

TOWNIE

THE

THE OFFICIAL ST PETER PORT PARISH MAGAZINE



ISSUE ONE



Inside

**Medieval St Peter Port
The time law broke out in Guernsey
The tunnels of St Peter Port
and much more...**

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FOREWORD

*By Lieutenant-Governor
Air Marshal Peter Walker, CB CBE*

It is a distinct honour to be invited to write an introduction to this magazine, and it serves to remind me that although Lynda and I have Bailiwick wide responsibilities, Government House is in the Parish of St Peter Port. We can look forward to articles that will keep us informed of forthcoming initiatives and report on Parish events during the year.

We live in an age where information surrounds us, and it is too easy to overlook issues, events and opportunities that occur on our doorstep. Accordingly, I welcome this initiative to provide a very local Parish magazine that will serve the community, provide a forum for publicising all the excellent activities that take place for the benefit of everyone, and hopefully give us all a sense of ownership and engagement with our Parish.

Lynda and I congratulate the Douzaine for launching this magazine and wish all involved



every success. We trust that it will go from strength to strength as the readership enjoys the community focus that reflects the best of the Parish we live in.

**Lieutenant-Governor
Air Marshal Peter Walker, CB CBE**

TOWNIE

THE OFFICIAL ST PETER PORT PARISH MAGAZINE

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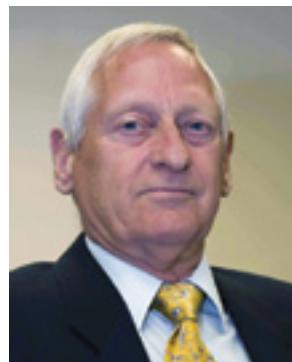
We would like to thank all those who kindly contributed articles, and also the Island Archives and Museums services for their support.

INTRODUCTION BY THE CONSTABLES



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Welcome to the first edition of our new Parish magazine, a twice yearly publication keeping you up to date with your parish. In this first issue we look at the people you elected to serve your parish, we the Constables, and the hard working members of your Douzaine. We also look at the excellent team we have working behind the scenes making the Parish work for you.

Your parish covers some 2.5 square miles and has a residential population of over 17,000 which is increased daily by the influx of office workers and holiday makers. Being a home, a place of work and a holiday destination has its own challenges as we have to cater for the needs of all - dare I mention parking.... During the past 12 months we have initiated many projects within our parish to improve the environment in which we live and work. Our major project has been the installation of flower baskets and troughs throughout the Town by our Floral Committee - but more of that later on in the magazine.

The walls surrounding Candie Cemetery are in need of repair and we began by removing trees inside the west wall whose roots caused cracks in this area. We have set in place a rolling maintenance programme of repair and repointing the walls,

beginning with six sections at the west end. Each year a further six sections will be repointed, with work starting this year.

Sir Winston Churchill Avenue which runs inside Cambridge Park adjacent to L'Hyvreuse was found to be in need of resurfacing and we were offered suitable material free of charge by Ronez. The company carried out the resurfacing work aided by machinery supplied by Froome, both companies doing the work free of charge for which we again say a big thank you to them for a splendid job.

During the winter our team have been carrying out a full refurbishment of the Cambridge Park toilets including new flooring, new stainless steel combination washer/hand-drier units and Perspex fitted into the windows. This superb work is being carried out by our grounds/maintenance men, Geoff and Len.

Finally we have refurbished two of the Parish pumps which are an important part of our parish heritage. There are more projects in the pipeline which we will reveal in the next issue of the magazine. **T**

The Constables are also members of the Douzaine.

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WHAT DOES THE ST PETER PORT DOUZAINES DO?

The question is often asked, what exactly does the Douzaine do? We hope that the following information will provide some of the answers.

Hedge Inspections

Hedges are required to be cut twice a year, during the first fifteen days of June and the last fifteen days of September. Hedge and Noxious Weeds inspections are carried out by all Douzeniers immediately following these dates. New Douzeniers are paired with an experienced Douzenier.

Stream & Douit Inspections

Streams and Douits are inspected during the same period as hedges. This is a very pleasant afternoon excursion however being on the inspection team does require a degree of fitness as obstacles such as banks and hedges need to be climbed, also barbed wire fencing surmounted. Wellington boots are recommended.

Parochial Committees

Emergency Planning Committee

Part of the Island Emergency Planning Committee which is in place to deal with any major catastrophe which might befall the island.

Finance Committee

Oversees accounts and agrees the proposed budget for the coming year.

Flag Day Committee

Allocates flag days to various charities.

Floral Committee

Comprised of Douzeniers and members of the public. Their aim is to enhance the beauty of St. Peter Port by preparing our parish for entry into the RHS Britain in Bloom competition. They arrange our parish floral competition.

Guernsey Douzaine Council

One representative attends a monthly meeting where items concerning all parishes are discussed. The GDC is not a legislative body but is a forum for parishes to express their views.

Moorings Committee

The committee is comprised of the two Constables, one Douzenier, two boat-owners and the Secretary and is responsible for moorings at La Salarie and Longstore. The Annual General Meeting is held in March to inspect documentation and collect fees.

Profile Committee

Responsible for raising the public profile of the Douzaine, including the development and production of the Parish magazine.

Street Lighting Committee

Oversees the lighting requirements of the parish.

Town Amenities Committee

Identifies initiatives for St. Peter Port then sets the projects in motion.

Waste Management Committee

Investigates and develops methods of waste management in St Peter Port.

Elections

Parochial and General Douzeniers' assistance will be required for the running of both types of election (unless they are a candidate) for Polling Station duty and at the count.

Other items upon which the Douzaine is consulted:

- **Certain Planning Applications**
- **Bornement Applications**
- **Sunday Trading Licences**
- **Auctioneer's Licences**
- **Gambling Licences**
- **Liquor Licences**

St. Peter Port Deputies are invited to attend the beginning of the meeting in order for that month's Billets to be discussed, after which they depart and the Douzaine meeting begins with all standing to say the Lord's Prayer and standing again at the end to say the closing Grace.

There are two parish meetings per annum. The Spring Meeting (Remede) discusses Budget requirements for the current year.

The Autumn Meeting is predominately for elections held for Constables (3 years),

Douzeniers (4 years), Schools Committee Members (3 years) and Procureur of the Poor (2 years) whose term of office have expired.

Voluntary Duties

A reception is held at 11.30am each New Year morning in the Constables Office which is attended by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, the Bailiff, Deputy Bailiff, Dean of Guernsey, Deputies, Douzeniers and other guests.

Annual services at which the Douzaine make an official attendance are; Liberation Day Service at the Town Church and Remembrance Day Service at Smith Street Memorial followed by two short services at the White Rock. One for those who died in the attack on St. Peter Port Harbour prior to the invasion of Guernsey during WWII and one for foreign workers brought to the island as forced labour who died here.

The Douzaine is part of the States of Election (not States of Deliberation) and as such there is a requirement for nine St. Peter Port Douzeniers to attend the States Chamber for the election of new Jurats.

The Douzaine holds an annual dinner usually in January or February. 

MEET THE PERMANENT STAFF AT THE CONSTABLES OFFICE

Opening times: **8.30am - 4.00pm**
Monday - Friday (open through lunchtime)
Contact number: **720014**
Email: **constables@stppcons.com**

The parish has five permanent staff, three full time and two part time. This small team work together and provide liaison and support to the elected parish officials, who are all unpaid volunteers.



Martyn Guibert *Secretary to the Constables*

Formerly called the “Parish Clerk”, Martyn oversees the daily operation of the Constables Office and liaises with the Constables, Douzaine, parishioners and States Departments.

This varied and interesting role includes looking after all parish property, refuse collection and street lighting contracts, organising the election of parochial officials and preparation of the annual budgets (the Remede). Martyn’s background is in civil engineering and he was MD of a local building services company before joining the parish staff in May 2011.



Ann Jennings *Assistant Secretary to the Constables*

Ann assists Martyn in all aspects of parish business and also specializes in dealing with Bornements, Liquor Licences, Sunday

Trading permits and Betting Licences. Ann is also instrumental in organising parish events such as the Diamond Jubilee parties, parish and deputy elections. Ann’s background in an Advocates office has helped her greatly in tackling many of the complex issues surrounding licensing. Ann joined the Constables office in July 2011.



Jenny Bullock *Accounts Administrator*

Jenny is the longest serving member of staff, having joined in her present role in February 1997. Jenny looks after all aspects of the finances of the parish, maintains the

Sage accounting system, liaises with the parish accountants, assists with the preparation of the Remede and directs the raising, sending out and collection of over 8,500 Rates bills every year. Jenny also looks after the payroll for the parish staff and has helped the relatively new staff greatly over the last two years.

Len Bullock *Groundsman*

Len ably assists Geoff in all aspects of grounds maintenance. He joined the team on a permanent part-time basis in March 2012. Len is a Special Constable and also assists the office with photography. Len has recently retired from a long career as a school caretaker.



Geoff Le Gallez *Groundsman*

Geoff is responsible for grounds maintenance of the cemeteries, Cambridge Park, plantations and gardens. Whilst much of his work involves grass cutting, he and assistant Len are happy to tackle many different trades and have just carried out a major

upgrade to the Cambridge Park toilets. They are also responsible for security and litter collection at the sites. Geoff is a Special Constable and joined the team in January 2011.

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> DEPUTIES (SOUTH)

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The Constables & Douzaine of St Peter Port



Coronation Fun Day

Saturday 1st June 2013

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12 noon - 5.00pm

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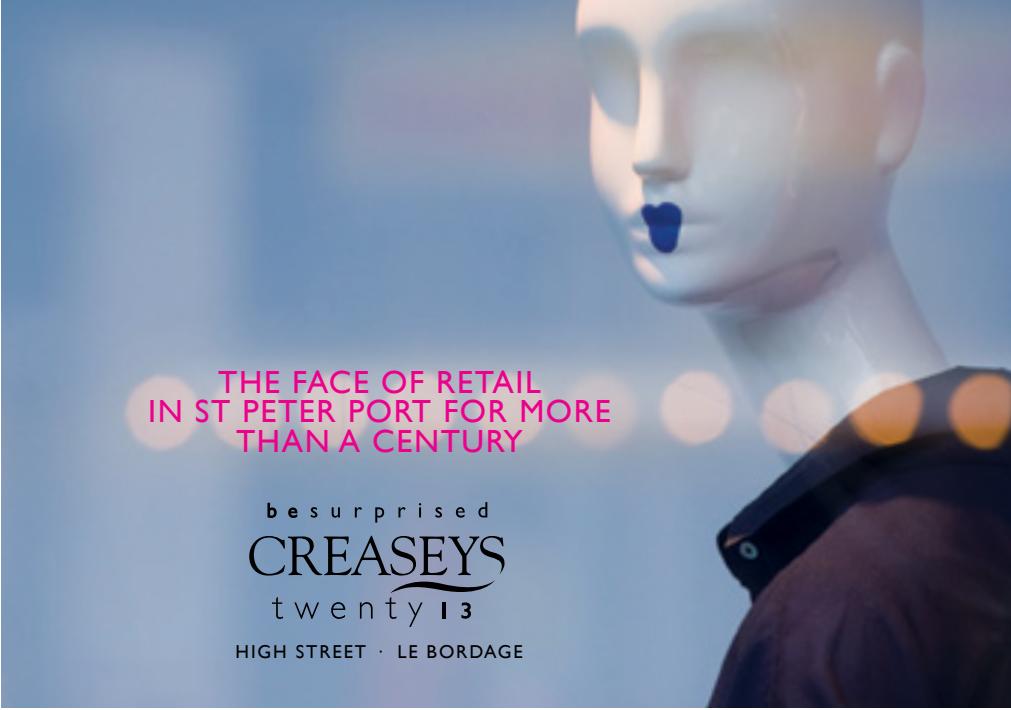
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History'
Fancy Dress
Competition

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& Cart
Rides

Punch
& Judy
Show

FREE
Sandwich,
cake & drink
for children

Food
Stalls
& Bar



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TOWNIE

THE OFFICIAL ST PETER PORT PARISH MAGAZINE

MEDIEVAL ST PETER PORT

By Dr Gregory Stevens Cox

Dr Gregory Stevens Cox is the well-known author of a number of fascinating books on Guernsey history, including: St Peter Port 1680 – 1830, ‘the story of an international entrepot’, and he has kindly provided a series of articles on the development of the parish through the centuries.

St Peter Port in the Middle Ages

People have been living in the St Peter Port area since the prehistoric period. Why did they choose this location? There are, I think, three important reasons. First, there was a convenient supply of fresh water running in streams from the west, down to the sea. Secondly, the summit of the hill to the west afforded views over the sea. The approach of a hostile fleet could be spotted in good time. Thirdly, the bay provided a natural anchorage.

By the first century BC cargo vessels trading between the continent and Hengistbury Head in Dorset were sailing via Guernsey. There is good archaeological evidence of trade during the Roman period. Such evidence has been found at the Plaiderie, in the harbour (the remains of a cargo vessel nicknamed Asterix, for example), and in the market area.

There is little evidence, archaeological or historical, about the island during the ‘Dark Ages’. The story becomes easier to trace by the eleventh century. Norman documents of that era refer to the church of St Peter Port. Peter was one of Christ’s first disciples, a fisherman. As such, he was an obvious patron saint for a church yard by the sea. In the past historians used to define a town by reference to the nature of land tenure and privileges held. These legal concepts distinguished the urban community from the large village. St Peter Port did not enjoy privileges, nor a charter conferring urban



Illustration of Castle Cornet:

Godfrey d'Harcourt's troops storming the Barbican, Castle Cornet, in 1345 by Brian Byron.
© Brian Byron/Guernsey Museums & Galleries (The States of Guernsey)

status. However, it was clearly a town if we use the criteria adduced by historians today - diversity of occupation and regular markets. The medieval village tended to consist of cultivators, whereas the town housed craftsmen, traders, officials and other specialists.

In the 13th century St Peter Port was a market centre. A fish market was held on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. There was also trading near the church on Sundays. In the thirteenth century there was a move to transfer the general market of the island from Castel parish to St Peter Port. This was eventually effected in 1309.

There were shops in St Peter Port. Records for 1331 refer to 41 wine-sellers, 12 beer-sellers, and 70 bakers being punished for breaking the assizes of wine, beer and bread. Taverners who mixed bad wine with good were punished, as were bakers guilty of the adulteration of bread. Butchers were directed to ensure that filth and grease were not spilled inside the town.

The harbour was busy. In the eleven months ending on 29 August 1330 custom was levied on 487 foreign ships putting in at St Peter Port. Many of



© Courtesy Guernsey Museums & Galleries (The States of Guernsey)

Model Gallo-Roman Ship: Gallo-Roman ship model, Maritime Museum, Castle Cornet, Guernsey.

these vessels were freighting wine from Bordeaux to Southampton and London. St Peter Port was a convenient 'half-way' point for breaking the voyage and obtaining fresh victuals. Sometimes wine was unloaded at Guernsey and reshipped to ports in Normandy and Brittany - St Peter Port was serving as an entrepôt. The Guernsey merchants had warehouses in town and, besides wine, they exported fish and cereals. The economic activity around the harbour was sufficiently intense to bring into being at least two kinds of specialists - portidores and bermannii - men who worked as porters and handled the wine casks.

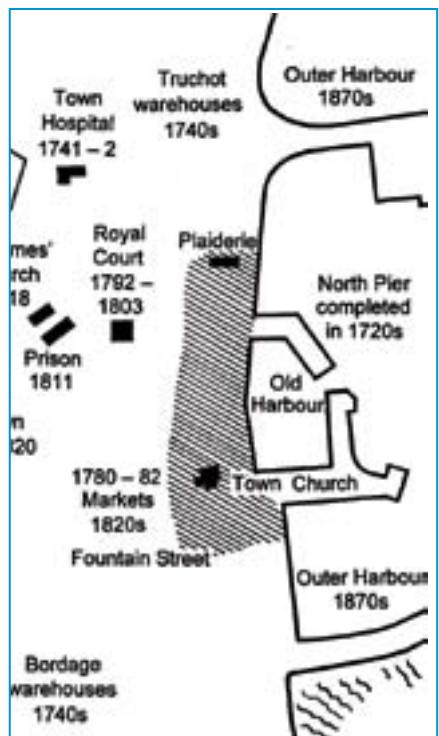
The town was also the home of royal administration. In St Peter Port were the king's castle - Castle Cornet; the king's court; and the king's grange. The castle served a variety of functions. It was a residence for royal officials and in part acted as an estate office. It housed a strong room and a prison. There was a chapel for the garrison soldiers. Justice was meted both at the castle and at the court, which was situated at the Plaiderie. The king enjoyed the proceeds of his fiefs and dues - wheat and barley and other agricultural produce - were annually delivered to his barn (grange).

The king held four water-mills and one windmill in the parish. Mills were vital in the medieval economy. They generated power, principally for the grinding of cereals. The owner of a mill controlled a valuable asset and could make a good income by charging for the use of the facilities. The king also received a considerable income from ships that entered and left the harbour. Wrecks also generated revenue. For example, Edward II benefitted when

a ship was wrecked 'under the castle'. Its cargo consisted of hogs and timber. Other wreck cargoes included a 'cask of whale' and tallow.

The population of the town at this time probably fluctuated between 1,000 to 2,000. There was regularly a great concourse of people in St Peter Port - apart from the townsfolk, there were garrison soldiers, foreign merchants, and sailors and fishermen. St Peter Port was very much a 'frontier' town. It was exposed to raids by the French. One such attack in the 1290s brought considerable destruction to the town. St Peter Port became particularly vulnerable with the outbreak of the Hundred Years War. The castle was seized by the French early in the war and was held for several years.

In the mid 14th century the king ordered that the town should be walled. This measure was for the protection of the town and its inhabitants. The



→ The old town within the Barrières, shaded in grey.

king derived an income from the port and had every incentive to defend his interests. To what extent the wall was constructed is not clear. In part the walls of houses may have been built to act as part of the town wall. A tower was constructed at Beauregard. This housed a garrison that was on hand to defend the town.

The town was relatively small in its physical extent. It is still relatively easy to determine the boundaries of the medieval community. The barrières stones approximately mark the perimeter. (Examples of these are easily found near the Town Church, in Smith Street, and in the Pollet.) The laws of inheritance in St Peter Port were different from those that prevailed throughout the rest of the island. Consequently it was vital for advocates in the past to know whether a property lay inside or outside the town boundaries.

Apart from the Town Church there were a number of chapels in the parish. By the Tourgand there was a chapel and hostelry for pilgrims, founded in 1361 by Pierre de St Pierre, and dedicated to St Julian, patron saint of travellers. Close to where Elizabeth College now stands - and outside the town boundaries - there was a Franciscan friary with its church. Also in the parish (and outside the town) were a chapelle de Lorette and a chapel dedicated to St Jacques. Castle Cornet housed a chapel and, as the garrison was English, we find an English priest appointed to serve there. There was also a chapel at Ivy Castle, another of the king's fortifications, to the north of the town. And there were yet other chapels.

There is still quite a lot of medieval St Peter Port that survives. Castle Cornet was originally built in the thirteenth century. It became of strategic significance in the sea route linking London to English territory in the south-west of France. It was



Otto de Grandison (circa 1238-1328) was a knight from Savoy who served Edward I. He was Warden or Lord of the Channel Islands for most of the period 1275-1328. He ruled from a distance, only visiting the Islands late in his life. His deputies governed in a harsh manner. The French historian Havel summarized the era as 'une longue oppression'.

a royal castle, directly under the control of the Lord Edward. In several respects it was the prototype of the great Edwardian castles built in Wales in the late 13th century. There are still extensive stretches of castle wall that date from the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. A barbican wall was constructed by the French when they held the castle for seven years from 1338. Ivy Castle was a royal fortification and preserves much of its 13th century structure. It is well worth a visit.

The Town Church contains many medieval features – the nave in particular. The north porch looks up the High Street, towards the Pollet and Plaiderie. The street running from the Church to the Plaiderie represents the backbone of the medieval town. To the east were situated buildings constructed gable-end to the street, giving onto narrow strips

of land running to the beach. There was no proper quay until the 18th century and there was just one pier - the southern arm of the inner harbour - in the medieval period.

Several place-names such as Mill Street preserve a memory of those days. It was at Salerie Corner that conger were salted. The Grange was where the king's barn was located. Ville au Roi was land that belonged to the king's fief. The Plaiderie was the location of the medieval court. St. Julian's Avenue commemorates the chapel and hostelry for pilgrims.

Bibliography

Quite the best approach to understanding medieval St Peter Port is the essay by the late Professor Le Patourel 'The early history of St Peter Port' in the Transactions of the Société Guernesiaise, volume xii, part 2, for 1934, published in 1935, pp. 171-209. The present author is heavily indebted to that excellent essay. A visit to Candie Museum and to the exhibitions at Castle Cornet are also highly recommended.

A message from our

PORTUGUESE REPRESENTATIVE

By Elvio Pires



Millions of Portuguese, such as explorers, sailors or simple emigrants, over the centuries have travelled the world, settling in many places. The Portuguese Association was founded in Guernsey on the 7th June 1980 with the intention to improve the relationship between the local authorities and the Portuguese community.

In addition, the Portuguese community in general had a better picture and could also benefit the influence created by the work performed by the Association. The Association keeps the community informed with a site: gsyassociation.blogspot.com and a facebook page: [facebook.com/associacao.guernsey](https://www.facebook.com/associacao.guernsey), with Local, International and Portuguese facts and news, being translated into Portuguese. History tells us that the first official immigrants arrived in Guernsey in 1963, and that were 3 of them.

Guernsey has a sizeable Portuguese population, with the majority being from the island of Madeira. In the year 2000 the Portuguese community in Guernsey was estimated to be around 3.3% of the population, but has decreased over the years and at the moment it stands at around 1,200. Although a number of Portuguese individuals had arrived by the end of the 1960's to work in the hospitality sector, it wasn't until the period between 1975 and 1985 that larger groups came to work in the agriculture industry, hotels and restaurants. There were various reasons for this happening; firstly, many Italian workers were going back to Italy (as Italy had joined the European Union) leaving a gap to be filled in the jobs market; also, the Portuguese civil war had liberated the Country from its fascist regime, and allowed people to travel freely and look for opportunities to help their families while the country was going through one of worst periods in its history.

The Portuguese are traditionally hard workers and take pride in it, and often you will see them doing jobs that many refuse to do. The Portuguese

community is now well established in Guernsey and the general feeling among them is that they feel part of Guernsey life.

Portugal helped the Channel Islands during World War II, with the SS Vega, a Red Cross ship that delivered relief parcels from the British Commonwealth, travelling from Lisbon to Guernsey and Jersey in December 1944 with five further trips with the last at the end of May 1945.

The history between Portugal and the United Kingdom is historical, The Anglo-Portuguese Alliance between the United Kingdom and Portugal is the oldest alliance in the world which is still in force. This Alliance, which goes back to the Middle Ages, has served both countries and has been very important throughout history, influencing the participation of the United Kingdom in the Iberian Peninsula War (the UK's major land contribution to the Napoleonic Wars). The two countries often acted as allies in opposition to Spain and France. Most recently, during the Falkland War, Portugal helped with naval and airport bases, fuel and supplies.

Another curiosity is that in the 17th century, the United Kingdom had a Portuguese Queen, Catarina de Bragança (Catherine of Braganza) wife of King Charles II of England. As such, she was the Queen consort of England, Scotland and Ireland from 1662 to 1685. She was a member of the House of Braganza, the most senior noble house in Portugal which became Portugal's royal house after Catherine's father John II, Duke of Braganza was acclaimed King John IV of Portugal. She was credited for introducing the custom of drinking tea in Britain, a custom that was already very popular among the Portuguese nobility. Here, we live and work in community, helping the local economy, the Sarnian prosperity and at the same time, most will have an opportunity to prosper and help their families back home. All this makes us proud to be here, in this wonderful island that is Guernsey. 

A message from our

PORTUGUESE REPRESENTATIVE

By Elvio Pires



Milhões de Portugueses como, exploradores, marinheiros ou simples emigrantes, ao longo dos séculos têm viajado o mundo, estabelecendo-se nos lugares mais remotos.

A Associação em Portuguesa Guernsey foi fundada em 07 de junho de 1980 com a perspectiva e intenção de melhorar o relacionamento entre as autoridades locais e os governos regionais e nacionais. Além disso, a comunidade

Portuguesa beneficia da influência criada pelo trabalho realizado pela Associação. A associação mantém a comunidade informada com um site: gspannociation.blogspot.com e uma página do facebook: facebook.com/associacao.guernsey.

Notícias locais, Portuguesas e internacionais são traduzidos para Português. A história diz-nos que os primeiros imigrantes oficiais a chegar a Guernsey foi em 1963 e eram apenas três. Guernsey tem uma população Portuguesa considerável, sendo a maioria da Ilha da Madeira. Em 2000, a comunidade de Portuguesa em Guernsey foi estimada em cerca de 3.3% da população, mas tem diminuído ao longo dos anos e no momento deverá de estar por volta dos 1200.

Embora um número de indivíduos portugueses tenham chegado até o final dos anos 60 para o setor da hospitalidade, não foi até ao período entre 1975 e 1985 que grupos maiores vieram trabalhar para os sectores da agricultura e da indústria hoteleira. Houve vários factores por que aconteceu, por exemplo, muitos trabalhadores italianos estavam voltando para a Itália (Aderiram à União Europeia), deixando uma lacuna a ser preenchida no mercado de trabalho. Além disso, a guerra civil Portuguesa libertou o país do seu regime fascista e permitiu que as pessoas viajassem livremente para procurar oportunidades e ajudar suas famílias, Pois o país estava passando por um dos piores períodos da história Nacional.

Os “Lusos” são tradicionalmente trabalhadores árduos e tem orgulho nisso, muitas vezes podemos observar-lhos a fazer trabalhos, que, a maioria se recusaria a fazer. A comunidade Portuguesa

está agora bem estabelecida em Guernsey e o sentimento geral entre a comunidade é de que já se sente parte da vida local.

Mas antes da imigração, Portugal teve uma oportunidade de ajudar as ilhas do Canal, Durante a 2ª Guerra Mundial, por exemplo, o Vega SS, um navio da Cruz Vermelha entregou parcelas de socorro da comunidade Britânica e Portuguesa, vinha de Lisboa a Guernsey e Jersey em Dezembro de 1944 com cinco viagens adicionais, sendo a última no final de maio de 1945. A história entre Portugal e no Reino Unido é histórica, A Aliança Anglo-Portuguesa entre o Reino Unido e Portugal é a mais antiga aliança do mundo que ainda está em vigor. Esta Aliança, que remonta à Idade Média, serviu os dois países e tem sido muito importante ao longo da história, influenciando a participação do Reino Unido na Guerra da Península Ibérica (a mais importante contribuição terrestre do Reino Unido para as Guerras Napoleónicas) Os dois países muitas vezes agiram como aliados na oposição a Espanha e França. Mais recentemente, na Guerra das Ilhas Malvinas, Portugal contribuiu com o serviço de bases navais e aéreas, combustível e suprimentos.

Outra curiosidade, no século 17, o Reino Unido tinha uma rainha Portuguesa, Catarina de Bragança, esposa do rei Charles II de Inglaterra. Como tal, ela era a rainha consorte da Inglaterra, Escócia e Irlanda 1662-1685. Ela era um membro da Casa de Bragança, a casa mais nobre em Portugal que se tornou Casa real, depois que o pai de Catarina, João II, Duque de Bragança foi aclamado rei, D. João IV de Portugal. Ela detém o crédito para a introdução do costume de beber chá na Grã-Bretanha, um costume que já era muito popular entre a nobreza Portuguesa.

Vivemos e trabalhamos em comunidade, ajudando a economia e a prosperidade local ao mesmo tempo, a maioria tem a oportunidade de prosperar e ajudar suas famílias em terras lusas. Tudo isso, nos faz sentir orgulhosos de cá estar, nesta ilha maravilhosa que é Guernsey.

THE PRIAULX LIBRARY

By Amanda Bennett, Chief Librarian

The Priaulx Library is one of the jewels of our Parish, and we asked Chief Librarian Amanda Bennett to give us some information on this superb facility.

Standing at the top of Candie Road, commanding excellent views over the Little Russel, the Priaulx Library has been a familiar sight in St. Peter Port for over a century and lies at the heart of local history research in Guernsey. The Library Council has made it one of the Library's mandates to collect as wide a range of local materials in a wide range of printed and manuscript formats from a wide range of dates - all to give researchers of all ages access to rich, varied and important collections and to preserve our local heritage for generations to come.

The range of collections is vast, and includes almost 20,000 photographs in the Carel Toms collection. Carel was a well known Press photographer who, as well as his own stock, collected photographs from many other sources. After his death in 2002, his daughter Marie Toms gave his collection to the Priaulx Library and invested the Library with the copyright on the images. Since that time, the images have appeared in many places - exhibitions and art galleries, private, educational and academic research, publications, postcards and on television - Coast, Who Do You Think You Are?, Countryfile, etc. The Friends of the Priaulx Library, has been instrumental in galvanizing volunteers to digitize the collection, and it is hoped that it will be available online in the next couple of years.

The Library has more than books and photographs; it is surprising what is considered important enough to keep as a collection, in fact, material does not even have to be old or historical! The Library is always looking to the future, after all. For example, did you know that the Library holds the records from that well-loved institution Tektronix? Amongst the business papers, staff manuals and visitor books, the collection includes a large number of photographs taken over many years detailing different aspects of the factory's work, including production and shipping. The best part of the photographic collection is the fact that many of them are of the workers themselves - including staff outings to Herm and evening parties! Although the collection is still awaiting cataloguing, it is available for consultation, and for those who worked for Tektronix, or had family who did, it is possible that the library may have an image of them at work or play. Literally a wonderful snapshot of business practice and life in the 1960s, 70s and 80s.

Business records are a vital part of understanding local life – for example, the Library holds all of the ledgers of the Onesimus Dorey coal merchants. The collection even includes the large portrait of Onesimus himself, which must have once stood in the Company's Boardroom. Business collections are being donated even now, in fact, in January 2013, the Library received a rather large pile of boxes from the Gabriel's chain of shops which includes order books



and receipt books, and now awaits sorting! However, donations don't have to be large, or of wider significance. Small personal collections are just as valuable - over the years, the Library has received everything from household receipts and accounts to Victorian scrapbooks, to Occupation diaries, books of watercolours, collections of book plates and autographs, photographs, funeral cards, wills, certificates, discharge papers, letters, the lists go on and on! In fact, small family donations are often the most interesting, touching, or quirky objects that the library holds. Here follows a brief list of the variety of collections given to the library over the years. Perhaps you have something similar lurking in your own attic?

The sketch-book of Rosa Brock

Sir Isaac Brock's niece was an accomplished artist and her book of watercolour sketches has been kept in her family until it was donated to the Library in October 2012. The illustration shows Rosa's delicate drawing of a ruin near Tarragona.

Harvey material

A large collection of letters, sketches, photographs, diaries and news cuttings, relating to the Harvey family. The famous Mrs. Neve, who lived to be 110, and who is buried in the Brothers' Cemetery, was a member of this family, as was Winifred Harvey of Newlands who kept a diary during the German Occupation and died in 1975.

A Drunken Bargeman !



Ruth Ozanne's Occupation Diaries

A fantastic original diary which was donated in 2011 and complements the Library's growing collection of Occupation manuscripts and ephemera. Ruth was the daughter of former Bailiff Sir Edmund Chepmell Ozanne and the edited diaries were published in 2011.

A photographic record of British Naval operations in North Russia in 1919

The photographs in this album were collected by R. G. Davies of Le Hurel, St. Martin's, and donated by his heirs. Unlike many 'military' albums, this collection of photographs includes many that show everyday life in and around the naval camp, and pictures of many locals including, here illustrated, a drunken bargeman!

As demonstrated by the last item on the list, the local connection does not have to rest in the subject matter. Objects or manuscripts

created or collected by locals also have a place in the collections as they help to build a rich picture of life, interests and preoccupations on the island.

And finally a plea – before you throw something away, consider whether it might find a home at the Priaulx Library.

Contacting the Priaulx Library

The Library is open Monday-Saturday, 9.30am to 5pm and staff are available to help with any local enquiries you might have. Our catalogue can also be accessed online from our website: www.priaulxlibrary.co.uk where you will also find links to our paid research service and our official donations form. Telephone (01481) 721998 during business hours, or email us on: info@priaulxlibrary.co.uk

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A message from our

LATVIAN REPRESENTATIVE

By Lilita Krūze



After World War II, the economy began to flourish in Guernsey and the island started to invite guest workers from Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Madeira. In the early 1990s, the Guernsey horticultural sector began to get in touch with other low-cost labour countries and a recruitment agency was set up in Latvia.

When Latvia gained independence from Russia in 1991, the Latvian political powers declared fresh geopolitical direction - to return back to Europe. Collective ideology became undesirable and in its place the path to individualistic wellbeing was promoted. National borders opened and the consequent freedom to travel meant rapid migration prosperity.

Initially, work was offered only to women and only in horticulture. In 2001 the first group of waitresses and maids arrived to work in the restaurants and hotels of Guernsey. Later that year work was also made available to men.

From 1991 to 2013 around 200,000 people left Latvia. Most sought and found work in Ireland, Germany, UK and the Channel Islands. Amongst Latvians, Guernsey is especially popular. Although there are housing restrictions in place, people return year after year.

It is estimated that each year around 2,000 Latvian citizens live and work in Guernsey. Numbers are highest in the summer, the peak time of the tourist season.

Informally, the island is known as the second Latvia. The sounds of the Latvian language are everywhere - on the streets, in shops, banks,

restaurants, bars and hotels, and in nursing homes, barbers and schools.

Several Latvian entrepreneurs are launching new businesses. One of the first was a Latvian store then a barber. This was followed by construction services. There are also beauty parlours and sewing alteration services.

Many Latvians use the opportunity to study at the College of Further Education, improving their English language skills, business, accounting, beauty and other areas. All would agree that Latvians are very hard working and good for Guernsey with reviews of performance extremely positive.

Of course, life isn't only about work. Most Latvians get together in a group of friends for birthday and name day celebrations.

In 2006 the Guernsey Latvian Association was founded. Under its guidance, the Latvian Summer Solstice and Latvian National Day on 18th November were celebrated with performances by Latvian musicians and the presence of representatives from the Latvian Embassy in London. It is now a tradition to hold worship services in the Town Church at Easter and Christmas in both Latvian and English.

Although we are far away, we remember and take pride in our homeland. As excellent confirmation of this, 770 Guernsey Latvian votes were cast in the 2012 Constitutional referendum against adding the Russian language as the second official language of Latvia.

We are delighted to live and work in multicultural Guernsey, gaining invaluable experience and adding to its prosperity. 

LATVIEŠI GĒRNZIJĀ

By Lilita Krūze



Pēc Otrā pasaules kara ekonomika Gērnzijā sāka uzplaukt un tika aicināti viesstrādnieki no Īrijas, Itālijas, Portugāles, Madeiras. 1990.gadu sākumā Gērnzijas darba devēji dārzniecības sektorā sāka meklēt kontaktus ar citu, lētāka darbaspēka valsti. Tā radās rekrutēšanas aģentūra Latvijā.

Pēc Padomju Savienības sabrukuma 1991.gadā, Latvijas politiskā vara deklarēja geopolitisku virzienu - atgriešanos Eiropā. Kolektīvā progresu ideoloģija kļuva nevēlama, un tās vietā radās individuālisma ceļš uz labklājību. Atveroties valsts robežām, brīva ceļošana nozīmēja arī migrācijas strauju uzplaukumu.

Ir aplēses, ka viena gada laikā Gērnzijā dzīvo un strādā ap 2000 latviešu. Īpaši to skaits palielinās vasarā, kad iestājas tūrisma sezona. Sākumā darbā ņēma tikai sievietes un tikai dārzniecībā. 2001.gadā salā ieradās pirmā grupa restorānu un hotelu darbinieku. Vēlāk šajā gadā darbs tika piedāvāts arī vīriešiem.

No 1991.līdz 2013.gadam no Latvijas ir izbraukuši ap 200 000 cilvēku. Lielākā daļa meklē un atrod darbu Īrijā, Lielbritānijā, Vācijā, arī Lamanša salās. Latviešu vidū Gērnzija ir īpaši populāra. Kaut arī ir dzīvošanas un darba atļauju ierobežojumi, cilvēki šeit atgriežas no gada uz gadu.

Neoficiāli sala tiek dēvēta par otro Latviju. Tam ir savs pamats, jo latviešu valoda skan visur - ielās, veikalos, restorānos, bāros, hotelos, slimnīcā, aprūpes mājās, frizētavās, skolās. Vairāki latviešu uzņēmēji ir uzsākuši savu

biznesu. Kā viens no pirmajiem tika atvērts latviešu veikaliņš, tad frizētava. Vēlāk sekoja būvniecības pakalpojumi. Nu klāt ir nākuši skaistuma saloni un šūšanas pakalpojumi.

Daudzi izmanto iespēju mācīties Tālizglītības koledžā, papildinot zināšanas angļu valodā, biznesā, grāmatvedībā, skaistumkopšanā un citās jomās. Jebkurš piekritis, ka latvieši Gērnzijā strādā ļoti labi un grūti. Atsauksmes par sniegtajiem pakalpojumiem ir ārkārtīgi pozitīvas.

Protams, dzīve sastāv ne tikai no darba. Visbiežāk latvieši sanāk kopā draugu grupās dzimšanas un vārda dienas svīnībās.

2006.gadā tika nodibināta Gērnzijas Latviešu Asociācija. Tās iniciatīvā ir svinēti latviešiem tik populārie Ligo svētki jūnijā, atzīmēta Latvijas Republikas proklamēšanas diena 18. novembrī, piedaloties gan mūzikumi no Latvijas, gan pārstāvjiem no Latvijas vēstniecības Londonā. Nu jau tradicionāli Pilsētas baznīcā Lieldienēs un Ziemassvētkos notiek dievkalpojumi gan latviešu, gan angļu valodā.

Kaut arī esam tālu no Dzimtenes, mēs atceramies un lepojamies ar to. Kā lielisks apliecinājums tam bija mūsu 770 balsis referendumā pret krievu kā otro valsts valodu Latvijā 2012.gadā. Ir prieks dzīvot šajā multikulturālajā Lamanša salā, gūstot neatsveramu pieredzi visdažādākajās dzīves jomās. Gērnzija ir kā liels puķu dārzs. Tā ir vienmēr mainīga un krašņa. Visi kopā mēs kalpojam tās ekonomiskajam uzplaukumam. ļoti ceram kādu dienu atgriezties Latvijā un izmantot savas jauniegūtās zināšanas Dzimtenes labā. 

THE FRIENDS OF THE PRIAULX LIBRARY

By Evan Ozanne

Following on from Amanda Bennett's excellent introduction to the Priaulx Library, we asked Evan Ozanne, the President of the Friends of the Priaulx Library, to explain how the charity supports this local institution.

The Friends of the Priaulx is a Guernsey registered charity with a current individual membership of 242.

It was founded in April 2005 by the late Mike Burbridge and Jurat Claire Le Pelley, the latter the current Chair of the Priaulx Library Council. It has a mandate to support the Library's Council and the Chief Librarian and her staff in their work. This support was and still is necessary, for although the States of Guernsey, through the Education Department, maintains the building and provides an annual grant towards basic running costs, the Library has to be run on a very tight budget; resources of staff and finance are very limited.

Consequently many projects cannot be realised without additional funds and the Friends provide a most important support by photocopying, digitising and scanning documents and providing funds for the purchase of books sourced by the Chief Librarian and for the repair of books, maps and documents.

Two years ago the Friends were able to conclude the installation of a lift for disabled users of the Library to enable them to access the first floor. An Access Audit Report commissioned by the Friends had given such

an installation prime importance. Its provision also benefits senior citizens and the Library staff. The cost of this project was supported by sponsorship from Lloyds TSB Foundation for the Channel Islands, other sponsors and a sum from the Friends' funds.

In order to improve public awareness of its activities the Committee of the Friends organises exhibition stands at the annual Viaer Marchi and the Round Table Christmas Fayre events. At these the Friends' merchandise is sold and new members encouraged; the latter being a good and guaranteed source of funds. As well as attracting new members, corporate and life membership is encouraged.



Evan Ozanne, President, Friends of the Priaulx Library

The Friends' Committee also organises a quiz evening and jointly with the Council and Library staff a Library Open Day and a Christmas' drinks party.

Annual individual membership is £10 per person and in addition to contributing to the preservation and maintenance of the Library's historic records, Friends also have other opportunities:

To join conducted tours of the Library with access to non-public parts and to see rare works in the Library's collections.

To attend lectures free from charge and join in fund-raising and social events.

To work as a volunteer on projects at the Library.

Receive the Friends' Newsletters.

The Friends' Lecture Series have recently covered topics as varied as:

'Guernsey Heroes of the Royal Society' - May 2010.

'What's the point of the Royal Society?' - a modern perspective - October 2010.

'Guernsey on the Front line' - Anglo-French rivalry over the Channel Islands 1775-1904 - February 2012.

'The Hotel on the Roof of the World' - managing the infamous Holiday Inn at Lhasa, Tibet - June 2012.

'The History of the St Peter Port and St. Sampson's harbours' - September 2012.

Speakers have been both local and from the United Kingdom. For the 'Guernsey on the front Line' one of the three speakers was a French military expert from Paris.

Continuing the series in 2013 will be:

On the evening of Wednesday, 26th June Bruce Parker will talk about the research he undertook to write his recent book on Elizabeth College.

Later in the year Keith Pike will give his talk 'Policing in Guernsey 1853 - 1920' and Keith Fisher on 'The Evolution of the Guernsey Sea Chart'.

In support of its work the Committee was delighted to receive in 2012 a grant from the Association of Guernsey Charities from the 2011 Channel Islands Lottery and will be receiving a grant from the 2013 Itex-Rotary Walk. With these grants the Chief Librarian is able to purchase equipment to support her programme of digitisation of images, newspapers, prints and manuscripts, thus simultaneously providing easier access to the Library's collections and conserving original material for future generations.

Evan Ozanne, President of the Friends states. "Whilst we are exceedingly grateful for the grants we receive and the loyalty of our membership, we are constantly aware of the threat to the Library by any reduction in its grant from the States of Guernsey. Increasing our membership, increasing our sales of merchandise and encouraging grants is essential if the Friends are to increase our support to the Chief Librarian and her excellent staff in their continuing programme to improve the facilities they offer schools, students, researchers and the general public and yet preserving and adding to the splendid and in some cases, unique collections, of Guernsey's social and military past."

New members will be most welcome and details on how to join the Friends of the Priaulx Library can be found on our web site www.friends.org.gg, by contacting our Secretary Gavin Lanoe at email: info@friends.org.gg or by obtaining a membership form from the Library". 

BREHON TOWER

By Helen Glencross MA, Historic Sites Curator,
Guernsey Museums & Galleries

This iconic tower has stood in the Little Russel, just off the east coast of Guernsey, for over 150 years. Constructed of Herm granite, the tower is elliptical in shape, to take best advantage of the space available on top of the rock on which it stands. It bears a strong resemblance to the earlier squat Martello towers built in Guernsey (such as Fort Grey or Fort Hommet) but it is also similar to the much larger Solent armoured sea forts built to defend Portsmouth in the 1860s.

Brehon Rock

The Brehon rock had long been a shipping hazard. It is part of a reef that barely projects above sea level and makes this section of the Little Russel difficult to navigate. A plan of 1794 by Dobrée shows a sea-mark sited there. This was replaced in 1824 with a more substantial striped pyramid structure.



Wreck of the Experiment

Lithograph of "The Survivors of the Crew and Passengers of the Cutter Experiment, rescued from the wreck by the Pilot boat Mary, on the morning of Sunday March 17, 1850" by Paul Jacob Naftel. The image shows the seamount on Brehon Rock before Brehon Tower was constructed.

The location of Brehon Rock was not only important for sailors. In the 19th century it was also considered very strategic to the defence of Guernsey against possible French invasion. In 1803 Lieutenant-Colonel J McClean, R.E., reported to Sir John Doyle that a battery had been considered but it was impractical

to build. He suggested that a Guard Room, which could also operate as a signal station be built on the rock at an estimated cost of no more than £100. This could not have been an attractive proposition for the men who would have had to be stationed there! This proposal, however, came to nothing. In 1842 a report by the Committee on Defences for the Channel Islands again identified the rock as a potential site for heavy guns. Five years later in 1847, Sir John Burgoyne, the Inspector-General of Fortifications, called again for the construction of a "most powerful sea battery...being at the same time self-defensible". These recommendations were drawn up in the shadow of an increased threat of French invasion and in response to the extension of fortifications in Cherbourg.

Construction and Use of Brehon Tower

In 1854 the Crimean War broke out. Britain and France were allies against Czarist Russia, however relations between France and Britain remained guarded and this was reflected in the continuing fortification of the Channel Islands. Alderney's fortification programme was completed (e.g. Forts Tourgis and Clonque) and many sites in Guernsey, such as Forts Le Marchant, Richmond, Saumarez and Doyle, were strengthened, modernised or extended during this period.

It was in this political climate that thought was given once again to protecting the Little Russel and a decision was made to fortify the Brehon Rock. Tenders for the project were invited in the local press in May 1855 and work began the following August. It is believed the tower was designed by Captain G. F. Mann of the Royal Engineers and was built by Thomas Charles de Putron. It was finished in 1856 at a total cost of £8,098 18s. 10d.

The tower was armed three years later in 1859 when several 68 pounders guns were taken out to the tower. This was not without incident and in the process of loading one of the guns, which weighed 5 tons, a barge capsized and sank and the gun was lost. These large



View of Brehon Tower from the landing stage
(H Glencross)

guns had been developed in response to the building of new, heavily armoured, warships and were used extensively in British coastal defences constructed during the 1850s. The guns could be used to fire solid shot, explosive shells, grapeshot, case shot and molten iron shells (thin walled shells filled with molten iron) and had a maximum range of over 3000m. A minimum crew of nine men (usually commanded by a non-commissioned officer) was required to fire each gun. Brehon Tower never saw active service during this period, although the regular gun practice was considered a danger to local fishermen! In the late 19th century, as the threat to the Channel Islands declined, the tower became obsolete and fell into disuse. In 1914 the British Crown relinquished ownership of Brehon tower and it came into the hands of the States of Guernsey.

During the Second World War the Germans used the tower as an anti-aircraft position. Alterations had to be made to accommodate modern weaponry. An embrasure was cut through the north face of the outer wall of the lower floor for a light artillery piece. The roof was reinforced with steel beams and a 10.5cm coast defence gun to protect the approaches to St Peter Port harbour. Two 2cm Flak guns were mounted on the roof in the former 10inch emplacements. Attempts were made to make the internal accommodation more comfortable for the small garrison by sub-dividing the larger rooms with insulated partitions and lining other smaller rooms. Stoves or portable heaters were also introduced.

Description of the Tower

The tower is oval in shape and 26m (89ft) long and 20m (65ft 8") wide. The walls are battered and at least 2m thick at the base and typically over 1m thick at the top. Interestingly, the walls on the northern side are thicker and there are no openings on this side above the basement probably as this was considered the main direction of any attack. The tower is mainly

constructed of rubble granite but the openings for windows and doors are executed in very high quality ashlar blocks.

Access to the tower is by way of a landing stage and steps. The entrance to the tower is at first floor level on the southern face, above which appears the inscription 'V.R. 1856'. There are two internal floors. On the ground floor is a 140 barrel magazine, shifting room, shell room, stores plus a 21,900 gallon sea water cistern. On the first floor are a number of rooms that were the living quarters for 2 officers and 35 men. Intersecting brick barrel vaults support the gun battery above. A spiral stone staircase provides access to the flat roof where the original mountings were located for the cannon.



One of the two principle traversing gun positions on the top of Brehon Tower (H Glencross)

A small building on the roof contained the sidearms shed, expense magazines and a furnace for heating shot. Powder and shot were raised through the tower by means of a small crane, the pedestal of which survives, through a central, opening in the roof. Substantial alterations were made to the earlier gun positions during the Second World War. Six loopholed brick machicolations, corbelled out from the masonry and reached via passageways through the parapet, enabled the base of the wall to be defended by musket fire should an enemy landing force succeed in reaching the tower.

Today there is no public access to the tower but it still serves as a useful seamark and frequently as a home to flocks of the Common Tern. It is a Protected Monument.

Note: Information for this article comes from a visit to the site in 2011 plus documents written by Colin Partridge and Catherine Woolfitt. The book by Bill Clements called Martello Towers Worldwide provides detailed information about these fortifications.

THE CHANGING FACE OF ST PETER PORT

Our parish is constantly undergoing change, some good and others not so good, and Douzenier Rob Grant has selected a few old images to get a modern comparison.

Old photographs courtesy of the Carel Toms collection at the Priaulx Library.



Long gone are the trams and tall ships that were prominent in the early 1900s, replaced with the ubiquitous car and a marina.



The main differences between the Bordage and Pedvin Street of 1956 and now, are the removal of the houses in the centre of the photo, which made way for a coal yard in the late 1950s and now a car park, also the buildings on the left behind the van are now a large furniture store.



The very narrow old Coal Quay was widened in the early 1800s, with Cow Lane disappearing under the new road.



Cornet street in 1931 was a very different place to what we know now. Back then, before they knocked all the houses on the left down, it was full of pubs, tenements and brothels and was one of the main routes between the town and Fort George.

St Peter Port Floral Committee ENHANCING OUR PARISH

By Katina Jones, Floral Committee Coordinator

The St Peter Port Douzaine formed the Floral St Peter Port Committee in 2006 with the directive to enhance and promote St Peter Port's floral beauty, thereby creating a capital that is appealing to all.

Since 2006 the Floral Committee, with the support of sponsorship, volunteers, homeowners and social housing residents, have turned a capital consisting of a blank canvas into a wonderful array of colour, worthy of any masterpiece.

However, unlike a finished masterpiece, which will never change, the Parish of St Peter Port is a canvas forever changing, and therefore the floral challenges become greater year on year.

This is why it is imperative that parishioners and businesses collaborate with the Floral Committee in continuing to improve the forever-changing canvas that is the Parish of St Peter Port by participating in competitions, sponsorship and having pride in the parish. We are looking for more people to help within their own area, and if you can help with this, we will give you support.

Working together we can make St Peter Port more than just an island car-park.

Therefore, we welcome and look forward to your continuing support in 2013. Please contact the Constables office for details of entering this year's Floral St Peter Port competition. 



ST PETER PORT FLORAL AWARDS 2013

COMPETITION CATEGORIES

Judges will be looking at all public-accessible areas

- A: Pubs
- B: Hotels
- C: Cafes and Restaurants
- D: Banks

- E: Shops
- F: Commercial Premises
- G: Public Buildings
- H: Private gardens (*road frontage only any size*)

Judging will take place between 8th and 10th July, 2013

If you need any additional information please contact: Katina.jones@cwgsy.net



ENTRY FORM

BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE

Your name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Category: _____

Name (*as you wish it to appear on your certificate*):

**Please send completed form to arrive before 6th July to:
Constables' Office, Lefebvre Street, St Peter Port, GY1 2JS**

Information

Conditions of Entry:

1. Premises shall be located within the Parish of St Peter Port
2. Premises can only be entered in one category

Judging Criteria

Marks available

Overall effect - wow factor 30

Flowering plants and foliage - content 30

Flowering plants and foliage - colour 30

Plant condition and culture 30

Site - effective use 20

Site - maintenance 20

Continuity 20

Effort 20

Awards and Notification of Results

An overall first prize will be awarded to each category at an informal prize giving ceremony and all entrants will be presented with a certificate. A list of winners will be published on our web site, www.floralstpeterport.org.gq, along with photos, which may also be used in future publications by us. If you have any objections please let know.

A message from our POLISH REPRESENTATIVE

By Father Stanisław Gibiński (Father Stan)



The Polish community in Guernsey

The Polish society in Guernsey is no bigger than 200 permanent residents and its number increases for seasonal work. Among them are families, married couples and single people; from young adults up to elderly age. They have a wide range of educational abilities, interests and needs. Recently, children coming from half Polish families, started at local schools.

The Polish language had not been much heard locally before 2006 and people in Poland had hardly heard of Guernsey. Even now Guernsey is less known than Jersey as our neighbouring island was the first country in the West, which broadly offered work for Polish citizens well before 2004. Due to economical and historical circumstances as well as work permission, the rough number of Poles in Jersey is higher than here as it reaches up to 3000 people.

Because of the strict regulations, most Poles who come over to Guernsey are not able to make this their final destination. Hence the Polish community is very fluid and there is no need to have Polish shops, restaurants, Saturday schools, cultural centres, and a consulate. It is sufficient to have Polish shelves in the supermarkets and the Polish community for support.

Poles work in the restaurants, pubs, hotels, shops, building companies, in the banks, insurance and finance industries, in the

nursing homes and in the hospital. They are workers and managers. Apart from work, they treasure national and religious customs. In September 2008 the first Polish priest, myself, was appointed as a priest assistant to Canon Michel Hore. Because of that, once a month the Holy Mass is celebrated in Polish. We gather together during the Christmas Eve Party, which is celebrated in Polish style and we share a holy wafer. On the Holy Saturday there is a special blessing of the food. We team up for Easter Breakfast and organise Polish poetry evenings, canoeing trips, grills, and lots of private events.

Surprisingly Polish people have been living here at least since World War Two as a result of the 'forgotten Odyssey' - the long journey on foot, from the lost forever homeland, through Siberia, Kazakhstan, Persia to Europe. Only few of them, who settled here, set up Polish families and retained their Polish culture. Others married the locals or came from England as second and more recently third generation Polish emigrants. Some Poles became known to Guernsey society, like Mr and Mrs Komadera. Others stayed quietly, but never forgot their lost homeland. As a sign of that, a year ago I was given an old silver Polish coin, which somebody treasured as a relic and before he died, passed on as a gift to one of the locals, a Guernsey born friend. 

A message from our

POLISH REPRESENTATIVE

Ks. Stanisław Gibziński (Fr. Stan)



Polska wspólnota na Guernsey

Polską społeczność na Guernsey stanowi grupa około dwustu-osobowa. Liczba ta wzrasta w miesiącach letnich, gdy rozpoczyna się sezon hotelarski.

Stanowią ją zarówno rodziny, małżeństwa, jak i osoby niezamężne. W ostatnim czasie dzieci pochodzące z rodzin mieszanych rozpoczęły naukę w lokalnych szkołach.

Do roku 2006 trudno było usłyszeć język polski na ulicach Guernsey. Sytuacja uległa zmianie, kiedy Polska weszła do Unii Europejskiej. Warto nadmienić, że dwa lata wcześniej Jersey, jako pierwsze państwo zachodnie otworzyło rynek pracy dla obywateli polskich. Ze względu na uwarunkowania ekonomiczne, historyczne i prawne Jersey stało się otwartym rynkiem pracy. Obecnie mieszka tam około 3000 Polaków. Natomiast na Guernsey ze względu na bardzo restrykcyjne prawo pracy i zamieszkania, Polakom nie jest łatwo zadomowić się na stałe. W związku z tym polska społeczność jest płynna. Nie ma więc potrzeby otwierania polskich szkół sobotnich, centrów kultury, restauracji i sklepów.

Polacy zatrudniani są w różnych sektorach. Pracują w restauracjach, pubach, hotelach, sklepach, w budownictwie, finansach, domach opieki i szpitalach. Są zarówno zwykłymi pracownikami, jak i pracują na stanowiskach menadżerskich.

We wrześniu 2008 roku na wyspę przybył pierwszy polski ksiądz. Otworzyło to możliwość spotykania się na comiesięcznych polskich Mszach Świętych i wspólne przeżywanie Świąt Bożego Narodzenia i Wielkiej Nocy, co jest bardzo mocno zakorzenione w polskiej tradycji.

Organizowane spływy kajakowe, spotkania przy grillu, wieczory poetyckie, jak i wiele innych wydarzeń pozwala na umocnienie więzi między tak nieliczną społecznością.

Należy wspomnieć, że Polacy nie pojawiли się na wyspie z chwilą przystąpienia Polski do Unii Europejskiej, ale miało to miejsce znacznie wcześniej. Z informacji jakie udało się uzyskać, grupa Polaków przybyła na wyspę podczas drugiej wojny światowej, jak również po jej zakończeniu. Jedynie część z nich zachowała polskość aż do śmierci. Niektórzy z nich, jak Państwo Komadera, zasłużyli się miejscowej społeczności. Znana jest historia Polaka, który przez całe życie nosił na piersi polską srebrną monetę z czasów dwudziestolecia międzywojennego. Po śmierci, jego przyjaciel przekazał mi tę cenną pamiątkę.

GUERNSEY'S ANCIENT LANGUAGE

By Richard Harding

Walking around town you hear people speaking mainly English. You may catch a few words of Portuguese, Latvian, Polish, French, German or Dutch but turn the clock back a few hundred years and it would have been Guernsey's own Norman language Guernésiais which you would have spoken and heard from day to day with 'Good French' as it was called reserved for church, the States, schools and official use. There are probably only a few hundred fluent speakers of the Norman language still alive in the island. As many people used to stay in their own parish for most of the time, different accents and many different words were used in different parts of the island and even parishes. Between the wars many teachers came from the UK and discouraged the language from their classrooms. The war itself with many islanders evacuated also dealt a big blow to the use of the language as did English language wireless shows.

St Peter Port once had its own variant but it is thought this may have died out up to 150 years ago. English has probably been the dominant language in town for the last two centuries vying with French in the 19th century. English aristocrats, officers, soldiers, sailors, merchants and more recently financiers along with other incomers have settled in town. The Church of St James the Last, now known as St. James Concert and Assembly Hall was completed in 1818. It was the first in the island to cater for English speakers, specifically the British garrison. The market was one place where Guernsey French could be heard regularly, mostly spoken by traders and customers from out of town.

Up until 1204 Guernsey was part of the Duchy of Normandy rather than coming under the English Crown and gradually a distinct variety of Norman evolved here. Guernésiais is one of three Norman languages still spoken in the Channel Islands along with Jèrriais in Jersey and Sercquiais in Sark. Aurignais in Alderney died out completely around the time of the Second World War. It was one of a group of languages called Les Langues d'Oil which was descended from Vulgar Latin spoken mainly in Northern France. Although often dismissed as "patois" by townies who sometimes struggled to understand their country cousins, Guernésiais was a fully fledged language albeit one which was not originally written down. There is no official way of writing the language although many people base their spellings on those from Marie De Garis' dictionary. Norman French has a long and proud tradition and includes some Scandinavian words brought over by the Norman invaders. It was the dialect of the Île de France around Paris that developed into modern French but only because it was the home of the Kings of France. Due to its relative isolation from mainland France, Guernésiais is thought to be the purest of the Norman dialects although of course it has been influenced by English and French over the years. It is likely that if William the Conqueror were to come back to life today he would be able to at least understand some Guernésiais, more so than the dialect spoken now in Normandy itself!

So what are the opportunities to learn the language? Dr Harry Tomlinson teaches a popular evening class for beginners at the College of FE, likewise Jan Marquis runs



A selection of Guernsey French books

beginners and elementary conversation groups and other courses. A growing number of books have been appearing over the last few years. The long-awaited latest edition of Marie De Garis Dictionnaire Anglais-Guernesiais is a key work. The last edition was published in 1982 and was long out of print with copies fetching sometimes hundreds of pounds. Several books have been published by Dr. Harry and Hazel Tomlinson and Jan Marquis. As for the media, there is Donkey Dialogue every Thursday in the Guernsey Press and on Saturday Morning you can tune in to the Guernsey French news with Cynthia Lenormand around 8.35am on BBC Guernsey and then Jan's Guernesiais Ditaon d'la Semoine (Phrase of the Week) around 9.25am on Island FM. Several infant and primary schools in the island offer lunchtime and after-school teaching in Guernsey French and at Blanchelande it is even part of the scheduled lessons. There are several regular volunteer teachers. While no town schools offer regular teaching, pupils from Vauvert Primary School

compete in the Guernsey French Eisteddfod each year along with other schools.

What of the future? The Culture & Leisure Department is launching the Guernsey Language Commission on Liberation Day. The Commissioners are States "Political Champion of Guernsey French" Deputy Darren Duquemin, Guernsey Museums Director Dr. Jason Monaghan, PR Guru Steve Falla, website entrepreneur and the voice of Len and Enid on Island FM Randalls ads, Neil Inder. Guernsey Museum's Access and Learning Manager Jo Dowding and Louise Mahieux. The aim of the Commission is to support the existing Guernsey French organisations, raising funds and providing grants, and lifting the profile of Guernesiais through a website, assisting teaching initiatives and more. The hope is that islanders will take a real pride in their language Guernesiais with many islanders learning a few words and phrases with a few becoming fluent speakers thereby giving the language a future as well as a glorious past. 

THE TIME LAW BROKE OUT IN GUERNSEY

By Keith Pike

This is the first in a series of articles written by Douzenier Keith Pike, an authority on early town policing, explaining how the role came about and how it evolved over time.

Dolmens and Menhirs which are found in various parts of the Island built by the Neolithic people who inhabited this island 5,000-6,000 years ago. Law enforcement was possibly on a tribal basis. Little is known of that side of their culture.

The Romans were here in the Island! Roman Law would have most certainly been enforced. The parishes (St Peter Port, St Martin, St Sampson, Vale, Torteval, Castel, St Saviour, St Pierre du Bois, Forest and St Andrew) are based around the Parish Churches, and are believed to have been formed in the 3rd and 4th Centuries. Each of the Parish Churches dates back to at least the 7th Century. Responsibility for law and order would possibly have been subject to a parochial system. The Franks, who conquered France in the 6th Century, also imposed their feudal system upon this Island during the course of their occupation.

In 1204 the Island formed part of the Duchy of Normandy. The Island's Norman ancestors were able administrators and the Norman code of laws was known as Le Grand Coutumier. The Criminal Law of the Bailiwick has more than half of the Norman Common Law offences.

The Channel Islands became Independent possessions of the Crown of England. The law enforcement was under the powers vested in Seigneurs of the various Fiefs in the Island. Feudal Courts were held in these Fiefs, some of which had gallows rights. How the office



The First Assistant Constable William Jesse

of Constable of the Parish came into being is unknown. The earliest record of Constables is dated February 1438, and this deals with action taken by Constables when any stranger may arrive on the Island without lodgings. The first official records relating to Constables appears in 1570 when the Royal Court insisted that the Constables must see to the implementation of the Ordinances passed by the Royal Court. In 1581 the Constables of the Parish were authorised to search for stolen property in suspect's premises, but could only do this if they were accompanied by two men of means. These Police functions were further strengthened in 1661 when victims of crime were recommended to apply to their Parish Constables for action to be taken.

The increase in crime and public disquiet in St Peter Port lead in November 1838 to appointing 12 Special Constables for a limited time because of the number of robberies which were occurring in St Peter Port. The services of the Special

In 1902 the force increased to 12

Outside the Constables Office Lefevre Street 1908

Constables Messrs O Priaux & W de P Crousez

Left to right:- George Boucher, Cliff Tardiff, Jim Marley, Frank Pulsford, Lance Corporal Fred Roberts, Jim Ley, Frank Adams, Sergeant George Burley, Sam Gallienne, Fred Le Poidevin, Sam Lanford & Frank Delsey.



Constables had a marked effect in restoring law and order to the town. In an Order in Council dated 1846, the duties of the Constable are defined: "To preside over meetings of the Douzaine (Parish Council), to keep the Parish books, to act as Parish treasurer, and to have entire charge of the Police." The responsibility of Law and Order was being firmly placed upon the Constables of the respective Parishes.

The Constables of the Parish of St Peter Port 1st June 1853, presented to the Royal Court four persons - Namely WILLIAM JESSE, BERNARD ELLIOT, JOHN GOUBEY, and JOHN WILLIAMS - to be sworn in as Assistant Constables. The oath of office was administered to them accordingly, these Constables, to receive salaries of £160 between them annually. A uniform resembling that worn by the London police was chosen, and they were expected to be on duty night and day, with no holiday or sick pay, and were also to act as Fire Officers for the three fire pumps in the Parish.



1881 the force increased to 6

St Peter Port Police 1901
W Austin, A Pulsford, D Mathews,
T Roberts, G Burley, E Martin.

By the end of their first year, the paid Police had won the approval of the Parishioner's of St Peter Port and they were retained permanently. This proved that a uniformed Police Force was necessary and essential if Law and Order were to be preserved in a Parish whose population was expanding. On the 25 Feb 1854 the grant increased to £200 between the four Assistant Constables.



Guernsey Mounted Police
King Edward VII Coronation 1902

Left to right: P Sgt T F Roberts, P C F Delsey, P C W Austin, P C J Burton, P C S Gallienne, P Sgt G F Burley.
In 1920 the force was increased to 22 and paid for by the States of Guernsey.

During the first six months three major crimes were committed which lead to the favouring of the Paid Police:

Joseph Warren, robberies and escape off the Island and Hospital. Sentenced 14 years.
Penal Servitude.

Henry Webb, forged £5 note. Sentenced 10 years. Penal Servitude.

Charles John Tapner, Murder of Madame Saujon, in the Canichers. Sentenced to hang. Was hanged 10th February 1854.

Example of Stories

14th February 1863

The Star

James Major and John Dunn, urchins about nine years of age, were produced for having cut out and stolen some copper thimbles and other gear from sails belonging to a boat in the Careening Harbour, the property of John Hammond. The Court sentenced Major's father to find bail, in the sum of £10, for one year or quit the Island; the said bail to be forthcoming by Friday next. Dunn was bound down in his own recognisances, in the sum of £2 for six months.

Thursday 9th November 1865 Occurrence Book

Edward Tanner, George Downey, Thomas Dunn

& John Dunn charged with ripping & stealing copper from a boat belonging to Mr Le Couteur in the Careening Dock on Monday the 30th ultimo. Sentenced Tanner & Downey to 4 days & the 2 Dunns to two days solitary confinement on bread & water.

9th November 1865

The Star

Four boys, named respectively Tanner, Downing, Dunn and Dunn, varying in age from 13 to 10, were charged with stealing Muntz metal from a boat in the Careening Hard.

Tanner and Downing were sentenced to four days, and the two Dunns to two days, solitary confinement on bread and water. [T](#)



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COMMUNITY POLICE

PC 117 Robbie Dover

PC 117 Robbie Dover has been a Police Officer since 2005. He joined the Neighbourhood Police Team in 2008 taking responsibility for Town, including La Charotterie, Beau Sejour & Cambridge Park. He works closely with primary school children, delivering lessons endorsed by the Education Department and helps out at a number of youth clubs operating from Les Ozouets Campus.

He is tasked with identifying and addressing problems before they get out of hand and offering crime reduction advice, working with other agencies when necessary. He also has regular contact with businesses in Town whether they are retail or office based, to tackle problems like shoplifting or anti-social behaviour.

The Police recognise the importance of regular contact with the Parish Constables as a source of information and in order to provide a true victim focused policing service. Following the Chief Officers briefing to the Constables of all the parishes, close working partnerships have been formed and a certain degree of Police activity has been focused on information supplied by the Parish Constables, primarily in relation to littering, fly tipping and anti-social behaviour. This has resulted in several convictions regarding fly tipping in the Town using evidence provided by CCTV which has been installed near to problem areas.

More cases are under investigation. Fly tipping is an offence under criminal law and those prosecuted for the offence receive a hefty fine. Police can also issue fixed penalty tickets for littering and intend to support the Parish Constables in this area in order to reduce



the cost to the taxpayer for clearing up after offenders.

Of course Robbie is an operational officer and as well as his specialist work as a neighbourhood beat officer he performs all of the duties of a regular Police Officer.

If anyone would like to contact Robbie regarding any problems they have or would like any advice please contact him on 07781 137902 or e-mail: Robert.Dover@guernsey.pnn.police.uk, alternatively call the Police Station on 725111 in order to leave a message.

Crime and prevention advice

Do not leave valuables in your car, always lock car/property when unattended, do not leave ladders/steps out in open & have security lights near to your property. 

DOUZAINÉ WASTE COMMITTEE

Set up in early 2012, the committee are looking at ways to improve our Parish, not only by the way we treat our rubbish, but also by increasing the amount of recycling we do. Some of the big issues we have found, from walking the streets and talking to Parishioners, include the amount of recyclable materials that are still being sent to landfill, and we strongly encourage our Parishioners to make full use of the recycling facilities available, as this ultimately has an effect on the amount of rates we, as a Parish, must pay for refuse collections. Also, many people are putting rubbish out either too early, or on the wrong days, and the longer a bin bag remains outside, particularly during daylight hours, the more attractive it becomes to gulls and animals, as the photograph shows.

OUR PARISH, OUR STREETS



We would like to ask Parishioners to help us to keep our streets clean and tidy by:

- **putting your household rubbish in strong plastic bin bags, preferably in a Eurobin,**
- **only putting rubbish out on the correct nights,**
- **and only putting the bags out after dark as this will help to prevent sea gulls breaking open the bags and spreading litter around the area.**

Please also recycle as much as possible, at the various town facilities, as this ultimately affects the rates you pay!

For any further information please contact the Constables office on 720014

St Peter Port Douzaine Waste Committee

A NOSSA PARÓQUIA, AS NOSSAS RUAS



Pedimos a todos os paroquianos que nos ajudem a manter as nossas ruas limpas e sem entulho:

- **Ponha o seu lixo em sacos pretos grossos e de preferência num caixote Eurobin,**
- **Só ponha o lixo na rua nas noites certas,**
- **Só ponha o lixo na rua depois de anotecer para evitar que as gaivotas rasguem os sacos e espalhem lixo pela área.**

Por favor recicle o mais possível nas várias instalações à sua disposição, pois quanto mais reciclar, menos impostos irá pagar! Para mais informações contacte o 'Constables Office' no número 720014.

Comité de Resíduos da Junta de Freguesia de St Peter Port

MŪSU PAGASTS, MŪSU IELAS



Mēs lūdzam JŪS palīdzēs mums saglabāt pilsetās ielas tīras un sakoptas:

- **ievietojot sadzīves atkritumus stipros plastmasas maisos, vēlams, Eurobin,**
- **izliekot šos maisus uz ielas savākšanai tikai noteiktos vakaros,**
- **izliekot šos maisus tikai pēc tumsas iestāšanās. Tas palīdz izvairīties no kaijām, kas pamanās maisus atplēst un izkaisīt atkritumus.**

Lūdzam arī pēc iespējas vairāk izmantot otrreizējās pārstrādāšanas konteinerus, jo tas ietekmē likmes, ko jūs maksājat! Papildu informāciju, lūdzu, zvaniet 720014, Constables ofiss.

St Peter Port Douzaine atkritumu komiteja



WASTE WEIGHT WATCHERS

St Peter Port parish is charged by weight for tipping household waste at the Mont Cuet landfill.

The tipping charge has increased by 5.4% this year. This cost has to be passed onto parishioners.

Please Recycle as much as possible at Bring-Banks to reduce the weight of your household waste, which will reduce the refuse rate St Peter Port parish has to charge parishioners.

To recycle, please empty and clean recyclable food packaging (bottles, cans, etc.) and keep the dry recyclable material in a separate bag or container to be taken to the bring banks. At the moment, food waste and other organic waste goes into household waste, unless you have the facility to compost properly.

The Bring-Banks at Salerie Corner and at the Rohais Waitrose supermarket location accept:

- **empty glass bottles**
- **clean aluminium cans and steel tins (food cans, biscuit tins, aerosol cans)**
- **clean plastic packaging (but not black plastic or plastic film)**
- **clean paper including newspapers and magazines**
- **clean cardboard**
- **clean clothing, shoes, books, DVDs, CDs (Salvation Army bring bank)**

- **clean, white Styrofoam packaging material for white goods (Longue Hougue and Chouet bring banks only)**
- **Longue Hougue recycling facility for hard plastic toys, ferrous and non-ferrous metal, non-bottle glass, china plates, kitchen utensils, batteries and many other items.**

Please visit the Public Service Department recycling website for a complete list.

If you have no vehicle to transport your recyclable material to a bring bank please ask a friend or a neighbour with a vehicle if they will help you recycle.

If you cannot recycle every recyclable item please try to recycle the heaviest items such as glass bottles.

If you cannot recycle bottles please empty them of liquid to reduce weight before placing them in the household waste.

There is still a lot of heavy recyclable material in St Peter Port's household waste that can be recycled at bring banks and save you money.

Please reduce the weight of your household waste through recycling.

Thank you.

St Peter Port household Waste Committee

THE TUNNELS OF ST PETER PORT

By Steve Powell

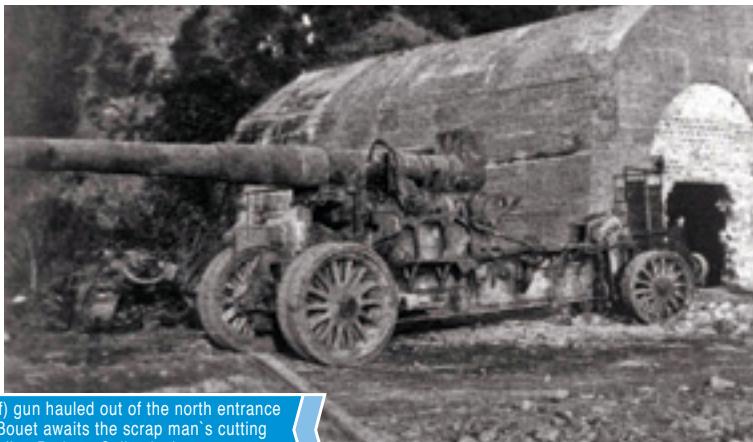
Festung Guernsey have kindly agreed to provide the Townie magazine with a series of interesting articles on the impact of the Occupation on our parish.

During the Occupation the German forces excavated numerous tunnels in the Channel Islands. The official German designation for the tunnels is Hohlgangsanlagen (cave passage installations), abbreviated to Ho. Some were to store supplies, others to house generators and other vital services and some as personnel shelters. Due to the vast resources consumed by the construction of the battery at St. Saviour's, Batterie Mirus, most tunnels were never completed, and many were sealed after Liberation in May 1945. Subsequently there have been numerous roof falls in the unlined sections of tunnels, many penetrating through to the surface, making examination of the interiors dangerous if not impossible, and having repercussions for those who own the properties above.

However, it is the use that many of the tunnels were put to after the war that has kept them in the public eye, and has led to many rumours and

legends. As the Liberation Task Force cleared the Island of unwanted German war material in 1945, many artillery pieces were temporarily stored at Port Soif, Vale, on the old agricultural show ground. Early in 1946 they decided to use the larger tunnels with completed sections to store vast quantities of equipment and vehicles, including tanks, artillery guns and all manner of smaller items such as helmets, gas mask canisters and ammunition boxes. The entrances were then sealed. In certain cases less advanced, unlined tunnels were filled with 'rubbish' such as barbed wire and the entrances securely sealed and buried, some deemed to be dangerous had their roofs blown in. It is the fact that so many tunnels are inaccessible that makes it so difficult to prove or dismiss the stories that exist.

After the war Britain was experiencing a severe monetary crisis and in 1946 a major scrap metal drive was implemented. It was not long before the vast amount of unwanted German war material in the Channel Islands attracted the attention of the British Government. Local contractors were employed to open the various tunnels and extract as much scrap metal as was possible. Even after



A 22cm K532(f) gun hauled out of the north entrance of Ho.2 at Le Bouet awaits the scrap man's cutting torch in 1947. (Ian Brehaut Collection)



A wartime picture of the Havelet entrance of Ho.3

from Eingesetzte Waffen (Operational Weaponry) section of Festung Guernsey showing elements of Schnell Abteilung 450 (Mobile Battalion 450) with a 7.5cm Pak 40. The unit was based at the tunnel for some time in 1944. (Richard Heaume Collection)

several scrap metal drives much remained, and still remains, in some of the tunnels. It is this equipment that was left in the tunnels that has acted as a magnet to generations of schoolboys, and led to stories of tunnels, sealed soon after Liberation, crammed full of all manner of collectable and valuable equipment. In reality that which remained had, by the 1970s, deteriorated badly in the damp conditions, or was entombed behind rock falls. Once all the salvageable material had been removed from the tunnels they were sealed once again and eventually all former German military sites reverted to their pre-war civilian owners. It is in St Peter Port that by far the largest concentration of tunnels can be found. With the exception of Ho 2 the remainder are all in within a small radius. Some will no doubt be familiar to readers but there are a number that are tucked away out of site, or well sealed.

Ho. 2. Ration Store.

Located at Le Bouet, St. Peter Port, this is a large storage tunnel having three entrances, two being for the circulation of vehicles. A large part of the tunnel was lined and ready for use by 1944, and at this time 11,783 cubic metres of rock had been removed. After the war the lined sections were used to store a large number of unwanted German vehicles including tanks and half-tracks. The larger items were removed for scrap in 1947 but many gun limbers and field kitchens still remain in the tunnel. Today, the entrance to the lined central section is owned by the States of Guernsey, and is securely locked while the north, and south entrances, both in old quarries, are blocked by massive rock falls.

Ho. 3. Naval Supply Store.

Located at Le Havelet / Le Val des Terres, St. Peter Port. Another of the large storage complexes having two vehicular entrances, the tunnel linking these being concreted. An unlined gallery leading to the storage area of the complex has totally collapsed and much of the tunnel is now inaccessible. The completed section of tunnel was in use by 1944, and at this time 7,020 cubic metres of rock had been extracted. The tunnel is now in multiple private ownership and is used for storage purposes.

Ho. 4. Fuel Store.

Located at La Valette, St. Peter Port. This tunnel has four chambers running into the cliff to house the fuel tanks and an entrance tunnel at the northern end of the complex, linked by a lengthy pedestrian gallery at the rear. It was concrete lined apart from the entrance tunnel and the fuel tanks were installed late in 1944. At this time 3,721 cubic metres of rock had been extracted. Three of the fuel tanks were removed after the war, the fourth being left due to a rock fall at the entrance, and the tunnel was sealed. It was re-opened in 1987, renovated, and opened to the public as La Valette Underground Military Museum in 1988.

Ho. 5. Personnel Shelter.

Located at Havilland Vale, St. Peter Port. Designed as a shelter for a large number of troops and having three pedestrian entrances. Excavations were well advanced, 2,335 cubic metres of rock having been removed. All of the tunnels were bored to pilot tunnel dimensions. (Approximately 2 metres wide by 2.5 metres high). No concrete was ever poured, and work was abandoned, probably late in 1943. The whole complex is now severely flooded and all the entrances are on private property.



This storage chamber in the tunnels at Le Bouet are filled with field kitchens (left) and limbers (right). (Steve Powell)

Ho. 8. Munitions Store.

Located adjacent to Ho. 4 at La Valette, St. Peter Port. The original tunnel was built in the 19th Century to give access to Soldiers Bay, and was extended by the Germans with the addition of three concrete lined storage chambers. A 10.5cm coast defence gun casemate was established outside the southern entrance. The tunnel was completed early in 1945 and put to use, 1,838 cubic metres of rock having been removed. It was filled with unwanted German equipment after the war, and sealed. Most of the larger items were removed for scrap in 1952, the smaller equipment remaining until the mid 1960s when it was cleared and the tunnel converted into the Aquarium.

Ho. 33. Personnel Shelter.

Located at Havilland Vale, St. Peter Port is a similar tunnel to Ho. 5, on the opposite side of the valley, also having three pedestrian entrances. Excavations were well advanced, 4,712 cubic metres of rock having been extracted when work ceased. All of the tunnels were bored to pilot tunnel dimensions and no concrete was ever poured. All three entrances are now securely sealed.

Ho. 34. Personnel Shelter.

Located at Havilland Vale, St. Martin, across the road from the other two tunnels. The interior of Ho. 34 was at a similar stage of construction when work ceased. 3,514 cubic metres of rock having been extracted. The two personnel entrances are both securely sealed and on private property.

Ho. 36. Personnel Shelter.

Located at Colborne Road, St. Peter Port. One entrance is known to have been under construction in a small quarry half way up the hill. The entrance was filled with barbed wire by the British Army in 1946 and the quarry backfilled to road level. The shed which still stands today was built on the site shortly after. No further information on this site is available and the extent of the tunnel is unknown.

Ho. Lower Lines. Personnel Shelter.

Located at Fort George, St. Peter Port. This personnel tunnel has four one metre wide entrance tunnels linked by three lengthy chambers containing three tier angle iron bunks to accommodate 138 personnel. This complex was intended to provide emergency shelter for the garrison of the Fort during air-raids. (The Allies attacked the radar installations at Fort George frequently, especially around D-Day in June 1944).



The main gallery of Ho.5 at Havilland Vale

leading from the central to the lower entrance. Note the sole surviving timber roof prop on the right of the photograph. (Steve Powell)

Work was almost completed and the complex is concrete lined apart from one unlined tunnel to the rear which would have led up into the Fort had it been completed. Today houses have been constructed in front of the entrances and there is no public access.

Ho. Princes Lines. Intended use not known.

Located at Fort George, St. Peter Port. This tunnel was under construction in a Victorian store building near the Citadel. It was excavated through friable rock and the entrance was obliterated during redevelopment work at the Fort. Known to run some distance towards Fort Road where it partially collapsed under a new house in the 1970s, the full extent of this tunnel is not known, and its intended use was not recorded.

Ho. Vimera. Personnel Shelter.

Located at the former Vimera College, Rohais, St. Peter Port. This shelter tunnel for the garrison had two entrances, one in the basement of the college itself, and the second in the grounds, the tunnel running beneath the garden. Most of the tunnel was unlined and a section collapsed in about 1970. The whole complex was destroyed when the college was demolished to make way for the development of St. Pierre Park Hotel in 1980.

In depth information on these as well as all the others tunnels in the Bailiwick of Guernsey has now been published in a new book entitled "German Tunnels in Guernsey, Alderney and Sark". It is the culmination of many years of research by Ernie Gavey, and more recently by the Festung Guernsey group.



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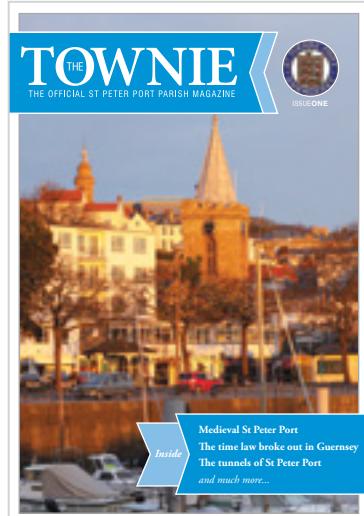
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The history of Scouting in St Peter Port - Part 1

HOW SCOUTING STARTED

By Eric Grimsley



Born Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell in London on 22nd February, 1857, no-one would have thought that he would have such an influence on the training of young people in the twentieth century and be responsible for a world-wide youth organisation that is still relevant today in the twenty-first century.

In July 1907 B-P tried out his training techniques on Brownsea Island, to which he invited 20 boys from different backgrounds, public schoolboys mixing with working-class lads. The group also included some boys who attended Boys Brigade. The camp was a success, and he tried to encourage other boys' organisations to take up his ideas. The following January he started publishing fortnightly instalments of "Scouting for Boys". By April the publisher saw that there was potential to publish the articles as a book. At the end of the year the book had been reprinted twelve times, and it had also been translated into different languages including Russian and Norwegian.

In the Guernsey Star an article on 15th October 1908 was headed "A REMARKABLE DEVELOPMENT". The article reported on the spread of the Scouting movement. "*The development of the scheme of Boy Scouts has assumed large proportions, far beyond what had been expected on its first initiation six months ago*". Boys were banding together and trying out the techniques from "Scouting for Boys" for themselves, and it was not long before they started asking adults for help. The danger was that it could easily get out of control and the scheme could be misunderstood or misdirected. The paper went on to say that "*towns should*



Baden-Powell at Brownsea Island Camp

© Courtesy of The Scout Association

form a Boy Scouts' Committee which would take cognisance of all patrols and troops within the district; it would appoint the Scoutmasters and award the badges of classification to Scouts; would make arrangements for camps and parades... and generally help in the matter of establishing clubs and fitting out the boys with equipment. Two travelling inspectors have been appointed by central executives, whose business it is to visit, free of charge, any centre requiring their services, to give advice and suggestions, to conduct tests, and generally to regulate administration on a recognised standard. These inspectors are Mr W. G. Wakefield and Mr Eric Walker, for the North and South respectively."

How Scouting started in Guernsey

Scouting had originally started in Guernsey the same way as it did in England, with the boys getting together and trying out BP's scouting ideas from his Scouting for



29 Victoria Road, St Peter Port

The former British & Foreign Schools building in New Place

Boys fortnightly magazines published between January and March 1908. Three patrols were known to exist before the formation of the 1st Guernsey, they were: Peewit Patrol (Elizabeth College), Otter Patrol (St Martins) and Kangaroo Patrol (St Peter Port) the latter may well have joined the 1st Guernsey. On the 5 April 1909 a group of men met to discuss starting a Scout Troop in Guernsey. As a result the 1st Guernsey (Victoria) Scout Troop was formed on the 28th April, a reference was made in documents that an Island Scout Masters and Patrol Leaders had a meeting later that month.

The Scoutmaster of the 1st Guernsey was Sydney Le Lievre Frampton, he was the son of Sydney and Martha (nee Le Lievre) and the family lived in Mount Durand. Sydney junior worked with his father who owned a Coach Building business at 29 Victoria Road, St Peter Port (formerly the Island Archives which is next to Guernsey Toys). The 1st Guernsey met in those very early days at Sydney's workshop in Victoria Road and the troop was named after the road. They soon outgrew the premises and in 1911 they moved to Park Street School, and they became known as the "Trinity Terrors". A few years later they moved to Victoria Hall (*the Wesleyan Chapel half way up Victoria Road, now flats*).

Sydney became the first Island Commissioner in 1909 until Guernsey registered the local Association with London and had to comply with their regulations resulting in Colonel Grant de Jersey taking over in 1911. On the 20th April 1911 Sydney married Katie Hansford, the press reported "At the close of the ceremony, 14 members of the 1st Troop Boy Scouts formed a line with crossed staves under which the newly married couple passed out of the Chapel".

Katie used to help in the background with the scout troop and for this she was awarded the 'Thanks Badge'. Sydney became the District Scout Master in 1912 and was given a Gold 'Thanks Badge' for his services to Guernsey Scouting when he resigned, and left the island in December 1914 to set up a motor car dealership in Essex. He died ten years later on the 24th February 1924 at the age of 47.

In 1928 the 1st Guernsey were offered new premises, the former British & Foreign Schools building in New Place, which they initially rented before being offered the building where they met for seventy years until 1999 when the building was sold. The group now meet in St Stephen's Community Centre.

Guernsey Boy Scouts' Association 1911

Chief Patron: His Excellency Major-General Sir E.O.F. Hamilton K.C.B. Lt Governor

President: William Carey Esq Bailiff

Vice President: Osmond Priaulx

Local Chief Scout and Chairman of Executive: Lieut-Colonel F J Ryder D.A.A.G.

Vice-Chairman: Mr H E Mauger

Commissioner: Colonel W Grant de Jersey

District Scoutmaster: Sydney L Frampton

Hon Treasurer and Hon Secretary: (Vacant)

1st Guernsey Victoria Headquarters:

Park Street Schools

Assistant Scoutmasters: F. Pipe, George Ralls

Katie Frampton

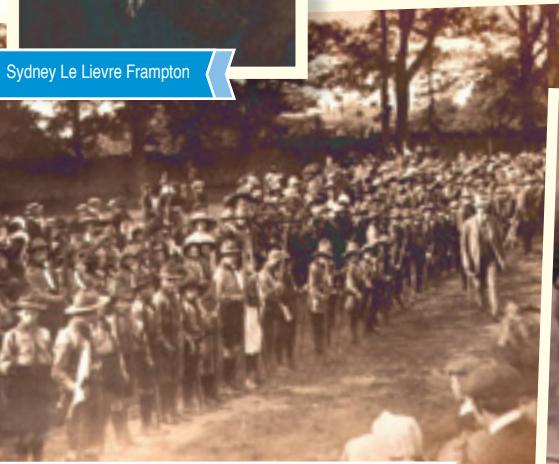


Sydney Le Lievre Frampton



Scoutmasters c1913

Back row: unknown, George Ralls & Fred Pipe 1st Gsy, Claude de J. Mauger 3rd, Cecil Ralls 4th Gsy, unknown. Front Row: Frank McDade 6th Gsy, Herbert J. Mauger 3rd Gsy, Ernest T. Baker 2nd Gsy, Sydney Frampton District Scout Master, Wilfred Frampton 1st Gsy, Martin de Moul pied 5th Gsy.



Scouts on parade at Cambridge Park Empire Day 1912



1912 Boy Scout Inter-Patrol Challenge Shield:
1st Guernsey Wolves with 270½ points

References:

- The late Marjorie Frampton: back ground history and photographs
- Scout Masters' Minute Books 1909-1912
- Guernsey Scout Council Minute Books 1911-1920
- Guernsey Evening Press and Star 1908-1911
- Henry George Yeagers: Scrapbook of newspaper cuttings (died 1913)
- Mr Chapple (1st Guernsey Trustee) History of British & Foreign School (1st Guernsey Trustee)

David Kreckeler, Eric Piprell and Bill Hill
Ex 1st Guernsey members

Laurence Troallic (ex-Scout Leader at the 1st Guernsey)
National Scout Archives Gilwell

Special thanks to the Priaulx Library staff for their help with the research.

Eric Grimsley published "Going Forward" The history of Guernsey Scouting 2011. If anybody has memories of the 1st Guernsey Victoria he would be pleased to hear from them. Email: e.grimsley@cwgsy.net

ADVERTS FROM THE PAST

Daisy Vacuum Cleaner 16th April 1910 - The Star

In today's age of modern Dyson vacuum cleaners and lightweight hoovers, it is interesting to see what was being advertised 100 years ago.

On Thursday last we had a brief account of the new "Daisy Vacuum Cleaner" for which Messrs I C Fuzzey Ltd, Mill Street, are the agents. A very good illustration of the model B hand machine appears in our advertising columns. This handy little machine is a foe to dust, and no matter where the latter may lurk, provided it can be reached by the nozzle attached to the flexible hose which communicates with the machine, it is sucked up with lightning rapidity and ignominiously transferred to a bag from whence it cannot escape. It is so simple a matter to clean a carpet, no matter how many years it has been laid down, that it becomes a positive pleasure for one of the household to set to work with the Daisy Vacuum Cleaner and rid the carpet just as it lies on the floor of its cargo of dust, and this in a far more effective way than if the carpet had been taken up and subjected to the old fashioned beating with heavy sticks. Much annoyance, to say nothing of the time occupied in taking up the carpet and laying it down, is thus saved. Frequently a carpet suffers considerably when it is violently wrenched from the floor, and it is nothing unusual for a heavy blow of the beater's stick to make a hole in it or to open the seams which have to be re-sewn. All this may be avoided by two persons, one to turn the handle at the speed of 60 revolutions a minute and the other to pass the nozzle over the carpet. The passage of the dust is invisible, and not a particle is seen floating about. The process is the cleanest and most hygienic that can be imagined. It is guaranteed, a practical test of which we witnessed on Thursday, that every atom of dust

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is removed from a carpet, it is immaterial how much dust there is, in the course of a few minutes. Curtains may be cleaned where they hang and furniture relieved of the dust which it accumulated in scarcely appreciable time. Although the suction of the nozzle is very powerful, nevertheless the daintiest fabrics are uninjured. For clothing, as a person wears it, no brush will rid it of dust as the vacuum brush which can be used for this purpose. In offices where books and stacks of papers, or in warehouses where bales of cloth, etc, have been undisturbed for some time and become impregnated with dust, the "Daisy" will soon suck it off and the papers or bales of cloth referred to or examined without inconvenience. It may be interesting to know that the inventor and patentee of these machines, which may be used by hand or electricity, is Mr Albert S Isles, the well-known organ builder of Birmingham. The height of the machine advertised in another column is 30 inches, depth 16 inches and width 15 inches. Its weight with the hand wheel is 54lbs, and it runs on castors. The price of the machine is 7 guineas. TM

THE THOUSAND YEAR OLD PORT

By Peter Gill

The prosperity of any island is, by definition, linked to the sea. An island that is not entirely self supporting, as is increasingly the case here in Guernsey, is more dependent on its ability to link to its external markets and suppliers. We expect to be able to travel to London and be there within a couple of hours of leaving the island. Today's society demands regularity, such as delivery of newspapers and mail, and does not regard them as luxuries. Yet the world wide web will deliver further change in even these traditional daily expectations. At a more fundamental level, there is a tacit assumption and even expectation, that shops are stocked with fresh fruit, vegetables, loo rolls and all manner of commodities which contribute to delivery of daily life on an isolated rock.

We live in a 'just in time' society and whilst normal service is being delivered, we take the infrastructure that delivers all this, for

granted. Once in a while, an aeroplane breaks down, or fog occurs, and even more infrequently, an ash cloud disrupts wider travel. The sheer inconvenience of delay becomes immediately apparent. When things go wrong, more often than not, it is the harbour of St. Peter Port that becomes our saviour. Two in three travellers arrive in Guernsey by air, yet 98% of the freight comes by sea. We rely heavily on our harbours and will do so as far as anyone can see into the future.

St. Peter Port has served the island well for over a thousand years. Early trading vessels would simply run up the beach, but with time and as trade and population increased, ships became bigger and some form of protection became a necessity. The 'Asterix' wreck provides early evidence of the business, its scope, and also the risks. The site of today's harbour, well protected from the prevailing





winds seems well chosen, yet suffered, and still does today, from strong south easterly winds. A south mole was built and its significance was clear when in 1275, King Edward I authorised dues to be levied for its reconstruction. It was not until the reign of Queen Elizabeth I that further development was undertaken, and a huge dry stone pier constructed. This lasted until the harbour was expanded in the nineteenth century. It proved so successful, with its 35 feet high walls and 20 ft wide flat piers, that a Northern arm was proposed and eventually built. The enclosed harbour still dried out and the new emplacement was pierced by a tunnel for carts to access the beach. The port was well established, large warehouses were constructed and trade flourished, largely based on the entrepôt wine business. Guernsey-built vessels traded worldwide, privateers recognised the strategic value of the island and port and many local fortunes were created on the back of this business.

The coming of steam, in 1823, when 'Medina' arrived, created a seminal opportunity. Sail was in terminal decline and in 1830 the States of Guernsey were petitioned to develop the harbour. The enlightened Bailiff De Lisle Brock saw the opportunity and championed

the development, yet it was not until 1851 that the States finally agreed to build the harbour we still recognise and admire 150 years on. That decision was, by any standard, momentous. The first stone was formally laid on 24 August 1852, to much acclaim at a huge formal ceremony.

The structure has survived two world wars and continues to support a population twice the size and far more materialistic than that existing when it was envisioned. Today's commerce is delivered through a small secure area of four working berths, hitherto unthinkable. The remainder of the port has been transformed from commercial quays into a "boat and car park".

Six days a week, at 3 in the morning, unseen by most, almost like clockwork, a single large ship creeps inside the pier heads and disgorges itself of freight and food, destined for the supermarket shelves. The Commodore Goodwill breathing life into each day. The same happens at 4 in the afternoon with the Commodore Clipper. St. Peter Port harbour quietly and unhurriedly continues to support island life in the same way it has done for over a thousand years. For how long can this continue?

ST PETER PORT PARISH EVENTS

May to September 2013

Every Friday	Fresh Friday Market, Market Square	0900 - 1400
6th May	World Aid Walk	0800 - 1700
8th May	Specsavers Liberation Tea Dance & Hangar Ball	Beau Sejour
8th May	Volunteering	0900 - 1700
9th May	Liberation Day	
17th May	Museums Night at Castle Corner	
25th-27th May	Normandie Markets at North Beach	
26th May	Taste Guernsey Seafront Sunday	1000 - 1700
1st June	Coronation Fun Day at Cambridge Park	1200 - 1700
2nd June	Pensioners Coronation Tea Party, Les Cotils	1530
8th June	ITEX Walk. Starts at the White Hart Pub at	0500
9th June	Arts Guernsey Seafront Sunday	1000 - 1700
16th June	Sports Guernsey Seafront Sunday	1000 - 1700
22nd June	Pink Ladies Sunset Walk	
30th June	Taste Guernsey Seafront Sunday	1000 - 1700
12th July-2nd August	KPMG Castle Nights	
5th July	Customer Service Awards	1730
20-27th July	Town Carnival	1030 - 1600
3rd August	Fire Brigade Challenge	
4th August	Taste Guernsey Seafront Sunday	1000 - 1700
18th August	Fete D'Eti / Summer Festival	Starts 1000
24th August	Flash Dance	2 x 1/2 hour
24th-26th August	Normandie Markets at North Beach	
31st August	Taste of Guernsey	0900 - 1500
1st September	Taste Guernsey Seafront Sunday	1000 - 1700
7th-15th September	Healthspan Autumn Walking Week	
9th September	Animal Welfare Seafront Sunday	1000 - 1700
12th September	Guernsey Air Display	
21st-29th September	Autumn Floral Guernsey Festival	
22nd September	Guernsey Waterfront marathon IAG Grand Prix of Criterium Cycle Race - Quay and Albert Pier	

Further details of the above events can be found on: enquiries@visitguernsey.com
Other information and details of performances can be obtained from the website:
www.towncentrepertnership.com

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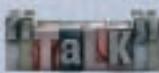
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