

Guardians

puffins, peregrines, shearwaters, gannets, harriers
like us, they are proud islanders
lovers of our verdurous countrysides and wild waters
we are the carriers of a responsibility
to protect our precious island ecosystems with voracity
so the Channel Islands came together 25 years ago in solidarity
Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney, and Sark
at the beginning of the new millennia
to safeguard the next thousand years for many a generation
for our children, and our children's children
that is the goal, a shared aspiration
to thrive together
British islands, crown dependencies, and the Isle of Man Biosphere
havens for all our friends, all species
flora, fauna and fungi
but their survival ultimately depends on us
on our experts in environmental science and conservation, educators and people-engagers
and the success of their teamwork and inter-island collaboration
on the fishermen that return undersized molluscs and crustaceans
and work sustainably to protect all our marine life and the seabed
on the farmers that put goodness back into the soil
and toil using regenerative practices to ensure we are nourished and well-fed
on the unique and wonderful folk
that are fortunate to call our Islands their home
we all have a contribution to make
information to offer, an action to take
what we teach and inspire here
has the potential for global reach
let us share our passion and knowledge
forge and strengthen bonds of friendship



and make the next quarter of a century
as good as it can possibly be
for all wildlife that resides on our islands and in our seas
it is a privilege to be the guardians
of our green and blue expanses
those who defend the vulnerable and valuable
who care and nurture
who respect the past, restore for the present
and safeguard the future



© Written especially for the Inter-island Environment meeting 2025 by Jordanne Kennaugh,
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