



**OFFICIAL REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**STATES OF ELECTION**  
**OF THE**  
**ISLAND OF GUERNSEY**  
**HANSARD**

**Royal Court House, Guernsey, Wednesday, 26th May 2021**

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**The Clerk to the States of Deliberation**

S. Ross, Esq. (H.M. States' Greffier)

**Absent at the Evocation**

Madame M. J. King, (*indisposée*)

## **Business transacted**

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# States of Election

*The States of Election met at 9.30 a.m.*

[THE BAILIFF *in the Chair*]

## PRAYER

*The States' Greffier*

## EVOCATION

## CONVOCATION

**The States' Greffier:** Billet D'État XI. 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, 26th May 2021 at 9.30 a.m. for the purpose of electing a Jurat in place of Jurat Alan Stevenson Boyle, who will cease to be a Jurat with effect from 17th April 2021, pursuant to section 10 of the Royal Court (Reform) (Guernsey) Law, 2008, as amended.

### **Tribute to Daniel de Lisle Brock, Bailiff of Guernsey – 200th anniversary of his installation**

**The Bailiff:** A very good morning to you, Members of the States of Election.

We are going to do something slightly different for once in a meeting of the States of Election because this month marked a significant anniversary. It was 200 years ago that Daniel de Lisle Brock, whose portrait is on the wall to my left – was installed as Bailiff of the Island of Guernsey. In fact it was 15th May 1821 and he served until he died on 24th September 1842, having lived throughout his term of office at Bon Air House at St Martins.

Daniel de Lisle Brock was born on 10th December 1762. He was one of 14 children; families were significantly larger in those days it seems than now! His brother, whose portrait is at the other side of the Chamber here, Sir Isaac Brock, is recognised as being the defender of Upper Canada, which is why there is still a Canada rather than an extension of the United States of America.

The significance of Daniel de Lisle Brock being sworn in as Bailiff 200 years ago is that he had previously been elected as a Jurat by the then States of Election, and that happened in 1798. So he was in his mid-30s at the time and he served as a Jurat and then as a Bailiff for, effectively, more than half of his life, and that is a form of public service that I think we should all applaud and recognise.

Daniel de Lisle Brock was known as the defender of Islander's rights, and that is something that we all recognise should continue to happen in those who hold office. In the portrait that you can see behind me, on his desk are charters because he had got the charters out to symbolise the arguments that he deployed against various measures that had been proposed in London that would threaten or affect the Island's trade and ancient privileges. Again, this has resonance even

200 years later and that included retaining the right for local people to be tried in our own courts rather than us being subsumed into a wider jurisdiction.

30 Again, something that might resonate with some at the moment is that debt and rising prices following the Napoleonic wars meant that a high percentage of the revenues being generated within the Island was spent on repaying loans. He was instrumental in something that was called the Guernsey Experiment which involved the States issuing their own banknotes – what a novel idea! – rather than borrowing monies. Part of that project involved raising funds to build the Market  
35 Buildings in Town, and that initiative and his life and the recognition we give for it is commemorated through our one pound note, and long may we keep one pound notes! *[Cheers and applause]* Most of you do not use folding money anymore, I am sure, but I still do and this is about the extent of it. *(Laughter)* There is a one pound note here which has the Courthouse, which of course was built during the time of his service as a Jurat, a portrait of Daniel de Lisle Brock and then the Market  
40 Buildings on the other side.

So if you want to get your pound notes out, collect a few of them together and make a contribution towards the COVAX appeal then that will be a very worthwhile thing for everyone to do as we all benefit from being vaccinated and the freedoms that will potentially give us.

So anyway I thought we should mark the 200th anniversary of the installation of Daniel de Lisle Brock as one of our most revered Bailiffs – something to which we all aspire – at this occasion,  
45 especially given his service as a Jurat before that.

## Billet d'État XI

### Election of a Jurat – Dr Simon Bodkin elected

**The Bailiff:** We have a vacancy for Jurat, Members of the States of Election, and I have received two nominations for that vacancy. The first nomination is that of Simon Ernest Bodkin who has been proposed by Deputy S J Falla and seconded by Deputy J P Le Tocq. The second nomination is of  
50 Amanda Jane St Pier, proposed by Deputy P J Roffey and seconded by Deputy H L de Sausmarez.

We will hear from the proposers and seconders of those two candidates before we move on to anything further. So I will invite the proposer of Dr Bodkin, Deputy Falla, to address the Assembly.

**Deputy Falla:** Sir, Members of the States of Election, Dr Simon Bodkin, a general medical  
55 practitioner, has been part of the Guernsey community for more than 30 years but his connections with the Island go back further than that to when his father came to Guernsey regularly as a visiting radiotherapist. This in part, informed Simon's decision to come here. Firstly, in the late 1970s, on an elective placement while studying medicine. That was under the supervision of local surgeon John Ferguson.

60 Although he began his career as a GP in Hampshire, his connection with and attraction to Guernsey never went away and the opportunity arose some 10 years later for him to become a GP and partner at the Healthcare Group where he has remained for three decades.

Members of the States of Election, you have been circulated with Simon's full CV so I will summarise.

65 Simon was educated at Bradfield College in Berkshire, of which Sir John Foley, former Lieutenant Governor of Guernsey, was also an alumnus. Simon then studied medicine at the University of Southampton, followed by GP vocational training at the Royal College of General Practitioners. He is a Batchelor of medicine and a member of the General Medical Council and the British Medical Association. He undertook foundation medical training at house officer and senior house officer

level, and GP vocational training in Winchester. He remained in Hampshire as a locum general practitioner before moving to Guernsey.

Simon recently retired as a full-time GP at the Healthcare Group, giving up his partnership at the end of last year, and has continued to support the practice as a temporary associate GP during busy periods. However, should he be elected a Jurat he will resign completely from the practice if this is believed to be a conflict. He would greatly value the opportunity to serve the Guernsey community on the Jurats' Bench.

During his time at the Healthcare Group, Simon has been involved in both the management of the practice and clinical governance – the latter for many years. This has given him experience in the running of a business, including the financial aspects as well as the co-ordination of practice policies and documentation required for governance. He was Primary Care Chair during his term on the Practice Management Committee, which involved meetings with both what is now Health & Social Care and the Medical Specialist Group, to consider the wider scope of providing improved medical care to the people of Guernsey. His work has also encompassed being the sole duty doctor in the Accident and Emergency Department which required at times the urgent assessment of patients and prompt decision making to maintain health and alleviate the concerns of the patient.

Being involved in governance, legal and official matters, and his impartial approach to sensitive issues, financial and business dealings, consultation and negotiation are all qualities that equip him well for the role of Jurat. Simon has always been keen to study, learn and reflect on new and evolving practices in order to keep up to date and he is ready to embrace the learning opportunity that becoming a Jurat would require.

Moving to Simon's interests, he believes that had he not followed his father's footsteps into the medical profession he would have enjoyed working in the natural history, conservation or environmental fields. He is deeply interested in nature and the countryside, and is a lifetime member of La Société Guernesiaise. He enjoys skiing, is a qualified rescue scuba diver and participates in walking, running and swimming with a wide ranging and strong interest in local sport. In fact he has run three marathons, in London and New York, to raise money for the charity Get Kids Going!

Simon has placed a strong emphasis on supporting his family's endeavours. His two sons have both represented Guernsey at inter-insular level and in the UK, in their respective sports – athletics, volleyball and fencing. His wife Sharon is a retired nurse specialist who has supported the Pink Ladies charity for which Simon has acted as a volunteer marshal for the Sunset Walks, and Sharon is now a volunteer walk leader for Walking for Health.

Members of the States of Election, having come to the end of his dedicated service to the medical profession, Simon Bodkin is a man with a great deal more to give, drawing on the qualities and experience I have outlined, and he would consider it a great honour to serve Guernsey as a Jurat. He is 65, which would potentially allow him to be in post for 10 years. I respectfully ask you to note his highly relevant attributes and experience, and to give him your vote today.

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

I now turn to the seconder of Dr Bodkin, Deputy Le Tocq, to address the Assembly.

**Deputy Le Tocq:** Thank you, Mr Bailiff.

I am delighted to second the nomination of Dr Simon Bodkin for a place on the Jurats' Bench. Serving three decades as a GP, Simon has come face to face with a wide gamete of Guernsey society. He has had to relate to people of all ages, all backgrounds, from all walks of life, never knowing from one consultation to the next what will be required of his knowledge, expertise and professional judgement. And this is not just the superficial relationship that neighbours or members of a club might have; he has had to get to know them often at their weakest and most vulnerable level, facing anxieties and fears, physical and mental pain. Moreover, he has done so in the confidentiality of the consultancy room in the context of trust where his response has needed to be enquiring, truthful, compassionate and professional all at once. This experience alone, I believe, equips him very well for the role of a Jurat.

Let me unpack this a little in relation to Simon's specific personal character. He is a practised active listener. While patients may have had physical or mental health needs, there have also been occasions when they have also needed support with social, welfare, emotional, relational or housing issues. One of his medical colleagues described him to me as:

A person of quiet resilience, committed to do his best for the patient and even in the most stressful of circumstances, unflappable.

Another told me:

In the team setting, Simon always quietly sets the tone for commitment, thoroughness and getting the job finished.

As a doctor, Simon has sworn an oath, the Hippocratic Oath, and has been required to exercise the highest professional and ethical standards – a behavioural trait that again equips him well for the role of Jurat. In his work he has been used to having to make vital decisions and recommendations in fairly rapid succession with potentially very serious implications if mistakes were made. He has proved faithful in carrying out these weighty responsibilities, something that was underlined again by one of his colleagues, describing Simon as:

A robust practitioner but equally a gentle one. He gives his opinion readily but you can tell that it comes after much thought and consideration.

Others have identified Simon's enduring qualities to be compassion, calmness, modesty, honesty and integrity. 'An unassuming drive to complete tasks without the need for reward,' said one. By the personal accounts I have come across, which I cannot repeat here for confidentiality reasons, he demonstrates a deep empathy with ordinary everyday people, qualities that equip him well for this role.

Through his professional career, as Deputy Falla has alluded to, Simon has been required to handle a considerable level of legal duties and responsibilities, often complex and at the interface between effective [09.50.22](#) prudence and human application, as GPs are involved in guardianships and mental health orders, for example. He has also needed to listen and to be impartial where there has been conflict between a patient and family members, where he has sought to resolve these issues fairly for all parties with a realism that recognises that not everyone is happy with the outcomes all the time.

Sir, Simon is moderate, unassuming, neither driven by ideology nor ambition. His nomination comes endorsed by a number of Islanders who have known him to be a professional colleague of the highest integrity matched with a determination and commitment, as well as a kind, thorough and totally trustworthy general practitioner.

I heartily commend him to this Assembly.

Thank you.

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

I next turn to the proposer of Mrs St Pier, Deputy Roffey, to address the Assembly. Deputy Roffey, please.

**Deputy Roffey:** Mr Bailiff and Members of the States of Election, I have to say I am absolutely delighted to propose Amanda Jane St Pier, universally known as Jane, for the high office of Jurat of the Royal Court, because to my mind she is close to being the perfect candidate. But by what criteria am I making that judgement?

Members, I really think it is time I stop proposing or seconding candidates for Jurat, (**A Member:** Hear, hear.) because my speeches are becoming slightly formulaic and boring. The reason for that is the qualities required to make a good Jurat really are enduring and unchanging and therefore so is the way in which I measure candidates up against those key criteria. So apologies to those who



may have heard me make quite similar speeches before but this is what I personally demand from Jurat candidates.

Firstly, they need to be clever. By which I really am not trying to be elitist. It is simply a fact that administering justice is both complex and demanding. As the sole determiners of the facts in the cases which come before them, Jurats need to be able to sift through the competing narratives and decide what is the truth, and that requires intellectual rigour.

Secondly, Jurats obviously need very good judgement.

Thirdly, I think they need at least a smidgen of compassion amongst all of their cold logical judgement.

Fourthly, they should ideally have an understanding of what makes people tick, their motivations, why people do what they do.

Fifthly, I think that ideally they should show that they have the right moral stature for such an important role in our Island community. To some, that might sound like a really old-fashioned concept, but I think it is still valid. The question is how to judge someone's moral fibre; that can be difficult, but surely we do get a fair idea from the amount of community work that they have done over the years.

So Members, those are my five tests for being a Jurat. The next obvious question is how does Jane St Pier measure up against them.

Firstly, does she have the required intelligence? That is absolutely beyond doubt. Both her educational qualifications and her professional career prove that she does. Let's look at her qualifications first. She gained a BSc in biology at King's College London, but a few years later, in rather a change of direction, she became a fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, and currently she is studying remotely for an MSc in corporate governance – a course that she is due to complete later this year. Members, she is a very bright lady indeed and her professional career underlines this. She worked at a senior level for Pricewaterhouse, as it was called then, in London, and then she worked as Assistant Director for Rothschild Trust in Guernsey – both really demanding top level accountancy positions.

So Members, not only does she tick the box on intelligence but she brings a crucial extra ingredient. It is a sad indictment to modern life, cobbled with the nature of Guernsey's economy, that the Royal Court sometimes, in fact rather too often, has to consider allegations of financial crime. These must be some of the most difficult cases in which to tease out the facts from the competing narratives. It must be a real challenge for our Jurats, so having a chartered accountant who has worked at a high level for very many years will be an important boost, in my mind, to the already impressive skillset that we have on the Jurats' Bench. In fact to have someone with such an ability to forensically analyse financial information standing for Jurat is in my view an opportunity we should not let pass by.

Moving on to her judgement. Those of you who know Jane will not doubt it for a minute, but for those of you who do not I would point to her five years that she served on the Convenor and Tribunal Board. That body, for those who do not know, oversees the Child, Youth and Community Tribunal (CYCT) and the Office of the Children's Convenor. It is a role which calls for constant good judgement and it is a role that she excelled at.

What about a leavening degree of compassion? What about understanding what makes people tick? What about Jane's moral fibre?

I think all three of these criteria are proven beyond reasonable doubt by her quite outstanding track record of community work on behalf of the people of our Island. It really is close to being unparalleled. From being a member, and indeed the Chair, of the Guernsey Samaritans, to being a longstanding Director and Chair of the Youth Commission, and from being part of a group which drafted Guernsey's Children's and Young People's Plan, to being the co-founder of Young People Guernsey which set up The Hub to support youngsters in the Island.

There is so much to say about Jane's community work that I really do not know where to start so I will not, I will leave that to her seconder. You have probably heard just about enough from me.

The only thing that I would like to add in respect of her candidature is that in my view she would

be such an asset to the Jurats' Bench that we would be indeed foolish not to grab her with both hands.

220 **The Bailiff:** Thank you very much. I turn next to the seconder of Mrs St Pier, Deputy de Sausmarez, to address the Assembly.

**Deputy de Sausmarez:** Thank you, sir.

225 Jane St Pier's proposer has already summarised some of her many relevant capabilities: her intelligence and her intellectual rigour, her sound judgement, compassion, her understanding of what makes people tick and her moral fibre.

230 He is right that Jane's professional expertise as a chartered accountant and experience in the world of corporate finance and the like give her specific professional skills that would undoubtedly add value to the Jurats' Bench, but what makes Jane St Pier a stand out candidate is her set of life skills, her broad and deep understanding of the community that she has gained through her many voluntary and third sector roles.

Jane's community work started in earnest when she became a volunteer for the Samaritans providing confidential, emotional listening support to distressed callers. Within a few years she had joined the Trustee Board as Chair and finance lead of the Bailiwick branch of this national charity, responsible for its oversight, governance and operational performance.

235 Jane spent six years as a member of the Convenor and Tribunal Board, which, as Deputy Roffey has described, is responsible for those same aspects of the Child, Youth and Community Tribunal and the Office of the Convenor. The Child, Youth and Community Tribunal offers children and young people in need or in trouble the opportunity to have their case heard outside of a court environment. The Children's Convenor is the gatekeeper to the CYCT, where trained lay members  
240 of the Tribunal are required to make an informed and unbiased decision on whether a child needs to be protected, guided or controlled. Jane's experience on this board is the foundation stone of her motivation to serve the community as Jurat.

245 About 10 years ago Jane co-founded and led the charity Young People Guernsey, the organisation behind the creation of The Hub, a ground breaking initiative to support children and young people in Guernsey. As Chair, Jane was instrumental in establishing specialist support services developed and delivered with Barnardo's for some of the most vulnerable and challenging children and young people in the Island, and their families. These services primarily focus on aspects such as anxiety, self-harm, bullying, family breakdown and reckless behaviours alongside other forms of specialist support including for bereavement and child sexual exploitation. Jane would bring to the  
250 role of Jurat a deep understanding of these issues that are sadly often relevant in cases brought to court.

255 Since 2012, The Hub has supported 6,000 young people, all attending without compulsion, and was named the Guernsey Community Awards Charity of the Year just two years after it was established. In 2017, The Hub merged operationally with the Youth Commission, another organisation in which Jane has played a fundamentally important part. As many will know, the Youth Commission for Guernsey and Alderney is an independent charity that delivers a range of universal and targeted provision in both Islands, including youth work in community and education settings. As well as the specialist services commissioned by Young People Guernsey, it also delivers the Prince's Trust programmes for disadvantaged children and it runs the Youth Forum and the Duke  
260 of Edinburgh Award Scheme.

Jane was the charity's first Chair and long-time Director, during which time she also stepped in as Interim CEO. Under Jane's leadership and guidance the Youth Commission and The Hub together now support a really broad spectrum of children and young people in the Bailiwick, reaching about 8,000 each year.

265 Deputy Roffey was right when he said that Jane understands what makes people tick and her background helps to explain why. Given her extensive experience in this field it is clear why Jane was asked to help draft the Children and Young People's Plan which is the strategic document for

all statutory services from everyone from conception to the age of 25. Once the plan was adopted by the States in 2016, Jane became a member of its supervisory group which has legal responsibility for the oversight of its implementation.

There are many more strings to Jane's bow, however, as testament both to her breadth of skills and to the range of her interest in Island life, she is a member of the Non-Executive Director (NED) Development Programme Selection Committee and also a director of both the Guernsey Chamber of Commerce and the Guernsey Community Foundation. The NED Development Programme Selection Committee works with partner boards to help the next generation of local business talent gain non-executive director experience, skills and knowledge. Jane's own considerable governance experience is an obvious asset in this role.

The Chamber of Commerce is a members' organisation of more than 650 businesses, as I am sure many know. Jane was asked to join the executive board to take the lead on what is known as the Community Eco System which covers the third sector, arts, the environment and education. The Foundation's vision is a vibrant and caring community in which a strong and committed charitable sector works effectively with Government and business – a statement that neatly encapsulates and combines many core aspects of Jane's experience and expertise.

So what is Jane like as a person? What I find most striking about her is that while she is rigorously bright, she is also calm, measured and balanced, she is genuinely open-minded and has in abundance the intellect, the objectivity and the analytical ability to determine the facts. She can make competent decisions. She cares about people and she cares deeply about this community, as her long and dedicated service to it has shown. Her professional background combined with the insights and experience of her extensive community work would add further breadth, depth and value to the Jurats' Bench. She has the capacity, the energy and the commitment needed to fill this most important of roles.

Jane St Pier would make an outstanding Jurat and I commend her wholeheartedly to the States of Election.

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

Madame Procureur, I understand that the Law Officers are going to propose as Scrutineers Jurat Tina Le Poidevin, Deputy Sue Aldwell and Deputy Adrian Gabriel. Is that right?

**The Procureur:** That is correct, sir, yes.

**The Bailiff:** And they are seconded by the Comptroller?

**The Comptroller:** That is correct, sir.

**The Bailiff:** Therefore, Members of the States of Election, I will put to you the proposition that Jurat Le Poidevin, Deputy Aldwell and Deputy Gabriel be elected as Scrutineers. Those in favour; those against.

*Members voted Pour.*

**The Bailiff:** I declare all three Scrutineers duly elected.

Thank you, Greffier. I have received from HM Greffier a certificate stating that there are 94 Members present in the Chamber for this States of Election which means, if you do the maths, that one is looking for the magic number of 48 in due course.

Members of the States of Election, some of you may be familiar with this because it has only been a couple of months since you last heard it, but there are provisions relating to the voting in the Reform (Guernsey) Law 1948 as amended and Article V, paragraph 2 provides that no candidates shall be declared elected unless he or 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.

That Article also provides that voting shall be by secret ballot irrespective of the number of candidates offering themselves for election.

So I am going to remind all Members of the Assembly that those Members supporting a candidate should place a cross in the appropriate place on the voting paper for either of the two candidates and that any other Member not wishing to return a vote should return a blank voting paper.

Voting will, as usual, take place in the Jurats' Room and also in the Lobby outside this Chamber. Members should proceed in the order of their names on the roll call as follows. It is divided into three sections, the first of which contains the names of the Jurats, the Rectors and the two Law Officers; the second section contains the names of the Deputies; and the third section contains the names of the Douzaine Representatives. Electors in the first two sections should form into two queues – orderly, I hope – along the corridor to the Jurats' Room, and then on entering the Jurats' Room the Members in the first section of the roll call should proceed to the table on their left and the second section, the Deputies, should proceed to the table on their right to collect their individual ballot papers and then return out of the Jurats' Room via the Jurats' Lobby. The third section for the Douzaine Representatives should form a single queue, please ladies and gentlemen, and they will vote just outside, as I said, and after, move through to the cloakroom adjacent to the Lobby until the final Douzaine Representative, being for the Parish of St Andrew, has voted. When all voting has been completed I invite Members to return to this Chamber so that we can get on as swiftly as possible once the voting has been counted.

I am going to ask that you allow the Greffier and also the three Scrutineers to be able to leave the Chamber in advance of the rest of you forming up orderly in your queues outside so that they can examine the ballot boxes and make sure that everything is appropriately done and they can record their votes before you all turn up to vote.

So with that explanation we will now adjourn until after the voting has been concluded.

*There was a ballot.*

**The Bailiff:** Members of the States of Election, I have received from HM Greffier the record of the vote and the voting was as follows: Simon Ernest Bodkin received 66 votes; Amanda Jane St Pier, 27 votes; there was one blank paper. Because one candidate has polled a number of votes greater than one half the number of Members present, I therefore formally declare that Simon Ernest Bodkin has this day been elected as a Jurat of the Royal Court. Now by time honoured custom and practice I shall address HM Sheriff and direct her formally to notify Dr Bodkin of his election and to require him 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 Bodkin 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, le quatorze Juin à neuf heures et demi du matin devant la Cour Royale siégeant en Cour afin que le serment attachant à telle charge lui soit administré.*

Members of the States of Election, I make no apology for repeating the fact that this is and remains a unique electoral college which does fulfil an important contributory role in the administration of justice in this Island and I therefore thank you all for your attendance this morning.

I will remind those of you who are Members of the States of Deliberation that the States of Deliberation will sit in approximately 10 minutes' time. We will aim for about 10.30 a.m. shall we? I will now invite HM Greffier to close today's proceedings of this States of Election by reciting the Grace.

#### PRAYER

*The States' Greffier*

*The States of Election adjourned at 10.21 a.m.*