

WITHOUT LIMITS

Enable Jersey Newsletter



MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

What a strange and unsettling year 2020 has turned out to be!

You may think that with our weekly clubs not happening, things are quiet for Enable but that couldn't be further from the truth. I have been working incredibly closely with our office team to strengthen our relationships with other charities, work with government to influence change, provide support to individuals at risk and look to the future of Enable.

These are very challenging times but with challenge comes opportunity and I'm excited about all the good things that I know will be coming our way in 2021!

Keep safe and well. Clair x

CHANGING PLACES

Committee member Lesley Bratch has been the driving force behind a small working group that is seeking to increase the number of completely accessible toilets in Jersey.

The group has designs for new facilities near both St. Brelade and Le Braye beaches currently going through the planning approval process. We're hopeful they will be available to use in Spring 2021.

DISABILITY OFFICER

In August, our Chair was part of a panel that interviewed candidates for the government's new Disability Officer role. We're thrilled to share that our very own Ant Lewis was successful in his application and will share the role with Steph De La Cour.

DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION LAW COMES INTO EFFECT

The final stage of the island's anti-discrimination law came into effect on 1st September. Jersey companies could now face a fine if they cannot prove that reasonable improvements for people with disabilities have been made.

Our President, Will Ross was interviewed live on BBC Radio Jersey about the legislation and said, "people shouldn't be intimidated by the changes. We don't want people to feel "chastised" for admitting their workplaces are not accessible." He added, "We have members who have a range of disabilities and any of us would be happy to come try out, give feedback, assist and do whatever we can to help."



"IT WAS INCREDIBLY VALUABLE TO HAVE A FRESH PAIR OF EYES AND TO SEE THINGS FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE. I THINK EVERY JERSEY BUSINESS SHOULD DO THE SAME THING"

ACCESSIBILITY AUDITS

We have recently supported a small number of local businesses and charities by providing an audit of their premises and making suggestions on some changes they could make to improve accessibility.

Our committee believes this could become a great way for us to raise funds for Enable. Funds that will help us to keep doing great work and driving change in the future.

One client gave the following feedback, "Thank you so much for coming to review our building. It was incredibly valuable to have a fresh pair of eyes and to see things from a different perspective. I learned so much and think every Jersey business should do the same thing."



APPEAL FOR FRIENDSHIP

A lovely lady called Linda has been in touch with us. Linda is 47 and was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in her 30s. She is looking to make contact with any females who, like her, are unable to work and would appreciate some friendship. If you might like to meet Linda for a coffee and a chat, please contact her on 07700 766611.



We recently enjoyed a cup of tea with the lovely team at Age Concern Jersey and like us, they have made the very difficult decision to close their day centre until further notice, following the COVID-19 outbreak.

Despite the difficulties they are currently facing, they told us some very exciting news that we knew many of our members would also be interested to know.

Working with Andium Homes, Age Concern is getting a brand new home on Val Plaisant. The new centre, that is due to open twelve months from now, will be home to a large events hall, a fully-staffed restaurant and several therapy suites - where hairdressing, chiropody and more will be available to users.

Age Concern's team of employees and volunteers are currently helping members to keep well with daily phone calls, by delivering meals for a small cost and providing opportunities for members to get out and about.

Membership of Age Concern is open to anyone over 55 and as many of our members meet that criteria, we wanted to encourage you to take advantage of their brilliant services - both now and in the future.

We have included a copy of their membership form in this pack for you to fill in and return to them.

WITHOUT LIMITS

SERVICES

- **Charity Shop**
- **Tuesday Club**
- **IT Training**
- **Visits**
- **Arts & Crafts**
- **Meals**
- **Hair & Chiropody**
- **Transport**

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This AGM, we will say an enormous thank you to our Honorary Treasurer, Jackie Ollerenshaw. Jackie has made the decision to resign from our team as she is looking for more time for herself and who could blame her!

Jackie has tirelessly supported Enable and three other charities – all while having a day job. (We don't know how she does it.) Jackie is a qualified accountant and has used her knowledge extensively to benefit others – supporting Maison Des Landes Hotel, the Jersey Heart Support Group and a cancer nursing charity.

If a job needs doing you can rely on Jackie to get it done and quickly move onto the next task. We benefitted enormously from this approach as after joining the Enable committee, Jackie helped put us and our finances on the straight-and-narrow. It's because of Jackie's hard work and diligence that we are in a great place. Although Jackie will step down as Honorary Treasurer, she will continue to support us with the oversight of our investment portfolio.

Nicknamed 'the dragon' we know Jackie is a softie at heart, especially when it comes to her dog, Sally. When not out walking with Sally, Jackie's next passion is gardening. She also enjoys making and painting her own garden ornaments.

Asked about Jackie's resignation, Enable Chair Clair Cousins said, "My sincere and heartfelt thanks to Jackie. Her help, support and advice have been a constant comfort as we travelled un-chartered waters. Jackie has always supported me and in my words, 'made me feel like I had my big girl pants on'. She has protected us from making mistakes and informed on the 'ins and outs' of the numbers. Jackie – THANK YOU!"

FAREWELLS

This month we also say an enormous thank you and fond farewell to Deborah Christie who has decided to step away from her role at Enable. Deborah has been a huge support to our members, volunteers and committee and hers will be tough shoes to fill.

We also send big thank yous to Wednesday volunteer and cake-maker extraordinaire, Ann Paul who is no longer able to volunteer for us.

We will miss both Deborah and Ann very much.

ACCESSIBLE CYCLING

Stop Press! The permanent accessible cycles are on the island! More information about when they'll be available for use coming very soon!



OUR COMMITTEE TEAM



Ahead of our AGM, we wanted to remind you who are existing team are and introduce you to those who have already been nominated to join us.



WILL ROSS - PRESIDENT

Following his accident in 2017, Will received so much support from others that he wanted to pay that forward via working with a charity.

Attracted to Enable because of our ability to help people with such a wide range of disabilities, Will is motivated by sticking up for the 'little guy' or 'underdog'.

A family man, Will's proudest accomplishment is his daughter Florence, and if his friends and family are close by, you will find Will a happy man. When it comes to hobbies, Will says he used to love to ski, snowboard, wakeboard and surf. He also used to enjoy playing tennis, shooting, boating and DIY. What we love most about Will is he still does all these things – just in a slightly different way now.

CLAIR COUSINS - CHAIR

As someone who juggles a number of responsibilities, Clair can often be found at the Enable office providing hands-on support to the team. Clair also owns and manages a successful mediation business. When she comes up for air, she's most likely to spend that time walking or sea swimming with her small pack of spaniels. A big music fan, Clair's favourite artist is Prince and you will often catch her singing his tunes at the top of her voice.



Clair's motto in life is 'the answer is always yes until it's no' and this means she will explore every possible solution to help someone or to make something positive happen.



CLAIRE DE THAN - VICE CHAIR

Life for Claire is complicated! She's an academic, Law Commissioner, policy advisor, mediator, author and occasional journalist. In addition to Enable, Claire also volunteers with The Outsider's Trust.

Also known by her nickname 'Bumble', which she is fondly called as she falls over a lot, Claire also likes to knit when she's not singing or boxing.

HELEN WHALE - HONORARY SECRETARY

As a child Helen dreamed of playing tennis professionally. In her own words, a 'tremendous lack of talent' meant that didn't work out for her and she is now a tax accountant. After a number-crunching day at the office, Helen would like to sip a glass of wine while looking out at the Grand Canyon – which she's been lucky enough to visit twice.



A fan of silly and slapstick TV comedies, Helen also enjoys walking, running and spending time with her family and cat.

LESLEY BRATCH - MEMBER

Lesley is an active campaigner, volunteer and committee member. She supports several other disability charities in addition to Enable – all while also looking after her daughter who is a full-time wheelchair user with a learning disability and complex health issues.

Any down time for Lesley usually involves friends, family, and being outdoors – whether walking, swimming, or her newest hobby, gardening. She's also a huge Queen fan and we're looking forward to her next Karaoke rendition of 'Don't Stop Me Now'. Sounds like a perfect anthem for Lesley to us!



ANT LEWIS - MEMBER



Ant became a member of the Enable team in 2019 and has huge experience of working in the charity sector. He also volunteers with Stroke Association, Beresford Street Kitchen, Driving for the Disabled, The Disability Partnership, Liberate and more!

In 2012, Ant was crowned the winner of the UK Stroke Association's Adult Courage Award and took part in the Olympic Torch Relay. With three sons, it's supporting young adults with different abilities that excites him about Enable.

JACINTA KRIGU - MEMBER

Jacinta is a long-time member of Enable who got involved at committee level more years ago than she cares to remember.

A fan of a glass of rose over a nice lunch, Jacinta is one spicy lady who loves a natter, a good giggle, and a dance. Not much stops Jacinta except her deep-rooted fear of spiders.

Born in New Zealand, Jacinta would love nothing more than to get herself back there to retire by the beach.



RON PERCHARD - MEMBER



In addition to his eight years of volunteer work with Enable – both as a committee team member and minibus driver, Ron celebrated 50 years of service with the Jersey Sea Cadets in 2017.

Despite his time on the seas, Ron says that the most daring thing he's ever done is abseil down a 250 foot cliff. That's the equivalent of 14 giraffes stood on top of each other! Rather you than us Ron!

Here is a brief introduction to the new faces hoping to join the committee during 2020.



DONNA MITCHELL - HONORARY TREASURER

Donna has been looking for a volunteering opportunity since she came back to Jersey from Cyprus a couple of years ago. She has previously held the roles of Treasurer and Secretary for Limassol Toastmasters – a club devoted to helping people from all walks of life improve their public speaking skills and confidence.

As Financial Controller at Calligo, a cloud data and IT services company, Donna possesses all the skills and knowledge needed to support Enable with its financial management. Motivated by doing a good job and helping others, Donna says it is the potential Enable has to help those with different abilities to get as much benefit from living in Jersey as possible that excites her.

When not at work she swims in the sea as often as she can. She also enjoys walking with her two dogs and riding her Ducati scrambler. Her other hobbies include reading, music, science fiction and real science.

Also a bit of a foodie, our mouths were watering when Donna told us her favourite meal, “Cypriot meze or Dim sum: Har Gau (king prawn dumplings) with a side of tender stem broccoli in sesame sauce, followed by seafood platter (oysters, chancre crab to pick) with a French stick and homemade mayonnaise, Jersey royals in parsley and butter. For dessert, I'd have Emma Carlton's exquisite sticky toffee pudding with a generous helping of Jersey cream.”



JONATHAN CHANNING - MEMBER NOMINEE

Jonathan – also known as ‘The JC’ – has sat on various committees including the Chamber of Commerce Chamber Connection Committee and The Institute of Directors Diversity and Inclusion sub-committee. He also founded an advisory council that was instrumental in winning political support for autism.

We asked Jonathan what interested him most about Enable Jersey and he told us, ‘I find that Enable is significantly less jaded than many other charities. There is a spark and willingness to push forward and influence societal change. I believe the work Enable plans to do fits perfectly with my personal ethos.’



RUTH GALLOWAY - MEMBER NOMINEE



A proud mum of two teenage boys and a very energetic Springer Spaniel, Ruth's life is a full one. Working full-time as a HR professional, Ruth is motivated by enabling people to be the best version of themselves.

She has previously volunteered with the Jersey Reds Minis and Juniors, stepping away in late 2019 after eight years of service.

When we asked Ruth why she wanted to join the Enable team she told us, "Enable fascinates me because the charity is keen to enable people living with disabilities, but also engage with local business and service providers to enable them to create inclusive services."

ANDREW PHILPPOU - MEMBER NOMINEE



Andrew grew up on the East Coast of South Africa, immigrating to the UK in 2003. Andrew attended the prestigious Kearsney College, where he played rugby, cricket and swim.

In 2003, while at university, Andrew was diagnosed with a rare neurological condition which continues to affect his gait, motor skills and balance. This diagnosis did not prevent him from finishing his degree and to-date, it hasn't affected his achievements, attitude or work ethic.

A highly-regarded accountant and director, Andrew is excited to explore how Enable can help make meaningful employment a reality for more of the island's population with different abilities.

We're very excited about the breadth of talent, experience and professionalism we have attracted to the Enable team and believe it is through this diversity of voice that we will deliver powerful change in Jersey for people with different abilities.

LIFE WITHOUT LIMITS

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