



OFFICIAL REPORT

OF THE

STATES OF ELECTION

OF THE

ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

HANSARD

Royal Court House, Guernsey, Wednesday, 17th July 2019

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No. 1

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Present:

Richard J. Collas Kt., Bailiff and Presiding Officer

Jurats

B. J. Bartie, S. M. Jones, Esq., O.B.E., C. H. Le Pelley,
N. D. McCathie, Esq., T. J. Ferbrache, Esq., D. A. Grut, Esq.,
J. G. Hooley, Esq., S. J. Morris, Esq., D. J. Mortimer, Esq.,
A. S. Boyle, Esq., P. F. Gill, Esq., D. J. Robilliard, Esq.,
S. M. Crisp, Esq., M. J. King

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Rev. C. Caxton, Rev. S. Tanswell, Rev. D. Foot

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B. L. Brehaut, R. H. Tooley

St Peter Port North

Deputies J. A. B. Gollop, L. C. Queripel,
M. K. Le Clerc, M. P. Leadbeater, J. I. Mooney

St Sampson

Deputies L. S. Trott, P. R. Le Pelley, J. S. Merrett,
G. A. St Pier, T. J. Stephens, C. P. Meerveld

The Vale

Deputies M. J. Fallaize, N. R. Inder, M. M. Lowe,
L. B. Queripel, J. C. S. F. Smithies, S. T. Hansmann Rouxel

The Castel

Deputies R. Graham L.V.O, M.B.E, C. J. Green, B. J. E. Paint,
M. H. Dorey, J. P. Le Tocq

The West

Deputies A. H. Brouard, A. C. Dudley-Owen, E. A. Yerby,
D. de G. De Lisle, S. L. Langlois

The South-East

Deputies H. J. R. Soulsby, H. L. de Sausmaréz, R. G. Prow

Representatives of the Parish Douzaines

St Peter Port

J. M. Tasker, C. E. Goodlass, K. E. Jones, D. Falla,
M. G. G. Garrett, R. A. Henderson, S. W. Place,
C. P. Meinke, J. B. Gallienne, M. R. Harris

St Sampson

M. Beaumont, D. Corson, D. Hugo,
C. W. Le Tissier, A. Carré

The Vale

G. Collins, W. Le Page, P. van der Tang,
A. Goubert, J. H. Leale

The Castel

M. A. Fooks, D. Ozanne, R. Cook,
N. F. Acton, R. P. Falla

St Saviour

R. A. V. de Garis

St Pierre du Bois

J. Parker

Torteval

M. Darby

The Forest

D. J. Gorvel

St Martin

B. Gregg, L. Hill-Tout, V. Rev. J. Guille, M. Collins

St Andrew

P. Ward

The Clerk to the States of Deliberation

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

Absent at the Evocation

Jurat J. M. Wyatt, (*absente de l'Île*); Rev. M. E. J. Barrett, (*absente de l'Île*);
Miss M. M. E. Pullum, Q.C. (H.M. Procureur) (*absente*), C. N. K. Parkinson, (*absent*);
P. J. Roffey (*absent*); V. S. Oliver (*indisposée*)

Business transacted

Evocation5
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 Election of a Jurat – Tina Jane Le Poidevin elected5
The States of Election adjourned at 10.22 a.m. 12

States of Election

*The States of Election met at 9.30 a.m. in the presence of
His Excellency Vice-Admiral Ian Corder, K.B.E., C.B.
Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Bailiwick of Guernsey*

[THE BAILIFF *in the Chair*]

PRAYER

The Greffier

EVOCATION

CONVOCATION

The Greffier: Billet D'État XII. 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 Court House on Wednesday, 17th July at 9.30 a.m. for the purpose of electing a Jurat in place of
5 Jurat David Percy Langley Hodgetts, L.V.O. who, pursuant to section 10(1) of the Royal Court (Reform) (Guernsey) Law, 2008, as amended, will cease to hold office by reason of his age on 15th July 2019 but who has been appointed by the Royal Court as a *Jurée-Justicière Suppléante*.

Election of a Jurat – Tina Jane Le Poidevin elected

The Bailiff: Members of the States of Election, good morning and welcome to you all, and I
10 thank you very much for attending on this rather pleasant summer's day.

I have received two nominations for the vacant office of Jurat: that of Marguerite Renée Talmage, proposed by Deputy G A St Pier and seconded by Deputy H J R Soulsby; and that of Tina Jane Le Poidevin, proposed by Deputy M K Le Clerc and seconded by Deputy P T R Ferbrache.

I invite first the proposer of Mrs Talmage, Deputy St Pier, to address the Assembly.
15 Deputy St Pier.

Deputy St Pier: Sir, Members of the States of Election, today is the first time that I have been honoured to nominate to the States of Election a candidate to be a Jurat of the Royal Court; and it truly is an honour to nominate, with Deputy Soulsby, Marguerite Talmage.

Marguerite, as many Members of the States of Election will know, is the daughter of the late
20 Laurie and Joan Ozanne and clearly has been imbued with that family's tradition of service to our community, about which Deputy Soulsby will speak more in a moment in relation to Marguerite's own contribution to our community.

Sir, forgive me, for today I am not going to give the States of Election details of Marguerite's family and personal history; interesting though that may be, rather I am going to speak about

25 Marguerite's career and business experience and why that experience makes her the right choice
in this election.

Marguerite began her career in the Island with an air-taxi company Anglo Normandy Aviation,
rising to become managing director. She left Anglo Normandy and took up a role as commercial
30 manager with Guernsey Airlines. Some may remember it. There, Marguerite was not only
responsible for recruitment and training of ground staff but also had the surely unenviable and
daily challenge of keeping passengers happy, which we all know is no easy feat in the aviation
industry, prone as it is for unscheduled delays with passengers sometimes ending the day in
unexpected locations.

She then broadened her commercial and life experience by leaving Guernsey for 10 years to
35 work as administration manager for Halcrow Consultants, a global civil engineering company.
During her nine years with Halcrow in Swindon, Marguerite revolutionised its back office,
introducing for the 60 staff incentives, a work-life balance and a career progression system that
injected a new dynamism into the business; and it was this that helped it to achieve major
contracts like the Second Severn Crossing and the bridge linking Sweden and Denmark.

40 On her return to the Island she took over and ran her own public relations and event
management company, CMA. At that time it employed two staff. Over the next six years
Marguerite successfully and rapidly grew this business into the biggest enterprise of its kind at the
time in the Channel Islands, employing 14 staff and organising most major events including the
45 Liberation celebrations, Floral Guernsey shows and in both Guernsey and Jersey the Annual
Awards for Achievement and the Home Life shows. She accepted an offer to sell the business to a
competitor and took the opportunity to retire so that she could turn her skills to good use in the
community, on which Deputy Heidi Soulsby will expand in a moment.

This varied career has one obvious theme running through it, it is demonstrably the working
and business life of an individual who is comfortable with and has a proven track record of
50 dealing with people. Her entire career was people-oriented. Marguerite has managed staff, dealt
with the public, worked with a variety of different professionals, solved people's work problems
but also helped them through their personal crises too.

The States of Election takes very seriously its important role in electing members of our
community to join the bench as Jurats. And rightly so, for these individuals, our peers, are the
55 arbiters of fact in many of the most important civil and criminal cases which appear before the
Royal Court and will also determine many of the sentences to be served by those who transgress
our community's laws. As we know, there is no formal job description or qualification for the role
but I suspect that Members of the States of Election will be looking for evidence in candidates of
the qualities that would enable the candidate to exercise sound judgement, objectivity and
60 integrity, compassion and empathy, discretion and ability to assimilate information and
independence of mind whilst being able to work as part of a team to reach a decision, and a
willingness to challenge and question.

In this candidate, Marguerite Talmage, the States of Election is very fortunate to have a
candidate whose career evidences all of those qualities. She has had a career of roles requiring the
65 exercise of sound judgement, working in a team, weighing issues, objectively using information
available to her, balancing the commercial needs of a business with an empathetic consideration
of those of the individual.

Marguerite's range of life experiences has equipped her to form rational judgements in the
context of our society and culture. In short, she has the experience to discharge the role of Jurat.

70 Sir, we are fortunate indeed to have someone of Marguerite Talmage's calibre willing to make
her experience and skills available for the community's benefit as a Jurat; exactly the sort of
selfless behaviour anyone who knows her has come to expect from Marguerite.

I have no hesitation whatsoever and indeed, as I said at the outset, I am honoured to
commend Marguerite Talmage to the States of Election as a Jurat.

75 Thank you, sir.

The Bailiff: Thank you.

I now invite the seconder of Mrs Talmage, Deputy Soulsby, to address the Assembly.

80 **Deputy Soulsby:** Sir, we have heard from Deputy St Pier how Marguerite looked on early
retirement as an opportunity to get stuck into some community projects but her contribution to
Guernsey's social life began a long time before that, before she could even vote – in fact at 14,
when she became a founder member of the Pony Club Junior Committee. Indeed it is evident that
service to the community is a theme that runs through Marguerite's life. Even while building a
85 career she still found time to contribute to the fabric of Guernsey life, especially in its equestrian
community. She served on the committee of the Guernsey Riding and Hunt Club and was its
secretary through the 1970's and early 1980's, organising the first two dressage festivals in the
Island.

Deputy St Pier referred to Marguerite's people skills and these are no better demonstrated
90 than through her achievements in the community after her retirement. Joining St Peter's Floral
Group in 2007, she inspired all sectors of the parish to pool their talents achieving no fewer than
six annual gold medals for the Most Attractive Parish. This set the scene for an even bigger
challenge – the National Britain in Bloom competition. Under her chairmanship the parish worked
together to show that Guernsey was equal to, or better than, any town or village in the UK and
95 they proved it by winning a gold medal four times and going on to be runner-up in the coveted
National Champion of Champions.

As you can probably tell, Marguerite is a loyal St Pierrais. Before her floral achievements she
dedicated herself to the less high profile but still essential part of parish life, that of both
Procureur of the Poor and Constable, and there are many here who will testify these are important
100 roles in the community and we should be very thankful to those who give up their valuable time
for no monetary reward to make this Island a better place. Both roles require supporting
parishioners, understanding their concerns and resolving issues as they arise. It is not such an
issue for Marguerite's current role as secretary of the Parish Cemeteries Committee, but it is an
important job nonetheless. *(Laughter)*

105 The Rev. Adrian Datta has spoken of Marguerite's not insignificant professional marketing and
leadership skills to create the Hidden Gardens of St Pierre du Bois which, over several years, has
seen thousands of people enjoy the beauty and creativity of the rural parish. He says he has only
ever experienced her as hardworking, compassionate, fair and able to work with a wide range of
people and could always be relied upon to get a job done. Reverend Datta says Marguerite is able
110 to see the wood for the trees – although perhaps it should be the Bois des Arbres – and grasp the
most salient information whilst holding on to and attending to the detail.

As a director of GROW Ltd she is heavily involved in the fundraising and marketing and the
preparatory development at the site and regularly works with the crew at the Vinery to gain a
better understanding of their needs. But flora has not been Marguerite's only interest, for many
115 years she supported Bowel Cancer Guernsey as a voluntary public relations consultant, managing
the rebranding initiative; and her compassion for those who need support in the community led
her to setting up WAG – Wellbeing Animals Guernsey, a local charity which provides therapy dogs
to visit vulnerable people in our Island. She and her team take their pets into hospital wards, care
homes and other establishments where the animals bring comfort and joy and a sense of
120 wellbeing to those they meet. Patron of her charity is no less a canine than Milo, the family pet of
the Lieutenant Governor and Lady Corder.

It is no coincidence that Marguerite has been involved in what were two very important and
successful local charities in the health and care sector. Her dedication to community service has
been apparent throughout her life. We often hear the phrase, when someone stands for Jurat, that
125 they want to do so because they want to give something back, and that is truly a laudable motive.
However, Marguerite has given service to the community throughout her life. If anyone would
make a huge concrete contribution as a Jurat, it is her – a strong organisational capability,

combined with her empathy towards those in our Island who need care and support, and the fact she gets things done, make her an outstanding candidate.

130 I therefore ask all those present to vote for Marguerite Talmage to the role of Jurat.

The Bailiff: Before we move to the next candidate, Deputy Parkinson, do you wish to be relevé? Deputy Parkinson is relevé.

135 So I turn next to the proposer of Mrs Le Poidevin, Deputy Le Clerc, to address the Assembly.

Deputy Le Clerc: Thank you, sir.

I am once again delighted and honoured to be asked to propose a member of our community to put themselves forward for the most ancient and honourable office of the position of Jurat of the Royal Court. Tina Le Poidevin is a Guernsey girl. She was born in Guernsey in 1958, one of four children of Guernsey-born Herbert and Shirley Le Page. Her late father was an honest, proud, hardworking man who worked in the local horticultural industry all of his working life. Both her mother and father placed their family first, providing them with a loving family environment and like most Guernsey parents instilling them in strong family and moral values.

140 Tina is very proud of her Guernsey roots and has a strong sense of community and justice. She exercises good judgement, has a common sense approach and is no stranger to hard work.

145 Tina first attended Amherst Primary School before moving to St Peter Port Secondary School. Tina worked very hard in her secondary education and successfully gained CSE and GCSE qualifications, as they were then, in 11 subjects in addition to secretarial qualifications; and although I do not remember Tina from school as she was a couple of years above me, we were both at St Peter Port School at the same time. Tina left full-time education at the age of 16 to work in the Civil Service but continued studying through the College of Further Education to further enhance her qualifications. One of her successes was gaining a City & Guilds Advanced Teaching Certificate which she put into practice by becoming a part-time lecturer at the College while she was working full time, initially lecturing in secretarial studies and latterly in the area of personnel management.

155 Tina has been married for 37 years and has one son; and she has many hobbies – gardening, dog-walking, swimming and spending quality time with family and friends.

160 Tina has had a varied career and this career has provided her with many skills to equip her for the role of Jurat. During Tina's time with the Civil Service, and that was almost nine years, she worked in a civilian capacity for the Police Committee and this gave her a valuable insight into the workings of Guernsey's judicial system, particularly when she worked in the Court Office to support the duty inspector.

After leaving the Civil Service Tina worked for three years for the Chairman of Bucktrouts and Co and amongst her varied duties she became director of one of their subsidiary companies which specialised in the supply of incentive gifts, and was involved in the recruitment of Bucktrouts administrative staff.

170 Tina, like many, then moved into the financial services industry and was 17 years in this sector working for the Royal Bank of Canada, Leopold Joseph, Chemical Bank and MeesPierson achieving the senior position of head of Human Resources; and it was often during this time in the financial services industry that I met Tina when she was flying backwards and forwards to Jersey on business.

175 During this time, Tina continued her professional studies whilst working through numerous mergers and acquisitions, gaining a postgraduate Certificate in Professional Management, a postgraduate Diploma in Personnel Management and a Master of Science degree in Human Resource Management, incorporating a law elective through the University of Portsmouth. Tina was awarded Fellowship of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development in 2001 and is currently a chartered fellow of this professional body.

It is in her role as convener for the Guernsey Employment and Discrimination Tribunal that our paths crossed most recently. Tina has been an invaluable source of guidance to the Employment

180 and Social Services Committee with our equality and discrimination proposals and how the tribunal might be expanded to incorporate additional protected grounds of discrimination. And I thank her for that support.

185 Sir, Deputy Ferbrache will give more information on the latter part of Tina's career and the excellent work she is currently undertaking for the tribunal, and why her skills, training and experience make her a perfect candidate to be a Jurat. I ask you all to support her nomination today.

Thank you.

The Bailiff: I invite the seconder of Mrs Poidevin, Deputy Ferbrache, to address us.

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Deputy Ferbrache: Sir, the first member of the Le Poidevin family that I came across was her husband, Ray, when I returned to Guernsey in the early 1980's and he was a typical, estimable Guernsey policeman, because he empathised with his community, he exercised good judgement and he had integrity by the bucket load. It was only years later when I met his wife Tina that I realised where he got that from. *(Laughter)*

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I met Tina when she joined the law firm that I had already been, by that time, a partner of for 20 years called Ozannes, and Roger Perrot had recently replaced Nick van Leuven as a senior partner. Now, we thought we were progressive, we did not have a woman partner, we did not have any kind of set-up for our HR, we did not really have any kind of organisation, we just did our own thing. We had an estimable lady who sadly has now died, called Sue Watts, who used to do everything from paying the wages to changing the toilet rolls. We realised in about 2003 that was not satisfactory any more so we invited Tina, who already had a considerable reputation, to join us to not only manage our HR facility but to set it up from the ground, from the foundations. And bear in mind around the partners' table in Ozannes, as it then was, there were lots of people with considerable egos – I was one of the more pliant ones. *(Laughter and interjection)*

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She dealt with us in a way that was commendable and she dealt with the staff in a way that was commendable. She was a person of resolve, a person of steel but a person of compassion and above all a person that exercised brilliant judgement. There was not a single person, and sometimes you have to part company with people in an organisation, that did not respect her, that did not walk away feeling they had had a fair deal from her, that did not walk away feeling that they had a good hearing from her. There was a degree of sadness because, a bit like when Sol Campbell was transferred from Tottenham to Arsenal, she was poached by a competitor. We did not get a transfer fee, sadly, but a connection with that, she then went to another organisation because they had realised what considerable qualities this person had and she worked there for two or three years and she took their HR department – again using a football metaphor – from Division 4 to the Premier League. We poached her back. I had replaced Roger Perrot by about that time as senior partner of our firm and we really needed somebody then to take it further forward.

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Over the next four years or so she continued to develop our considerable HR facility and we ourselves at that time had moved into Jersey as the former Bailiff, Sir Philip Bailhache said, 'The lion came to Jersey'. But Tina was responsible for all of that. Then in 2013 she decided to move away from that heavy cauldron of legal practice and she thought she was going to retire. Well, that did not last very long. She then went back and did work for the public services sector, she did work for the financial recruitment centre and she did work for the PR sector. But Tina did not realise her own qualities because there is a quote that I remember that she once said, she once said this of work in HR: 'The nature of the role is such that I know I will not be loved for the work I do, but I can only hope to be respected by treating people fairly and reasonably'. Well, she certainly did that, but she was very respected. There was not a person – and we had in our organisation over 100 people at that time – that thought badly of her in whatever circumstance. As I say, she understated herself.

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Now, Deputy Le Clerc has already said that she served her community and in 2004 she was appointed by the Royal Court as an adjudicator for the Guernsey Employment Tribunal, now

known as the Guernsey Employment and Discrimination Tribunal. She has been trained by the Judicial Studies Board and has 15 years' experience of chairing hearings and case management meetings. She has written up judgments, she has dealt with mediations, she has dealt with a variety of claims for unfair and constructive dismissal, minimum wage issues and sex discrimination; and she currently holds the senior position of Convenor for the Tribunal. She understands if she is elected today she will have to step down from that role. That will be sad but she will then be developing further her already considerable contribution to this community.

In my words to you she is ideal for this role. She knows and understands people, which is something Jurats have to do. She can judge them; she has that experience already. That is something Jurats have to do. She understands our judicial system. She has put all that in practice in her work for the tribunal. She can deal with lawyers, and dealing with lawyers is such a difficult thing to do. *(Laughter)* There are not as many as reasonable as some of us. She could also deal with laypeople alike. She can make judgements. She is local; she is intelligent; she is respected; she is dedicated; she has common sense and judgement, as I say, by the bucket load.

I very much commend her for a role as Jurat of the Royal Court.

The Bailiff: Well, Members, that concludes the speeches. Before you proceed to vote the Assembly must elect scrutineers. I understand that Her Majesty's Comptroller will propose Jurat Alan Boyle, Deputy Robert Prow and Deputy Emily Yerby. Is that correct, Mr Comptroller?

The Comptroller: That is correct, sir.

The Bailiff: We need a seconder. Jurat Bartie, will you second those?

So I put to you the proposition that Jurat Boyle, Deputy Prow and Deputy Yerby be elected as scrutineers. Those in favour; those against.

Members voted Pour.

The Bailiff: I declare that carried.

I will now read a certificate confirming how many Members are present and I have just received from Her Majesty's Greffier the following.

I certify that in addition to yourself there are 92 Members present at this meeting of the States of Election. A quorum is therefore present.

I remind you that there are provisions relating to the voting in the Reform (Guernsey) Law 1948, as amended. Article 5(2) provides that:

(a) no candidate shall be declared elected unless ...

– the Law says *he*, but on this occasion I will say *she* –

... has polled a number of votes greater than one half of the number of members of the States of Election present at the meeting at which the election is held.

So that means today, with 92 present, if my maths is correct, for somebody to be elected she will have to poll 47 votes.

The Law also provides that:

(b) voting shall be by secret ballot irrespective of the number of candidates offering themselves for election.

I remind you that those Members supporting a candidate should place a cross in the appropriate place on the voting paper and that other Members should return a blank voting paper. Voting will take place as usual in the Jurats' Room in the lobby outside the Chamber. Many of you will be familiar with the voting arrangements but I would just remind you that there will be

275 three voting stations and for that the roll call has been divided into three. The first section contains the names of Members on the roll call up to and including Saint Peter Port South, that is up to and including 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.

280 Electors in those two sections should form into two queues along the corridor to the Jurats Room behind me and on entering the Jurats' Room the Members in the first section of the roll call proceed to the table on the left; and the second section to the table on the right to collect their ballot paper. After voting, please exit via the Jurats' Lobby.

285 The third section contains the names of all the Douzaine Representatives and electors in that section are to form a single queue and will vote in the lobby outside this Chamber. After voting please move through to the cloakroom adjacent to the lobby until the Douzaine Representative for St Andrews has voted. After everyone has voted please return to the Chamber. And would you please now allow Her Majesty's Greffier and the scrutineers to leave the Chamber first so that the scrutineers can examine the voting boxes and record their own votes.

So we will rise now and, as I say, I invite the Greffier and scrutineers to leave first.
Thank you.

There was a ballot.

290 **The Bailiff:** Well, Members, I have been handed the result of the voting by the scrutineers but before I read it out I need to explain that there has been a miscount in the number of Members present in the Assembly and, rather than 92 people present, there are only 91 present. So the figures did not initially add up.

I now read the letter that has been handed to me:

Sir, we have the honour to report that the result of the ballot for the election of one Jurat held this day is as follows: Talmage, Margeurite Renée, 37 votes; Le Peodivin, Tina Jane, 49 votes. There was one spoiled paper and four blank papers.

295 And that is signed by the three scrutineers.

So I am pleased to report that Tina Jane Le Peodivin has polled the number of votes greater than one half of the number of Members present, and therefore I formally declare that she has this day been elected as a *Juré-Justicier*.

300 By time-honoured custom I shall now address Her Majesty's Sherriff, and direct her formally to notify Mrs Peodivin of her election and to require her to attend the Court to take the necessary oath.

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

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

Her Majesty's Sherriff: Yes, Monsieur Le Bailli.

310 **The Bailiff:** Thank you very much.

Well, Members of the States of Election, as you know this is a unique electoral college, which fulfils an important contributory role in the administration of justice in this Island and I thank you all very much for your attendance.

315 I would remind those of you who are Members of the States of Deliberation that the States will sit in 10 minutes' time.

Her Majesty's Greffier will now close today's proceedings of the States of Election by reciting the closing Grace. Greffier.

PRAYER

The Greffier

The States of Election adjourned at 10.22 a.m.