

# THE TOWNIE

THE OFFICIAL ST PETER PORT PARISH MAGAZINE



ISSUE TWELVE



*RAF Bomber Command Memorial  
Poppy Drop seen from the air.*

©Julian Andrews / The Daily Telegraph

**WWI: 744,000 British military  
personnel died. Out of 1200  
Guernsey Militia men only  
57 lived at the end of the war.**

**WWII: 450,900 British personnel died.**

**Alderney's Lost Roman Town?  
John Wilson: Guernsey's Architect  
Walks Around St Peter Port  
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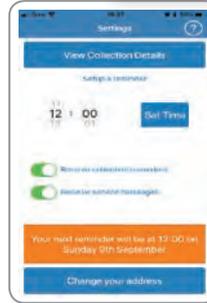
# FOREWORD

Thank you to all the contributors to The Townie Issue 12, without the articles you kindly produce there would be no bi-annual booklet. Thank you also to our readers, who we hope will enjoy reading the contents of this issue of The Townie

Sometimes there are subjects that should be mentioned, important for anyone living in St Peter Port, but which cannot be brought to your attention anywhere in the body of the issue. Two such items follow:

**New Recycling App** - St Peter Port and St Sampsons residents can download an App onto their smart phones and tablets that will not only tell them what to put out and on which day, but will also remind them!

The second item is a reminder, that becoming a Douzenier is a commitment to the people of the Parish to help in any way possible with any queries that the people of the Parish might have. A Douzenier swears or affirms an Oath prior to taking office. Our contact details are contained in



The App is called Bin2Day and is available for Android and Apple based devices.

the list of Douzeniers; please contact us if we can be of service.

There will be a **Parish Meeting** Wednesday 7th November - 7.30pm at Beau Sejour. Please consider attending - it's your Parish - your Rates **PLEASE HAVE YOUR SAY!**

**Rosie Henderson**

*Chairman The Townie Committee*

# THE TOWNIE

THE OFFICIAL ST PETER PORT PARISH MAGAZINE

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Townie Sub-Committee:

Rosie Henderson, Tim Bush, David Falla, Adrian Gabriel, Richard Harding, Zoe Lihou

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## DISCLAIMER

The Constables and Douzaine have no knowledge of the source or credibility of any information given in the articles by guest authors and printed in this issue of the Townie magazine, the information supplied by them is researched of their own accord. The Constables and Douzaine accept the written articles in good faith and do not accept responsibility for any errors, misquotes or misinformation contained within.

Cover photograph:

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## THANKS

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

# INTRODUCTION BY THE CONSTABLES



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Fortunately this year has sprung no surprises on us, which is a relief as surprises usually mean having to spend more money.

We have continued work on the bottom east side of Candie Cemetery. The plan is to rebuild two more sections per year on that part of the wall until it has been made secure for the next few hundred years, before completing the rebuilding of the Monument Road wall. We are about to level and bring some good ground into the space immediately behind the east wall, where we plan to plant some low allergy type bushes, which will have pretty flowers to attract birds and insects.

This along with the following, will be in line with our policy of planting this type of plant in the Parish. Just along the road opposite the Bank of Canada we own the three green spaces bordering the old Odeon car park. We are looking into replanting some low allergy type trees in them and plan to remodel the centre section by turning it into a Community Herb Garden plus one or two Mountain Ash trees. These have yellowish white flowers followed by

bunches of red berries which again will look pretty and attract birds and insects.

Finding good comfortable benches for our sites is not easy these days, as most are produced in a modern style, not suited to our old and charming parish. We did in the past purchase some from Ireland which were of an old style, but people's favourites were the Victorian style benches on the Crown Pier and Castle Walkway as they provide perfect comfort. To this end, we were told of the J.J. Siddons family foundry in West Bromwich that could produce some cast iron bench ends for us. We followed this up and now have enough in stock to make up 30 benches of the old Victorian style which people love.

In July we held our annual Senior Citizens Tea Party at Les Cotils which was very successful. Sandwiches, cake, tea and coffee were served and a toast was drunk to the Queen with Pink Prosecco. During the afternoon a film was shown of the recent royal wedding of Harry and Megan and all joined in a sing song of old favourites, which many said they really enjoyed. 

*The Constables are also members of the Douzaine.*

# JIM DELBRIDGE TO HOST THE COMMUNITY AWARDS 2018



The Community Foundation is pleased to announce that Island FM's Jim Delbridge will be hosting this year's Community Awards. The Community Awards celebrate local charities, organisations, groups, individuals and businesses who work tirelessly to raise money, provide services and undertake community projects for the benefit of others across the Bailiwick. There are seven awards categories: Outstanding Individual, Youth Award, the CSR Award, the Innovation Award, Fundraising Team of the Year, Organising Committee Award and the prestigious Charity of the Year.

Jim is a well-known writer, musician and broadcaster and is currently News Editor and Deputy Station Director at Island FM. He was a founder of the charity GO which gives employment and training opportunities for people with communication difficulties. Jim has kindly agreed to host this year's Awards Ceremony, to be held at St James on the 13th November. Jim will act as MC for the event helping to keep the event on track, introduce the categories and interview winners. Jim has hosted many awards events over the years and the Community Awards will benefit from his broad experience.

Community Foundation Chief Executive Jim Roberts commented: "We are thrilled to have such a seasoned and well-respected host at this year's Community Awards. Jim has longstanding commitments to Guernsey's charitable sector, notably his work with the employment charity GO. His involvement will be invaluable in making the night an enjoyable and memorable event for all. An independent Judges Panel will draw up a shortlist of nominees, who will be invited to November's Community Awards, which will take place at St James on Tuesday 13th. Winners will be announced at the event, tickets for which will go on sale in October. 📍

**For further information please see [www.communityawards.gg](http://www.communityawards.gg) or contact Sadie on [sadie@foundation.gg](mailto:sadie@foundation.gg) or 748056**

## ABOUT THE COMMUNITY AWARDS

The Community Awards celebrate local charities, organisations, groups, individuals and businesses who work tirelessly to raise money, provide services and undertake community projects for the benefit of others across the Bailiwick. Nominations are invited across seven categories: Outstanding Individual, Youth Award, the CSR Award, the Innovation Award, Fundraising Team of the Year, Organising Committee Award and the prestigious Charity of the Year.



the  
COMMUNITY  
awards



GUERNSEY COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

## ABOUT THE GUERNSEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

The Guernsey Community Foundation exists to promote effective philanthropy: the well-directed giving of money, time and ideas within the Bailiwick of Guernsey. The Foundation's vision is a vibrant and caring community, in which a strong and committed charitable sector works effectively with government and business. We work towards that vision by supporting voluntary organisations to develop, to help meet unmet local needs; and by partnering with government and business to help shape relevant policy. We provide insight on local needs by conducting research, working with our extensive networks, and acting as a trusted partner, adviser and critical friend to government. We promote leadership in the voluntary sector and the development of strong organisations. We build capacity and capability by making strategic decisions about resource allocation. We support charities with well-defined goals to plan, grow and develop their work - at all times aiming to achieve the best possible results for our island community.

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# WALKS AROUND ST PETER PORT



The ‘jewel in the crown’ of the Channel Islands is St Peter Port: a photogenic town with as colourful a history as anyone could imagine, as regular readers of ‘Townie’ magazine will have discovered. There is no better way to explore the Town’s hidden gems and hear about the traditions and fascinating history of the island’s capital. Tales of bravery, ingenuity and resourcefulness abound; because it is built on a hillside the only way to do this is by walking.

Throughout the visitor season, Easter to October, Accredited Guides are offering a series of daily walks, rain or shine. The walks will take different routes, perhaps along the seafront and into the ancient Town Church,

or maybe through the old markets and up to Victor Hugo’s house, or up to Candie Gardens and Victoria Tower. The Guides will tell you of the fascinating history of this medieval town, of privateers and smugglers, of the famous and the infamous, the antagonisms of the English Civil War and the hardships of the German Occupation. Each walk will start from the Tourist Information Centre where you will find information of start times, and they will last around one and a half hours.

Town tour guides have been awarded a certificate of excellence by Trip Advisor, the world’s biggest travel website, after a year of strong numbers and good reviews, for their

Town Walks. This year is the second certificate in succession. Figures have steadily risen and have exceeded 1000 for the last 2 years. 2018 looks to outdo last year and month on month show a 14% rise. Within the categories, Cruise Ship, UK, Guernsey, European and Rest of the World, the group on the rise is definitely Cruise Ship passengers. 2016 to 2017 saw a leap from 14% to 26%, and 2018 is running at 30%. The largest group is invariably British (UK) and those numbers usually account for 40 to 50% of walkers. The Town Walks team is made up of around 20 accredited guides, all belong to the Bailiwick of Guernsey Guild of Accredited Guides. The aim of The Bailiwick of Guernsey Guild of Accredited Guides is to promote and ensure all gold and silver accredited guides are quality assured. Guides who have achieved a silver or gold Badge, awarded under the stringent training and assessment programme supported by the Guernsey College of Further Education, must also demonstrate levels of guiding activity and personal development at regular intervals. The accreditation is validated by Marketing and Tourism, part of the Committee for Economic Development. The Bailiwick of Guernsey Guild of Accredited guides have over 50 experienced guides, each with their own specialties offering bespoke tours including: ghost walks and tours, private

groups, themed nights, corporate functions, educational and excursions. Trip Advisor have recently awarded Certificates of Excellence to BGGAG tour guides both walking and by taxi. Guided tours cover a variety of different areas, subjects and interests. The majority of tours are English, but some guides also offer tours in French, German, Dutch or Spanish. Coastal Walks, again with a rota of BGGAG tour guides, run every Saturday afternoon through the season starting from a bus stop in the area of the walk taking in Pembroke, L'Eree, Pleinmont and Jerbourg, each week a different area of the coast. Thanks to Visit Guernsey's support the Spring and Autumn Walking Festivals (May and September) have been going from strength to strength. The Town Walks, through the summer season, start from the Guernsey Information Centre at 10.30 am (additionally afternoons on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2.30 pm), lasting approximately 90 minutes. Guernsey Town Walks are promoted on Facebook and also Trip Advisor (multiple positive reviews) together with printed flyers delivered to local hotels and other establishments. Winter walks, on an ad hoc basis, were offered 2017-2018 with a view to repeating in 2018-2019. More information about guided walks and tours can be found at [www.guernseyguidedtours.com](http://www.guernseyguidedtours.com) 



# NEWS FROM ST SAMPSON'S HIGH SCHOOL

## MAD NIGHT

Once again we had a huge range of instrumental and choral ensembles taking part in Music, Art and Drama Night with many students being in several performances. Our choir kicked off the evening with a medley from Pocahontas which they performed earlier in the year at the Eisteddfod. This had a great response from our visiting Music Teacher, Mrs. Pogson, who described it as a very 'professional performance'. Their next piece was the first of two songs from the hit musical 'The Greatest Showman': 'A Million Dreams'.

We then had a trumpet duet 'The Entertainer' by Luis Merrien and Benjamin Tasker who had performed this at the Lion's Club Concert at St. James. Later in the evening Cara Fitzpatrick showed some beautiful, sensitive playing in her saxophone solo: 'Arabesque' by Debussy. As well as our main choir we had some smaller vocal ensembles including Boy's Vocal Club who performed 'Immortals' by Fall Out Boy with gusto and later joined the Guitar and Ukulele Club for 'I'm Yours' by Jason Mraz. Chamber Choir had a change from their



usual repertoire performing songs by The Cranberries in honour of Dolores O'Riordan (their lead singer) who passed away earlier this year. The extra head gear worn by the group for their second song: 'Zombie' was a surprise to everyone including their conductor Miss Ozanne!

We also had contributions from our recorder consort playing a piece from the Eisteddfod which won them the trophy in their class. Students were joined by members of staff for this 'Open' category Class.

Our second half began with the largest instrumental ensemble: the orchestra with an impressive 45 students and staff. They performed a medley from 'Lion King' which featured the percussion section and kept them very busy! Then they played Michael Jackson's 'Thriller', before ending with a lively medley from 'Shrek'.

The final ensemble was 'St. Sampson's High Community Stage Sound' Jazz Band, which Miss Tennant explained had grown over the years as ex-students are invited to come and perform with us whenever they can.

Staff members also join in. The pieces played included 'Shut Up and Dance' by John Berry and 'Superstition' by Stevie Wonder.

The Art departments were proud to be part of MAD night and included work from Year 7 to Year 11. We were pleased with the individuality and variety of work from students this year. Year 7 spent the year learning the elements of Art through the theme of animals and birds. Some lovely bird paintings in the style of various artists were displayed and some were shown in the Inner Market place at the Art for Schools exhibition at the same time as MAD. Year 8's Fantastic Fish spilled across the floor in various media including paint, print and clay. Year 9 recently followed a choice of themes, 'Part Human' being a favorite and produced their own work following GCSE criteria. Year 10 sketchbooks were on display, filled with the theme 'Sense of Place' demonstrating a wide variety of media as they have explored techniques throughout the year. Much work on display was a celebration of Year 11 achievements with some stunning and thought-provoking coursework for their examination.

The Creative Arts Department was proud of its students' achievements as part of MAD evening where we showcased some of the impressive work students have generated during the year. There were two GCSE performances, both student devised, and an offering from the Drama Club.

The first GCSE piece was based on the true story of a little girl who was discovered on the outskirts of a forest in India. The students incorporated the results of their own research into the work. The group explored a range of theatre techniques such as direct address to the audience and breaking the fourth wall.

The second GCSE piece was based on a photograph taken in Paris in the 1960s.

The group explored a range of theatre techniques such as direct address to the audience, breaking the fourth wall. Use of narrative links and the triggering of their own lighting effects live from onstage. Using a 'play within a play' format the group embraced the essence of post modernism and explored the mutable nature of reality.

Drama's final contribution was from Drama Club. Year 10 GCSE student Alex Sarchet worked with students from Years 7 and 8 and directed them in putting on the play 'Robin Robs the Rich'. It was obvious that the students had worked very hard and had a lot of fun. The play was fast-paced, slick, colourful and funny.

## CAREERS

### Careers - Work related Learning

It has been a busy year within Careers and Work-related Learning. Students in Year 10 were out on work experience from 9-13 July. Year 9 will move into Year 10 with an understanding of Preparation for Working Life, and will undertake the full GCSE exam in May 2019. Year 11 are now embarking on Post 16 options and have been learning this year what lies ahead!



### CI Student Business Challenge 2018

It has been a fantastic year for the CI Student Business Challenge. Our 10 teams excelled in raising money for charity and creating



Jartastic Fantastic

successful business enterprises. The Awards Evening held at St Pierre Park Hotel on 23 May showcased all of the schools taking part.

Over £3000 was raised in Guernsey in total for charities. The Challenge has also strengthened students' business acumen and the ability for young people to work together and within the business and finance world.

We are looking forward to 2019 to see what our amazing challengers will create. Well done everyone and thank you to the sponsors and



mentors in school and from the business world - we couldn't do it without you.

### Careers Show 2018

It was yet another fantastic Careers Show at Beau Sejour this year for students from Years 9 - 11 who enjoyed attending. Each year the Careers Show seems bigger and better and this year was no exception. Students were able to find out about the range of subjects and careers' paths on offer: Engineering to Economics to Design and Architecture. The Armed Forces were there to speak to those





wanting more information about such a career and the College of FE and Sixth Form Centre were also on hand to offer impartial advice and guidance. Thanks to all of the companies from on and off island and Careers Guernsey, who made it such a success and to the students for being exemplary ambassadors for St Sampson's High School.

### Navy Visit

Year 9 were thrilled to have the Navy in school over two days to showcase careers within the Navy, especially Food and Catering. A Ready Steady Cook style competition was carried out and Mr Ferbrache and Ms Kaufman were the lucky two to taste the magnificent dishes! It was a great few days of fun and information.



### Year 9 Options

The Options Evening in the January of Year 9 is a fantastic way for parents/carers and students being able to find out more about subjects and careers. This year we were lucky

enough to have Barclays Life Skills attend. They discussed employability skills and the finance industry. The Sixth Form Centre and the College of FE also showcased their Post 16 choices. We were extremely pleased to have the on-island Nursing Institute attend to discuss health related Careers.



Amanda and Steve from Barclays Lifeskills



Mr James from the Sixth Form Centre

### Post 16

Year 11 students have accessed Post 16 information relating to their futures after leaving St. Sampson's High School. The College of FE set up an afternoon of taster sessions and students were given the opportunity to have a guidance talk with the College tutors in the gym in February. These were great ways for students to find out more about the subjects and what was right for them. The Sixth Form Centre offered an Information Day. We wish Year 11 every success in their future choices. [🔗](#)



GFE Taster Sessions Year 11

# GOTHIA TOUR... UPDATE...



**Gothia 2018 Squad:** (Back row) Jake Elmy, Alex Scott, Reese Jackson, Hugo Harty, Jack Hamon, Ben Straker, Joule Upson, Alfie Bentley, Harvey Lihou, Harry Tough. (Middle row) Keane Domaille, Etienne Gaudion, Ben Stevens, Charlie Le Page, Ben Acey, Callum Cherry. (Front row) Charlie Platt and Oscar Leadbeater.

Update on the previous article which appeared in Issue 11. The Guernsey “Star Trophy” U15 football squad returned from their Gothia Cup tour in July 2018. Guernsey can be proud of these players. They flew our Guernsey flag proudly in front of 50,000 people at the opening ceremony, all the way to their dignified exit having made it to the final 16 out of 195 teams in their age group.

Competing against teams from Australia, Brazil, England, Norway and Sweden they convincingly qualified as Group winners. They went on to show Guernsey grit and the fruit of months of hard work and training. Their final match proved too tough a test after a gruelling schedule and playing in extreme heat.

Although understandably disappointed, the squad soon rallied around each other and showed a team spirit far beyond their years. This was picked up by the Gothia Officials as evidenced by their quote on official social media.

“The boys of Guernsey Schools are a perfect example of how to exit a tournament with pride. They lost 5-1 in their quarter-final but still have a smile on their faces.”

Throughout an incredible week filled with new and exciting experiences, the schoolboys conducted themselves impeccably, made friends from all over the world and created memories that will last a lifetime. All while representing Guernsey with pride and passion. Well done lads and thank you to all the sponsors who made this experience possible. 🇮🇪

# GUERNSEY RANGERS KICK OFF THEIR NEW 2018/2019 SEASON ON THE KGV 3G PITCH



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# JOHN WILSON: GUERNSEY'S ARCHITECT

By Stephen Foote



Bonamy House - designed and built for John Collings in 1817. (photo: Graham Jackson, © Blue Ormer)

Would the St Peter Port skyline be the same without the silhouettes of Elizabeth College, St James Church and Castle Carey? They share one architect, John Wilson, who was responsible for some of the finest examples of Guernsey's Regency architecture.

There are many other examples of his work in the island: Torteval Church, the old Meat Market, States Arcade, much of Fountain Street, as well as numerous private residences - including Bonamy House, Grange Lodge and Roseneath in the Grange.

What is more surprising is that so little is known about the man behind these buildings and that he seems to have done little architectural work either before or after his time in Guernsey.

A new book - *John Wilson, Guernsey's Architect: A Celebration* - by Simon Coombe, brings together for the first time all that is known about this enigmatic architect in one neat volume. Whilst the contents draw heavily on the research carried out by the late George Bramall, Simon organised his notes into a chronological tour of all of Wilson's

known works in the island, with additional new material and extensively illustrated by Graham Jackson's photographs commissioned especially for this publication.

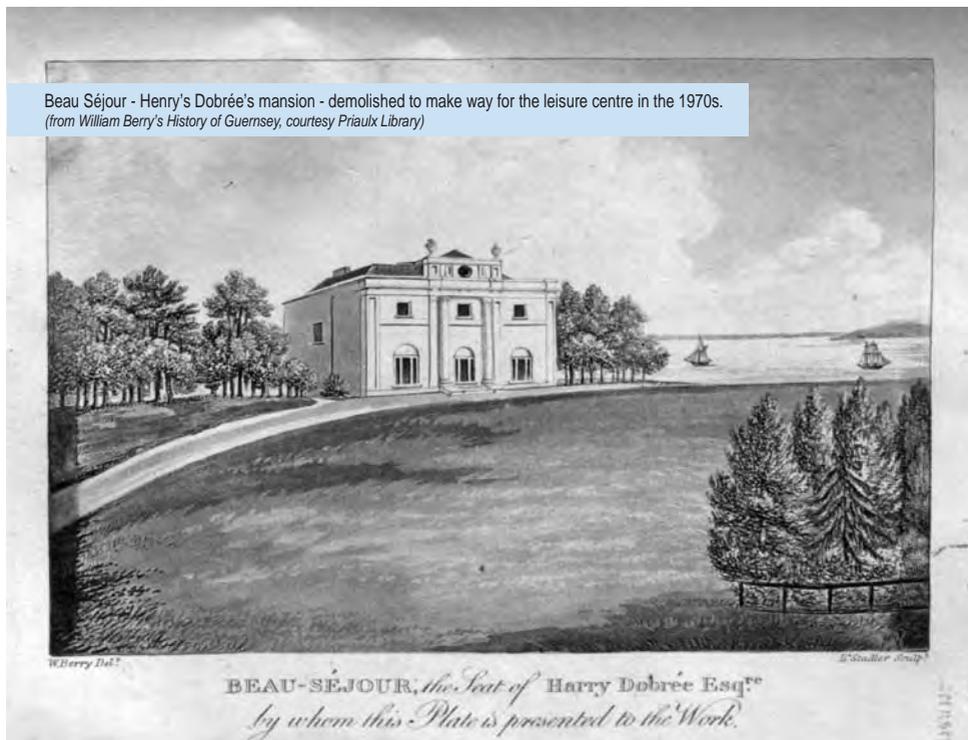
John Wilson had come to the island in around 1813 with the Barracks Department as a Clerk of Works to commission and supervise the construction of barracks to house the island's garrison. With the peace following the Battle of Waterloo in 1815, the garrison was scaled down, and there was less demand for his services - so his employers permitted him to take on private commissions. His first known work was Henry Dobrée's mansion Beau Séjour, which was built before 1815, and was demolished to make way for our leisure centre in the 1970s. Between then and 1831 he was the architect on at least twenty

buildings - with a further five which are listed as possible. His crowning achievement was the design of Elizabeth College, which he continued to supervise until he left the island.

Very little is known of Wilson's origins. Charles Brett felt so strongly about this, that in the introduction to his *Buildings in the Town and Parish of St Peter Port* in 1975, that he laid down a challenge to architectural historians and even wrote an article himself for *Country Life* magazine appealing for information on the man.

During recent research for the book, it has become apparent that much of what has been written about Wilson is wrong: that his middle name was Charles, that he exhibited at the Royal Academy in the 1790s or that his wife's maiden name was Willis.

Beau Séjour - Henry's Dobrée's mansion - demolished to make way for the leisure centre in the 1970s.  
(from William Berry's *History of Guernsey*, courtesy Priaulx Library)





Elizabeth College - John Wilson's crowning achievement. He drew up the plans in 1826, and supervised construction from then until he left the island in 1831. (photo: Graham Jackson, © Blue Ormer)



Meat Market - showing the inscription "J. Wilson, Architecte". (photo: Graham Jackson, © Blue Ormer)



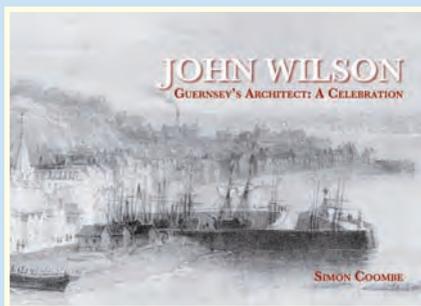
St Peter Port Skyline showing Elizabeth College and St James. (photo: Graham Jackson, © Blue Ormer)

What we do know is that he was born in Cardewlees, a hamlet in the parish of Dalston, Cumbria in 1782. From there he joined the Barracks Department, part of the Board of Ordnance, in 1809. The first references to him in Guernsey date from 1813 when he is known to have inspected Jerbourg barracks. He left Guernsey in 1831 to take up a new position in Glasgow, from where he was transferred to Edinburgh to become the Clerk of Works in charge of Scotland. From there he was transferred to Woolwich, the headquarters of the Board of Ordnance, where he worked until his retirement in 1845.

His signature can be found on plans in the National Archives relating to improvements to Edinburgh Castle and the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich, as well as some of his construction projects in Guernsey and Alderney. He spent his retirement in Southampton with his wife Ann. They both died in 1866 and were buried in the churchyard of St James Church, Shirley - although there is no surviving headstone.

It seems particularly appropriate that this year, the bicentenary of St James, that another

attempt is made to raise the profile of this celebrated architect, and the Guernsey Post Office is planning a commemorative set of stamps of his work in 2019 featuring some of the photographs from Simon's book. Let's hope that this may bring even more information to light about the man himself. [T](#)



© Blue Ormer

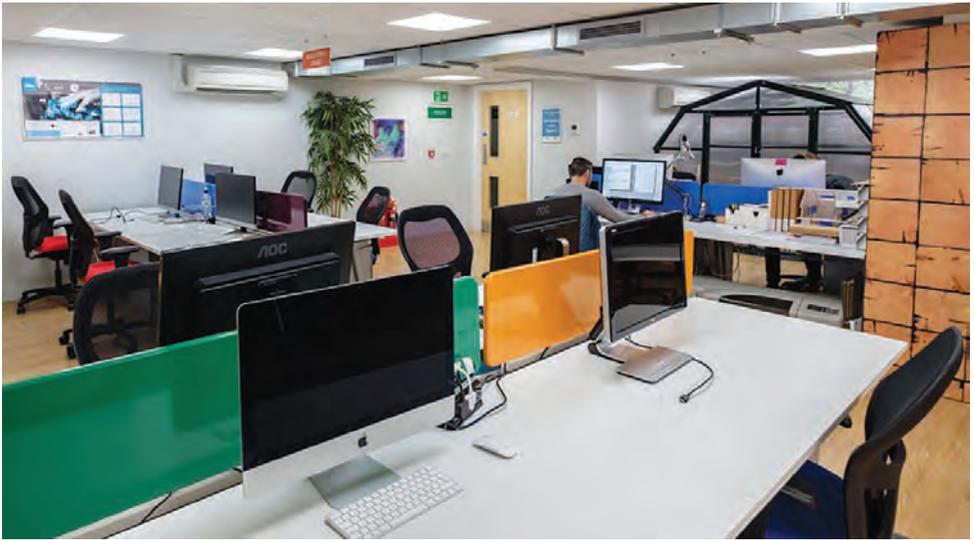
**John Wilson, Guernsey's Architect:** A Celebration by Simon Coombe (ISBN: 9780992879181) is published by Blue Ormer (price £6.99) and can be found in all good island bookshops, as well as from [www.blueormer.co.uk](http://www.blueormer.co.uk).

# GUERNSEY'S HUB FOR DIGITAL

**N**ow halfway through its second year, The Digital Greenhouse has already built a strong reputation as the home of digital and creative innovation on Guernsey. Located on the corner of Market Square, above Edinburgh Woollen Mill, the Digital Greenhouse has become the home for new business start-ups, industry meetups and inspiring community projects.

The Digital Greenhouse was established as part of a States of Guernsey initiative to help diversify the economy by supporting the development of creative and digital based industries. This is achieved in two ways.





The first way is by providing small businesses and startups with a place to work from and the second by acting as a hub to enhance digital skills and knowledge across the island community.

For new businesses and startups, the Digital Greenhouse provides a modern and flexible space to work. It is fully equipped with high-speed internet connections, meeting rooms and excellent local coffee. With membership starting from just £50 per month it provides an ideal alternative to a home office or as a low-risk starting point for a new business. The growing membership also offers a network of contacts to share experiences and collaborate with. To help guide new businesses during their early stages, the Digital Greenhouse is also home to Startup Guernsey and Barclays Eagle Lab. Both can offer support, advice and useful connections.

As society is becoming increasingly digital, the Digital Greenhouse has been busy

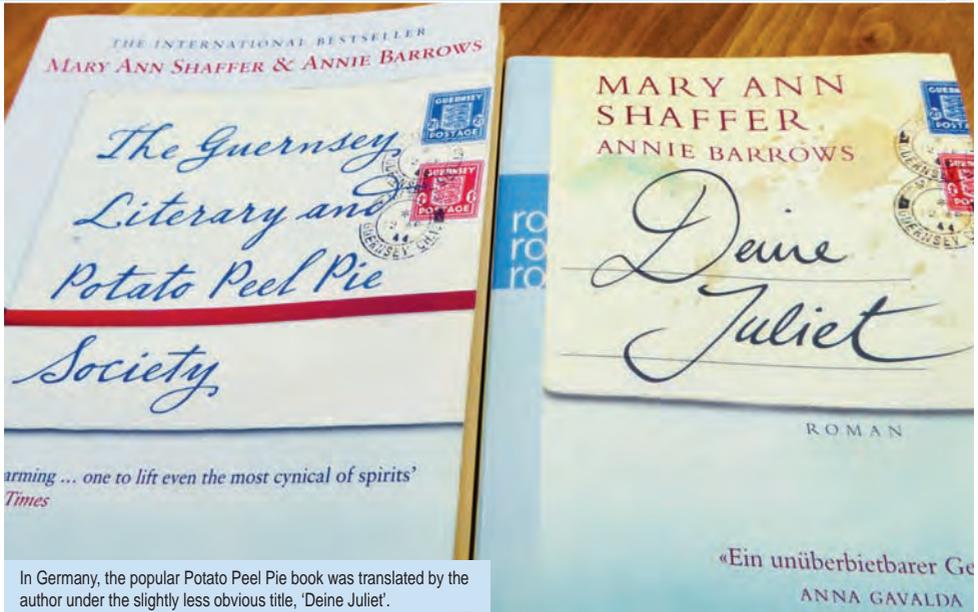
supporting this transformation, acting as the island's digital hub. It plays host to events and activities for all ages, each designed to expand digital knowledge and improve skills. There are regular meetup groups that cover topics such as Digital Marketing and FinTech as well as community hackathons and game building challenges. To improve digital skills, there are groups that will guide you through the first steps with an iPad and others that will even help you build autonomous robots. All islanders of all ages are encouraged to take part and participate in this exciting era of technological change. 📍

**To find out more about the Digital Greenhouse and for details of upcoming events, please visit [Digitalgreenhouse.gg](https://digitalgreenhouse.gg) or drop in Mon-Fri 9-5 for a tour.**



# 'LIEBE GUERNSEY' THE LITERARY LURE OF THE ISLAND

By **Chris Betley** Honorary Consul for the Federal Republic of Germany



In Germany, the popular Potato Peel Pie book was translated by the author under the slightly less obvious title, 'Deine Juliet'.

## 'So, why did you come to Guernsey on holiday?'

This question should really be asked of every visitor on their arrival, to help us understand the influences involved in persuading individuals, couples or families to visit our island (particularly as the connections to get here seem to get less, & the journey more difficult, particularly from Germany). Given the importance of the tourism sector, it would seem valuable to know what motivations have successfully tempted our visitor audience.

Was it an ad? A travel review? A friend's recommendation? Family? A book?

'Literary tourism' has certainly been in the spotlight this year, re-emphasising

the importance that books can play in encouraging visitors to explore a destination as a direct result of reading about it positively (or, subsequently, seeing it as a film on the Big Screen).

*'The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society'* is an excellent example of how our island has benefitted from being the location & title of a successful novel, which then translated well into film - reaching a worldwide audience that is also, conveniently, the perfect demographic for our visitor audience.

For many German visitors, however, a book of greater significance - in successfully luring them to our island - is Charlotte Links's *'Die Rosenzüchterin'* (*'The Rose Grower'*).

*“A dark secret hangs over the old rose grower’s house in the village of Le Variouf. And all the clues seem to point to its inhabitants’ past - to the years of World War II, when the idyllic island of Guernsey was occupied by German troops...”*

The romantic thriller set in Guernsey was first published in 2000 and remained for several weeks at the top of the Spiegel Bestseller list.

Charlotte Link is a hugely popular writer, and German readers continue to be besotted by the book, keen to find local landmarks that feature in the story.

So successful was the book on publication that plans were soon hatched to film it on location in Guernsey. A Berlin production company, Ziegler Film, received rights from the author and invested in researching the potential through several scouting visits (involving local guides), a commissioned aerial survey of the island and a ‘critical review’ visit by the accomplished film producer, Regina Ziegler.

Sadly for Guernsey, it seems the financial and logistical advantages of filming in South Africa meant that, as with the Potato Peel Pie film, a story set in our island was shot somewhere else.

The important benefits of name awareness through such significant exposure remain, of course, and the island continues to attract German visitors to this day, whose introduction was not from some well crafted advertising campaign or well planned PR travel editorial (although these help, of course), but from the pages of a good old romantic thriller!

Arguably, more should be done to maximise these benefits and certainly the subsequent success, particularly in America, of the Potato Peel Pie book has resulted in it being marketed with far greater savvy (although in



'Die Rosenzüchterin' - a romantic thriller by Charlotte Link, set in Guernsey.

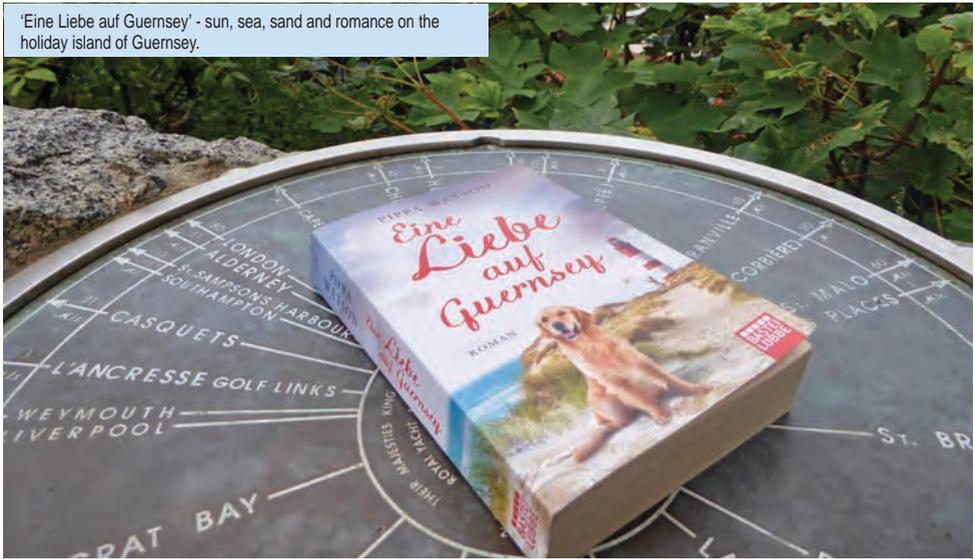


'Die Rosenzüchterin' - a romance set in and around Petit Bôt valley.



The rose grower lives at Le Variouf, tucked above Petit Bôt.

'Eine Liebe auf Guernsey' - sun, sea, sand and romance on the holiday island of Guernsey.



Germany, the popular book was translated by the author without the oddly appealing original title, opting instead for the less beneficial *'Deine Juliet'*.

Guernsey does appear in the title of another recently published book - *'Eine Liebe auf Guernsey'* (*'Love in Guernsey'*). Published in 2018 and written by Mirjam Müntefering under her pen name, Pippa Watson, the book is a love story involving a local tour guide, a writer, his blind son and a Guide Dog. Sand, sea, sun and romance, all in the familiar setting of our holiday island. What's not to love!

Who knows - could this be another film? We'll wait and see.

Meanwhile, the island's name gets promoted to a European audience who, we hope, will be intrigued enough to visit and fall in love with the island themselves... [T](#)

**A reminder:** The German visitor market is often cited as being an important one. In our



"Le Nautique lies above the harbour in St Peter Port, Guernsey's capital, and from the two large restaurant windows there is a beautiful view of the countless yachts moored in the harbour... You have the feeling you sit amongst them" - from *'Die Rosenzüchterin'*.

*neighbouring island, German visitors to Jersey are reported to spend £807 per person - the highest expenditure compared to any other visitor. Actual visitor figures to Guernsey seem surprisingly low, with an average of 11,000 per year, representing about 3.5% of total visitor numbers.*

# GUERNSEY FRENCH PHRASES YOU NEED

By Jan Marquis

## OCTOBER

**Raonbillai pas dé rtargié l's ologes à la fin d'shu meis!**

*Rounbe-eye paa deh-r tarjh-yeh-l z-oblojh abh labh fa-ee-d shu may!*

**Don't forget to put the clocks back at the end of this month!**

## NOVEMBER

**Pens-ou faire aen boudloe pour la Seraïe Boudloe?**

*Pawssoo fair ah.. boodlaw poor labh Sair-eye Boodlaw?*

**Are you making a boudloe for Boudloe Night?**

## DECEMBER

**Av-ou fait vote houichepotte dé Noué acouore?**

*Abh-voo feh vawt weeshpawt deh Nweh abhkwor?*

**Have made your Christmas pudding yet?**

## JANUARY

**Vlà l'cmoshement d'l' aunaïe et nou z-est à jé n'sait tchi qu'a s'en va nou z-aumnaï, mais terrou y a éne affaire qu'nou saït: sh'est qu'i faot arrataï qué d'vé!**

*Vlahh-l kmaushmaw-d l'awneye ay noozayi abh jhen seh chee k'abh saw vahh nooz awmnye, may tairoo yabh enn afair keh noo sye: sh'ây-k ee fow abhraeetye kaid vay.*

**It's the beginning of the year and we're wondering what it will bring us, however, there is one thing that we know: that is that we'll have to wait and see!**

## FEBRUARY

**I fait fré assai pour jlai enter les parchouniers au lliet!**

*Ee feh freh abhsye pour jh'lye awtair parshoon-yeh oh yeh!*

**It's cold enough to freeze between partners in bed!**

## MARCH

**En viyant les fleurs sus nos fossais et lélaong des ch'mins, nou peut s'attende à veis, à-n-aen caop, des jours ki r'semble pus à l'ernouvé.**

*Aw veyah.. lay fee-ubr su no fawssye ay leh-lan day shma-ee, noo puh s'atawd abh vay, abh nah.. kow, day jhoor kee-r sawb pus abh l'airnooveh.*

**Seeing flowers on our hedges and along-side paths, we can expect to see, soon, more spring like days.**

**To learn a little of Guernsey's Norman language! -**

***Pour apprendre aen brin d'guernesiais!***

Please get in touch with either Yan on 07781 166606 or email: [janmarquis@suremail.gg](mailto:janmarquis@suremail.gg) or Jo Dowding on 747264 or email: [Josephine.Dowding@gov.gg](mailto:Josephine.Dowding@gov.gg)

A free translation service is also available, from house names, T-shirt slogans and tattoos, to branding for local businesses/products. Please email: [info@language.gg](mailto:info@language.gg) (translations sponsored by Martin & Martin Jewellers).

# IS IT JUST ME?

By Douzenier Rosie Henderson

Everybody has mental health, the fortunate of us have healthy minds, and the less fortunate have mental health problems. Perhaps that is a new thought which may level the playing field for those of us that suffer with a problem. Let me declare my interest, it is not an academic interest, I have a problem with Depression. Sometimes, combined with Anxiety, sometimes not - I don't know why that is - it just - is.

Imagine, if you will, a bad day, we all have them, we all know how that feels. Depressives have bad days one after another, sometimes for years. Can you imagine that? My betting is that you cannot - you are one of the fortunate. I believe, however, cannot prove, that there are more of you than there are of us. I hope there are. Hope, is a word that Depressives have trouble with, sometimes we are hope-less. Another difficult place to reside. Occasionally one hears of someone committing suicide, they are undoubtedly not of 'sound mind', or to put it in different language they have a mental health problem. We don't want pity and we definitely don't need judgement. There are some that believe that the illness we suffer from is due to a chemical imbalance of the mind, an explanation, but not a help. No one can know or understand where that place is unless, of course, they have been there. To my shame I have been there, and I survived; I'm not sure whether I am ashamed because I survived or because I tried. It depends on whether the day is my 'normal' or if it is a really bad day.

What can you do to help? There's a long list of things not to do or say, not too many things

that can improve our mood. I can only talk for myself, but phrases like "how are you?" the answer is always "I'm fine" or "great, thanks". I'm neither, but I don't want to bore my friends or listeners and the words 'protect' me against going into what is wrong, because intrinsically I don't know what's wrong. For self-harming individuals there is also the unhelpful comment/question "why are you doing ...". Unhelpful, almost accusing us of an antisocial act, we do it, I think, because we are in pain. The action of self-harming gives us pain which is 'real' and easier to bear than the emotional pain which we can't handle. We are sorry that it bothers you, but it seems to help.

There are signs of a deepening of our illness, each one of us is different but there are common traits. Those people close may notice that our interest in ourselves changes; that we develop an odour which says that we haven't washed that day. Sometimes we forget to brush our hair, more obvious in females or males with longer hair. Self-harm may increase or become more obvious - a trail of blood which hasn't been cleaned up - is a dead giveaway. Becoming more isolated, not visiting friends, not going out to shop, and just not going out. Sleep patterns may change, either not sleeping or sleeping too much. Inattention to necessary details such as being late or forgetting appointments or forgetting to complete assignments. Irritability or being bad tempered and snapping at people when this is not 'normal' behaviour. Some depressives do not feel that they are worthy, not lovable, not likeable - worthless. They feel that everything they do, they do badly or they let people down.

The tasks of a partner, husband or wife, close friends, are too numerous to mention, important to us but onerous to them. The only advice I can give is, don't give up on us; we've already given up on ourselves. I don't believe there is a cure, would that there were, but there are ways of coping. Personally I take drugs, go to Oberlands and attend workshops, I see a Psychiatrist. I am fortunate I am physically strong and so can work for long periods of time. I am more fortunate in that I have the ability to immerse myself in work - there is no room for my mind to dwell on negativity. All I can see is the work before me, how to do it, what the work will accomplish. None of these things stop the Black Dog on my Shoulder; but they keep him bearable, some or all of them help.

Many thought that being seen going into Castel marked them and that there was a stigma attached to being seen there, in the fear that 'people' would think them "mad". In Guernsey we have the same problems as many other countries, not enough trained staff. Our waiting list to be seen by a doctor after the assessment is about 6 months - possibly longer. The importance of seeing someone you can relate to is key. Then there is recruiting and retaining staff, this is a problem for all governments at the moment. To change Psychiatrist or Care Worker means relating again the history of your problem and how it affects you, each time upsetting, unsettling and bringing back to the foreground that which haunts the present. 📍

## ADVERTISING RATE CARD 2018

The Townie Magazine is currently printed twice a year and distributed to almost 10,000 householders in St Peter Port (GY1).

An extra 1,000 copies are given to businesses and public services. The magazine is put together by the Parish Douzaine and offers a great platform for parishioners to share their news and express their views.

**The Townie is a magazine written by the community for the community.**

**Please contact the Constables Office on 720014 for more information.**

QUARTER PAGE

**£140.00**

HALF PAGE

**£275.00**

FULL INSIDE PAGE

**£500.00**

INSIDE FRONT COVER and  
INSIDE BACK COVER

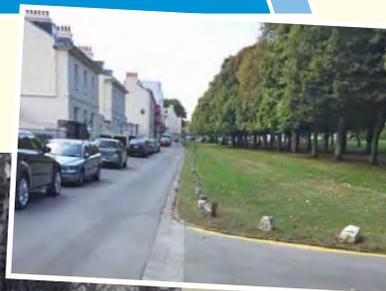
**£550.00**

BACK PAGE

**£600.00**

# THE CHANGING FACE OF ST PETER PORT

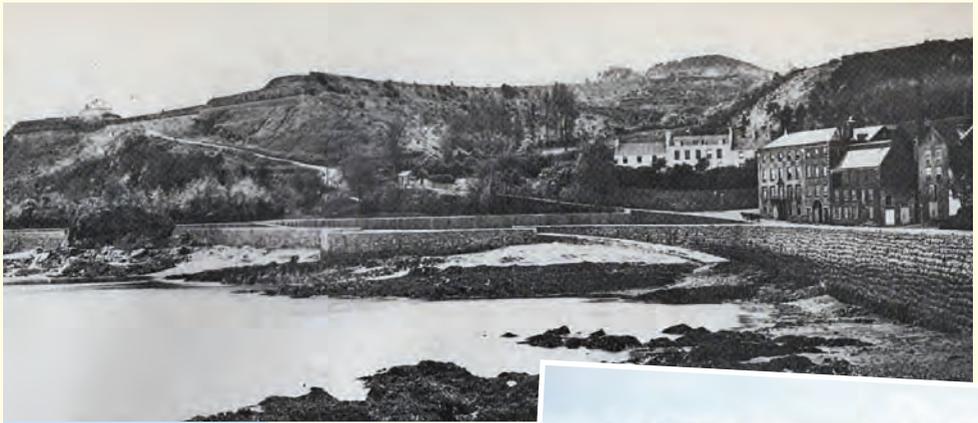
*We have selected four photographs showing the changes that have taken place around the parish over the last century or so. We hope you enjoy them.*



Cambridge Park



Town Church



Havelet Bay and South Esplanade



View from Crown Pier



# RINGING THE BELLS OF TOWN CHURCH

By Douzenier Richard Harding



The Island FM team with their instructors

After an on-air discussion about the subject earlier this year, a group of us from Island FM, along with our partners, were invited to have a go at bell ringing at Town Church!

We assembled at the dedicated entrance to the bell tower, which was reached by a small garden alongside Fountain Street, where we were met by the group leader Duncan Loweth.

The earliest recorded religious building on the site was a rectangular chapel dating back to

1020 but the current church is thought to have been built in the 13th century and to have been completed in 1466.

Duncan explained that the current set of bells is the Liberation bells, which were cast in 1994 in time for the 50th anniversary of the Liberation the following year.

The heaviest of the bells weighs just over a metric ton, is the biggest in the Channel Islands and is one of eight. In terms of numbers, this is beaten in Guernsey by

St Pierre du Bois with ten bells and Alderney which has twelve.

We went up the spiralling stone staircase to look at the bells before descending into the little room from which the bell ringing takes place.

We each had an opportunity to have a go at ringing and all of us were closely supervised as none of us wanted to fly up towards the ceiling! The basic technique was to make sure that you catch the rope at exactly the right time and also let it go. It was a trial of skill rather than strength. Beyond this, the skill lies in the rhythm and working in synch with the other ringers. We were shown how it should be

Group Leader, Duncan Loweth



done and I don't think any of us had remotely appreciated the amount of skill and dedication needed to master the basics, let alone the complex peals heard on special occasions. Duncan explained that bell ringers often travel the world ringing different bells to gain experience and often compete in competitions that are strictly judged.

We had a very enjoyable evening and if this has whetted your appetite to have a go, there are practice nights every Thursday at 7.30pm, then they ring before Sunday Services at 9.45am and 5.50pm. [📍](#)

**If you are interested in finding out more e-mail: [Duncan.loweth@gmail.com](mailto:Duncan.loweth@gmail.com) or call Jane on 07781 404429**

## A message from our **LATVIAN REPRESENTATIVE**

By **Lilita Krūze**, Honorary Counsul of Latvia to Guernsey



In 2018, Latvia celebrates one hundred years since becoming an independent state. Its birth on 18 November, 1918, coincided with major changes on the political map of Europe. At the end of World War I, the Austro-Hungarian, Russian, German and Ottoman empires broke up and new countries appeared, among them Finland on 6 December, 1917, the restored state of Lithuania on 16 February, 1918, Estonia on 24 February, 1918, Czechoslovakia on 28 October, 1918, Poland on 11 November, 1918 and then Latvia. With over 1,000 events at home and all around the world, Latvia celebrates its centenary of statehood with the best it can offer in culture, lifestyle and innovation. We remember, create and celebrate - for the prosperity of Latvia!

The official celebrations started on May 4, 2017 with the Embrace Latvia initiative when people around the country planted one hundred oak trees along Latvia's outer border, symbolically laying the foundation of strength for the next 100 years. It was followed by the White Tablecloth Celebration marking the anniversary of the Declaration on the Restoration of Independence on May 4, 1990, by the Supreme Council of the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic. The vote allowed Latvia to democratically break off the Soviet rule that had lasted for 50 years.



H.E. Baiba Braže and Chief Minister Gavin St Pier at exhibition opening ceremony.

The Nationwide 26th Song and 21st Dance Celebration, being the central event of the Centenary celebrations, took place from 30 June to 8 July this year and attracted 43,000 participants from 3,421 amateur choirs, dancing groups and folklore ensembles. Being able to attend part of this festival gave me a great sense of togetherness and plenty of positive energy. Dating back to 1873, the Latvian Song and Dance Celebration is the grandest festival in the Baltics in terms of scope, authenticity and style - no wonder it was included in the UNESCO List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in 2003.

On a local scale, in Guernsey, we have been celebrating with an exhibition "100 years of Latvia's History in Cartoons" presenting a selection of political cartoons from the Latvian press, covering the entire 20th century up to the present day. The exhibition at Guernsey airport was officially opened by Her Excellency Baiba Braže, the Ambassador of the Republic of Latvia to the United Kingdom and Gavin St Pier, Chief Minister of Guernsey and was open to the public from 17 July to 17 August. This was the Ambassador's first official visit to Guernsey. Her Excellency met Guernsey officials and members of the Latvian community.

The Ambassador returned to Guernsey on 20 September when, as part of the Latvia-100 celebrations, the Latvian chamber music ensemble NYX Trio gave a world premiere concert at Government House. My thanks go to His Excellency Vice Admiral Sir Ian Corder, the host, Mr Richard de la Rue, Director of Sarnia Festival Arts and sponsors Rawlinson & Hunter without whom this event would not have been possible. We celebrate and we work hard. Following the impending dissolution of the current Parliament (Saeima), parliamentary elections will be held in Latvia on Saturday, 6 October 2018. All around the globe, in 45 countries, 121 polling stations, including Guernsey, will be open to Latvian citizens to cast their vote in the 13th Saeima elections. We shape tomorrow by voting today!

God bless Latvia. 🇹🇷

# LATVIEŠI GĒRNSIJĀ

By Lilita Krūze,

Latvijas Republikas Goda konsule Gērnijā

Nāk rudens apgleznot Latviju,  
Bet nepūlies, necenties tā-  
Man viņa ir visskaistākā tik un tā.  
Mazliet par lielu, lai sasildot savu lakatu dotu,  
Par lielu, lai paņemtu klēpī un apmīļotu.  
Mazliet par mazu, lai palaistu vienu  
Pasaules plašajos ceļos.  
Par mazu, lai laistu vienu.  
Es līdzī ceļos.

Nāk rudens apgleznot Latviju,  
Bet nepūlies, necenties tā-  
Man viņa ir visskaistākā tik un tā.

Šī U.Stabulnieka un M.Zālītes dziesma nāk prātā,  
domājot par dzimteni, mūsu mīļo Latviju, kura šogad  
svin īpašu jubileju - simto dzimšanas dienu. Latviešu  
tauta tuvu un tālu visa gada garumā svin dzimtenes  
apaļo jubileju.

Domāju, lasītāji man piekritīs, ka ārkārtīgi iespaidīgi  
bija XXVI Vispārējā latviešu Dziesmu un XVI Deju  
svētki, kas Latvijas valsts simtgades zīmē šovasar notika  
Rīgā no 30.jūnija līdz 8.jūlijam. Krāšņais svētku gājiens  
pulcēja vairāk kā 43 000 dalībnieku, tai skaitā 2411  
no diasporas kolektīviem. Septiņās dienās vairāk kā 65  
pasākumos, ko sniedza koru, deju, pūtēju orķestru,  
kokļu, tautas mūzikas, vokālo ansambļu, folkloras  
kopu meistari, vēroja ap 500 000 apmeklētāju (Latvijas  
iedzīvotāju skaits - 1,96 miljoni).

Daugavas stadionā skatītāis deju lieluzvedums "Māras  
zeme" pulcēja ap 17 000 dejotāju, kas dejas soli  
izveidoja perfektus latviskos ornamentus. Tikai labākie  
no labākajiem var kaut ko tādu paveikt. Piecu gadu  
garumā pirms svētkiem notiek sistemātisks darbs -  
mēģinājumi, skates, konkursi, koncerti.

Svētku nedēļa beidzās ar kulmināciju Noslēguma  
koncertā "Zvaigžņu ceļā", kurā 12 000 balsīgs dziedātāju  
kopkoris rekonstruētajā Mežaparka Lielajā estrādē  
sniedza trīs stundu garu koncertu. Pēc lielkoncerta visas  
naktis garumā notika sadziedāšanās. Tās emocijas, izjūtot  
pozitīvi elektrizēto kopības enerģiju dziesmā, mūžam  
paliks atmiņā.



Latvian 26th Song and 16th Dance Celebration parade, Riga 2018.

Dziesmu un deju svētku tradīcija ir devusi nozīmīgu  
devumu latviešu nācijas pašapziņas veidošanā un  
neatkarīgas valsts idejas uzturēšanā latviešu tautai  
sarežģītos vēstures posmos. Tas ir novērtēts starptautiskā  
līmenī, kad 2003.gadā Dziesmu un deju svētkus iekļāva  
UNESCO Cilvēces mūtvārdu un nemateriālā kultūras  
mantojuma meistardarbu sarakstā.

Runājot par Latvijas simtgades svinībām vietējā latviešu  
sabiedrībā, nepārprotami jāmin Latvijas Republikas  
vēstnieces Apvienotajā Karalistē Baibas Bražes pirmā  
oficiālā vizīte Gērnijā, kas notika šā gada 16. un 17.  
jūlijā. Vēstnieces kundze tikās ar Gērnijas valdības  
pārstāvjiem. Īpaša uzmanība vēl joprojām tiek akcentēta  
uz nepieciešamību noslēgt sociālās drošības līgumu starp  
Latviju un Gērniju, lai Gērnijā dzīvojošie Latvijas  
valstspiederīgie iegūtu tiesības saņemt pensiju par  
salā nostrādāto laiku. 16.jūlijā vēstniece Baiba Braže  
Gērnijas lidostā kopā ar vietējās valdības pārstāvjiem  
atklāja ceļojošo izstādi "Latvijas Republikas 100 gadu  
vēsture karikatūrās", kas ir iekļauta Latvijas simtgades  
svinību kultūras programmā. Vēstnieces kundze tikās arī  
ar vietējo latviešu sabiedrību.

19.septembrī Džērsijas Mākslas Centrā (Jersey Arts  
Centre) un 20.septembrī Gērnijas gubernatora mājā  
notika NYX Trio (Latvija) koncerti, kurā blakus Ž.Ibēra,  
F.Gobēra, C.Kli un N.Rota skaņdarbiem skanēja  
latviešu komponista Aivara Kalēja pirmatskaņojums  
"Sapnis". Abi koncerti tika organizēti ciešā sadarbībā ar  
Sarnia Festival Arts, un es vēlos izteikt vislielāko paldies  
Ričardam de la Rue, sponsoriem Rawlinson & Hunter  
par profesionālo sadarbību, kā arī gubernatoram Sir Ian  
Corder par viesmīlību.

Mēs ne tikai svinam svētkus, bet arī domājam par  
savas valsts gaišo nākotni. Sestdien, 6.oktobrī notiks  
13.Saeimas vēlēšanas 45 valstīs 121 vēlēšanu iecirknī,  
ieskaitot Gērniju. Aicinu visus Latvijas valstspiederīgos  
šajā dienā būt aktīviem un piedalīties vēlēšanās.  
Laimūžam dzīvo Latvija! 🇹🇼

Latvija 100 

## CHRISTMAS 1914

By Richard Fleming

Out of the trenches stepped one man,  
a truce flag held above his head,  
then from the other side was waved  
a cloth and word was quickly spread.

From blackened ground, like seeds, they grew  
to cover those disputed lands:  
a khaki crop mingled with grey,  
cautious at first, then shaking hands.

Gifts were exchanged, tobacco, smiles.  
Creased photographs were shyly shown.  
Then, from a trench that frosty day,  
a leather soccer ball was thrown.

The goalposts were four bayonets.  
A match was played in friendly style  
by muddy boys, for boys they were.  
War was forgotten for a while.

*(The poem commemorates an unofficial truce between  
British and German soldiers on Christmas day 1914.)*

## REFLECTIONS ON OCCUPATION

### A German Soldier's Letter Home 1943

By Richard Fleming

This is not proper soldiery,  
no proud thrust for the Fatherland:  
instead we police, unwillingly,  
people we do not understand.  
They are an island race, apart:  
intransigent, shrewd, stubborn, smart.

We count the months, our rations low,  
imprisoned by an angry sea.  
At the parade-ground, to and fro,  
we march and drill, purposelessly.  
While months accumulate to years,  
we yearn for bratwurst and cold beers.

And all the while, the Occupied,  
gaunt Guernsey peasants, enemy,  
exhibit an unbending pride  
that chills the heart and unnerves me.  
Such angry spirits. I thank Gott  
that we are armed and they are not.

Each breaking day, I make a vow  
to summon strength, refuse to weep.  
Rations are non-existent now.  
Expendable, our lives are cheap.  
Such brokenness will never mend.  
Would that this pointless war would end.



## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

*By Constable Jenny Tasker*

International Women's Day on March the eighth each year  
Means we can think of the women who bear  
Poverty, sickness or living with fear.

In our comfortable existence  
We may take the path of least resistance  
We do not know the hunger felt  
Nor the harsh hand dealt  
To women in countries throughout the world  
Where thoughts are crushed, ambitions not unfurled.

We only imagine how it can be -  
On this one day perhaps we will see  
That learning from others  
Whether daughters, sisters or mothers  
Caring for others, being alone  
Working their fingers to the bone,  
In unity we seek peace and a world at one.

# ARMISTICE DAY

By Constable Dennis H. Le Moignan

A war to end all wars they said  
Millions injured, millions dead  
Mostly men folk, women too  
Even horses, quite a few

Off they went, full of cheer  
Left the loved ones held so dear  
Into fields of mud and mire  
Houses now rubble, a church without spire

Feelings changed to fear and dread  
For lying about were countless dead  
Thoughts of wives and mothers came  
Longing to see them and speak their name

Armistice Day - finally here  
No more terror - no more fear  
Mothers, wives, sweethearts too  
Hear war is over - hope it is true

Home again with much to forget  
Flashbacks of terror with love are met  
How peaceful the garden - green grass and flowers  
Help steady the mind with calming powers

Each day is quiet, no bullets fly by  
All happy people under blue sky  
After the carnage it seems like heaven  
At a quaint house in Lindau and a cottage in Devon

# CAPTAIN COURAGEOUS QUERIPEL

By Lester Queripel

At the end of a war, millions of people are sadly... no more.  
Families are devastated and torn apart.  
There's a hole where there once was a heart.  
The price that was paid for Guernsey's Liberation, was borne by many.  
One such a person was Captain Lionel Queripel.  
Captain Courageous Lionel Queripel.  
Born July 1920.  
He died September 1944... at the age of 24.  
And for his bravery... he was awarded the VC.  
The highest award for gallantry.  
In the face of the enemy.  
He gave his life... for you and me.

Wounded in the face and both his arms, he ordered his men to retreat.  
But he stayed behind, almost dead on his feet.  
He took several with him before he was cut down.  
Thankfully his men escaped to a nearby town.  
A poem was commissioned in his honour.  
It focused on his bravery and his valour.  
Written by Herbert Campbell it read.

'We who are of your native town  
Hail today your illustrious name  
Your knightly valour wins you renown  
Whilst we glory in your courage and fame  
May we be worthy of your daring deed  
Performed by you in England's hour of need'.

So now I say in this modern day.  
That he may have been no relation.  
And I wasn't here in the occupation.  
But it's because of people like him that we enjoy our Liberation.

Copyright: Lester Queripel May 2015

# ALDERNEY ROAD

By Janet Rolfe (*nee Pope*) - Alderney 1943

This poem reflects a child's memory of finding herself all alone outside her house. The thought of being seen by anyone fills her with fear, and she listens intently before daring to step into the sunlit, empty road. Years later I shared this recurring 'daydream' with my family and learned that I had described the view from our war-time home in Alderney. The road was the Val Rue, and the sound I most feared was the clash of boots marching to our door. The year was probably 1945 when most of the soldiers had left the island and Alderney, deserted once more, was plunged into silence.

On the wrong side of the door  
I listen,  
Stare down the empty road  
To the stone-grey harbour  
On the edge of town.  
Listen again.

Leaning against a granite wall,  
Cold seeps through skin and spine.  
Sunlight shimmers in the street,  
Longs for the touch of gentle feet,  
Calls me from my hiding place.

The air is still, nothing moves.  
There are no voices of ragged men,  
Or jackboots clashing on cobblestones,  
And the rattle of guns in the summer sky.

Nothing breathes but the exhalation  
Of our houses, shoulder to shoulder.  
Curtains sag at hollow windows,  
No hands close them.

Nothing but the sigh of windswept pines,  
And the heartbeat boom of turquoise seas  
Breaches the silence.  
Sunlight streams through my thin dress.  
I am glass and thistledown,  
A child fair,  
With bleached eyes and pale hair.  
No-one sees me in the dusty street.

So I dare to run  
Past iron gates and sad green trees,  
Climb up steps to a long low building,  
Stand in triumph at the big black door,  
Tap on paint. Is anybody there?  
Tap once more.  
No-one answers.

The door is closed, keyhole covered.  
I slide the metal lid – peer inside.  
Recoil from the sting of rust and mould.  
There are no people, kind and golden,  
Nothing but me - and a small shadow,  
On the wrong side of the fortress door ...  
Waiting.

# CANDIE CEMETERY - WAR GRAVES COMMISSION SITE

By Constable Jenny Tasker

How often have you visited Candie Cemetery? It is an area of tranquillity and beauty, which offers the visitor space to wander, possibly to rest and ponder for a while, without the sound of traffic to disturb the peace to be found in this part of our Town. The War Graves Commission has now recognised the cemetery as an official site for those who served in WWI and are buried there.

Towards the end of the eighteenth century the Clergy and Constables of St. Peter Port were becoming concerned about a lack of burial space. The Cimetière des Soeurs, now the Terrace Café; the Cimetière des Frères, adjacent to Rue des Frères; the Cimetière des Étrangers in Upland Road (which was deconsecrated when building work was planned) and the vaults under the floor in the Town Church were all becoming overcrowded.

The powers that be therefore planned a new cemetery at Candie on the French lines (see diagram) and the first internment took place on 3 August, 1831. The plots were arranged in blocks and were available for sale in perpetuity, with the more expensive ones at the top of the hill and on the north side, but gradually costing less in the blocks lower down the site. In 1832, a huge vault was built for the 100+ cholera victims next to the steps leading down to Upland Road and 12 paupers' vaults were constructed in the same section of the cemetery between 1857 and 1868, each to contain between 20 and 56



Planned new cemetery at Candie.

bodies. Apparently, some people moved their loved ones to new graves when they were able to afford the dearer plots higher up the site!

It is still possible for descendants of the original purchasers to inter loved ones in family vaults/graves, with the most recent enquiry about doing so taking place just a few weeks' ago. I find it interesting when looking at all the inscriptions, that wives retained their maiden names on headstones, following the French system 'from cradle to grave'.



GALPIN E.G., Royal Engineers, 1918



MADELL R., Essex Regiment, 1921



SHEPHERD W.C., RASC, 1920

Prior to the opening of Candie Cemetery, if one of the numerous servicemen garrisoned in Guernsey to protect the Island died, he would have been buried in the Cimetière des Étrangers and there is still one grave in one of the Upland Road green areas, that of Sergeant Sam MacDonal, who was purported to be 6' 10" tall. The headstone placed on his last resting place in 1988 acts as a memorial to him and all the servicemen who had been buried in the Strangers' Cemetery, but had to be exhumed when building works were to take place.

Since its opening, a number of military burials have taken place in Candie Cemetery, for seamen and garrison soldiers from as far afield as Brazil, Canada, Sicily and the West Indies, but for the purpose of this article I wish to show specifically the five graves recognised by the War Graves Commission:



HANNIS A.W., Canadian Engineers, 1921



ROWSSELL R, Royal Garrison Artillery, 1920

- GALPIN E.G, Royal Engineers** 1918
- HANNIS A.W., Canadian Engineers** 1921
- MADELL R., Essex Regiment** 1921
- ROWSSELL R, Royal Garrison Artillery** 1920
- SHEPHERD W.C., RASC** 1920

I would like to encourage you to take a walk around the Cemetery and find these graves, but do take care because the ground can be uneven. After getting on for two hundred years, some of the graves are sinking and need the good efforts of the Parish's excellent groundsmen to look after them and do their best to remedy the situation. There are possibly over 15,000 people buried at Candie and it is important to maintain this special site for future generations to visit, perhaps seeking ancestors' resting places or just to find somewhere to be quiet within an area of natural beauty. 📍

# DEUTSCHLANDFUNK

By Douzenier Tim Bush



**T**im Bush last met Klaus Martin Höfer some 37 years ago when they were students at Capernwray Bible School in Lancashire. With the advent of Facebook they reconnected and Klaus was intrigued when Tim posted about his election as a St Peter Port Douzenier 2 years ago.

As a freelance journalist putting together content for the national German radio station, Klaus was keen to find out more about the role of a Douzenier and life on Guernsey and recently visited the Island to put together a programme on the Douzaine and also another programme on the challenges facing local radio stations in an Island setting.

Douzenier Tim Bush turned the tables on Klaus and interviewed him for the Townie magazine.

**Klaus, you have interviewed a Douzenier, and the Constables, was it what you expected?**

*The role of a Douzenier was more involved than I was expecting for a small community and more important than I thought it would be in the way it fits into the life of a Parish. I learned about the rules on keeping hedges trimmed twice a year, and learned what a “douit” is. I also learned about the Community Toilet scheme and spoke to the owner of one of the participating pubs. My discussion with the Constables was very informative.*

**You met with both Island FM and BBC Guernsey. Was there anything distinctive about radio stations for a small Island?**

*Whilst there were similarities with radio*

stations for other small communities in Great Britain and in Germany, it was noted that some features were different. Island FM, which relies on advertising for its revenue, cannot run many national adverts as these would not be relevant to Guernsey's unique position (e.g. no VAT). Likewise the BBC, which is more speech orientated than Island FM, has to be sensitive to reporting certain issues. Presenters at both stations need to pronounce local place names accurately! It was clear that the history of the German occupation still is felt in the present, with the Liberation day holiday and the recent Potato Peel Pie film.

**Your host took you to certain locations connected with the Occupation. Did anything particular stand out for you?**

*The iconic image of German soldiers marching past Lloyds Bank helps with an understanding*

*of what is meant for a British town to be occupied. The young ages of the 111 German soldiers buried at Fort George was thought provoking. It also struck me that many of the German structures and bunkers, such as the Underground hospital, used many slave workers in their construction.*

**Was there any overall impression about Guernsey that you remembered?**

*Coming from a heatwave in Berlin, the cooler temperature was welcome. The "filter in turn" system for motorists seems to reflect a calmer, more courteous mood amongst drivers which would not be seen in Germany. I can see the attraction of sitting on a beach and calming down, maybe painting a picture (like Renoir did at Moulin Huet). Overall Guernsey people seem very relaxed and calm. 🇫🇷*



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# ALDERNEY'S LOST ROMAN TOWN?

By Philip de Jersey

We've known for some time now that there was a Roman settlement on the site of St Peter Port.

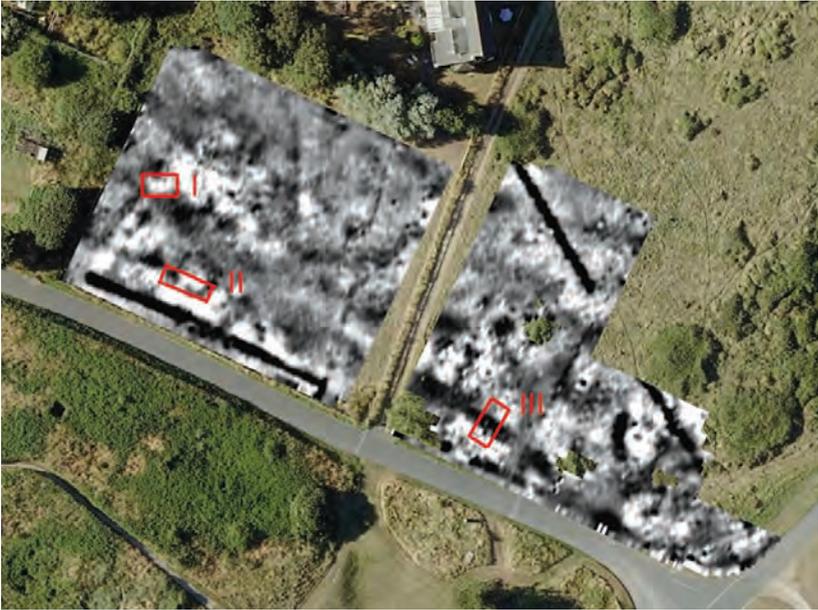
Excavations at La Plaiderie in the mid-1980s, and then beneath the Markets in the late 1990s, revealed occupation dating between the first and fourth centuries AD. There was probably Roman settlement in between these areas as well, but much of this would have been destroyed by the medieval and post-medieval growth of the town, so there is now little chance of finding substantial Roman structures in St Peter Port.

The situation is very different on Alderney, where excavations this summer provided a fascinating glimpse of what may have been a Roman town on the island. This was not quite what we had set out to find: the main reason for our interest was the discovery in June 2017 of a series of late Iron Age (second or first century BC) burials, uncovered during the excavation of an electricity service trench. This was dug along the south side of the Rue des Mielles, inland from Longis Bay and the late Roman fort of the Nunnery. Our hope this summer was to find further burials which could be carefully archaeologically excavated, rather than rescued from the bottom of the contractors' trench (see picture). Before starting any excavation work we carried out a resistivity survey of the field and common on the north side of the Rue des Mielles, and from this identified three areas for further investigation. As it turned out we didn't get anywhere near the third trench (marked as III on the image here) because there was so much archaeology in the first two.



Inhumation burial in the electricity service trench.

Trench I revealed various sections of wall, plenty of Roman pottery, and part of a huge shell midden. This consisted mostly of limpet, which must have formed a substantial part of the diet of the people who lived here, but also some mussel shells, ormers and just one or two oysters. A few higher quality items had been dropped or lost in the midden, including



Resistivity survey at Longis.



Trench I at Longis.

a fine blue glass bead and a bronze finger ring. All of the finds from this trench and the structures within it were Roman, and they had all been sealed by a thick deposit of wind-blown sand, visible as the very clean, white layer in the sections on the left of the photo.

Trench II, closer to the road, produced even more surprises. Here we found substantial Roman walls at both ends of the 10m trench, and between them an area of stone paving which had been covered by a layer of up to 10cm of clay, probably to provide a better quality floor surface: this may have been a courtyard inside a building. A bronze coin, a 'sestertius' of Antoninus Pius struck in about AD 140, was found just underneath the edge of the stone paving, indicating that it cannot have been constructed before about the mid-second century AD. In fact all the finds strongly suggest a second/third century date for this settlement, so about 200 or 250 years after the Iron Age burials, and a hundred years or more before the construction of the Nunnery, in the fourth century AD.

As with the first trench, all of the Roman features had been sealed by a metre or so of clean, windblown sand. We don't know exactly when this sand blew in, although there was evidence particularly in the first trench that the population had continued to try and live here after the first major sand blows. But eventually they gave up - presumably fed up not only of the sand blowing in and around their houses and other buildings, but also covering their fields and their crops. The settlement was abandoned, and further sand blows in the medieval period did a very effective job of concealing this little Roman town.

Quite how far this 'town' extends is one of the questions we would like to answer in the years to come. As well as the features identified in the resistivity survey, we know that Roman-



Trench II at Longis.

style walls were uncovered in building the house to the north of this area, and various other sections of wall have been identified at different places across Longis Common. So at the very least there could easily be 15,000 square metres of Roman settlement concealed beneath these sands. To put that in perspective, and to return to St Peter Port, imagine a swathe of Roman settlement from the Plaiderie to the Markets, extending for twenty metres each side of the Pollet and the High Street - that's the sort of area we're looking at. Investigating Alderney's lost Roman town could keep us busy for a long time to come! 

# THE ROLE OF HM PROCUREUR

By Megan Pullum

I was appointed to this role (and that of HM Receiver General) on 3rd October 2016, having first been appointed to the role of H M Comptroller in 2012. The post is an ancient one (dating back to the office of King's Pleader in the 14th century) and can sometimes appear to be a bit of a mystery, even to those with a detailed knowledge of Guernsey's constitution. There are 2 Law Officers, the senior post is titled HM Procureur (also known externally as Attorney General) and the junior one HM Comptroller (also known as Solicitor General), and in practice we share much of the work of the Law Officers between ourselves.

Law Officers are generally drawn from amongst the ranks of qualified advocates at the Guernsey Bar. Our oaths include promises to obey the Court and its acts and their execution, uphold the public interest, keep and observe the laws, rights, ancient liberties, and usages of Guernsey and to pursue and defend all Crown interests. We are non-political and act independently and impartially to represent the public interest. Our functions are exercised throughout the Bailiwick including Alderney and Sark and we are lucky to be assisted by an excellent team of qualified lawyers and support staff, all committed to work in the public sector.

It's hard to list all the various Law Officer functions we hold in a relatively short article but, to summarise, the work of the Law Officers is effectively where government and the law meet. My principal duties include



being legal advisor, prosecutor and upholder of the public interest - they are all interrelated duties.

As Chief legal advisors to the States and voting non-member of the States of Deliberation, a Law Officer attends every States meeting to advise on any legal and constitutional, issues that may arise, also on reports published in Billets d'État and on States' Members' amendments and requêtes. Assisted by our professional staff, we provide and oversee a full range of legal advice and

provisions of legal services to the States of Guernsey, States of Alderney and Chief Pleas of Sark, States Committees, the Guernsey Financial Services Commission, and other public bodies (although all are free to consult other counsel should they wish to). These services include the drafting of legislation (Projets de Loi, Ordinances, Rules of Court and other legal instruments, including contracts for States' land transactions.), conducting civil litigation - this involves dealing with both administrative and statutory appeals in areas ranging from child care to planning and assisting the court, as amicus curiae, when requested to do so. In relation to public prosecutions, all criminal proceedings are brought in the name of the Law Officers and in this regard we delegate responsibility to our highly qualified Director of Prosecutions and her team. (We also obtain confiscation and restraint orders relating to the proceeds of crime, and process requests from outside the Bailiwick seeking assistance in criminal investigations and the forfeiture of money.)

I also hold the post of HM Receiver General and have other symbolic and customary responsibilities such as, for example, as the head of the Guernsey Bar and I attend certain formal and ceremonial occasions such as Liberation day and Remembrance Sunday.

We also have customary law duties in connection with inquests, cremations, mental health hospital admissions, and the needs of children for care and protection. These duties tend to fall to the Law Officers personally and taken with the other functions above means that, in practice, both Law Officers are effectively 'on call' 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. Fortunately (since an Order in Council dated 1738) we are permitted to appoint deputies known as délégués, there are 5 currently appointed which means that if we

are ill or absent from the Island, our duties can still be performed.

In summary, it is a varied and fulfilling post which presents a number of challenges, but it is a privilege to be appointed to such a historic role, particularly as I am the first woman to hold the post. That said, I don't consider gender makes any material difference to the way the post is carried out (although I may perhaps have the dubious distinction of being the first Procureur to have pegged the washing out and baked cakes for the children's school before the working day has started!). 





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# THE DEVELOPMENT OF GUERNSEY SCOUTING: 1911-1926

By Eric Grimsley

## Local Scout Rallies and Events

Empire Day Cambridge Park 1912.

There were many misconceptions of what scouting was and did in the early years. The Scout Masters of the day tried to raise their profile at every opportunity by giving scouting displays at Fetes and at such events as Empire Day, consequently reports were printed in the Guernsey Evening Press and the Star newspapers. They also held Scout Rallies, the first recorded was held at Candie Gardens in 1911, an entry charge was made of 5d (2p) adult and 3d (11/2p) for children. The Guernsey Evening Press reported an estimated 200-300 people attended. His Excellency the Lt Governor, after inspecting the Scout Troops, gave an address. "I hope Guernsey will support the movement... I observe that there was the 'esprit de corps' among the Boy Scouts". He concluded by paying tribute to the District Scout Master Mr S. Frampton, who first introduced the movement to the island and finished by saying that the movement was now on a firm footing, he hoped it would receive much support, and with co-operation it was sure of success. During the Rally the inaugural Island Inter-Patrol



Competition was held which tested the Scouts on their scouting skills.

In 1916 a rally was held at the Cycling Ground in aid of the Cornwell Memorial Fund\* for endowing scholarships on board training ships or at Technical School or

Apprenticeships at sea or ashore for Boy Scouts. The details of the day are recorded in the Scout Council Minutes: "The scouts will assemble in the ground at the north end of the stand and march in their troops passing the saluting platform (in front of the stand) before lining up on the grass in a circular formation, patrol leaders in front of their patrol, officers at the rear of their troops. The inspection will be by the acting Lieutenant Governor Col St Ledger Woods.



After the inspection troops will demonstrate their scouting skills: First Aid, Signalling, Tent pitching, Bridge building, Swedish Drill and Trekking. The 9th Guernsey, Bertozerie, were voted to be the best Troop and were awarded the Commissioners Flag which will be flown on all great occasions. An entry charge was taken at the gate and a grand total of seven pounds was sent to the Cornwell Fund from staging this event. 📍



Rally at the Cycling Track.

### \*John Travers Cornwell VC:

John Cornwell, known as Jack during his short life as a Boy Scout in a London Scout Troop. In 1913 he enlisted in the Navy at 15 years. The following year he was instructed to join HMS Chester, his job on board was relaying orders from the bridge to the forward gun. In May 1916 at the Battle of Jutland his ship came under fire and the forward gun took a direct hit, but Jack although mortally wounded, stayed at his post. After the battle he was taken to hospital where he later died.

The London Gazette wrote on the 15th September 1916: "The King has been graciously pleased to approve the grant of the Victoria Cross to Boy, First Class, John Travers Cornwell remaining standing alone at the most exposed post, quietly awaiting orders, until the end of the action, with the gun crew dead and wounded all around him. His age was under sixteen and a half years, (he died 2nd June 1916)."

Baden-Powell announced in July 1916 the introduction of the Cornwell Badge for bravery by young people which continues to this day.



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# ZEF EISENBERG'S ST PETER PORT

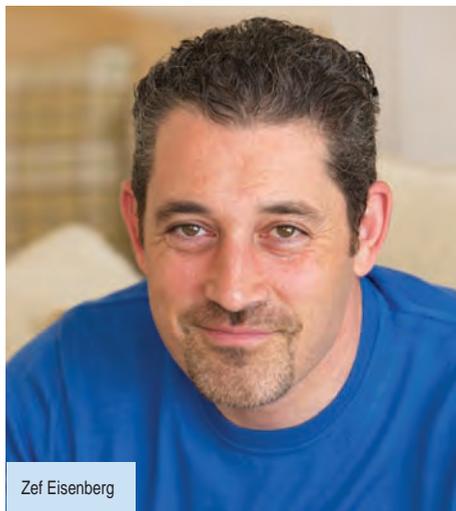
Zef's first taste of St. Peter Port was when he was approximately seven years old. His father had decided to venture across the channel to the islands with a young Zef in their twin engine 26ft Coronet cabin cruiser.

An unfortunate chain of events led to engine and electrical difficulties close to the Race of Alderney. Tides and torchlight navigation eventually led the pair to the safety of St Peter Port Harbour.

With spare parts on order and repairs to the vessel underway, Zef and his father had plenty of time to explore the many fortifications, outposts and Venelles of our town; Zef's love affair with Guernsey and St Peter Port was ignited. The adventure continued over the next few years and, at the age of nine, Zef asked his father how he could come to live in Guernsey - the simple answer was 'hard work'.

After a significant amount of hard work by Zef, and for a time without pay at a local North London health food shop, he created his successful business. This has all been well documented.

Zef decided to visit Guernsey again 15 or so years ago. It was mid-December and, after another quirk of fate, mainly due to an extended period of fog, he was left with time on his hands in St Peter Port. His eye wandered over to an estate agents window, and he took the decision to relocate to Guernsey - specifically St Peter Port - there and then. Three months later, he had sold up and moved to the island.



Zef Eisenberg

Nowadays, St Peter Port offers Zef the perfect balance of an international place to conduct business efficiently, while offering a safe, relaxed environment to live.

One of the beauties of his elevated St Peter Port residence is the six-minute commute by bicycle to the heart of town and, among other things, the café culture it has to offer. In Zef's opinion, Guernsey could make more use of the recent rebate scheme offered to residents of the island for electric bicycles, albeit 'residents only'. Or, even go one step further and offer a 'Boris' style public bicycle hire scheme like London and Paris. The recent innovation and public offering of shared car use vehicles is close to Zef's heart as he regularly uses the 'Zipcar' service when in London. He feels a similar service would be

excellent within St. Peter Port, for those who don't need a car every day.

Originally from North London, Zef welcomes the opportunity to bring his old biking friends to visit the island. He often accompanies them on bike rides taking in our town's natural vistas which offer a different view to their cityscapes.

Zef remarks that his friends are always astounded by the abundance of good quality restaurants and their affordable, value for money menus. Some of the favorites are set in our natural Harbour of St Peter Port, with its picturesque backdrop and skyline of the town. Dinner conversation soon turns to planning the next day's activities, which will offer them the chance to go exploring while reacquainting Zef with the natural gems we

often miss, or forget, in our busy day-to-day lives. Venturing further afield by motorbike, it takes his friends a while to get used to our relaxed environment where they can leave their crash helmets on their bikes. They enjoy being able to switch off from city life, without the worry of London style theft and robbery.

Zef feels that whilst sitting admiring views of the islands, it's quite easy to dismiss what we see and experience every day, which is, quite often, what others crave. It's very easy to criticise what we don't have, while often not appreciating what we do have.

In short, he feels that perhaps we should focus on the many positives our wonderful St Peter Port and town has to offer and build on our successes. 🇮🇪



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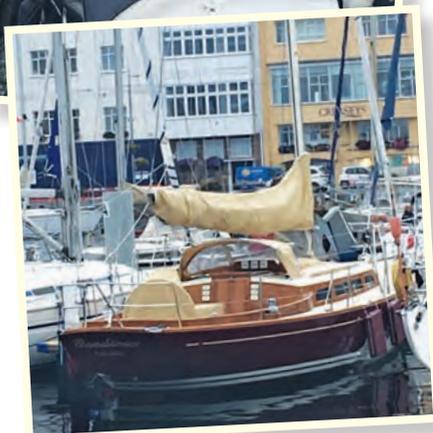
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# HARBOUR VIEWS

By Douzenier Richard Harding



I have always loved the sea, boats and ships. I grew up in landlocked Cambridgeshire so really looked forward to our family holidays to the coast; firstly North Norfolk and Devon, later France and Portugal. I began my professional radio career as a presenter living aboard two offshore pop pirate radio ships in the 1980s the first of which was the Voice of Peace anchored 3 nautical miles off Israel in the Mediterranean then Radio Caroline 22 nautical miles off Ramsgate in the North Sea. Now living in Guernsey of course I'm surrounded by the beautiful Bay of St Malo and St Peter Port Harbour is one of my, and my partner Bev's, favourite places in the island.

I begin most weekdays before work down at the Crown Pier with a cappuccino in hand watching the boats and all the activity in the Harbour which sets me up well for gathering recordings

of people's views on the streets of town for my Island FM show.

Many evenings and weekends I'm joined by Bev to enjoy the ever changing spectacle and admire (usually) the yachts from far and wide as well as the ferries, trawlers and other vessels. We especially love the high spring tides.

I wanted to learn the ropes about navigation and safety at sea so studied for the RYA Day Skipper theory exam at the College of FE and one day I will get around to doing the practical. Peter at Travel Trident even invited me to be the voice of the Herm Ferries safety announcements!

I love taking photos so I hope you enjoy these and they will inspire you to wander down to the water's edge... 



  
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