

19 July 2017 (re-issue 22.7.2020)

Request

- 1. When local resident Jeanne Gruchy died in 1848 she left a large part of her estate to the poor of the island, asking each Parish to acquire land and use the rental income to provide for the poor of the Parish, as detailed in her testament. These fields became known as 'Clos de Pauvres' and are often marked with a dated stone dated commemorating Jeanne Gruchy and the 'Le Don Gruchy' legacy. Each Parish was bequeathed a sum of money to acquire land to be used as a Clos de Pauvre. The whereabouts and existence of some of these are known to me. I would like to know where the remaining fields are in each Parish and if they no longer exist, what happened to them. Those known to me are as follows: St Brelades (Le Mont des Longchamps / Rue de Mans), St Lawrence (Between Mont Fellard and Mont Cambrais), St Clement (La Rue au Long), Trinity (La Route de la Trinité / La Rue de la Croiserie), St John (Between Mont Mado and Rue des Issues, opposite Rue Militaire), St Saviour (La Rue de Chateau Clairval, now St Paul's Football Ground), St Mary (La Grande Rue, part of which now used as a community football field) and St Ouen (Route de Vinchelez and Rue de Campagne)
- 2. I would like to know how much each field currently accrues in rental fees for each respective Parish. I am aware that I am not entitled to know the name for the person renting the field, but wherever possible, I would like to know the length of the current lease, as I believe that this is in the public interest. I would also like to know to which Parish accounts the funds are allocated and how they are currently used in each Parish. Is the income distributed as prescribed in the testament of Jeanne Gruchy, which is of course open to interpretation, or simply added to Parish income streams. Is the income accounted for separately.
- 3. I would like to know, wherever possible, for what purpose each field is currently used.

Response

Parish	Field(s)	Rental income	Current lease	Parish accounts and Distribution of funds	Current use of field
St Brelade	Le Mont des Longchamps / Rue de Mans	£500 p.a.	5-year lease until 25 December 2017	Funds kept in Don Gruchy fund, distribution as per terms of deed	Agricultural
St Clement	Field No C180, La Rue au Seigneur Field No C185, La Rue au Seigneur	£1,430 p.a. £1,200 p.a.	All currently leased until 31 December 2019	Don Jeanne Gruchy's accounts are kept separate; income accrued so far has not been distributed as it is relatively small and the Parish has other Trusts that have met the needs of our deserving Parishioners	Agricultural

	Field No C188, La Rue Laurens	£900 p.a.			
Grouville	Field number 410 off Rue du Moulin a Vent	£1,031.25 p.a.	Current lease 25/12/2016 until 24/12/2019	Income is used for Christmas Grants to the needy of the Parish. Any remaining funds are transferred into a separate	Agricultural
	Field 238 Clos De Bas/Clos De La Rocque, St Clement	£1,200.00	3 year lease	Trust Bank account and do not form part of the income stream for the Parish	Agricultural
St John	Field No. 671 and	£1,269 p.a.	Both fields	Rent is allocated to the	Agricultural
	Field no. 935	£990 p.a.	have 3 year leases	General funds, but is recorded separately in the Annual Accounts. It is used for the welfare of Parishioners as prescribed	
St Lawrence	Field L769	£500 p.a.	All 2 year leases	The rents are kept separately in parish records and used for the welfare of parishioners.	Agricultural
	Field L36.	£350 p.a.			
	Field L571A.	£300 p.a.			
	Field L554	£700 p.a.			
St Martin	Don Gruchy: Field 550 – 17 vergees between Rue des Alleurs and Rue du Bouillon	£3,230 p.a.	End of lease 31/12/17	The St Martin funds (income and expenditure) are separately accounted for within the Parish accounts. Only the total value of Parish charitable accounts, which also include the Don Barreau, Don Bisson and	Agricultural
	Part of Field 720A – 2 vergees opposite Rue de la Croix au Maitre (La Rue du	£460 p.a.	End of lease 23/12/18	Westaway are reported in the annual accounts, along with the message that "parishioners facing financial hardship may apply for assistance from the above charitable funds". Currently St Martin does limit assistance to those	Agricultural; also used for St Martin charity bonfire
	Huquet) Clos des Pauvres: Part of Field 720A – 6.5 vergees opposite Rue de la Croix au Maitre	£1,495 p.a.	End of lease 23/12/18	specified by Jeanne Gruchy (Les pauvres natifs de cette Isle, qui ne seront point a la charge de leurs Paroisses respectives).	
St Mary	Field MY613 - Clos de Pauvres	£500.00 p.a.	3 year lease ends Dec. 2019	All the funds go into the Don de Gruchy account (looked after by the Church) and	Used as a football field

	Field MY678 – Don de Gruchy Estate	£1,200 p.a.	4 year lease ends 31 Dec. 2020	used for the Needy of the Parish	Agricultural
St Ouen	Field 201, Le Clos de Bree Field 912, Le Clos des Petite Field 519, Le Clos es Luce	£3,100 p.a.	3 year lease	The funds are credited to the Don Gruchy account. Payments are allocated 5 times a year following meetings of the Don Gruchy Committee.	Agricultural
St Peter	Field numbers 761 / 762	£584 p.a.	Current lease 2015- 2017	Income used for welfare of Parishioners as prescribed	Used for the Football club.
St Saviour	Field Number 265 La Rue de Chateau Clairval	Rent Free	New lease terms under review		Sport and recreational use St Paul's Football Ground
Trinity	La Route de la Trinité / La Rue de la Croiserie	Approximately £1,900 p.a. 9v7p is the Don Gruchy; income from the remainder of the field 2v3p goes to the Church; one lease incorporates 4 fields	Five year lease	Distributed as part of the overall charitable donations; not accounted for separately.	Agricultural

St Helier - The only information available on the Clos des Pauvres relates to Field no 1310 located off Rue de la Hauteur; however this seems to pre date the enquiries as it was acquired in 1777 under the will of Jeanne le Bailly. This is currently used to grow crops for Parish parks. Stopped rental several years after the transfer of the burden of the welfare was transferred to the States of Jersey.

The Parish depot was a Clos des Pauvres field no 1265, Route de St Jean. The land was in agricultural use in 1963 and following planning permission building approval was granted in 1965 for the construction of Glasshouses and associated accommodation (2 houses) with the construction of a workshop building and large shed all to the west of the site and amenity crops to be grown on the remainder of the location. The existing workshop shed was demolished and replaced with a new shed in 1999. In 2007 new replacement glasshouses were constructed. The large existing shed was demolished in 2012, the recycling shed was constructed.

