

Bouônjour bouonnes gens, ch'est Colin Ireson ch'a l'pliaîsi d'vos présenter La Lettre Jèrriaise, aniet lé 18 d'Dézembre, 2021, eune sémaine d'vent lé Noué!

D'couôteunme, pouor bein d's années, par chu temps-chîn, j'avons ieu not' Eisteddfod, mais à cause des tèrmes dans l's écoles et dé Coronavirus, i' fallait changi la date et ach'teu ch'est lé mais d'Janvyi. Y' en avait ieune chu Janvyi pâssé, mais seulement pouor les mousses, mais j'espéhons d'aver eune Eisteddfod pouor les Jannes Gens et l's Adultes (étudgiants étout!) les 21 et 22 d'Janvyi, 2022. Lé 21 s'sa réservé pouor les écoliers d'la Pliat Doue, j'doute si y' étha eune session lé vendredi au sé, mais lé sanm'di matîn, lé 22, s'sa pouor les mousses acouo, chutte fais toute la journée à la Salle Pârouaïsiale dé St. Ouen et l'arlevée pouor l's Adultes. Pouv'ous, les Adultes tch'écoutez chutte Lettre, prendre part lé mais tchi veint? La Clâsse du Dgialogue Împromptu est la pus populaïthe à m'n idée, p'têt' eune p'tite scène entre deux femmes d'St. Ouen? D's èrcitâtiôns s'sont mangnifique, au mains des piêches prépathées? I' faut m'contacter sus 726871 s'i' vos pliaît, mais pas sus les jours dé Noué! Jé s'sai un mio embarrâssé, un appointement avec eune dgaïngue dé chêrs du nord et un cèrtain Moussieu avec eune rouoge casâque et blianche barbe.....comme nou m'a dit, jé n'l'ai janmais veu, ou savez bein!

Av'ous décidâ tch'est qu'ous vos en allez êcrithe sus vos listes pouor Papa Noué? Jé m'rappelle bein, quand j'tions mousses, mes deux fréthes et mé soulions faïthe les prépathâtis – l'arbre dé Noué, les décorâtiôns traditionnelles, la boutiqu'sie en Ville avec M'mée! P'pée 'tait bouochi dans lé Marchi à Viande, donc janmais i' pouvait nos am'ner en Ville, tréjous M'mée. Tchiquefais avec Joan Rice, sa soeu et ma chiète mârraine, et sa fil'ye Sandra, not' couôsinne, comme not' grand' soeu! I' d'meuthitent au Preunmyi Tou, donc eune p'tite expédition pouor aller en Ville! Mais vraiment, la visite 'tait pouor vaie Papa Noué siez Briggs dans la Rue du Driéthe. M'mée soulait y travailli d'vent qu'ses mousses c'mençitent à arriver, duthant la Dgèrre. La boutique avait des grand's, grand's f'nêtres (au mains i' nos semblyait grand's comme chenna, pouor nous comme mousses!), bein remplyi d'jouettes! L'aut' boutique comme chenna 'tait George D. Laurens, dans la Rue ès Français et La Rue de Haut/La Rue ès Pors (ch'est Queen Street pouor nous, les Villais!) avec lus vaituthes à pédaler et cârosses ès mousses, lé tout en méta et bein coloré! Et i' n'y avait pon les veues dans les rues comme les jours d'aniet!

J'espéhons d'aller en Anglietèrre pouor Noué, à vaie les p'tits, Rufus a dgiêx ans et Beatrix siêx ans...et eune împortante d'mie! Les deux p'tits espéhent à nos vaie étout, mais avec lé virus, nou d'meuthe en espéhance! J'têmes dans ieune des centres dé gardîns la s'maine pâssée

et lé propriétaithe m'dit qu'y a eune disette dé housse ch't'année, mais i'n savait pas pourtchi!
J'dis dans ma dreine Lettre qué j'veinmes deux'trais présentâtions dans les centres dé gardîns,
j'avons veue tout ach'teu!

J'm'en vais finni avec eune p'tite histouaithe, êcrite par un cèrtain Mons. dé St. Ouen, Ted Syvret, êcrit pouor les mousses mais l'histouaithe est pouor tout l'monde:

Dans eune établ'ye à Bethléhém, du monde hardi împortant sé trouvitent ensembl'ye pour un événnement bein espécial.

Marie et Joseph 'taient v'nus d'bein liain, et 'taient hardi lâssés. I'n' pouvaient pon trouver nulle part éyou rester pour la niet. Marie attendait un p'tit êfant autchun temps.

Marie donnit naissance à un p'tit garçon. I' lì donnîtent lé nom, Jésû, i' tait lé fis du Bouôn Dgieu.

Des anges 'taient à èrgarder sus l'établ'ye pour sé faithe seûse qué tout fait bein. Lé Bouôn Dgieu les avait env'yés étout pour dithe ès bêrgers, tchi 'taient dans les clios, qu'un p'tit êfant, bein espécial, avait 'té né.

Auprès qu' les bêrgers avaient ouï entouor chu p'tit êfant, i's fillîtent à l'établ'ye, vaie pour ieux-mêmes. Eune belle étaile brillante, èrlisait en'd'ssus d'l' établ'ye.

Trais Rouais d' bein liain vîtent l'étaile dans l'ciel étout, et la siévitent montés sus lus chanmeaux, jusqu'à l'établ'ye. Il' am'nîtent des présents auve ieux: dé l'or, dé l'enchens, et dé la myrrhe.

Quand i's fûtent touos ensembl'ye, i' r'mèrcîtent lé Bouôn Dgieu pouor lé p'tit êfant, Jésû.

Mèrcie bein des fais pouor m'aver êcouté, j'vos souhait un Bouan Noué, eune raide Bouonne Année et espécialement, la Bouonne Santé.

General intro – and usually by this time of the year we have had our Jèrriais Eisteddfod, but due to CV19 and school terms times we have moved it to January each year. We held one this year but it was only for the Junior Section, however we hope to hold one next month, 21/22 January 2022. The 21st is reserved for pupils at Plat Douet School, I doubt that there will be a Friday evening session, but Saturday morning, 22nd, will be for more Juniors, and the afternoon for Adults, Adult Students as well, all at St. Ouen's Parish Hall. I wonder if those Adults listening to this Lettre will be taking part next month? The Class for Impromptu Duologue is the most popular I feel, perhaps a short piece from two certain ladies from St. Ouen?! The

recitations are usually very good and also the prepared readings? Please contact me on 726871, but not on Christmas Day as I shall be busy with an important appointment with a group of 12 reindeer and a certain gentleman in a big red coat and a white beard!..... Or at least that's what I am told as, of course, I have never seen him!

Have you decided what to put on your Christmas list yet? I can remember when we were young, my two brothers and I used to help with all the preparations – the Christmas tree, the traditional decorations, shopping in town with Mum. Dad had his butcher's shop in the Meat Market so never had time to take us shopping, it was always Mum. Sometimes with her sister and my Godmother, Joan Rice, and her daughter Sandra, our cousin, she was like a big sister! They lived at First Tower, so like us it was a bit of an expedition to go to Town! But the main reason we were there was to see Father Christmas in Briggs in King Street. Mum used to work there during the war before we children came along. The shop had such big windows, at least they seemed big to us as small children – all filled with toys! The other shop like that was George D. Laurens in French Lane and Queen Street as we Townies knew them (I've included the original French names), where there were big pedal cars and children's prams, all in metal and brightly coloured! And there weren't the lights in the streets as there are now!

We hope to go to England over Christmas to see the grandchildren, Rufus is 10 and Beatrix is 6...and a very important half! They hope to see us as well but with this virus you just do not know, we live in hope! We were in a garden centre last week and the owner told me they are very short of holly this year but didn't know why – any idea? I said in my last Lettre that we had seen several Christmas displays, we've now seen them all!

I'm going to finish with a short story, written by a certain Mr Syvret, well-known and loved in St. Ouen, he wrote it for children but it's a story for us all:

In a stable in Bethlehem, some very important people found themselves gathered together for a very special event.

Mary and Joseph had come from far away and were very tired. They couldn't find anywhere to stay for the night and Mary was expecting a baby at any time.

Mary gave birth to a little boy. They gave him the name Jesus. He was the Son of God.

Some angels were watching over the stable to make sure all was well. God had sent them to tell the shepherds, who were in their fields, that a very special child had been born.

After the shepherds had heard about this little child, they went to the stable to see for themselves. A star shone brightly overhead.

Three Kings from afar saw the star in the sky as well and followed it on their camels, as far as the stable. They brought Him presents of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

When they were all gathered together, they gave thanks to God for the baby Jesus.

Thanks very much for listening to me, I wish you all a Happy Christmas, a very Happy New Year and especially, Good Health!