

—LES—
COTILS
GUERNSEY



A life in the year of Les Cotils

ANNUAL REPORT
2024



Introduction

At the core of Les Cotils is a set of deeply held values and an ethos that resonates with the belief in being a pillar of the community. This conviction has become more pronounced over the years, with the Trustees and Directors realising the significant impact the resources of Les Cotils can have on the wellbeing of the Guernsey community.

I am delighted to present Les Cotils Annual Report for the year 2024. This report gives an insight into the work we do within our island and the services we provide as well as the impact we have made together with our charity partners and sponsors.

As I look back I am so grateful for the unwavering support of our island people, as well as our staff and volunteers. Your belief in our mission has allowed the development of our charity, reaching more individuals, families and organisations to create more meaningful change.

In this report you will get a snapshot of the initiatives we have launched, feedback on their impact as well as our plans for future development.

The needs within our community are ever present and we remain focused on our mission to create a brighter future and more inclusive society.

Thank you for your support. Your contribution whether through your time, resources, or advocacy, has made a difference.

Together, we are creating change that matters.

Fiona M Naftel
Managing Director



Sponsors & Partners

The generous contributions from our charitable partners and sponsors have enabled us to continue to support the various initiatives and work within the community, turning our visions into realities.

We are deeply grateful for your support:

THE SWALLOW TRUST (2018)

KEN AND LINDA ACOTT

INVESTEC

OGIER LAW FIRM

FRIENDS OF LES COTILS

LES COTILS SPONSOR CLUB

FIONA WILLIS AND PETER HARRISON

DAVID AND JANE SWIFFEN

PETER CHERRY

SIR RICHARD COLLAS

MARTYN AND PENNY MANN

REV JAN LE BILLION

NICK CHADWICK

THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS

NED FORUM

BAILIWICK TRUST

MARK GILL



Helping to Make a Difference

The purpose of Les Cotils is to operate commercially in order to provide charitable support to the community of Guernsey.

The lifeblood of the organisation, values and ethos are based on a shared belief that we are a resource for the island.

This is enabled by our commercial activity and crucially our corporate and individual donors.

Our involvement in Guernsey covers a number of different projects and their individual purpose and impact is outlined in the following pages.



Peace Garden

The Pat Merriman Peace Garden, opened in June 2022, is a serene oasis and serves as a sanctuary for individuals recovering from physical or mental challenges, including those with autism and dementia. It is also a restorative outdoor haven where islanders and visitors can engage in prayer, find inspiration, and immerse themselves in the myriad sounds, textures and hues of the natural environment.

The garden and pond attracts birds, butterflies and tadpoles.

Significant sponsorship was received from the Swallow 2018 Charitable Trust to build the Peace Garden.

The garden is a wonderful and special addition to the grounds.



Winner - 2023 Landscaping Project of the Year.



Charitable Partners

In 2021 we set up a charity partnership in order to secure guidance on where our charitable initiatives should focus within the community and we meet quarterly to discuss upcoming projects. Such feedback enables us to ensure that we are focussing our efforts where they are most needed and avoid duplication.

We are grateful to the charitable partners for their continued support:

KINDRED CENTRE

HOME-START GUERNSEY

BRIGHT BEGINNINGS

ST PETER PORT DOUZAINÉ

WIGWAM

JANE WARD

GUERNSEY WELFARE

AMHERST SCHOOL

HEALTH IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION

MENCAP GUERNSEY

CHILDRENS SERVICES



50,000 PEOPLE THROUGH THE DOORS

COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY

230
CORPORATE EVENTS

4386
RESTAURANT MEALS

2640
EVENTS

18
WEDDINGS

2024

AND

NOW

FOR

THE

NUMBERS

CHARITABLE ACTIVITY

50
FREE BEDROOM
NIGHTS

1454
CHARITABLE
AFTERNOON TEAS

460
CHARITABLE
ROOM BOOKINGS

Day to Day Operations

Our support for charities is not just a policy, it's a mission. We offer discounts to all charities, and each year, two deserving charities are given our facilities free of charge, significantly boosting their fundraising capabilities. Beyond this, we open our doors, offering free or discounted accommodation to charities and individuals in need, a testament to our commitment to tangible support and community solidarity.

The centre is a vibrant hub of activity, hosting an array of weekly events that cater to a wide range of interests. From book and bridge clubs to knitting and chess, Les Cotils is a dynamic gathering place for those seeking engagement, learning, and camaraderie.

Each morning prayers are held, reflecting our unwavering commitment to spiritual growth and support within the local Christian community. Churches are afforded the same discount as charities.

Friends of Les Cotils

Their aim is to create a wide circle of friends within Guernsey whilst fundraising for small projects within Les Cotils. It also acts to promote the facilities offered by Les Cotils more widely.

Food for Families

Each week during term times we deliver around 1500 pieces of fruit to the junior schools in Guernsey. This initiative started five years ago and is very well received.



Four family fun days were run in the grounds in conjunction with our charitable partners which included face painting, games, bouncy castles and BBQ's.

During the summer holidays the coffee shop opened once a week for families to enjoy a meal and have time together.

- Weekly food boxes were provided during the summer.
- A Liberation day party was held.
- At a Boxing day lunch, over 130 adults and children enjoyed a meal with a visit from Santa.
- Subsidised meals were delivered to Bright Beginnings.
- Occasional accommodation was provided for those who have nowhere to go.

Working with Charities

From time to time, we offer financial support for those who may need white goods or short-term rental support etc.

We also offer support for families and individuals who are going through a particularly difficult time.

We work in partnership with St Peter Port Douzaine to provide more family days.



Supported Work Placements

We offer job opportunities to people who for a variety of reasons cannot get jobs anywhere else.



This is outside our normal complement of staff.



Support is given through mentoring, training etc.

We help build CVs and confidence to go back into the world of work.



There are up to five positions available through this scheme.



We are also members of the Work to Benefit scheme through the Social Security Department.



In partnership with Les Nicolles, we offer short-term employment to ex-offenders, and, in certain cases permanent roles.

Community Service Scheme

The Community Service Scheme is run by the Probation Service. As one of their beneficiaries, Les Cotils benefits hugely from the work they do. The team plays a crucial role in maintaining and enhancing our outdoor spaces.



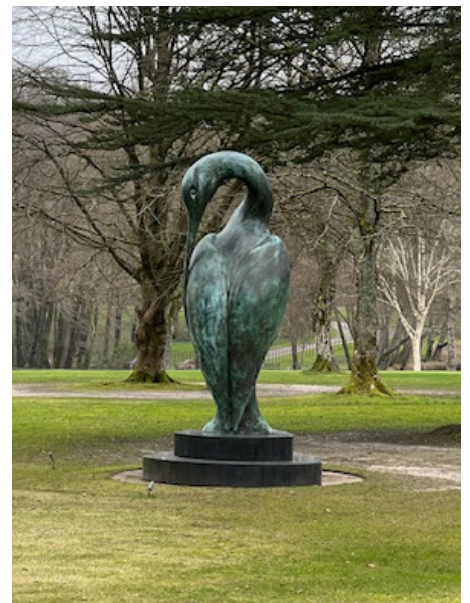
Community Cafe, New for 2025

During 2024 the refurbishment of the coffee shop commenced, with a planned opening of July 2025.

A significant part of the new coffee shop will concentrate on the community, although it will continue to operate commercially. It will open early evenings and weekends to allow charities to use it for meetings and get-togethers; it will also offer meals, cream teas etc. for the community.

We are immensely grateful to the Swallow Trust for their support with this project.

We are delighted to reveal that 'Serenity' is coming to Les Cotils, kindly donated by Ken and Linda Acott. This sculpture is one of a limited number created by Simon Gudgeon, one of which is located in Hyde Park, London. This will be a tremendous addition to the grounds of Les Cotils and is a very special gift for the people of Guernsey.





Special Reflection of 2024

We were thrilled to be part of the very special visit of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla to Guernsey in July. It was such a privilege to be part of this wonderful occasion and one of the great highlights of the year.

Forward to 2025

- Opening of the Community Cafe.
- Serenity, the sculpture, is coming to Les Cotils.
- Continuing our charitable input into the community.

Every penny donated goes to our charitable work; without your generosity we would not be able to do any of this...

From the bottom of our hearts Thank You



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Thank you for
your continued
support

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Les Cotils
L 'Hyvreuse, Guernsey GY1 1UU
01481 727793
reception@lescotils.com
www.lescotils.com