewhat spoilt for choice! The fusion of carefully selected Danish and North American genetics is having a really beneficial impact, and the opportunity to breed their offspring to the best bulls available, at their first service, is massive.

Q: We know that dairy farming is hard work, long hours and slim profits so what is the reward that makes it all worthwhile?

As farmers we are optimists, always hoping for a better season next year! That said, in farming, like any business, it's the journey of striving for better profits in the most sustainable manner and watching carefully made plans come to fruition, which is the ultimate reward.

There are 'bad days' of course, but it is amazing how they can be turned around when a particularly good heifer walks into the parlour, milks well, and you remember how she is an improvement on her dam.

Q: What are the main challenges facing dairy farmers today?

The greatest challenge we have is in creating sufficiently viable dairy farm businesses that are not solely reliant on family succession. We need to develop a commercial environment whereby we can successfully welcome new entrants into the industry with confidence. An exciting challenge is in how we have to keep up with technology in agriculture as it changes increasingly rapidly. I wonder what my grandfather would say to remote monitoring of the herd via an 'app' on a mobile phone!

We have an extraordinary heritage in our pedigree Jersey cow in her Island home, however she is not a museum piece, but our living heritage that will have different chapters to write in the future.

Q: What will dairying look like 100 years from now?

I can see two alternative futures, the first involves slightly fewer herds, managed by talented professional people working in a significantly collaborative manner. The other is a fragmentation, driven by independence, that leads to loss of critical mass and the inability to supply the market with dairy products, with the end of the industry coming quickly afterwards.

Working to ensure the former outcome keeps me motivated. As Chairman of the Milk Marketing Board, I am constantly looking at the horizon to ensure that the industry is best placed to confront any potential threats that may emerge.

James Godfrey
RJA&S Secretary & CEO

Summer Flower & Produce Virtual Show

22nd & 23rd August 2020

The Horticultural Committee really hoped that the August Summer Flower & Produce Show could go ahead and plans were put in place as to how we could hold the show safely and within the Government guidelines and things were looking fairly promising albeit the layout and the Show would be very different.

Sadly a few weeks before the Show with Covid-19 showing no signs of going away any time soon and as the very nature of our Shows involve large numbers of people; many hands are needed in staging these events, the Society made the difficult decision to cancel the August and October Shows.

Following the success of the June Virtual Show, Rachelle quickly amended the show schedule for the Summer Flower & Produce Show so it could be held as a Virtual Show. Members and non-members were again asked to send in photos of the exhibits by email to Rachelle and with 360 classes to choose from, 315 entries were received from adults and children.

Four judges were selected and once all the photos were sorted into class order, they were emailed to the judges by we-transfer to be judged.

Nelio Dinis who is a Manager at St Peters Garden Centre judged the Pot Plant and Cacti & Succulent classes with 77 and 32 entries in respectively. The Pot Plant classes had the second highest number of entries giving Nelio a hard time judging and his Best in Section winner was a stunning Hanging Basket of coloured summer flowers expertly nurtured by new members Ian & Beverley Le Marquand. Of all the entries in the Cacti & Succulent classes, Nelio's Best in Section was Stephen Le Feuvre fantastic display of Cacti, Steve growing and nurturing his many plants with tender loving care. This amazing Group of Cacti also went on to be crowned Best in Show much to Stephen's delight.



Best in Show - Stephen Le Feuvre - Group of Cacti

Myles Cummins from Elite Gardening Services Ltd judged the Cut Flowers classes which only had 37 entries in them but that did not deter him from enjoying the task of judging. He found his Best in Section winner in a beautiful colourful collection of Dahlias expertly grown and displayed by Max & Dot De La Haye who have very many years of growing these wonderful flowers in their garden.



Max & Dot De La Haye - Cut Flower best in Section



Ian & Beverley Le Marquand - Pot Plant Best in Section



Best in Section Cut Flowers - Max & Dot De La Haye - Collection of Dahlias

The Fruit and Vegetable classes were the most popular classes at the Show with 21 entries in the Fruit classes and a whopping 97 entries in the Vegetable classes. The task of judging all these entries went to William Church who is a Director at Jersey Royal Company Ltd as well as judging the 12 entries received in the Children's Fruit & Vegetable classes. The States of Jersey Prison Service who are regular entrants had a total of 19 entries in the Vegetable classes and William found his Best in Section winner in their amazing 2 heads of Celery. William's Best in Section winner in the Fruit classes was a plate of 15 delicious looking raspberries grown by Kate Le Ruez also winning Kate the Reserve Best in Show title. At the August Show there is also a Special class for a collection of produce displayed on a card table grown on a plot at our FJ Ahier Country Gardens allotment site - the winner of this class was Kevin Roberts, who has plots 51 & 52, which provides an absolutely fantastic display of what he had grown.



Reserve Best in Show - Kate Le Ruez



FJ Ahier Collection of Produce Winner - Kevin Roberts



Best in Section Fruit Winner - Kate Le Ruez's Raspberries

We were delighted to receive 12 entries in the Children's Fruit & Vegetable classes which were all expertly grown by these talented children giving William a tough time judging. His winner was 12-year-old Junior Member Lucy Collard with her Runner Bean, Lucy is a regular competitor entering lots of classes and has won many prizes and trophies at our Shows.



Lucy Collard - Best in Sections Children's Fruit & Veg and Floral Art

Cathy Le Feuvre was pleased to be asked to judge the children's Floral Art and Cake classes together with the Photographic and Adult Floral Arranging classes. There were 9 entries in the children's Floral Art classes and 11 entries in the Children's Cake classes giving Cathy a hard time judging and to pick her winners. All the entries received were very creative and everything made by the children to the themes given were fantastic. William Highfield's amazing 3 "Covid-19" themed cupcakes took top honours awarding him a Best in Section rosette and certificate. Lucy Collard, who already won Best in Section in the Fruit & Vegetables was absolutely delighted to be awarded a second Best in Section for her painting themed "Jersey Cows".



William Highfield - Best in Section Children's Cakes



Best in Section - 3 Decorated Cup Cakes (Covid 19) - William Highfield

Lucy's winning streak did not stop there as Cathy picked her picture of a 'Flower titled Summers Day' as her winner of the Photographic class of a beautiful Sunflower. Phyllis Gouedart entered three of the Amateur Floral Arranging classes winning two of them and was delighted when Cathy awarded her Best in Section for her stunning "Wedding High Heels" arrangement of mixed flowers on foliage.



Phyllis Gouedart - Best in Section Adult Floral Arranging



Best in Section Wedding High Heels Arrangement - Phyllis Gouedart



Winning Fruit & Vegetable Motor Car - Oliver Gardner

Once again, the Horticultural Department were absolutely delighted with the numbers of entries received and a very well done to everyone who took part, it was wonderful to see what everyone had been growing for the Show. Thank you very much also to our four judges who took on the challenge of judging all the pictures entered – no mean feat!

Results

BEST IN SHOW - STEPHEN LE FEUVRE - GROUP OF CACTI
RESERVE BEST IN SHOW - KATE LE RUEZ - RASPBERRIES

BEST IN SECTION CACTI & SUCCULENTS - STEPHEN LE FEUVRE/GROUP OF CACTI

BEST IN SECTION POT PLANTS - IAN & BEVERLEY LE MARQUAND/HANGING BASKET

BEST IN SECTION CUT FLOWERS - MAX & DOT DE LA HAYE/COLLECTION OF DAHLIAS

BEST IN SECTION VEGETABLES - STATES OF JERSEY PRISON SERVICE/CELERY

BEST IN SECTION FRUIT - KATE LE RUEZ/RASPBERRIES

BEST IN SECTION CHILDREN'S CAKES - WILLIAM HIGHFIELD/3 COVID-19 CUPCAKES

BEST IN SECTION CHILDREN'S FRUIT & VEG - LUCY COLLARD/RUNNER BEAN

BEST IN SECTION CHILDREN'S FLORAL ART - LUCY COLLARD/JERSEY COW PAINTING

BEST IN SECTION ADULT FLOWER ARRANGING - PHYLLIS GOUEDART/WEDDING HIGH HEELS

Everyone is now looking forward to the October Show which again will be Virtual.

Rachelle Robinson

Horticultural Secretary

Trees for Life

Thank you to Jersey Trees for Life who undertook a planting scheme at the Showground in March. More than 1,000 hawthorn trees have been planted in a double row to form a thick hedge, linking areas of woodland to provide a wildlife corridor, shelter and food. It will also form a 'boundary' to the outdoor arenas and sequester atmospheric carbon.



On Farm Challenge - 2020

In a challenging year, with Covid-19 restrictions still in place the RJAHs On Farm Challenge judging had to go virtual in 2020, with each class scrutinised by an international judge from each of the five regions of the World Jersey Cattle Bureau. Rising to the top of the 56 entrants was Clover Stormy Pixie owned by Junior member Izzy Hefford McCutchen, the first time in the Island's On Farm Challenge history an animal owned by a Junior member has won. The judges were each provided with four photographs and a video of each entry in the class they were judging before joining forces to select a championship line up co-ordinated by Russell Gammon from Canada. Congratulations to all the Island breeders who took part in the 2020 competition....

Class 1 - Heifers in Milk

14 heifers were entered in a strong class judged by Danish breeder Christian Givskov Peterson who described his winning heifer from Vicky Huelin as **"a beautiful young and stylish heifer, strong in her topline, good and balanced in her locomotion"** giving her the advantage for her balance in the udder over the second place heifer from Paul Houze's, Lodge Farm who had really caught judges eye for her femininity and the third place owned by Sarah Le Feuvre that Christian described as **"a powerhouse of a young cow!"**

The results:

- 1st: **Cottage Plan 19 Noble Natalie** (Owned by: Vicky Huelin) - calved July, sired by homebred bull Cottage Ibens Exciting Plan
- 2nd: **Prides Joel Alicia 2** (Owned by: Paul Houze) - calved May, sired by Guimo Joel CJCC ET
- 3rd: **Lassies Branson Flower 2** (Owned by: Sarah Le Feuvre) - calved May, sired by Gabys Tbone Branson ET



Class 1: Winner - Cottage Plan 19 Nobe Natalie

Class 2 - Three Year Olds

Herby Lutz from America presided over a class of 12 entrants, all second calvers, leading with a cow from the Ansom herd that for him **"was wider in her rear udder, deeper in the heart and more angular."** She had the advantage for her cleanliness over the second place from John Le Feuvre who was higher in the rear udder than her herd mate in third place from the same owner which Herby loved for her width between the ribs.

The results:

- 1st: **Ansom Chrome Samsybil** (Owned by: La Ferme Ltd) - calved May, sired by River Valley Cece Chrome
- 2nd: **Elite Joel Noblesse** (Owned by: John Le Feuvre) - calved January, sired by Guimo Joel CJCC ET

- 3rd: **Day Dream 321** (Owned by: John Le Feuvre) - calved February, sired by Chilli Action Colton ET



Class 2: Winner - Anson Chrome Sam Sybil

Class 3 - Young Cows

Joint judges Tony Luckin and Lloyd Wilson, both from New Zealand agreed on the winner of the class of 13 young cows all of which were milking in their third lactation. Owned by Junior member Izzy Hefford McCutchen the judges commented on the 1st place cow **"We loved the nice clean shoulder and the dairyness throughout our first cow, which is shown in her mammary system with lovely veinage and udder texture"**. She had what they believed was the best udder in the class and the advantage over the second place cow from John James Le Feuvre who in turn edged ahead for her dairyness and correctness of the third place, **"a great framed cow"** owned by La Ferme Ltd.

The results:

- 1st: **Clover Stormy Pixie** (Owned by: Izzy Hefford McCutchen) - calved December '19', sired by Chasin Rainbows Act Riley ET
- 2nd: **Designs Day Dream 173** (Owned by: John James Le Feuvre) - calved May, sired by Vermalar Bruce CJCC ET
- 3rd: **Ansom Tyler Cyber** (Owned by: La Ferme Ltd) - calved January, sired by Lencrest Tyler CJCC ET



Class 3: Winner - Clover Stormy Fixic

Class 4 - Mature Cows

There were six cows forward in the class of 6-8 year old cows, which was judged by South African Poena van Niekerk. His winner was a sixth calver owned by Philip Le Maistre and bred by the Le Boutillier family which he justified as his winner by commenting **"my first place cow had a better spring of rib, more ideal teat placement and a higher and wider rear udder than my second cow"**. Second place, a fourth

calver from Vicky Huelin had the advantage over third place owned by Paul Houze and also milking in her fourth, for her strength through the loin and rump structure.

The results:

- 1st: **Woodlands B Winsome Primrose 2** (Owned by: Philip Le Maistre) - calved April, sired by Gabys Ballard ET
 2nd: **Cottage Buttercrest Marguerite** (Owned by: Vicky Huelin) - calved November '19, sired by Buttercrest Success ET
 3rd: **Prides Riley Real Sybil** (Owned by: Paul Houze) - calved May '19, sired by Chasin Rainbows Act Riley ET



Class 4: Winner - Woodland B Winsome Primrose 2

Class 5 - Senior Cows

The 12 entrants in this class were all over eight years old. Judged by Colombian breeder Diego Sierra. His class winner was owned by John Le Feuvre, a sixth calver described as **"well balanced with an incredible mammary system and high and wide rear udder."** She had the advantage for her stronger ligament and tighter fore udder attachment over the second cow, a herd mate and seventh calver also from John Le Feuvre who was also higher in the rear udder than the third place eighth calver from owner Richard Le Boutillier. Diego concluded by congratulating all breeders on **"a magnificent class of Senior Cows"**.

The results:

- 1st: **Elite Action Noblesse** (Owned by: John Le Feuvre) - calved June, sired by Forest Glen Avery Action ET
 2nd: **ElitePrimrose Avelida 35** (Owned by: John Le Feuvre) - calved June, sired by SHF Centurion Sultan
 3rd: **Woodlands Lady Margarethe 421** (Owned by: Richard Le Boutillier) - calved January, sired by Forest Glen Avery Action ET



Class 5: Winner - Elite Action Noblesse

The CHAMPIONSHIP Line up....

- Champion: Clover Stormy Pixie**
 (Owned by: Izzy Hefford McCutchen)
Reserve: Elite Action Noblesse
 (Owned by: John Le Feuvre)
Hon. Mention: Woodlands B Winsome Primrose 2
 (Owned by: Philip Le Maistre)

The 2020 On Farm Challenge Champion, Clover Stormy Pixie, secured the title adding to her success as Champion at the RJAHS Show in October 2019. She produced over 8,000 litres of milk during her last lactation and is housed at the Houzé family's Lodge Farm, she calved for her third two days before Christmas 2019, a heifer, Clover Issy's Angel Pixie. Her maternal breeding with Izzy's family goes back to her great-great-grandmother, Times Pixie Valentine, bought by Izzy's mother, Emma, in 1999 from Alan Barette's herd-dispersal sale.



Izzy receives the trophy for the Islands On Farm Challenge Champion, together with her mother Emma, and Paul Houzé of Lodge Farm, where the winner resides.



John Le Feuvre accepting the trophy for best cow over 8 years

The Society is very grateful to Islands for their on going support of the competition. The On Farm Challenge is a 'working clothes' competition as opposed to 'Sunday best' at a cattle show.

Passionate about what we do

Having been established for 25 years, Harpers Catering were delighted to move up to the RJA&HS in 2019 and are looking forward to a long association with them.

The past 18 months have however been very challenging, with all our weddings, small and large events being cancelled due to COVID. We have however adapted by providing a home delivery service, offering anything from a cottage pie, fishcakes and macaroni cheese to lobster thermidor and our nearly famous beef wellingtons. This has kept us busy, brought us new friends and we are still smiling!



Business is slowly getting back to normal, and in June 2021 we did our first wedding for over a year!

Harpers Catering cater for the majority of events held at The Showground, and are looking forward to supporting the Summer Horticultural Show, the British and Irish Lions Dinner, the Durrell Charity Ball and the White Collar Boxing to name a few. Along with weddings, private parties and corporate events at people's homes, manors and castles, we love the varied nature of our business.

We have a passion for what we do, and we would love to hear from you if you have any catering requirements.

Call 865799

enquiries@harperscatering.co.uk

Find us on [facebook.com/harperscatering](https://www.facebook.com/harperscatering)
www.harperscatering.co.uk



WEDDINGS | CORPORATE | PRIVATE

Royal Jersey Showground, La Route de la Trinité, Trinity, Jersey JE3 5JP

Life at the Showground

2020 was set to be one of the best years ever recorded for events at the Showground. The year got off to a great start with a busy calendar. In January we hosted Kennel Club of Jersey Dog Show and the Horticultural Department held a number of Table Top sales. As we moved out of January into February, we were hearing whispers of a virus sweeping across the globe. However, this did not stop the events industry and the RJA&HS hosting three new events here at the showground.

On Sunday 8th February we welcomed Zumba Glow Dance. This charitable event was organised by the members of Soroptimist International Jersey and raised £2,300 which was shared between the Jersey Women's Refuge and Jersey Action Against Rape. There was an incredible atmosphere in the Main Hall with some 260 people dancing away in darkness under neon lights. Next, we had Galaxy Comic Con. This mini convention was held over two days on the weekend of 22nd February. The convention gave the Jersey public the chance to get a picture with a Wookiee from Star Wars or the Ghost Busters. The event had over 1,000 people visit over the two days.

In the last weekend of February, we welcomed another new charity through the doors of the Showground, Brighter Futures. They brought a new concept of event unseen to the Island, White Collar Darts! The event was a huge success bringing in over £65,000 for the charity. They welcomed over 500 people to the Showground for the evening. A three-course meal and a great night of fun filled darts kept everyone fully entertained. Unfortunately, this was the last large-scale event held at the showground in 2020. 'Lockdown' struck with early closure of the Jersey Eisteddfod exhibition.

Since then we have had to get used to a whole new lexicon; social distancing, sanitising, one-way systems, Perspex screens,

track and trace etc. The Showground became eerily quiet but we kept busy bringing forward scheduled maintenance and making it available for the community at every opportunity.

In early April we were approached by The Salvation Army to ask if they could utilise the West Hall as a clothes bank as their facility at the harbour was closed down due to Covid-19. Fortunately, we were able to assist and the Salvation Army were with us for the months of April to June. In May we were asked by the Government of Jersey to assist with the stocking of the new Nightingale Hospital. All of the equipment destined for the new hospital was stored in the main hall at the RJA&HS for a week prior to the new Nightingale wing opening.

As restrictions eased over the next few months, we were able to assist the Honorary Police with socially distanced training space during the months of July and August. Harpers Catering used the site to host a number of themed pop-up restaurants. We also hosted The Theatre Workshop in August. Scott and his team welcomed some 20 children aged 11-17 to work on a production for the week in the West Hall. At the end of the week, they held an outdoor production for their families with a delicious meal from Harpers catering.

We were very hopeful that we would see events returning later in 2020 but this was not to be the case. We still have a full calendar of events booked in at the Showground once restrictions are lifted and I look forward to welcoming you all back whenever that may be.

Dave Cottrell

Events & Facilities' Manager



White Collar Darts hitting bullseye





All ready - 'Lets play darts'



Supporting Super Heros



With Alice Nunn and Adelino Nures and a pile of donations

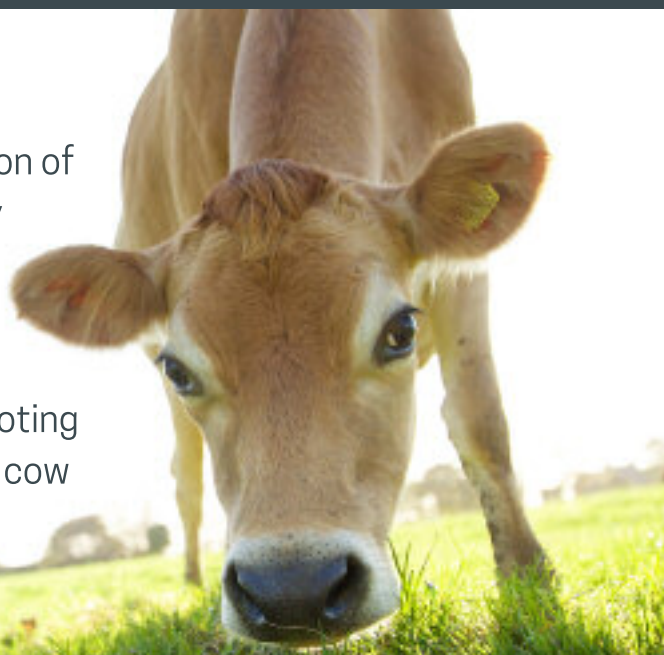


Zumba Glow



Meeting an Ewok

Jersey Dairy has a rich history and strong provenance which dates back to 1763. Our story is unique, and at the centre is our vision of a thriving environmentally sustainable dairy industry providing food security to Jersey consumers, opportunities for dynamic local students, marketing of a range of dairy products and services offshore while promoting our wonderful Island, with our iconic Jersey cow at its heart.



Key Highlights

20%

of the farmed countryside in Jersey is used for dairy farming



13

Dairy farms supplying fresh milk to Jersey Dairy



38,000

Litres of fresh Jersey milk is received daily to Jersey Dairy from our 13 dairy farms



1ST

Dairy in the world to hold the LEAF Marque on milk cartons

150

People working in the dairy industry



2,590

Species recorded on Jersey Dairy LEAF farms



1,000

Local students visited Jersey dairy farms from 2019-2020

40

Grams of protein per litre of Jersey Dairy milk



20%

More calcium in milk from a Jersey cow than milk from any other breed of cow

20MILLION

Soft serve ice creams are sold in Britain every year from Jersey Dairy



30

Countries have been sold Jersey Dairy products over the last 10 years

2,225

Jersey cows in the Island of Jersey



Visit www.jerseydairy.com to find out more!

Fruit, Flower & Vegetable Virtual Show

3rd & 4th October 2020

Once again, following the cancellation of the Autumn Fair, the Horticultural Department held their third Virtual Show of the year after the success of the June and August Virtual Shows.

A schedule was put together with 505 different classes to enter and again exhibitors were asked to email Rachelle their photos of their entries. Classes were held in the usual sections comprising of Fruit, Vegetables, Pot Plants, Cacti & Succulents, Cut Flowers, Children's classes plus the Preserves and Heaviest and Longest Fruit & Vegetable weigh in. 380 entries were received giving Rachelle the huge task of putting them in class order to be judged

The Fruit and Vegetable classes at the October Show are always the largest of the year and with 49 entries in the Fruit classes and 104 entries in the Vegetable classes, our two judges had their work cut out! Sarah Matlock, who runs La Robeline Cider, with her husband locally, was absolutely delighted to be asked to judge the Fruit classes having been asked several times by Rachelle over the last few years but sadly has not been able to judge due to being too busy with other events. Sarah really enjoyed judging all the exhibitor's entries of the amazing fruit they had grown and chose Martin Preisig's Cape Gooseberries as her Best in Section winner stating that she 'loved the symmetry of it and the fruit look good enough to eat!'



Martin Preisig – Best in Section Fruit

NVS UK judge Marion Neden was also delighted to be asked to judge, Rachelle having been given her details from local NVS Chairman Graeme Le Marquand. Marion judged both the Adult and Children's classes and with 12 entries in the children's classes all of a very high standard, she found her Best in Section winner in 6-year-old Tilly De Gouveia's lovely carrots grown by her at home, Tilly was absolutely delighted to receive a rosette and certificate. 104 entries in the Adult Vegetable classes gave Marion the mammoth taste of judging all the pictures, some classes with 3 or more entries in. Marion said she 'enjoyed judging for us with some lovely exhibits, the baskets were a challenge and she was happy with her decisions'. There were 5 fantastic entries in the basket class and Marion's winner was Tom Robinson who also won Best in Section with his Salad Basket. Tom had a great show having entered 36 classes and winning 28 of them!, and to Tom's delight his Salad Basket was also joint Reserve Best in Show. The winter squash and pumpkins classes were popular with Kate Le Ruez and Melissa Dean winning them.



Best in Section Fruit Winner – Cape Gooseberries (Martin Preisig)



Tilly De Gouveia – Best in Sections Children's Fruit & Vegetables



Tom Robinson – Best in Section Vegetables & Reserve Best in Show

The Pot Plant and Cacti & Succulent classes also had lots of entries with 55 and 27 respectively. Keith McManus from the UK, who is a Trustee and Committee Member of The British Fuchsia Society kindly judged these classes for us. From the 55 entries received in the 74 classes ranging from Fuchsias and Pelargoniums to Coleus and many blooming pots, Keith found his Best in Section winner in Stephen Le Feuvre's stunning colourful Group of Flowering Pot Plants which were also joint Reserve Best in Show. Keith also judged the popular Cacti & Succulent classes which have grown over the last few years. Growing and nurturing Cacti and Succulents is Stephen Le Feuvre's passion with many hours spent in his greenhouses and this once again paid off to win Best in Section with his amazing Group of Cacti. This stunning display also awarded a very delighted Stephen Best in Show, this being his third win having won all three of the Virtual Shows this year, what a fantastic achievement.



Stephen Le Feuvre – Reserve Best in Show – Group of Pot Plants

Sadly there were only 25 entries in the Cut Flower classes but this did not deter judge Marc Simon from Florales Florist and from all the entries, he awarded the Best in Section to Max & Dot De La Haye's stunning display of a Group of Dahlias, Max and Dot have been growing Dahlias and displaying them for very many years and Rachelle had the pleasure of seeing the actual display at their home which is really something to see in the flesh - hopefully we will get to see them again when our 'normal' shows return.

The Children's classes were again well supported with 64 entries received across the Fruit & Vegetables, Floral Art and Cake Sections. The Floral Art (37 entries) and Cake classes (15 entries) were judged by Jess McGovern, our Head of Education and Development who was pleased to be asked and excited about judging all the fantastic and creative entries albeit not an easy task. Jess's three Best in Sections winners were Jemima Hargreaves (aged 10) from Julia Renault Art Club with her amazing "Welcome Back to School" painting in the Art Section, 12-year-old Lucy Collard's awesome "Lock Down" Fruit & Vegetable creation in the Floral Art Section and 9-year-old William Highfield's yummy "Halloween" Cake in the Cake Section. Sadly, there were only three entries in the Adult Floral Arranging classes, all three fantastic creations made by the talented Phyllis Guedart. There were also only 3 entries in the Adult Cake classes which were judged on the Best Looking.



Best in Section Children's Art – Jemima Hargreaves "Welcome Back to School" Painting



Charlie Wakeham decorating his Cakes and Biscuits



Winner of the Best Decorated Halloween Cake baked by Lizzy Whatley

Local Artist and Photographer Cate Hamilton was delighted to be asked to judge the photographic class themed "Autumn Colour" which had 8 fantastic entries in. Cate's winning picture was of a lovely autumn apple taken by 12-year-old Lucy Collard.



Best Photo "Autumn Colour" Fruit or Vegetable - Lucy Collard

22 entries were received in the Preserve classes and all exhibitors were asked to bring their pots, jars and bottles to the Showground Office so they could be judged on site. Lesley Garton, who owns and runs The Chilli Kitchen, was delighted to be asked to judge for us and we invited her to the Members Room at the Showground to judge all the entries with only Rachelle to adhere to social distancing regulations still in place. Lesley loved tasting all the entries and having picked out three potential Best in Section winners, decided that the winner had to be a Pot of Tomato Chutney which was expertly made by Jennie Le Sueur, Lesley saying it "tasted amazing".



Best in Section Preserve – Pot of Tomato Chutney (Jennie Le Sueur)

The Horticultural Department were also delighted that we were still able to go ahead with the weighing and measuring of the Heaviest & Longest Fruit & Vegetable with Rachelle visiting the various people who entered to weigh and measure in a safe socially distanced environment. The States of Jersey Prison Service inmates had been very busy growing during the pandemic and having entered 11 classes, were absolutely delighted to break five RJA&HS records. The records broken were for the Heaviest Carrot and Parsnip and the Longest Radish, Carrot and Beetroot, two of the Longest Records being totally smashed with the lengths more than doubling the previous record!

Five entries were received in the Heaviest Pumpkin class which was hotly contested with three entries from the Le Sueur Family who were awarded 1st – Alex Le Sueur (aged 7), 2nd Hattie Le Sueur (aged 5) and the Le Sueur Family 3rd – a fantastic achievement.



Staties of Jersey Prison Service New Record Heaviest Carrot



2nd Heaviest Pumpkin Hattie Le Sueur



Heaviest Pumpkin Winner Alex Le Sueur



New Records Longest Radish, Carrot & Beetroot grown by The States of Jersey Prison Service



President Robert Perchard with his Heaviest Apple

Results

BEST IN SHOW – STEPHEN LE FEUVRE – GROUP OF CACTI
JOINT RESERVE BEST IN SHOW – STEPHEN LE FEUVRE –
GROUP OF POT PLANTS & TOM ROBINSON – SALAD BASKET

BEST IN SECTION CACTI & SUCCULEMNTS – STEPHEN LE
FEUVRE/GROUP OF CACTI

BEST IN SECTION POT PLANTS – STEPHEN LE FEUVRE/GROUP
OF POT PLANTS

BEST IN SECTION CUT FLOWERS – MAX & DOT DE LA
HAYE/GROUP OF DAHLIAS

BEST IN SECTION FRUIT – MARTIN PREISIG/CAPE
GOOSEBERRIES

BEST IN SECTION VEGETABLES – TOM ROBINSON/SALAD
BASKET

BEST IN SECTION PRESERVES – JENNIE LE SUEUR/ POT OF
TOMATO CHUTNEY

BEST IN SECTION CHILDREN'S CAKES – WILLIAM
HIGHFIELD/HALLOWEEN CAKE

BEST IN SECTION CHILDREN'S FRUIT & VEG – TILLY DE
GOUVEIA/CARROTS

BEST IN SECTION CHILDREN'S FLORAL ART – LUCY
COLLARD/FRUIT&VEG LOCKDOWN CREATION

BEST IN SECTION CHILDREN'S ART – JEMIMA
HARGREAVES/WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL PAINTING

Rachelle Robinson
Horticultural Secretary



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It's Personal.

Douet Farm

The Society's newest farming neighbour

Douet Farm is an organic goat farm in Trinity – producing goat's milk and cheese for local consumption. Laurence and Louise Agnès set up Douet Farm from scratch, and began farming as a hobby in 2012 producing 100% grass fed beef and lamb. They decided to make the leap to be full time goat dairy farmers in 2018. This was following a stint for Louise as RJA&HS Horticultural Secretary from 2015 to 2018.

Louise tells us: "We've been selling our organic goat's milk and goat's cheese since September 2019. We're milking 80 goats at the moment, and process all the milk on site in our purpose built facilities. It's good fun and we have a great team working at the farm. It's also been a bit of a rollercoaster this last year or so - launching our goat's products 6 months before a pandemic took over has had its challenges! But the support for local produce has been wonderful, from both islanders and also restaurants when they've been allowed to open."

"It's been an exciting Spring 2021, as we've had 90 kids born on the farm, and have just launched our new, more mature goat's cheese – called Douet Noir. We've been busy this Winter, and will soon be launching some more organic goat's products too – watch this space!"

Douet Noir is a soft, mould ripened goat's cheese, that's speckled with ash and gets softer and stronger with age.

You can buy Douet Noir, along with Douet Farm's fresh Jersey goat's cheese and whole goat's milk online at www.douetfarm.com and also from all farm shops, local shops, Relish Delicatessen and selected Co-ops.

Douet Farm cheese can also be found at some of the island's top restaurants!



Laurence and Louise Agnès



Organic Goats - Douet Farm, Jersey



A kid goat



Douet Noir - Organic goat's cheese



Louise Agnès

Society Council Report 2020

The Council has overall responsibility for the policy of the Society and co-ordination of the work of the two departments. This includes specific responsibility for finances, employment and real estate as well as membership and the RJA&HS Trust Fund.

During the year COVID-19 restrictions prevented the normal schedule of face to face meetings and forced the Council to postpone the holding of an Annual General Meeting for the first time since the Second World War. The Council, having sought opinions from members, felt that the membership would prefer to postpone such a meeting until it could be held in person rather than attempt a 'virtual' meeting which, by its nature, would be more limiting in the ability for members to debate any matters arising.

Since the last AGM (2019) I can report that the Council met on four occasions '19/'20 and on two 'virtual' occasions '20/'21. Throughout the lockdown period and much of 2020 the day to day business of the Society continued although new projects were 'put on hold'. The business of the Society was supervised by the Officer Team who met 'virtually' on seven occasions, occasionally bringing in other participants as the subject under discussion required.

Terms of Office:

One of the key decisions agreed by the Council in response to the cancellation of an AGM during 2020 due to 'force majeure' was to extend all terms of office by one year and thus positions scheduled for new appointments at the AGM in 2020 would be undertaken at the AGM in 2021.

Strategy Working Group:

This sub-committee, led by the President, includes Martin Preisig, Steve Le Feuvre, Jennifer Ellenger and Becky Houzé. The Committee 'stood down' during 2020 as the Cultivate Programme is based around participatory types of event which were all cancelled along with the Society Shows Programme, due to the pandemic restrictions. Jess McGovern re-directed her work towards areas that could be delivered in the circumstances and these are described elsewhere in this journal.

Finance Sub-committee:

This Sub-committee, led by the President, includes Steve Le Feuvre, Jeremy Neil and Peter Williams met, mostly as the Officer Team, regularly to review Society finances and especially measures to be implemented by the Office in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Budgets and forecasts were monitored closely and updated regularly as the extent of the effects of the pandemic on income became apparent. The financial results for 2020 are described in more detail in the Treasurers' Report which follows the Council Report in this journal.

The move of the main investment portfolio to Rathbones was completed and the committee is pleased with the performance to date.

Employment Sub-committee:

This Sub-committee, led by the President, includes Richard Leith, Martin Preisig, Steve Le Feuvre and Jeremy Neil. As noted above, the committee met as the Officers Team and annual staff appraisals were held 'virtually'. The Officers were focussed on keeping staff employed throughout the pandemic and recorded their sincere thanks to all the staff, on behalf of the membership, for their efforts and accommodation during the extraordinary year.

Representation:

There was little activity on the associations or committees to which the Society maintains a standing representation, including the World Jersey Cattle Bureau, the European Jersey Forum, and in Jersey on the Action for Cleaner Water working group and Brexit panels

That said the Society has actively contributed to consultation responses to a variety of requests, mostly from the Government of Jersey. Of particular note in the past year were; the draft new Jersey Wildlife Law, the interim Jersey Island Plan, the Jersey Climate Conversation, and the UK consultation on the welfare of animals during transport. The Society has enjoyed an excellent working relationship with the Jersey Milk Marketing Board and the Jersey Farmers Union in helping to promote interests of the agricultural industry.

Membership Report:

Memberships	'11	'12	'13	'14	'15	'16	'17	'18	'19	'20
Honorary Life Members	4	5	5	5	6	6	8	8	9	9
Full Members (inc Life & Patrons)	427	385	375	352	327	199	286	267	237	232
Joint Members (x2)	326	300	282	282	242	277	197	207	196	206
Junior Members	48	39	35	30	25	25	25	30	28	25
Total	805	729	697	669	600	507	516	512	470	472

The Council is saddened to note the passing during the year of Hugh Gill, Colin Letto, Muriel Le Gresley (Honorary Life Member), William C Renouf.

RJA&HS Trust Fund:

The Officer Team have been confirmed as Trustees until a full review can be undertaken, with the fund stands at some £118,500.

Thank you:

The President was, for obvious reasons, was unable to host the annual reception for members who serve on Society committees, help out at shows or give their time in other voluntary roles.

James Godfrey

RJA&HS Secretary & CEO

Treasurers' Report 2020

To say that 2020 has been difficult financially is an understatement of the highest order. It has to have been one of the most challenging years in living memory for the Society, and a full set of accounts are available on request from the office as well as posted on the Society website.

At the start of the year we had a budget to deliver a sizeable surplus on trading activity following the sound investments made over previous years in the event facilities and infrastructure, combined with improved margins in other areas of activity.

Before the first quarter was out, the possible catastrophic effects of the emerging COVID-19 pandemic were becoming fairly evident, and revised budget forecasts prepared at the beginning of the second quarter predicted a potential loss in revenue of some £130,000 mainly resulting from the closure of the Showground to public events.

In round terms this is what occurred although the accounts show a mixture of losses due to COVID-19 offset by Government support measures. These include the Society taking out a Business Disruption Loan to support cash flow, the securing of Payroll Co-funding for eligible months and staff members, and also deferment of Social Security payments. Some of these measures affect the Profit & Loss account, whilst others are Balance Sheet items reflected in an increase in creditors.

Looking at income, the main effects of COVID-19 were a net reduction in estate income of £85,061. Shows income dropped by £28,994 although the net deficit on Shows was reduced by £10,477. Members subscriptions income increased by 12.8% to £12,226.

The investment fund also showed a reduction in growth of some £62,352, although this hides the large swings seen during the year with a valuation drop of nearly 20% in March followed by a steady recovery as governments around the world introduced measures to support the economy. By the end of 2020 the portfolio recorded a fall in value of only some 0.5%, which in the context of global events must be considered a good result.

A positive area of growth was in the Dairy for Development Programme as reported on in this year's Journal. In order to service this expanding area of the Society's activity additional staff have been recruited which is reflected in the increased employment costs and overheads.

In overall terms the Society remains in a secure financial position. Prudent financial management, combined with government support for which we are very grateful, has ensured that the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have been mitigated as much as possible so far. A loss for 2020 of £1,467 is of course regretted, but it could have been so much worse had we not taken the timely actions and decisions when we did.

The Society has been successful in securing support from the Government of Jersey's Fiscal Stimulus Fund to enable an investment in much needed upgrades to the Showground facilities, and details of this will be reported on in the next financial year.

It is hoped that 'normal trading' will resume during 2021, although lost revenue will still be a feature for the first half of the year due to COVID-19 restrictions that are still affecting our ability to trade as we were pre-pandemic. The bookings calendar is starting to fill up for the rest of 2021, and with careful planning and on-going prudent financial management, the Society is well placed to grow activities and serve both the membership and wider community moving forward.

We would like to thank all the staff for their support and commitment in this most difficult of years, and particular mention has to go to James Godfrey who has juggled all the challenges that 2020 has thrown at us, and provided sound counsel and advice enabling the Council to make reasoned and balanced decisions to not only safeguard the Society's assets, but also to ready us for the situation post-pandemic.

Balance Sheet Comparison

Fixed Assets	2020	2019
Tangible Assets	3,166,018	3,216,549
Investments	1,120,298	1,144,472
Total Fixed Assets	4,286,316	4,361,021
Current Assets / Stock	26,861	22,089
Debtors & Prepayments	260,413	90,265
Cash at Bank	645,111	107,667
Total Current Assets	932,385	220,026
Creditors	937,082	297,956
Net Assets	4,281,619	4,283,086

Profit & Loss Comparison

Income	2020	2019
JIG Trading	1,482,546	1,804,339
Real Estate	182,350	267,411
Herd Book	26,468	31,915
Investment Income	8,839	8,951
Investment Net Gains	49,566	111,918
Shows & Events	720	29,714
Members Subscriptions	12,226	10,835
Misc & Merchandise	72,069	37,549
Total Income	1,834,784	2,302,632
Operating Expenses		
JIG Trading	1,260,112	1,652,813
Real Estate	52,500	75,015
Shows & Events	3,513	42,984
Herd Book	19,542	27,045
Breed Improvement	500	701
Merchandise & PR	13,864	18,640
Total Operating Expenses	1,350,031	1,817,198
Overheads		
Employment	305,203	245,196
General Overheads	124,812	97,185
Finance	3,759	5,600
Depreciation	52,446	56,351
Total Overheads	486,220	404,332
Total Surplus / (Deficit)	(1,467)	81,101

Stephen Le Feuvre (Agriculture)
Jerry Neil (Horticulture)



Jersey Island

Proud of our recent Island Champions:

Spring (June) Shows:

2019: Chalet Babe Bangle
2018: Trinity Perfector Skippy
2017: Prides True Action Sybil

Autumn (October) Shows:

2019: Clovers Stormy Pixie
2018: Natalies Flash Queen
2017: Westlands Hurel Girl



Proud of our Genetics:

The cow families amongst our herds have been instrumental in shaping the breed and we are proud to see bulls such as Ansom Animate-P ET and Elite Agnettas Ambition make the grade for marketing in the UK and beyond



Proud of our Health Status:

**All cattle on the Island are CHeCS accredited free for IBR, BVD and Lepto,
Jersey Island tests free for TB, Brucella and EBL
All milking cows are CIS recorded and screened for Johnes annually**



'Home of the breed - and Proud of it!'

Proud of our Production Figures:

Top 3 Island Herds on Production

Woodlands Farm

7314kg 5.67% F 3.82% P 384d CI (239 cows)

Lodge Farm

7068kg 6.01% F 3.71% P 387d CI (187 cows)

La Ferme Ltd

6800kg 5.90% F 3.80% P 367d CI (251 cows)

(As of July '20 CIS data and all the more impressive given Island herd production is subject to a local 'quota' scheme which caps productivity)

Top Island Producers

Cows Woodlands Lady Margarethe 470
996kg F&P with 11209kg milk in her 4th
Woodlands Regal Windy Girl
981kg F&P with 10278kg milk in her 5th
Woodlands Windy Sunrise
955kg F&P with 10931kg milk in her 5th

Heifers Westlands Valentino May
801kg F&P with 9456kg milk in her 1st
Westlands Chrome Sybil
765kg F&P with 9477kg milk in her 1st
Woodlands Lady Margarethe 509
762kg F&P with 8961kg milk in her 1st

Proud of our Markets:

2019 saw us export 381 animals overseas to the UK and the Netherlands

Sale Toppers in recent years:

Ansom Egalitarian Cybernaut sold in the Jersey Jewels Sale as a maiden

Elite Aimless Lady 232 VG86 topped a Kivells sale at 3200gns

Ansom On Time Melba now EX94(2) also sold to the UK



Proud of our Industry:

The RJA & HS is the oldest Society on the Island

Jersey Dairy continues to go from strength to strength and is now the most recognisable and trusted brand across all industries in Jersey

Jersey Island Genetics continues to work world wide in promoting the Jersey breed



**JERSEY ISLAND
Genetics**



Contact the **JERSEY ISLAND GENETICS** team on

Tel: 00 44 (0) 1534 866555

Email: genetics@royaljersey.co.uk

Agricultural Department Report 2020

The Agricultural General Committee is responsible for a variety of important functions within the Society, which are detailed in this annual report. Key areas of responsibility include:

- Administration of the Jersey Herd Book.
- The initiation and maintenance of programmes to support the development and improvement of the Jersey breed.
- Awarding of prizes for the annual competitions and staging the island cattle shows.
- Representation of the farming industry.
- Management of the Royal Jersey Showground.
- Assistance with the promotion of local produce and development of business opportunities within the agricultural industry.

The Jersey Herd Book:

Table 1, below, sets out the transactions reported through the Jersey Herd Book for the calendar year 2020:

Year	Pedigree Jersey Bulls Registered	Pedigree Jersey Heifers Registered	Bulls Licensed	Cows Linear Assessed/Classified	Jersey Beef Animals Registered	Jersey X Beef Animals Registered
2020	31	792	15	789	25	138
2019	24	618	20	619	29	73
2018	31	618	14	1206	26	173
2017	25	681	14	904	16	164
2016	23	767	18	808	20	183

Jersey heifer registrations has seen a strong recovery, as those herds remaining in the industry increase their numbers of females retained for breeding, offsetting the herds that have retired in the previous three years. The number of bulls licensed has fallen back slightly to 2017/18 levels, however a number of 'licensing age' bulls have been exported to a UK semen collection centre in Devon as part of the Jersey Overseas Aid funded, Dairy for Development breeding programme.

As the local Jersey beef industry strengthens the number of Jersey X beef registrations has nearly doubled versus 2019. Reflecting an encouraging consumer demand for buying local Aberdeen Angus x Jersey beef.

The Society was able to hold two classification visits in 2020. The first in February and with travel restrictions easing over the summer another visit in September. Roughly 800 individual animals were appraised, of which 481 were 1st lactation heifers in-milk.

Breed Development:

Table 2: Sire usage

Year	Number of bulls siring progeny	Number of males registered	Number of females registered	Average number of females per bull used	Number of bulls siring 50% of female progeny	% females from 5 most popular bulls
2013	164	38	818	5.0	23	20.5
2014	161	25	838	5.2	25	21.0
2015	152	30	835	5.5	27	16.2
2016	135	24	767	5.7	22	21.1
2017	121	25	681	5.6	16	24.8
2018	115	31	618	5.4	13	26.0
2019	109	24	618	5.7	15	22.8
2020	117	36	792	6.8	12	30.1

The number of bulls siring 2020 registered pedigree Jersey calves increased slightly to 117. With the 5 most popular bulls now accounting for nearly a third of all heifers registered.

Elliotts Regency Casino maintains his top spot, but now sharing it with River Valley CECE Chrome. The two most popular sires of daughters registered in the Herd Book in 2020, with 122 progenies between them. New entry into the top 5 is another American bull Wilsonview IF Matt, sharing second place with Dutch Hollow Oliver P

The five most popular bulls (and number of daughters registered to them) being:

- 1 = Elliotts Regency Casino – 61 (USA)
- 1 = River Valley CECE Chrome – 61 (USA)
- 2 = Dutch Hollow Oliver P – 44 (USA)
- 2 = Wilsonview IF Matt – 44 (USA)
- 3 = River Valley Circus Craze – 33 (USA)

Table 3: Source of sires

Females registered	Year	Number of females registered	Number of bulls siring females	Average number of females per bull used	Number of bulls siring 50% of female progeny	% females from most popular bulls	% females from 5 most popular bulls
Sired by International bulls	2014	576	83	6.9	12	5.8	21.0
	2015	578	92	6.3	16	6.2	23.2
	2016	516	79	6.5	12	11.0	31.6
	2017	501	79	6.3	10	11.2	33.7
	2018	443	80	5.5	10	8.1	33.6
	2019	473	71	6.7	10	7	29.8
	2020	595	106	5.6	7	10.3	40.8
Sired by locally born bulls	2014	262	78	3.4	20	4.6	17.9
	2015	257	60	4.3	10	9.3	31.5
	2016	251	56	4.5	9	8.0	33.8
	2017	180	39	4.6	8	9.4	35.0
	2018	175	35	5.0	7	12.6	42.8
	2019	145	38	3.8	8	10	39.3
	2020	197	42	4.7	8	10.6	39.6

Table 4: 2020 1st lactation inspections, type analysis:

Last year saw a change to the composite categories scored by the Holstein UK Classifiers. Across all dairy breeds appraised by them. This team of highly professional assessors have been scoring cows in Jersey since 2002. Dairy Strength and Body Conformation have been replaced by Dairy Capacity, Dairy Character and Rump. The Mammary score still comprises 40% of the total.

Sire source	Final Score	Mammary	Legs & Feet	Dairy Capacity	Dairy Character	Rump	No. Inspections
UK	79	77	81	82	81	80	25
Denmark	82	81	82	83	83	82	85
J. Island*	81	80	81	81	81	81	98
N. America	81	81	81	82	82	82	279
International	81	81	81	82	82	82	389
J. Island*	81	80	81	81	81	81	98

*J. Island includes 100% JI and JI born bulls with international genetics in their pedigree.

Champion Producers:

The Agricultural Department of the RJA&HS presents annual awards and trophies to individual cows for their production and all milking cattle are eligible for automatic entry based on their milk recorded performance. The conditions of these awards relate to their qualifying lactation which includes:

- The butterfat and protein production must at a minimum of 5.00% and 3.75% respectively.
- The animal must calve again within fourteen months of commencing the qualifying lactation.
- The lactation must be for 305 days or less and completed during the Milk Recording Year, which runs from 1st October to September 30th in the following calendar year.

The awards presented in 2020 were therefore completed between 01/10/18 and 30/09/19.

Title	Name	Owned by	Milk Kg	Fat %	Fat Kg	Prot. %	Prot. Kg	Points
Senior Champion	Woodlands Twinkle Danish Widow	R H le Boutillier	9,427	5.88	544	3.78	357	1,854
Reserve	Woodlands B Lady Margarethe 467	Bryony Le Boutillier	9,136	6.06	554	3.85	352	1,820
Junior Champion	Woodlands B Winsome Buttery Success	Bryony Le Boutillier	9,250	5.13	475	3.81	353	1,753
Reserve	Woodlands Lady Margarethe 507	R H le Boutillier	8,167	6.47	528	4.21	344	1,689
Junior Members Champion	Gene Countess Brandie	Miss I Hefford-McCutcheon (Bred by Miss R Houzé)	6,591	6.16	406	4.29	283	1,348

Congratulations to Woodlands Farm which makes a clean sweep of both the Senior and Junior champion producer awards. Woodlands Twinkle Danish Widow (Sire: DJ Zuma DJHB) in her 5th lactation achieving the highest number of points. Gene Countess Brandie owned by Miss Izzy Hefford McCutchen taking the Junior Members Champion title.

Agricultural Department Trophies:

The restrictions in force relating to the COVID-19 pandemic meant that both the Spring and Autumn Cattle Shows were cancelled and no trophies awarded. The On-Farm Challenge competition, generously sponsored by Islands, was held and is featured earlier in this journal.

Herd Recording:

The herd recording programme is managed by Jersey Island Genetics Ltd with the data management contracted out to The Cattle Information Service (CIS). The top ten herds, ranked on combined kilograms of Fat and Protein for the Oct '18 to Sept '19 milk recording year are set out below.

Rank	Name	No. Qual Lacts	No. Non Qual Lact	% Non Qual	Milk KG	BF %	Ptn %	Calving Index	Kgs BF+Ptn
1	Lodge Farm	195	8	4	7245	6.01	3.70	393	704
2	Woodlands Farm	248	30	12	7276	5.70	3.85	384	695
3	La Ferme Ltd	258	25	10	6813	5.74	3.82	368	651
4	Master Farms	192	56	39	6699	5.41	3.92	426	624
5	Cowley Farm	189	9	5	6403	5.51	3.80	432	596
6	Les Augerez	130	33	25	6449	5.14	3.79	414	575
7	Trinity Manor	323	132	40	5959	5.47	3.95	429	561
8	Freedom Farm	93	29	31	5960	5.19	3.89	443	541
9	Blanc Pignon	63	20	32	6112	5.15	3.69	393	540
10	Oakwood Farm	49	12	25	4780	5.17	3.93	457	435

*The higher non-qualifying lactation figures are due to animals being sold to the UK (La Ferme Ltd, Les Augerez & Freedom Farm), animals being bought in (Woodlands, Master Farms & Blanc Pignon Farm) and the Chalet herd being merged with Trinity Manor Farm.

Cattle exports:

YEAR	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
United Kingdom	107	230	375	8	149	110	48
Northern Ireland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	-	151	-	-	-	-	-
Total FEMALES	101	378	362	-	148	109	48
Total MALES	6	3	13	8	1	1	-
Overall TOTAL	107	381	375	8	149	110	48

With the opening of the Island's borders in July enabled the Society to successfully co-ordinate the movement of 3 consignments of cattle off the island to the UK. The first load went at the end of July, made up of 50 heifers to a farm in Norfolk. The second load travelled to Kivells Livestock Centre in Devon for public auction, where very good prices were made and finally, 6 bulls to the UK Sire Services semen collection centre, were exported in August.

Cattle Health Scheme:

Jersey Island Genetics Ltd continues to oversee the management of the island wide cattle health scheme. The programme continues to screen the island herd for three important cattle diseases which have a serious impact on animal health and productivity. Cattle kept on Jersey are registered as accredited free of:

Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR) - since July 2012
Bovine Virus Diarrhoea (BVD) – since Dec 2010
Leptospirosis – since Dec 2010

A fourth ailment, Johnes Disease is monitored by testing all milking cows at least once a year, using the samples sent to the UK on a monthly basis for the Herd Recording programme. It is known that the very high health status the island herd enjoys is a key element in enhancing Jersey Dairy's export market potential.

There are three additional diseases that are closely monitored on the island, according to strict EU and UK criteria with these being Tuberculosis, Brucellosis and Enzootic Bovine Leukaemia (EBL). The Island's farmers remain thankful that it has been decades since any of these ailments were seen on the island but following clear screening for many years, Jersey Island is now recognised as being officially EBL Free. With local herds well into similar programmes for securing officially free status for TB and Brucellosis all cattle owners can be thanked for ensuring this status which is the envy of many other jurisdictions.

Jane Harvey

Agricultural Department

Monitoring of Cattle Health

Cattle health and cattle health screening is something our farmers and Jersey Dairy take very seriously. The island's geographical position, coupled with the ban on live cattle imports for over 200 years, has insured that the cattle on Jersey are held in herds with an extremely high health status.

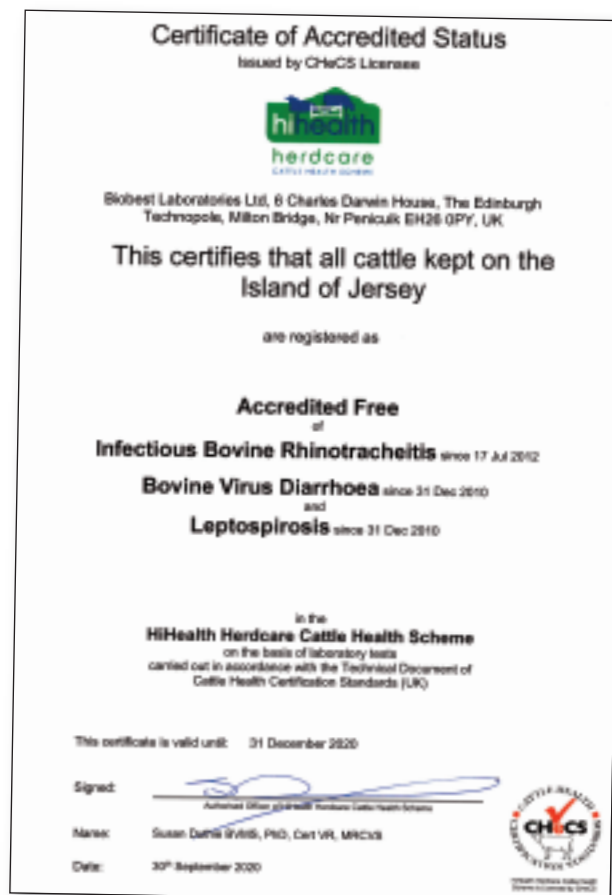
There are some 4,250 head of cattle on the island, of which 4,000 are pedigree Jersey (presently 15 herds). Jersey Dairy, the local farmer owned co-operative processor, has 14 member herds with herd sizes ranging from 10-400 cows.

All Jersey Island cattle are automatically included in the CHCS (Cattle Health Certification Standards) accredited 'Hi Health' scheme managed by Jersey Island Genetics. Cattle Health schemes, such as this, allows farms to eliminate diseases from their herds. This in turn helps reduce animal loss, increase productivity and increase sale value of breeding animals because they are accredited 'disease free'.

Our 'Hi Health' industry scheme, which is now in its eleventh year, allows us to monitor 3 serious bovine diseases; Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (BVD), Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis (IBR) and Leptospirosis.

Cattle kept on the Island of Jersey are now registered as Accredited Free of:

IBR - Since July 2012
BVD - Since December 2010
Leptospirosis - Since December 2010



Jersey certificate of accredited status

EMMA BRIDGEWATER

JERSEY MUG

£15

£13.50 to members

Available from the RJA&HS Office

On-going surveillance testing for the above diseases continues each year. Jersey Island Genetics works closely with Biobest, a private sector cattle diagnostics virology lab, based in Scotland, which carries out the testing. Bulk milk from each herd is sent for testing every quarter, along with approximately 50 bloods samples taken from youngstock across the year.

This industry scheme along with our continuing statutory testing for bovine TB and Brucella maintains this extremely high health status. Not only giving us a competitive advantage but provides reassurance to both buyers of Jersey Island cattle and consumers of Jersey dairy products alike, that they buying from herds known to be in top health.

Jane Harvey
 Agricultural Department

Horticultural Department Report 2020

Well, who could have predicted the year we had in 2020 from lockdown to almost all the Horticultural Department's and Society's events cancelled for the whole year. Everything was in place for the Spring Flower Show to go ahead, then two weeks before the show, it was cancelled due to Covid-19.

Luckily, we managed to hold three Table Top Sales, one in January alongside the Poultry & Ornithological Society's Show in the Main Hall and one in February and March in the West Arena. All three were a good success with lots of stalls selling all sorts of different items bringing in valuable income for the Horticultural Department.

We also managed to fit in two Talks before lockdown, the first being a 'Giant Vegetable' Talk on Monday 27 January given by Kevin Fortey on how to grow these vegetables and to provide advice and knowledge to set people off in time for the growing season. Kevin's family have been growing giant veg for three generations which are so large, they keep breaking records. The evening was well attended and Kevin gave away some goodies he bought to the evening on a raffle ticket basis and Graham Queree was delighted to take home a propagator. The second 'A Talk and Discussion about your Daffodils and The Wonderful World of Daffodils' was held on Tuesday 10 March. Shannon & John Le Seelleur have farmed daffodils for many years both in Jersey and Cornwall and the evening was an informal talk and slideshow of daffodils, their history, growth and names. It was a lovely evening enjoyed by all who attended.

Following the cancellation of the Spring Flower Show, Jersey in Spring Time was launched to help everyone get through lockdown which proved popular and fun for all with 157 photos received during March, April and May which were posted on our Website and Facebook page.

Following a suggestion from a member about holding a Virtual Show, plans were put in place to pilot this for the cancelled June Summer Country Fair with a suitable schedule put together for the Early Summer Flower Show. The department was delighted with the success of their first Virtual Show with 272 entries received.

The Department was delighted to be able to go ahead with the All Island Garden Competition in July having made some changes to how the gardens and allotments would be judged to respect social distancing restrictions in place. The judging of the 47 gardens and allotments entered took place over three days with lovely weather gracing us. We were also able to hold the Plot Competition too in July and again this was judged safely by two local judges.

There was hope that the August Summer Show and October Autumn Fair would go ahead albeit very different to normal but sadly this was not to be. Virtual Shows were held for both instead with suitable schedules produced and again the Department was extremely delighted with the entries received for both Shows, it was very encouraging to see the enthusiasm of everyone who took part. The good part too is that we could safely hold the Heaviest & Longest Fruit & Vegetable weigh-in where five records were broken.

Separate detailed reports for each event the Horticultural Department held are in this Annual Report.

The year closed sadly with no social or Christmas events but at least everyone was well and keeping safe with everyone hoping that 2021 will be a better year.

Rachelle Robinson
Horticultural Secretary



Martin Preisig, Kevin Fortey, Robert Perchard & Graeme Le Marquand



Graham Queree collecting his Propagator prize



Shannon & John Le Seelleur



Beautiful Daffodils

Thank you to the following sponsors who supported the events we were able to run during 2020



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Diary dates for 2021

26th & 27th June	Early Summer Flower Show
3rd & 4th July	Nursery & Primary Schools Garden Competition
8th July	Annual General Meeting
13th to 15th July	Island Garden Competition
17th July	FJ Ahier Country Gardens Plot Competition
21st & 22nd August	Summer Flower Show
5th September	FJ Ahier Country Gardens Anniversary Competition
2nd & 3rd October	RJA&HS Autumn Fair

All dates subject to COVID-19 restrictions that may be pertaining at the time.



Become a Member

Benefits include:

FREE entry to all Society show events

ENTRY to other **COMPETITIONS**

PARTICIPATE in talks, walks and demonstrations

RECEIVE a copy of the annual Journal

GAIN 10% DISCOUNT on a range of gift items and souvenirs available from the Society office and at shows

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Keep an ear to the ground at...

www.royaljersey.co.uk

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website



Become a member Today!

Simply download and complete an application form from our website and submit it to take full advantage of the many benefits of being a member.

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