



**OFFICIAL REPORT**

**OF THE**

**STATES OF ELECTION**

**OF THE**

**ISLAND OF GUERNSEY**

**HANSARD**

**Royal Court House, Guernsey, Wednesday, 6th June 2018**

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**St Andrew**

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**The Clerk to the States of Election**

J. Torode, Esq. (H.M. Greffier)

**Absent at the Evocation**

Madame C. H. Le Pelley, Juré, S. J. Morris, Esq., Juré (*absente*); Rev. T. W. Dack, Rev. K. A. Dack  
(*absente de l'Ile*); Deputy P. T. R. Ferbrache (*absente*); Deputy J. P. Le Tocq (*absente de l'Ile*);  
Deputy V. S. Oliver (*indisposée*)

## **Business transacted**

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# States of Election

*The States met at 9.30 a.m.*

[THE BAILIFF *in the Chair*]

## **PRAYER**

*The Greffier*

## **EVOCATION**

## **CONVOCATION**

**The Greffier:** Billet d'État XIII.

5 To the Members of the States of Election of the Island of Guernsey, I hereby give notice that a Meeting of the States of Election will be held at the Royal Courthouse on Wednesday, 6th June 2018, at 9.30 a.m. for the purpose of electing a Jurat in place of Jurat Constance Adèle Elizabeth Helyar-Wilkinson who has been appointed by the Royal Court to be a Juré-Justicier Suppléant with effect from the 4th June 2018 pursuant to sections 11 and 12 of the Royal Court (Reform) (Guernsey) Law, 2008.

## **Election of a Jurat – Mr Stuart Michael Crisp elected**

10 **The Bailiff:** Members of the States of Election, good morning and a very warm welcome to you all. Thank you very much attending this Meeting of the States of Election, where we have received nomination for the vacant office of Jurat, and that is Stuart Michael Crisp, proposed by Deputy Peter Roffey and seconded by Deputy Michelle Le Clerc.

I invite his proposer, Deputy Roffey, to address the Assembly. Deputy Roffey.

15

**Deputy Roffey:** Thank you, Mr Bailiff and Members of the States of Election.

20 This is a bit tricky, because I have proposed Stuart Crisp once before and, though he polled very well on that occasion, he was beaten by Peter Gill. Many Members of the States of Election today will be the same as they were on that occasion. I really do not want to bore them with exactly the same proposal speech.

At the same time, some of the Members in the States of Election today will be different, and it is actually the same candidate with the same attributes that I am proposing. So bits of my speech will sound very familiar, even though I will try hard to express the same sentiments in slightly different words.

25 Also, Stuart, as you have said, sir, is the only candidate. I do not want to over-egg the pudding. But that said, he does need a 50% vote to be elected and no Member of the States of Election should vote for him, unless they are convinced he would make a good Jurat. So I am afraid I do, I think, have to make exactly the same sort of speech as I would do if this were a contested election.

30 We all know that that bench that you are sitting on over there is the only tool which Guernsey has for determining the facts in all of our most serious court cases. So the role of Jurat is clearly a hugely responsible one. We often hear proposers talking about the attributes that a good Jurat needs. You know the sort of thing: intelligence, judgement, good analytical skills.

But, and here I do repeat exactly what I said last time, just as crucially, there is the importance  
35 of ensuring that we have the right blend of skills and attributes, which makes the Royal Court, collectively, far more than just the sum of its individual parts. So how does Stuart Crisp measure up? Members need have no doubt at all over his intelligence, his judgement, or his analytical skills. His previous professional service to his Island has, in my opinion, proved that beyond any doubt.

40 Stuart has spent most of his life serving Guernsey. Firstly, in the Island's children's services and then, from 1990, in the probation service. I do ask you to consider, just for a minute, what being a senior probation officer entails. It is not some fluffy role which simply involves trying to see the best in everyone. That might be the popular view, but it is very different. Of course it is vital to see the good in people, to an extent, but what the Court wants is in-depth reports which see through  
45 any flimflam or lame excuses. The Court relies on the Probation Service to make hard-headed judgments, which require looking deeply into individuals' motivations and their character.

In short, to do that job well, you need good judgement and analytical skills in spades. Stuart Crisp has, I do not think it is in any doubt, done that job superbly over many years. Incidentally at the same time he also had a deep involvement with local charities which tackle the consequences  
50 of the abuse of alcohol and drugs. Those roles also, clearly, require a mixture of empathy and hard-headedness. Just the sort of blend of characteristics we need on the Jurats' Bench.

So we have no doubt, I think, that if we appoint him as a Jurat, he will meet all of the individual key criteria for the job. But what is more important, in my view, is the way in which he would complement our existing Jurats so well. As I said earlier, we definitely do need a mixture of  
55 experience and backgrounds on that bench. I do not want to exaggerate that. As I said last night, I am not suggesting we need one doctor, one banker, one retailer, one teacher and so on. That is much too simplistic. But we do need a blend of life skills and natural attributes.

Mr Bailiff, when the Jurats' Bench recently lost the services of Margaret Spaargaren, I think they lost a person whose background really helped her to understand what makes the people tick,  
60 what motivates them, why they do what they do. Just as importantly, they lost someone whose professional background meant she had heard all of the excuses 100 times before and could tell the difference between genuine explanations for people's behaviour and soft soap.

To be honest I did think that she was probably a one-off on the Jurats' Bench and that those sorts of skills would be hard to find again. So I was delighted when I learned that Stuart Crisp  
65 wanted to stand as a Jurat, because he is absolutely the right person to fill that Spaargaren-shaped void.

Alongside the financial skills and business skills, the technical and scientific skills that we are lucky enough to already have on the Jurats' Bench, the addition of someone whose skill-set is all about understanding humanity is a real key ingredient to put into the mix. I am not suggesting  
70 the current Jurats do not understand humanity, but I felt somebody whose professional career has been all about it brings it to a different level.

When you think about it, Stuart Crisp is someone whose whole professional background has been about seeing the good and bad in people and then reaching considered and balanced judgments. Not on their behalf, but on behalf of the whole community. That is exactly what the  
75 role of Jurat entails as well.

In closing, I am sorry, I tried hard, but frankly that speech did come out really quite similarly to the one that I gave a few months ago! But that is because I am talking about the same man and, as I said then, Stuart Crisp is a bright, intelligent, well-grounded and ordinary person and, just as importantly, he is a genuinely good man. I really hope that every Member of this Assembly feels  
80 able to vote for him this morning.

**The Bailiff:** I now invite the seconder of Mr Crisp, Deputy Le Clerc, to address the Assembly.  
Deputy Le Clerc.

85 **Deputy Le Clerc:** Thank you, sir, and I start with the same apology as Deputy Roffey, because  
it is very difficult when you have previously seconded someone to actually find something  
different to say in that short period of time. However I am going to give an update on Stuart's  
career and family background, as there will be some people that were not here for the last  
election; but to start, to say that I am delighted that Stuart has once again asked me to second his  
90 proposal.

He was born in Ealey in Suffolk, and first came to Guernsey in 1973, as a student to work  
summer seasons. He met local Vale girl, Sarah Mahy. As background to Sarah's family, her mother  
Miriam wrote the book *There is an Occupation* about her experiences during the war. Many of you  
may know Sarah, as she was a teacher at St Peter Port and the Grammar schools. Stuart and Sarah  
95 married in 1979 and they have two children, boys Will and Jack.

Stuart's working background is probably a little more diverse than many of us, as he was a  
potter, working both at Moulin Huet Pottery and for the Guernsey Pottery. Many of you may know  
him as he also taught pottery evening classes at the College of Further Education. Following the  
move of the Guernsey Pottery to Oatlands, he decided to change direction. He was involved in  
100 voluntary youth work through Sarah and started at the children's ward as a residential child care  
officer at Greenfields. He felt he had discovered his vocation in social work and was seconded to  
the UK for a two-year social work training course, taking his family with him.

The family returned to Guernsey and Stuart continued his work in child protection. In 1990, he  
moved to the Probation Service. From August 2002, Stuart was promoted to senior practitioner, a  
105 management role within the Probation Service, and eventually was second in charge at the  
Probation Service, before his retirement.

Early on he specialised in working with drug and alcohol using offenders, linking up with Judy  
Beaugeard. He was a founder member of Drug Concern. He also served on the Drug Concern  
management committee for eight years and was on the management committee of GADAC. He  
110 was involved in the development of sex offender work from the early 1990's and the development  
of Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) for offenders who present a high risk of  
harm to others.

With this level of experience, Stuart is no stranger to many of the issues that some members of  
our community face and the impact that offending has on families and family life. I believe that  
115 this experience will stand him in good stead should he be successful in his nomination today.  
Since his retirement, Stuart has continued to undertake some sessional work within the  
Community Service, which as many of you know has offered a very successful alternative to  
custodial sentencing. Recently he has started to work for the Child, Youth and Community  
Tribunal, as one of the monitors of the tribunal. Having consulted with the Bailiff, he believes that  
120 he will be able to continue with this role if his nomination to become a Jurat is successful.

I am proud, once again, to be able to second Stuart's nomination. He has devoted his career to  
aspects of social welfare to both adults and children that are also really important to me and I  
hope that you will give him your support.

Thank you.

125 **The Bailiff:** Members, before you proceed to vote, you must first elect scrutineers. The Law  
Officers propose and second that the following nominees, Jurat David Mortimer, Deputy Gavin St  
Pier and Deputy Lester Queripel, be elected as scrutineers. May I put to you the Proposition that  
Jurat Mortimer, Deputy St Pier and Deputy Lester Queripel be elected as scrutineers? Those in  
130 favour; those against.

*Members voted Pour.*

**The Bailiff:** I declare them elected.

Apologies seem to be the order of the day this morning and, rather like Deputy Roffey and Deputy Le Clerc I too need to apologise, because I am going to repeat myself with the customary words that I say, just to remind you of the voting procedures.

First of all, I remind you that voting is by secret ballot, even though there is a single candidate. Secondly, as you have heard, Mr Crisp will not be elected unless he secures more than half the number of votes from Members present today. There are 89 persons present, so he will require 45 votes. Third, if you wish to vote for Mr Crisp, place an X alongside his name on the voting paper. If not, return a blank voting paper.

Once again, the voting will take place both in the Jurats' room and in the lobby outside this Chamber. Members should proceed in the order of their names on the roll call as follows. The roll call has been divided in three, the first section containing the names of those Members up to and including St Peter Port South, that is ending with Deputy Tooley; and the second section contains the names of Members from St Peter Port North, starting with Deputy Gollop, up to and including the South-East Deputy Oliver, who is not present, so Deputy Prow, I think.

Electors in those two sections should form in two queues, along the corridor to the Jurats' room and, upon entering the Jurats' room, those in the first section proceed to the table on the left and the second section to the table on the right, to collect their ballot papers. After voting, please exit the Jurats' room via the Jurats' lobby.

The third section contains the names of all the Douzaine Representatives. Electors in that section are to form a single queue and vote in the lobby outside the Chamber. After voting, please move through to the cloakroom adjacent to the lobby until the Douzaine Representative of St Andrew's has voted.

After voting has been completed, Members are requested to return to the Chamber. Will you please now allow HM Greffier and the scrutineers to leave the Chamber first, so the scrutineers can examine the voting boxes and record their own votes. Thank you. We will rise.

*There was a ballot.*

**The Bailiff:** Members of the States of Election, the scrutineers have counted the votes and they have handed me the following letter:

We have the honour to report that the result of the ballot for the election of one Jurat, held this day, is as follows Crisp, Stuart Michael, 68 votes. There were no spoiled papers and 21 blank papers.

So I declare Stuart Michael Crisp elected as a Jurat and I now need to address the Sherriff in the time-honoured, customary way, requiring Mr Crisp to attend the Royal Court to take the necessary oath.

*Madame le Prévôt de la Reine, veuillez, je vous prie, présenter mes compliments et mes félicitations à Monsieur Crisp et lui faire part de son élection à la charge de Juré-Justicier de la Cour Royale.*

*Priez-lui d'avoir l'obligeance de se présenter lundi, la onze Juin à neuf heures et demi du matin devant la Cour Royale siégeant en Corps afin que le serment attachant à telle charge lui soit administré.*

Thank you very much.

Members of the States of Election, I thank you once again for attending and for playing your part in this unique electoral college, which fulfils such an important role in the administration of justice in this Island. There will be some further elections for Jurats coming up within the next 12 months and I would urge you, if you can, to encourage people to stand.

I have heard it suggested that some people have not stood in the past because they have not had the tap on the shoulder from the Bailiff inviting them to do so. I can let you know it is not my custom and practice to tap people on the shoulder. I believe that there should be diversity in the membership of the bench and it should not just be my mates and my friends sitting on the bench.



So I do encourage you to encourage others to stand and, as I say, there will be several vacancies coming up within the next 12 months or so.

180 But, for today, that is it. Thank you very much for your attendance and we will close this Assembly of the States of Election and within 10 minutes or so, by 10.15 a.m., we will resume as the States of Deliberation. Thank you.

**PRAYER**

*The Greffier*

*The States of Election adjourned at 10.03 a.m.*