

*Gardien of our Island story.*



## 2016/2017 ANNUAL REVIEW







# INTRODUCTION

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# INTRODUCTION

Jersey Heritage is a local charity that protects and promotes the Island's rich heritage and cultural environment. We aim to inspire people to nurture their heritage in order to safeguard it for the benefit and enjoyment of everyone.

We are an independent organisation that receives an annual grant from the States of Jersey to support our running costs. Admission income from visitors and support from sponsors are also vital to keep us operating.

We are responsible for the Island's major historic sites, award-winning museums and public archives. We hold collections of artefacts, works of art, documents, specimens and information relating to Jersey's history, culture and environment. These collections define the Island, hold the evidence for its historical development and act as the community's memory.

This Annual Review focuses on our activity during 2016 and the early months of 2017 and highlights the many different activities we undertake and support during the year. You can find out more information at [www.jerseyheritage.org](http://www.jerseyheritage.org) and keep up to date by subscribing to our regular newsletter.



## CONTINUING OUR AMAZING AND IMPORTANT WORK

Jersey Heritage has had a good year both financially and in terms of visitor numbers. Increasing tourism numbers benefit us as we manage some of the Island's important and most visited places.

We mounted a successful Ice Age Island exhibition at the Jersey Museum, which showcased some of the important archaeological work we commissioned from the British Museum and University College London at Les Varines and La Cotte de St Brelade.

We engaged a large number of volunteers to produce the 13th Tapestry as our contribution to the 70th anniversary of the Liberation and the Celtic Coin Hoard has continued to be a hit with visitors and locals alike. We built a special laboratory at La Hougue Bie so that the public could see work on the hoard in progress. At the end of the year, the cleaning and preservation work of some 75,000 coins and the unexpected finds of gold jewellery were completed, although there is still much interpretation work to be done.

In 2016, we signed a three-year service level agreement with the Department of Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture. In return for grants from the States we undertake a wide range of curatorial, research, educational and building maintenance projects to preserve the historic buildings and collections in our care.

The funding allows us to mount new exhibitions, carry out work in the community and financially support the work of our partner the Société Jersiaise. For the first time, there is an earmarked fund to support the work at the Archives.



The funding has allowed us to carry out projects such as the work that is in train at La Hougue Bie to improve the visitor experience and to develop the facilities at Hamptonne. In 2016, extensive works were also completed to the First Gate at Elizabeth Castle and at the Maritime Museum. The refurbishment of La Rocco Tower as self-catering accommodation was also completed.

In last year's report, I wrote about the Board's ambition to see capital funding secured to refurbish Elizabeth Castle with a view to preserving its fabric and improving the visitor experience. The Castle is an iconic monument and is one of the most visited historic sites in the Island. Yet while it receives excellent ratings from visitors, parts of the Castle are closed or have limited access because of their state of disrepair. It is often not understood that rather than being a single building, the Castle is actually a village of over thirty separate buildings with tremendous potential to tell the story of the Island and to benefit the community in a variety of ways. The Trust has carried out extensive work to ensure that as far as possible the Castle fabric is safe, but it needs an extensive capital programme to conserve, preserve and interpret its buildings. We have worked with the Assistant Minister for Culture and he has established a political group to further understand the Castle and its requirements. The challenge is to make Elizabeth Castle the showpiece of Jersey's rich and varied heritage.

Jersey Heritage continues to play an important role in the community. We have a membership of over 11,000 and work closely with the Education Department to encourage visits by school parties to our sites. Our dedicated full-time staff and team of over 240 volunteers work hard to produce a wide range of activities for the public. We do this in an efficient and effective manner, and we would probably require our States grant to be doubled if we had to replace the volunteers with salaried staff. Not many other independent organisations that receive States funding can make these cost efficiency claims, but we are not complacent and we are working hard to diversify our income streams and have established an Enterprise Committee to spearhead this work. One early example of this work is the partnership we have signed with Ancestry.com to put much of the extensive family history records stored at the Archives on-line and accessible to both an Island and a worldwide audience. We have also signed an agreement with the Jersey Evening Post to archive and conserve their unique and extensive photographic collection and to make it available to the public.

Jersey Heritage does amazing and important work and it makes a vital contribution to our Island community. It is only with the dedication, enthusiasm and expertise of the staff, trustees and volunteers that this is possible. It is they who make Jersey Heritage such a special organisation.

**Professor Ed Sallis OBE,  
Chair Jersey Heritage**





## DELIVERING HERITAGE FOR EVERYONE

2016 is a good point to look at the year against longer term trends in the work of Jersey Heritage.

It is fifteen years since the first full year of operation of Jersey Archive. A decade has passed since the completion of the five-year refurbishment of Mont Orgueil, the opening of the first Heritage Lets properties and agreement with the States on new responsibilities for listing historic buildings. Five years have passed since the implementation of significant changes to funding and to service levels at the museum sites. All those changes reshaped and rebalanced the organisation to address opportunities in archive, museum and historic environment services and have enabled us to continue to increase heritage impact across the Island, throughout the community and internationally.

**Jonathan Carter,**  
Chief Executive Jersey Heritage

### **Island-wide heritage**

When asked what 'heritage' means to them, most Islanders identify the historic landscape; the coast and countryside, historic and archaeological sites. More tourists visit the free-to-access coastal heritage sites such as the round towers, German bunkers and dolmens than visit the heritage attractions sites such as the castles and museums. Visit Jersey reports that traditional scenery and landscape is regarded as a strong travel motivator by visitors to Jersey. Accordingly, over the last ten years we have moved to take more heritage sites into management in order to realise their cultural potential for the Island. In 2016, we managed 32 historic sites, bringing La Rocco Tower into public operation during the year. Seven-



figure earnings over ten years of Heritage Lets have been ring-fenced and reinvested in current projects including the refurbishment of Archirondel Tower and work to create access and interpretation at a number of ruined sites on coastal footpaths including, in 2016, Les Hurets Guardhouse above Bouley Bay and the quarry landscape at Landes du Ouest.

The relocation of the Tourism Information Centre in partnership with Visit Jersey and Ports of Jersey is consistent with our current strategy for an Island-wide approach to our work and has enabled us to reopen Jersey Museum year-round, supported by the additional retail spend generated. In 2017 we are seeing strong early growth in visitors to the site.

Most of the Island's heritage assets are in private ownership. So it remains a priority, working closely with the Environment Department, to give Islanders the information they need to play a part in managing this common heritage. Having completed a resurvey of the Island's approximately 4,500 listed buildings and places, in 2016 we supported the Department in the programme to give these sites legal protection for the first time. At the end of the year approximately 3,000 listings were complete, over 20% of those required further responses to owner representations, 94% of which were successfully resolved by Jersey Heritage, only 11 cases progressed to Planning Inspector review, of which, 10 were upheld.

This project represents a really significant step forward in the protection of Island heritage, and, in order to create maximum public value for the work, at the end of the year trustees agreed to fund a three year programme to pilot an online Historic Environment Record (HER). Jersey is probably the only place in Britain without such a resource, which is normally provided by local authorities and supports developers and owners as well as planners and researchers. The current absence of an HER is a reminder that in many ways Jersey is off-grid in terms of basic heritage provision with no Conservation Areas, County Archaeologist or modern legislation for Portable Antiquities and Treasure. With limited and diminishing resources in government, Jersey Heritage has done the right thing to support this work but there remain some things, like legislation, that only the States can do. With welcome high profile archaeology projects like the Coin Hoard and Ice Age Island attracting partnerships with prestigious international institutions, the Island needs to raise its game.





### Heritage for all

In our Constitution we are charged with providing a heritage service 'for everyone'. In order to create widely relevant content we have aimed to develop projects based not only on our own expertise, but also on the skills, knowledge and expertise in the community. During 2016 we completed a 13th panel of the Occupation Tapestry with 4,000 hours of voluntary work; we started a project with a group of skilled volunteers to build a Neolithic Longhouse at La Hougue Bie; in partnership with other cultural organisations we reached into the community memory bank of photographs and recordings to make content for our exhibition on Jersey in the 1980s. The growing body of international evidence is that the maximum personal and community benefit of cultural activity is for those people acting as participants, such as in these Jersey Heritage projects, rather than as audiences only.

That underlines the fact that cultural activity is not only about people encountering art and stories in stimulating places but doing so together, with family and friends, meeting people and sharing experiences. So we continue to develop programmes to foster social engagement and community participation in our organisation. At the end of 2016 membership numbers stood at 11,290. Growth in social media reach and free member access associated with family events such as Discovery Days enabled us to record 19,847 student visits outside school hours, the highest ever. A record 18,386 volunteer hours were given.

These include some of our activities which would be almost impossible to undertake without voluntary partnerships; the Channel Island Family History Society support for enquirers at Jersey Archive and the Friends of the Maritime Museum maintaining the historic fleet at the Maritime Museum are examples.

Gate receipts at the visitor sites, supported by growth of around 4% in both UK and overseas visitor footfall, were up just under 2% on 2015. Admissions remain the most significant portion of our self-generated income and a factor of central importance in our current financial stability. However, it is important not to let the financial and commercial good news story obscure more concerning trends in local social engagement which are perhaps not unrelated. There were 43,209 visits by residents in the year. That is a significant number, and nothing to be ashamed of, but it is over 15% down on prior year and over 20% down on the pre-2011 service changes which introduced charging for students and seniors.

Working with the States Statistics Unit we looked closer in the year at the demographics of resident engagement with heritage. Around 60% of adults, 16 and over, are engaged with heritage in Jersey. Regardless of origin and nationality and in contrast to England, heritage in Jersey can claim to create a common cultural space around a shared experience of Jersey identity. But there are significant contrasts over ranges of income and educational attainment with around 80% of Islanders with higher income and educational attainment engaging, down to around only 30% with lower income and fewer formal qualifications.



That is a much wider gap than in England. If culture and heritage is something with the potential to bring the community together, it appears this potential is not being reached across social and economic divisions.

In 2016 we invested in work to better understand and segment our audiences and their cultural motivations in order to broaden our appeal. The absence of cultural policy is a significant issue here. The States' current project to commission a Cultural Strategy is therefore very welcome if it seeks to capture the value of heritage to Islanders and define the benefits of heritage to the Island across social, cultural, economic and environmental indicators.

With 187,910 visits in 2016 the visitor sites remain at the heart of our work to engage Islanders and visitors to Jersey. Key investments were aimed at maintaining and developing the cultural value of sites.

At Hamptonne, which has our highest proportion of local visitors and the most likely to have parties with children, a new playground was commissioned.

At La Hougue Bie, in addition to the three year volunteer project to construct a Neolithic Longhouse, work got underway on the new visitor reception building which will free up space for further development of volunteer facilities and a new tearoom, a popular suggestion by visitors.

At the Maritime Museum, a new gallery was completed to house the St Malo rescue boat Diana alongside the relocation and upgrade of the Boatshop in support of the work of the Friends.

### Heritage in the world

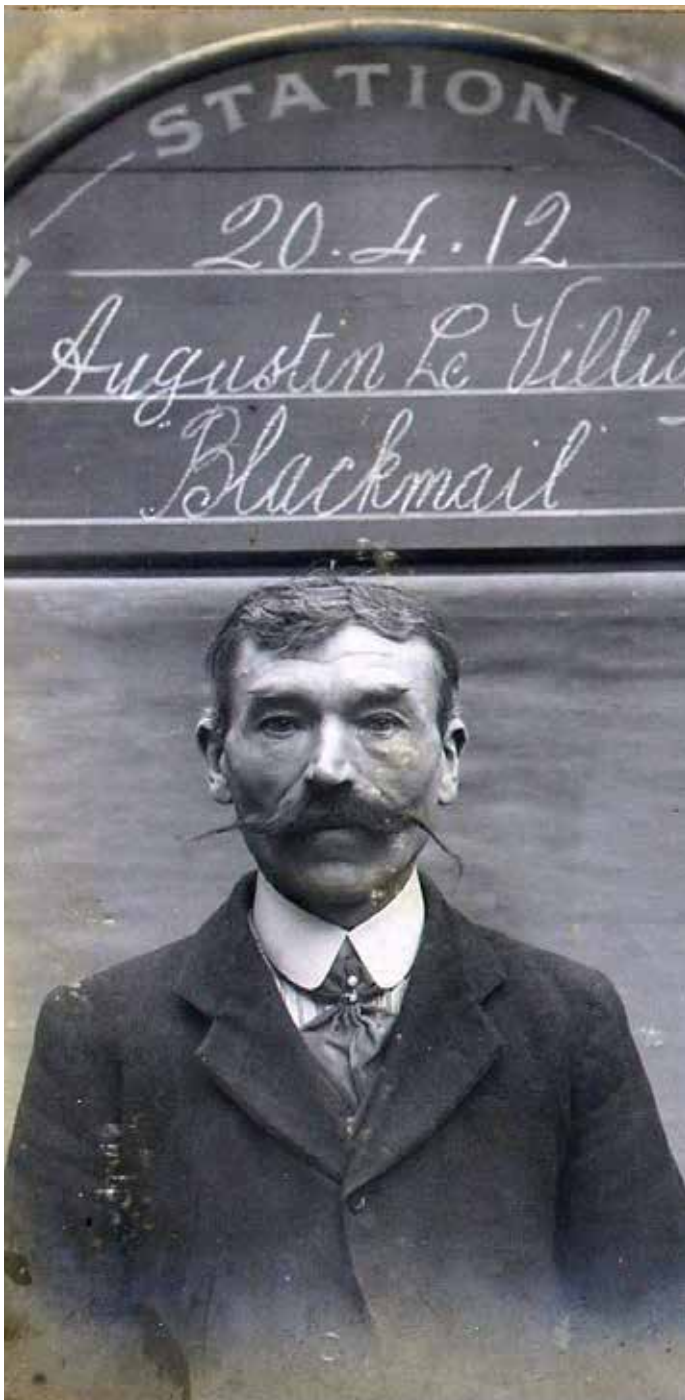
At a time when the significance of Jersey's international personality has become more important than ever, we have sought to play what part we can in promoting the Island's stories overseas. Our ambition is for this work to support tourism promotion and other areas of Island business where reputation, identity and diplomacy are important.

Over the last few years our Ice Age Island project partnership with a consortium of UK universities and national museums, our work with the British Museum and others on the Iron Age Coin Hoard, our international loans from the collection of surrealist photography by Claude Cahun and Marcel Moore the worldwide online reach of our genealogical records and the new Occupation stories emerging from our work with academics have all demonstrated how powerful Jersey heritage stories can be in media coverage around the world.

The greatest challenge, and biggest opportunity in the Ice Age project, remains the Société Jersiaise's La Cotte de St Brelade (La Cotte) site. Archaeological work, due to be undertaken during 2016 and funded by the Tourism Development Fund, was delayed by the very considerable and complex safety concerns at the site. Engineers will complete their design of solutions in 2017 which, if affordable, will enable work to proceed on protecting the site from the elements and stabilising the remaining sediments.







Further archaeological work is likely to continue to generate the media stories we have seen over the last five years.

At the other end of the chronological spectrum, Occupation related stories continued to support cultural partnerships, connecting Jersey's heritage beyond the Island. Working with Jersey Heritage, Cambridge academic Dr Gilly Carr produced documentation to support an application for Dorothea Weber to be recognised by the State of Israel as Righteous Among the Nations, leading to a visit in November by the Israeli Ambassador for a ceremony at the Occupation Tapestry Gallery and the unveiling of a Jersey Heritage plaque on the house in West Park where Mrs Weber had hidden her Jewish friend Hedwig Bercu during the Occupation.

This international attention brings new light to questions of Jersey's history and heritage but it always asks questions. Have we got adequate systems for the protection of archaeological and built heritage in Jersey which stand up to international scrutiny? Are we doing as much as other jurisdictions to promote social inclusion through cultural engagement? How are the stories we tell about the Occupation heard by others with wartime histories?

### Funding heritage

The success of the organisation has been based on a model of plural funding, complementing States investment with self-generated income and diversifying the latter across admissions, trading and fundraising. In 2016, this balance was approximately 50/50 offering excellent value to the Island.

The stability and confidence generated by appropriate States investment over the last five years has enabled ongoing growth in earned income, £2,761,000 in 2016 against a budget of £2,402,000 and up around 30% since 2011. 2016 trading was supported by a particularly strong performance in Heritage Lets income and fundraising benefitted from a number of windfall royalty and legacy gains.

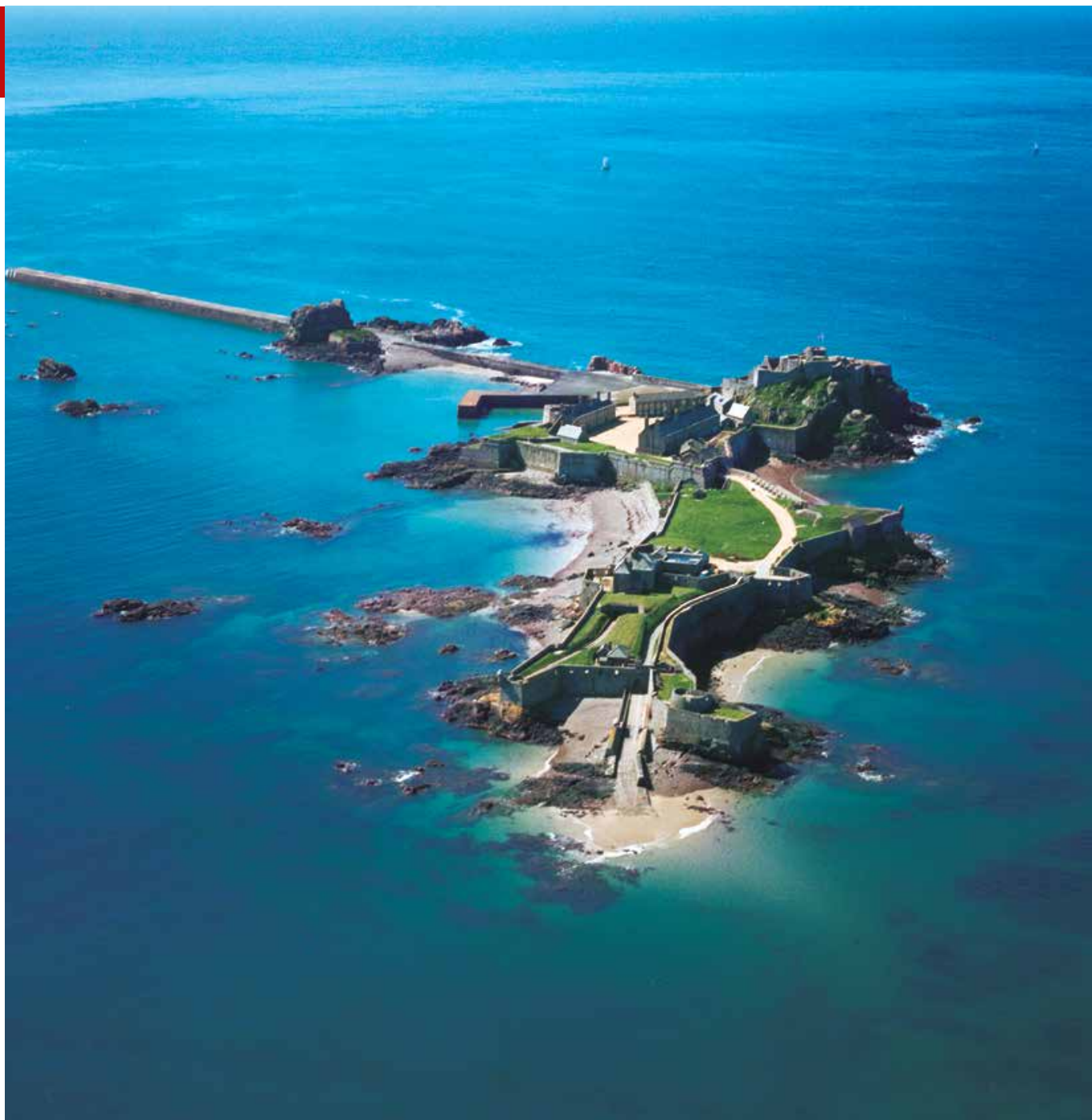
With the department for Economic Development, Sport, Tourism & Culture (EDTSC) we commissioned work to identify options to develop the heritage potential of the Hospital Block at Elizabeth Castle and planned "Love Your Castle", a public engagement and fundraising campaign. Design work for the refurbishment of Jersey Museum, now 25 years old, was commissioned. Designs for the completion of the development of Hamptonne, the Island's Country Life Museum, were agreed with the National Trust and the Société. Designs for new facilities for visitors and volunteers at La Hougue Bie were agreed with the Société Jersiaise.

### Conclusion

Jersey Heritage is currently in a good position to build on the developments of the last decade to realise the potential of heritage across the Island, throughout the community and internationally. The continued cultural and commercial success, financial stability and institutional strength of Jersey Heritage is a significant aspect of the overall health of the cultural ecology of Jersey. But our success is not an end in itself.

Heritage, and that includes all the heritage not managed by Jersey Heritage, clearly has a role to play in developing tourism, in supporting cultural diplomacy, in strengthening community cohesion, in improving the quality of life of Islanders through education, leisure and the quality of the environment.

If those benefits are to be realised successfully and with integrity, appropriate support across the community and government is needed, which requires legislation, coherent policy, philanthropy as well as sponsorship, and support for Islanders who care for heritage and encouragement for all public institutions to recognise their own roles and responsibilities in making the most of the Island's tremendous natural strength in heritage resources.



# HELPING TO SHAPE OUR ISLAND'S FUTURE

In January 2016 the States of Jersey began a community-wide consultation called Shaping Our Future.

The consultation had the following objectives;

- engage people in thinking about a long-term vision that draws together a range of economic, social and environmental outcomes
- get a broad sense of how people think Jersey is doing today, their ambitions for the future, and where they consider the greatest need is for change
- support the final vision for Jersey with a large consultative base.

Jersey Heritage is very supportive of these objectives and actively seeks to create an environment in which Islanders and visitors alike can increase and share their knowledge, support economic success and sustainability, that is inclusive and which informs a sense of community and belonging. The illustration opposite is taken from the conclusions of the consultation process and demonstrates the relationship between Jersey Heritage and the aspirations of the community it serves.





## Sustainable Resources

- We continually invest in our people and infrastructure to ensure the services we offer are sustainable and of high value
- We operate strict financial controls and budgeting to ensure our business is efficient, effective and offers value for money
- We actively seek ways to maintain and generate income for our business to sustain our level of activity and invest in our future

## Built and Historic Environment

- We look after some of the Island's most iconic and important historic buildings and sites
- We invest in and open access to historic buildings that are closed to the public
- We assist government with listing and recording sensitive buildings and sites and maintain the Historic Buildings Register

## Jobs and Growth

- We create employment opportunities regardless of ability, age, race or gender
- We encourage people to improve their skills and knowledge through training and experience
- Our board of trustees consists of people of different ages, gender and backgrounds to encourage diversity and breadth of professional and social experience

## Attractive Business Environment

- Jersey Heritage has a skilled workforce and provides opportunities for other trades and partners
- We invest in our product and technology to ensure our generation is modern and forward thinking
- We encourage innovation and creative thinking
- We treat our partners and suppliers fairly

## Natural Environment

- We help to protect some of the Island's most outstanding natural environments
- We create environments that enable wildlife and plants to thrive



## Affordable Living

- Many of our sites and events are free to access
- Membership of Jersey Heritage costs as little as 98p per month making it affordable for as many people as possible

## Safety and Security

- We create a sense of community and belonging
- We help build pride in our built and natural heritage

## Learn and Grow

- Island schoolchildren are encouraged to access heritage sites
- Our outreach programme takes history into schools and community organisations
- We strive to tell our island story in as many ways as we can
- Our Living History activities bring our heritage to life
- We encourage students to use our spaces to express their own culture and life stories

## Vibrant and Inclusive

- More than 12,000 Islanders enjoy the benefits of Jersey Heritage membership
- Our volunteers contribute over 18,386 hours of their time to support our work
- We create opportunity for people to engage with our island story through a broad range of fun and stimulating events and experiences
- We welcome people of all ages, nationalities and cultures

## Health and Wellbeing

- We help maintain some of the Island's most beautiful and varied natural open spaces for people to spend time and relax in
- We create events designed to bring families and friends together
- We help to improve the lives of the elderly through our reminiscence programme

*This diagram is adapted from Shaping Our Future, 'My Jersey', Report on the findings of the public consultation on a future vision for Jersey, States of Jersey, November, 2016*

# JERSEY HERITAGE HEADLINES

2016 - 2017

## Visit Britain Awards

La Hougue Bie Museum was awarded Visit England's 'Hidden Gem' award 2016

Maritime Museum was awarded Visit England's 'Best Told Story' award 2016

## Ice Age Island

Jersey is emerging as a key location for understanding human evolution, expansion and survival over a quarter of a million years of climate change. Jersey: Ice Age Island continued at Jersey Museum bringing together spectacular remains of Ice Age animals, on loan from the Natural History Museum, and iconic pieces of Ice Age Art borrowed from the British Museum to shed new light on Jersey's significant Ice Age past, and sought to reveal a number of recent discoveries.

## Jersey Archive

On 1st January 2017 Jersey Heritage opened over 150 new records to the public for the first time. The records have been closed to public access for periods of 30, 75 and 100 years and include; inquest notes on the German air raids at La Rocque and Albert Pier, remission of a prison sentence for bigamy during the First World War on condition that the individual re-joins the army, internment of Italian nationals during the Second World War and the minutes of the Committee in charge of the Public Asylum during the early decades of the 20th century.

## Jersey Archives Collections Online (ACO)

As a result of a collaboration with Ancestry and with the kind permission of the Dean of Jersey, the Island's Church of England baptism, marriage and burial records from 1540 – 1940 became available to search online for the first time. The collection includes over 72,000 images covering the key milestones in the lives of hundreds of thousands of Islanders from Tudor times to the beginning of the Second World War.

## Events and Discovery Days

Our dedicated full-time staff and team of over 240 volunteers work hard to produce a wide range of activities for the public. In 2016 we engaged 11,434 members of the public by hosting over 20 events throughout the year, at all our sites.

## Our Six Public Sites

With 187,910 visits in 2016 the visitor sites remain at the heart of our work to engage Islanders and visitors to Jersey.

### Bringing Historic Sites Back to Life

In 2016, we managed 32 historic sites, bringing La Rocco Tower into public operation during the year. The Tower, built in 1796 was converted into a Coastal Tower Heritage Let, thanks to on-going fundraising efforts, a contributing grant from The Tourist Development Fund and the tireless efforts of the Department for Infrastructure.

### Protecting Our Built Heritage

Having completed a resurvey of the Island's approximately 4,500 listed buildings and places, in 2016 we supported the Department in the programme to give these sites legal protection for the first time. At the end of the year approximately 3,000 listings were complete, over 20% of those required further responses to owner representations, 94% of which were successfully resolved by Jersey Heritage, only 11 cases progressed to Planning Inspector review, of which, 10 were upheld.

### Student Visits

Growth in social media reach and free member access associated with family events such as Discovery Days enabled us to record 19,847 student visits outside school hours, the highest ever. A record 18,386 volunteer hours were given.

### Resident engagement

There were 43,209 visits by residents in the year. Around 60% of adults, 16 and over, are engaged with heritage in Jersey.

### Powering the Dig with a Solar Rig

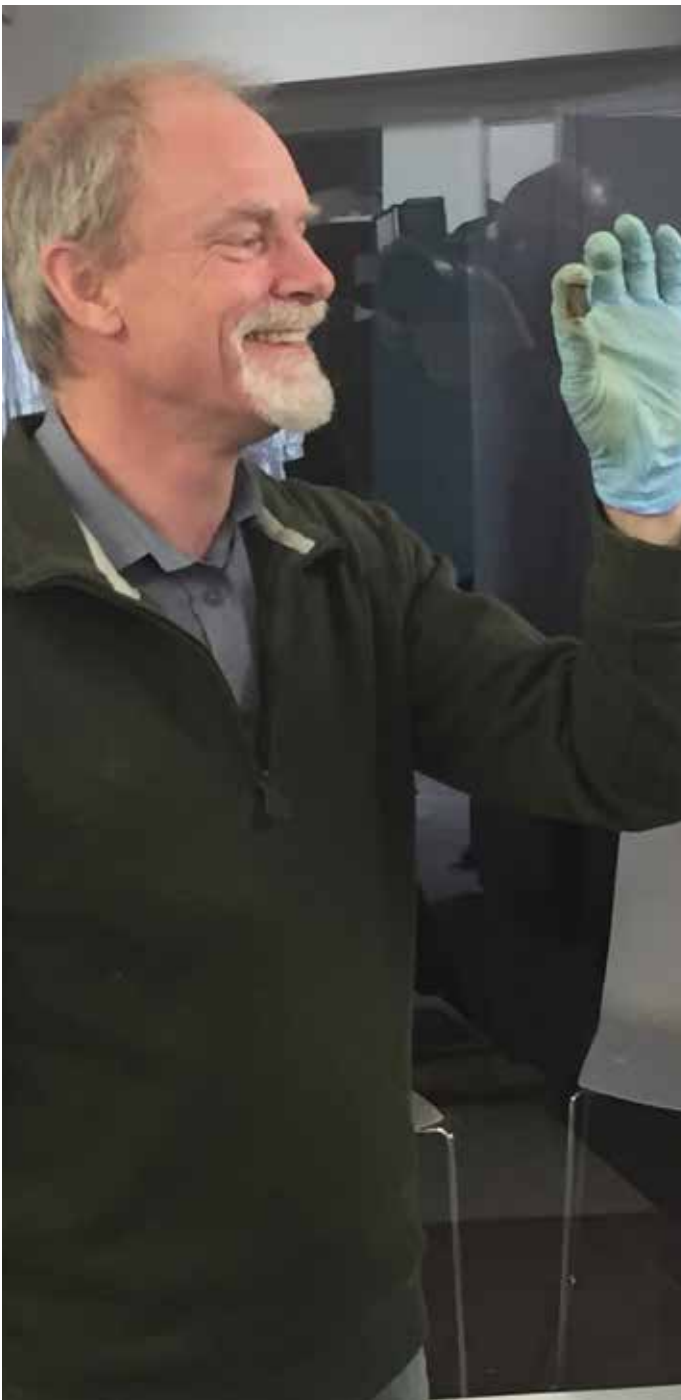
Cutting edge technology played a vital role discovering more about Jersey's Ice Age past in the summer of 2016, with a solar powered generator being used at the Les Varines dig site.

The generator, which was funded by Jersey Electricity, enabled archaeologists to complete more of their painstaking work on site and minimise the waste of time and costs.

### Heritage lets

Jersey Heritage welcomed 2,565 heritage lets guests.





## COIN HOARD - THE FINAL DAYS

Nerve-wracking but exhilarating: the deconstruction of the Le Catillon II Coin Hoard: *Interview with conservator Neil Mahrer*

A milestone was reached at the beginning of 2017: the removal of the final coins from the Le Catillon II Iron Age coin hoard. Over five years the team of 25 professional and volunteer staff had painstakingly removed, cleaned and recorded in excess of 70,000 coins and other amazing artefacts from the 2,000 year old find.

We still haven't unravelled the enduring mystery of the Hoard, which was found by metal detectorists Reg Mead and Richard Miles in a Grouville field in 2012. We do know that it was most likely buried by the Coriosolitae tribe of French Celts in around 30 – 50BC, though why they would hide such a vast collection of precious items is unclear. What is clear is that the exploration of the Hoard has been a journey, which hasn't ended with the removal of those final coins: rather the work is only just beginning as the team starts to interpret the coins, gold and other items that have been discovered.

For one person the journey has been a roller coaster of worry and excitement. Neil Mahrer has led the conservation team from the beginning and, as he explains, although the project has been pressured at times it has also been immensely rewarding...

### **What do we actually know about the hoard now that it is finally deconstructed?**

We are confident it was buried by the Coriosolitae tribe of French Celts during the 1st century BC. It was at this time that Julius Caesar was extending his empire into Gaul. We can tell that the coins and other items were not buried randomly: the first things thrown into the pit were varied – glass beads, a Bronze Age spear-head and so on; then coins were tipped in and half way up was a line of gold. Then more coins were poured over the top. The whole thing is enormous and weighs between 300 and 400 kilos.

And that's where things start to become a little muddy. The Coriosolitae lived in Brittany and were not a very large tribe – in fact Caesar hardly mentions them in his diaries – so why they would have such a huge hoard and why they would need to bury it is still a mystery. They were traders and it's possible that they thought a final battle was coming and so they hid their wealth offshore. We also know the Celts used to bury their gold and silver as religious offerings and we see a lot of evidence for this in France. But this seems unlikely because of its sheer size – this one hoard is bigger than all other recorded finds in France combined so if it was an offering they were certainly after a big ask of their gods!

### **What has the spotlight of international interest and scrutiny been like?**

The coin hoard is a fascinating find on so many levels for everyone from people inspired by treasure to academics who specialise in this field. One of the most interesting visits to the hoard, for me, was from one of the conservators from the Staffordshire coin hoard, which was discovered in 2009 at Litchfield. Work on that huge hoard of Anglo Saxon coins and jewellery led the way in new research and conservation techniques. We have been able to pick up their mantle and take things a stage further and we are now doing some really pioneering work.

There has also been a considerable amount of national and international media interest, not just at the beginning but throughout the whole project. I think people are fascinated by the discovery and they keep coming back for updates.

The downside is that some journalists want to take a short cut to answering the question: what is it worth in monetary terms? Very quickly the figure of £10m was being quoted but that was a number that was just plucked out of the air. It's true value, in historical terms, is unfathomable and that is more important in the longer term. We know that if we want to keep this unique treasure in our Island, then we have to engage with the public as much as we can to gain the greatest amount of enthusiasm for the project.

One of the key things to mention is how local residents remained enthralled. For example we have had many school visits to our lab over the last three years and we have taken elements of the hoard out into the community. Having done this kind of work for over 30 years, I can say there is nothing quite like buried treasure and gold to get people really interested.

### **Has there been a time when the project has become overwhelming?**

Probably on day two! We went along to the field expecting to find a pot of coins and that we would be in and out of the hole in one day. By the second day we began to realise just how big the hoard was and there was nothing to tell us how we could get something of that size out of the ground. Trying to come up with scheme that would enable us to excavate the hoard intact was probably the single most worrying thing in the entire project, especially as local media had been invited to record the event!







Once we knew just how important the find was, there was constant pressure every day and the more we uncovered the more valuable it became internationally in terms of the information it could give us about our Iron Age past. We really had to raise our game quickly and we took as much advice as we could from experts all around the world to make sure we were doing the right thing.

We have had a large team of professional staff and volunteers working on the project and that has helped to relieve some of the stress. For the first six months we were really learning the ropes and progress was very slow. But as we developed techniques and a way of working we began to pick up speed and our confidence grew.

### **You have kept everyone up to date with your personal blog throughout the project, has that been a success?**

It was suggested early on that an online blog would be the easiest way to keep everyone around the world informed about our progress. Georgia and Viki, who worked with me throughout the whole project, used Twitter and Facebook but I am less familiar with those platforms so the blog worked well for me. It has been an easy way of describing things in enough detail so that we have been able to give people a vivid picture of the process.

I would say it has been successful because I have had a lot of response from people both locally and around the world. It was even voted one of the ten best archaeological blogs!

### **If you had to pick a highlight, what would it be?**

The best single moment was probably seeing a gold torque for the first time because when we actually lifted the hoard from the ground we didn't know what it contained. We assumed it was just a coin hoard because that is all we could see at that time.

When we got it back to the lab the first thing I did was just remove the earth and mud from around it to get a better view of the coin surfaces. On the first day of doing that I was just using a plant sprayer to soften the mud and it just washed away the dirt to reveal some gold underneath. We are trained to know that everything is of equal value in terms of information and so forth but it's a really visceral thing to just see gold emerge in that way, out of the dark green hoard of coins. That was a really breath-taking moment.

But I think the thing that surprised me and the rest of the team most was when Viki found the tip of a piece of bracken right in the middle of the hoard. There was about 1.5cm of perfectly preserved bracken that must have gone into the hoard in that moment when they buried it and to see that was absolutely amazing.

### **What has this project meant to you?**

It's more than a once in a lifetime chance: most people doing a job like mine will never get to work on something like this. It has been an incredible privilege and in practical terms it has been a very steep learning curve to try to find out the best and most modern way to carry out the work.

At times it has been very demanding but equally exciting. Almost every day for three years we have been on a journey of discovery into the unknown. We thought we would be able to x-ray the hoard but it was too large and too thick, so we had no idea what was inside so each day we never knew what we would find. Every now and again a member of the team working on the hoard would say 'Oh, gold' and the rest of us would all come around to have a look. It could have been a torque or an earring or something else - it was a lottery really but very exciting.

### **And what happens next?**

Phase one is over - removing the hoard from the ground and carefully taking it apart. Phase two is about to begin - really studying what we have found and trying to interpret the wider story. We will continue to work in our specially created space at La Hougue Bie and I am sure interest in what we are doing will remain just as strong. And who knows - we are sure there are other hoards out there waiting to be discovered, possibly even in the same field where this one was found.







## THE NEOLITHIC LONGHOUSE

Imagine building your family home using only the materials available in the natural environment, 6000 years ago, in Jersey. Picture the walls as vertical wooden beams supporting a thatched roof; the interior is a series of open plan rooms centred round a fireplace. This is a Neolithic Longhouse and Jersey Heritage is building one at La Hougue Bie.

La Hougue Bie is a hidden gem. It has been given an award for being exactly that, by Visit Britain. This charismatic little site is capped by an impressive grassy mound that is older than the pyramids atop which sits a granite burial chapel. It was the burial site of Jersey's Neolithic community and is a staggering 6000 years old. Jersey's Neolithic community has left behind a number of its burial monuments around the Island, the dolmens being the most well-known. The Island has a tremendous Neolithic history, but only where the dead are buried, because where the living lived is now under water.

This is, in short, the reason Jersey Heritage are building a Neolithic Longhouse. They are resurrecting the lives and traditions of our Neolithic community.

'You're talking four and a half thousand years ago ...' volunteer Doug Ford cuts in, 'you're not actually going to resurrect anything.' Doug is one of the twenty-something volunteers working on the three-year project. Doug and his colleagues are wryly literal, as anyone who attempts to speculate upon the lives of Jersey's Neolithic community will find out rather quickly. Doug is right, there is scant physical evidence of the living Neolithic community in Jersey. Their houses were made of timber and thatch which duly rotted, leaving only the post holes that were dug into the ground. The project is built on educated guess work, a fact that Doug and his colleagues take gleeful pride in.

The three year project, which began in October last year, is dependent on a volunteer work force, headed







## THE NEOLITHIC LONGHOUSE

up by Chris O'Connor and under the creative direction of ancient technology expert, Luke Winter. Luke is the director of Historic Concepts Ltd, a company that specialises in authentic construction projects and education programmes at heritage sites. Luke has been an experimental archaeologist for 20 years (BSC and MSC). Luke has designed the longhouse, drawing on evidence found in North West Europe of stone longhouses and the post holes of Neolithic structures. 'You can't underestimate the role that Luke plays,' says Chris, 'he is such an enthusiastic guy and he brings all these people together.' Luke has built Viking longhouses over Britain and his form of experimental archaeology encourages collaboration and input, meaning the volunteers are very much part of the learning process.

This is largely due to the fact that the structure is being built exclusively with the tools and methods available 6000 years ago, meaning shaving wood into stakes, sharpening axes and using hand-made ropes. The process isn't quick, but it has created a palpable sense of community amongst the volunteers involved. Rosie Willmott recalls the satisfaction of knocking an axe against wood, much to the applause of her colleagues, 'The physical act of building something that works is really satisfying', she says. Everybody is expected to pull their weight; the project is extremely reliant on these people working as a team as it takes at least six people to move each beam, using ropes made from grass, nettles and brambles.

Volunteer Ed Le Couteur recalls the moment that the first of the wooden pillars (to be the exterior supporting beams) were hoisted up; 'I helped with that. It was quite an achievement, we all got together to just pull it up, a lot of effort and labour was required but it was really satisfying, the first major step.'

As with any other building, the structure seemed to take an age to come out of the ground, the foundations being such an important part of its structural integrity. Visiting the work in progress it is easy to see how the structure will interact with the site. Even in its infancy, the varied wooden beams and scattered self-built tools and technology feel authentic, Neolithic; there is a comfort and beauty in the basicness of it all.



*Neolithic Longhouse model designed and constructed by Luke Winter.*



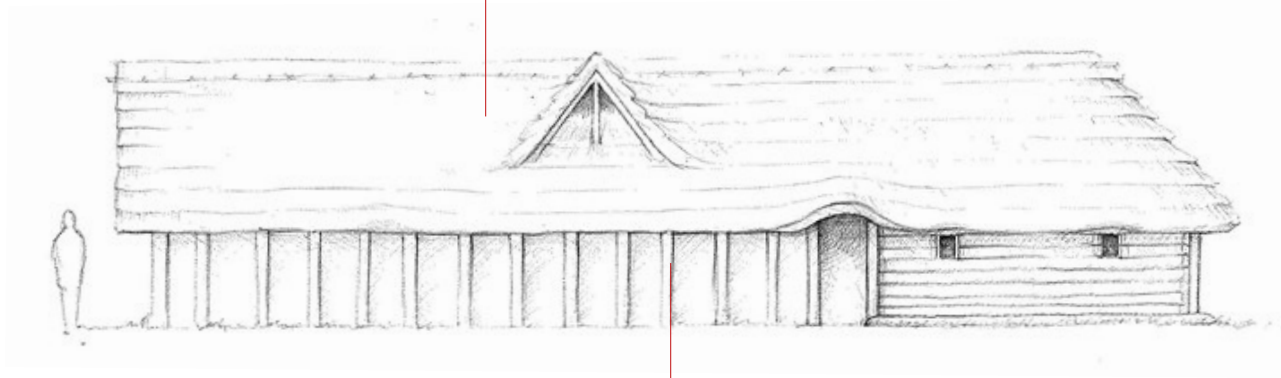
*Hand Carved Tools  
by Jersey Heritage  
Volunteers*



*Hand-made beam  
support, used to  
hold the beams in  
place whilst the end  
is sculpted.*

## THE NEOLITHIC LONGHOUSE

*Thatched roof constructed from materials in the natural environment.*



*Exterior supporting beam; each beam takes six people to manoeuvre.*

The longhouse will be used primarily as an education facility, a covered space for school children to visit, learn and engage with Jersey's tremendous Neolithic history. 'We are trying to tell people what life was like 6000 years ago. We don't know exactly what it was like but we do have clues in the archaeological records to interpret', Olga Finch explains. These were multi-generational houses where the hearth was the centre of life. They would sit round the fire and their elders would tell stories and share knowledge and skills. Storytelling

was knowledge sharing; sharing where a good source of flint was or how to make tools, where to find clay to make pots. They would also demonstrate practical skills so that people would learn by example.

Resurrecting this type of teaching, by creating an authentic camp fire atmosphere and sharing knowledge with future generations is a new way of engaging with school children, getting them out of the classroom and under the shadow of this Neolithic monument.









## THE NEOLITHIC LONGHOUSE

This is a community project, and at this early stage, this motive beams above all others. The core nucleus of volunteers laugh, joke, debate and discuss the project and its history with one another like old school friends. Rosie Willmott describes working on the project;

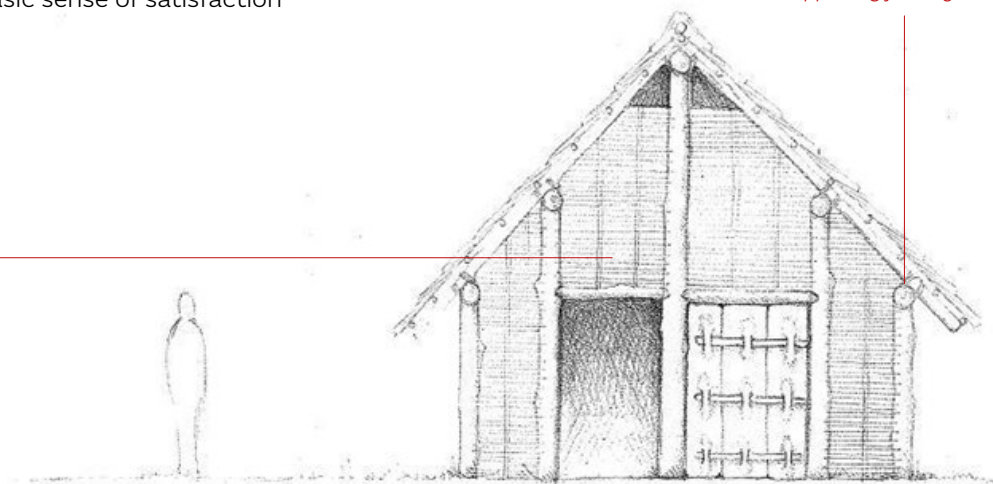
'It brings a very strong sense of community, people that would not normally meet all come together and find things in common. People from all walks of life, retirees, students, and housewives like me. It doesn't matter who you are; there is an axe, here is some wood, go for it.'

The process of construction is as important as the end result, Jersey Heritage are trying to gain a practical understanding of Neolithic building techniques. Above and beyond that, the project has nurtured a community amongst its volunteers borne out of physical labour, working as a team and a basic sense of satisfaction after a hard day's work.

Luke's architectural plans have the team using all the post holes that were found on the site. This bothers Doug most of all. If the timber support beams of the house rotted, the Neolithics would simply have repositioned the hole and started again, which accounts for the extra holes; 'We've used all of the post holes; something of that magnitude could actually support an upper story.' Perhaps we will see a multi-story longhouse in the near future, planning permission pending.

*Volunteers carved each supporting joint by hand*

*The Neolithic Longhouse will be used as an education centre.*



## JERSEY ARCHIVE

In January 2017, as a result of a collaboration with Ancestry and with the kind permission of the Dean of Jersey, the Island's Church of England baptism, marriage and burial records from 1540 – 1940 became available to search online for the first time.

The collection includes over 72,000 images covering the key milestones in the lives of hundreds of thousands of Islanders from Tudor times to the beginning of the Second World War.

The records are searchable by name, birth date, parish, baptism, marriage and burial date, name of spouse and name/s of parents, and these records contain vital information for anybody looking to find out more about an ancestor who lived in Jersey.

Linda Romeril (Archives and Collections Director) sheds light on how this project was realised and what the wider impact of digitising these records means to those interested and invested in Jersey's history.

### **Why did ACO choose Ancestry to host these records?**

Ancestry is the best known family history website, the collaboration meant that these records could reach the widest audience possible, the name also bringing its own validation to the records.

From a practical level, the archive relies upon volunteer help when it comes to scanning the documents to enable digitisation. So the decision to bring Ancestry on board was in part, due to the scale of the project. The parish records include tens of thousands of documents dating from 1540-1935.

They also brought a wealth of experience with them, we felt we could trust them to take good care of our records.



### What was the process of digitalising these records?

The process was relatively straightforward. Ancestry brought state of the art technology with them that made the process much easier. However, the process still involved scanning every single page of every document we wanted to be made available. This scanning / photography process took six weeks.

For Archive, it wasn't about speed, it was about care, preservation and accuracy. These records are often the only thing that survives to testify to the information within them, so it was very important that the utmost care and professionalism was applied.

All images are quality controlled, checked and indexed. The whole process took nine months.

### Has there been an increase in visits to the Archive following the release of the parish records?

Since the release of ACO in March 2015, we have seen a steady growth of visits to ACO and in February 2016 (the date Ancestry released the Jersey records) we saw a marked spike in activity. As well as visits, there was more facebook chatter, phone calls and visits to the archive.

It is important to note that there was no Jersey based content easily available online before ACO teamed up with Ancestry. As such, there was an element of Island pride in the release of the records to the UK public. UK records have been available for such a long time online and internationally, that there was definite call for Jersey to be represented. People have been waiting for this.

### Do you have any stories you could share that help illustrate the importance of preserving these records both online and in the minds of current and ex Jersey residents?

We do have people come here that are brought to tears. Sometimes we are able to help them find the only existing photograph of a family member. People find similarity in their features, affinity with a face they have never met. It is not just about the images; after the opening up of the parish records, we are able to track the lives of these people, what they did, where they bought houses, if they had a run in with the law. Visitors are increasingly finding some affinity with the personality of their ancestors, based on their actions.



### What do you feel the wider impact of releasing these records will be?

We have seen an increase in 'distance enquiries' (what the archive call enquiries from outside of Jersey). We used to receive 1000 distance enquiries a year, now the figure is 4000. Interestingly, general enquiries are split 50/50 between residents and visitors.

Whilst the online archive is a fantastic resource, there is nothing quite like the original document. There is also much more available in the Archive that is not yet online. One gentleman, a Cabot, comes from America twice a year to spend two weeks on the Island researching his ancestors.

*Image taken from registration card of Henry Pierre Marie Gosselin dated 5/9/1916.*



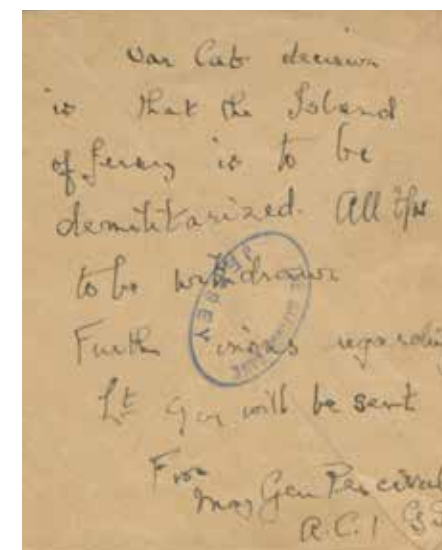
### What's next for The Archive?

Jersey Archive a building a new strong room that will be an extension to the building constructed in 2000. The Archive currently holds 600 cubic metres, of material, and it's full. The extension, starting in September, is expected to afford the archive 25 years more expansion space.

The Archive is also working on cataloguing the JEP photographic archive, which is thought to include a million and a half images.

This project will include community involvement, putting images out there for people to identify their relatives and their friends in photographs.

*The message from London noted on the back of this envelope in 1940 reads; "War Cab decision is that the Island of Jersey is to be demilitarised".*







Royal Charter of Richard II confirming the Edward III Charter of 1341,  
10 November 1378.



## ARCHIVE CASE STUDIES

Archives have a key role in ensuring the authenticity, accountability and accessibility of public records. The Archive acts as an impartial guardian of our recorded heritage, allowing all individuals to access material that helps tell the stories of who we are and how we got here.

The Jersey Archive needs increased resources to allow us to work with public institutions to identify public records, transfer and preserve both physical and digital material and catalogue that material to provide access for all.

### **Worldwide links - Australia**

Archives help Jersey to promote our unique cultural heritage to a worldwide audience. They inspire people to discover more about our Island and its people.

### **Volunteering at Jersey Archive**

Archives help people feel a part of and get involved with their local community through partnerships with other organisations, volunteering opportunities, group visits and workshops. They promote opportunities for lifelong learning.

### **Talks & Tours**

Jersey Archive staff engage with the local community through a series of talks, tours and reminiscence sessions.

### **House History Research**

Archives help people feel a sense of connection with and belonging to their Island, community, home, organisation, school and family.

## WORLDWIDE LINKS - AUSTRALIA

### Case Study

In 2016 58% of the public sessions on our online catalogue originated from outside of the Island. This shows that, whilst online resources are important for the local community, they also constitute an excellent way to engage with people outside the Island and allow them to discover more about Jersey and its people. The UK made up 30% of public sessions with Australia in third with just over 5%, the United States with 4% and France and Canada both with 3%.

The online catalogue allows individuals to pay an annual subscription to download digital images of archives or to use the pay per view function to order specific documents. When we look at the revenue generated by the online catalogue 42% of income originates from online users in the UK, 8.5% from Australia and 7.5% from the US.

During the 19th century we know that thousands of Jersey men and women, such as the Mauger, Noel, Amy, Renouf, Le Cornu, Nicolle, Cabot, Hamon, de la Haye, Romeril, de Gruchy and Le Quesne families, left the Island to start a new life in Australia.

A small number were convicts transported from Jersey, however the vast majority were looking for opportunities to settle and own their own land as a result of an economic downturn in the Island in the 1870s and 1880s.

Many Jersey residents took advantage of the Australian gold rush of the 1850s and it is estimated that as many as 6,000 people may have left the Channel Islands for Australia between 1852 and 1855.

In 2016 we decided to promote the online archive service to Australian audiences by contacting Archives and Family History Societies and offering to promote our records in their publications. The response from Australia was excellent and the Jersey Archive is now linked on all State Archive websites and has been promoted through articles in the five major family history publications. We are also due to deliver a live webinar to members of the Society of Australian Genealogists in March 2017. The promotions have led to 30% increase in Australian users this year.



# VOLUNTEERING AT JERSEY ARCHIVE

## Case Study

In 2016 Jersey Heritage volunteers donated 1,785 hours of support to Jersey Archive. Channel Islands Family History Society volunteers spent 960 hours helping members of the public with their research and providing invaluable support to archive staff working at the help desk.

One of the most popular recent developments in our volunteering programme has been the chance for volunteers to come and help research our What's Your Street's Story talks. In 2016 12 volunteers worked with 2 members of staff to find the stories of the people and streets of Jersey, discovering more about Stopford Road and Sion. Volunteers are now working on the 2017 programme and the following responses show their enthusiasm for the project;

*"If you would consider me once more for your community research I would love to be included."*

*"I really enjoyed 'getting involved' this year so would be willing to come again next year."*





# TALKS & TOURS

## Case Study

Jersey Archive staff engage with the local community through a series of talks, tours and reminiscence sessions which take place both at Jersey Archive and at venues around the Island. In 2016 1,310 people attended a talk and over 80 people visited the Jersey Archive on behind the scenes tours.

Our talks can be aimed at all ages and include school assemblies, school projects such as Hautlieu's Guardians of the Past event which focuses on the First World War period, talks given as part of the Channel Islands Heritage Festival, a talk on medieval charters given as part of the Société Jersiaise Medieval Conference, talks to the University of the Third Age and to local groups such as the WI and Inner Wheel Club.

*"Thank you so much for such an informative and comprehensive talk yesterday. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it and many said they wish you could come every year."*

*"I hope you enjoyed your day on Friday as much as the students who were enthused with hearing about what Jersey Archives has to offer! I just wanted to reiterate my thanks for your efforts; it was another really successful event which simply can't flourish without the support of people like you."*



# HOUSE HISTORY RESEARCH

## Case Study

Researching the history of a property or street gives individuals living in an area a great sense of connection with their local community. By using archive resources they can find out more about their own house and discover the stories of the people who lived there. House history allows all those living in Jersey to use the archive to find out more about their community, regardless of the length of time that they have lived in the Island.

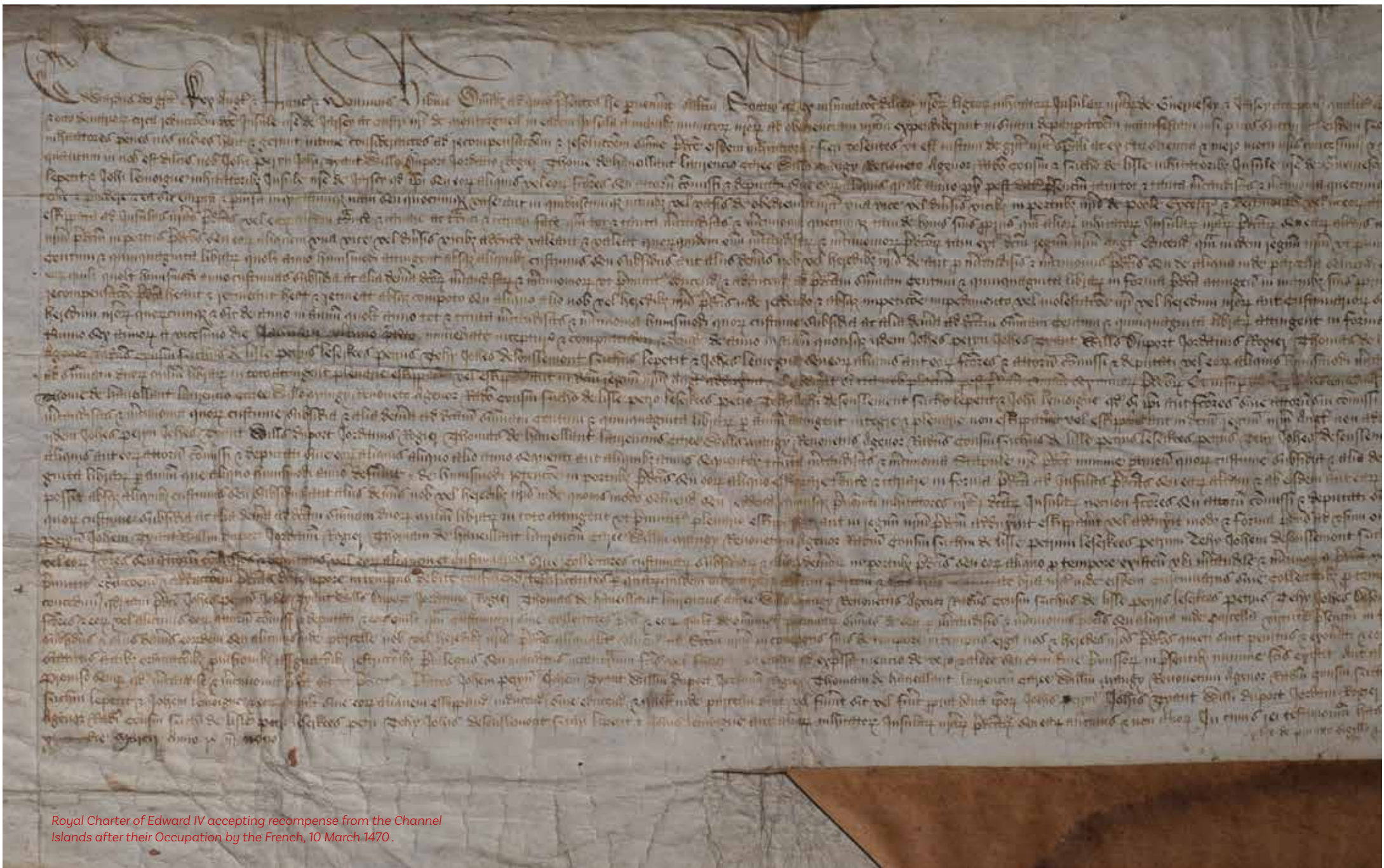
Jersey Archive provides free access to the digitised records of the Public Registry. The Registry itself was established in 1602 and the Archive holds digital copies of all transactions from this date. The Registry can be searched by those buying or selling property in the Island. In 2016 a number of individuals came to the Archive to find out more about their properties and the history of the people who lived in them.

As a result of our Stopford Road, What's Your Street's Story talk we received the following request from a family who lived in the area:

*"My children are very interested in finding out about the history of Stopford Road, as we live at No.11 Stopford Road"*

We were able to help the family find out that their house was originally the Stopford Road sub post office which was opened in spring 1914 with William Henry Willmetts, a baker at 9, Stopford Road being appointed as the sub-postmaster. The property in which the post office was located was purchased by William Willmetts in 1921 and remained in the family until 1973 when the office closed. In common with many of the properties in the area 11, Stopford Road appeared to have been built by a property developer, John Phillips in the early 1840s.





Royal Charter of Edward IV accepting recompense from the Channel Islands after their Occupation by the French, 10 March 1470.



## HERITAGE LETS: LA ROCCO TOWER

In 2016, we brought La Rocco Tower into public operation. The Tower, built in 1796 was converted into a Coastal Tower Heritage Let, thanks to on-going fundraising efforts, a contributing grant from The Tourist Development Fund and the tireless efforts of the Department for Infrastructure.

In the early 1940s, the adaptation and consequent damage of La Rocco Tower by the German occupying forces irrevocably marked the tower with a direct and tangible association to events that are of outstanding universal significance. The consequent restoration of the tower in the late 1960s, early 1970s demonstrates the estimable efforts of the Island's community when faced with the collapse of its built heritage. Not only striking and photogenic in itself - the tower makes a major contribution to the St Ouen's Bay seascape. The doubled-up machicolations and large surrounding stone gun battery give La Rocco Tower a distinctive silhouette, which has become one of the iconic images of Jersey.

La Rocco Tower is now able to host up to six people for an unforgettable night spent within the tower. The tower is an Island twice a day, making the beach at low tide, on foot, the only road to the tower.

Despite these challenges, the Department for Infrastructure transported 25 tonnes of materials, including scaffolding and machinery to the tower.

Renovating the Tower brought about many challenges, including the logistics of getting the team and their tools to the site every day. Its unique position means it can only be accessed at low tide on foot. Over 25 tonnes of materials, including scaffolding and machinery, had to be taken to the Tower and often the only way to transport it was manually.

Once on site, the challenges didn't stop. In order to restore and rebuild the chimney flue, the team had to first clear it of debris and concrete which had been used to block it up in the 1970s. After clearing, each stone was painstakingly replaced, like for like, creating a cosy working fire for visitors to enjoy.



Each bespoke part of this restoration project has seen samples taken from the tower including mortar, stone and wood so that each could be replicated using the same techniques that would have originally been used when it was built over two centuries ago.

Dave O'Brien explains:

*"What Jersey Heritage is doing with this scheme is amazing. They're not only preserving these special buildings but also the ethos of conservation work in Jersey. If these sites are neglected, then so are their stories which will be lost for future generations. We are privileged to work on these buildings so they can be enjoyed and appreciated by the public for years to come and celebrate the fact that the skills of our intricate trade are also being kept alive."*

In partnership with the States of Jersey and Visit Jersey, Jersey Heritage runs the Forts and Towers Scheme. A percentage of your Jersey Heritage membership fee

is used to bring many of Jersey's beautiful ruins back to life for all of us to enjoy. We have restored 13 previously inaccessible properties. They are now open to the public as a free to access site or to hire as a Heritage Let. We wouldn't be able to do this without the support of our members or the expert work of Dave O'Brien and his team at the Department for Infrastructure. This skilled team of stonemasons works on the Island's ancient monuments. Over the past year they have worked tirelessly on a project to bring La Rocco Tower back to life, converting it into a Heritage Let.

Opening La Rocco Tower to the public has transformed the fort from a distantly admired landmark, to a sustainable heritage asset to the benefit of the local community and visitors to the Island. By breathing life back into the tower, Jersey Heritage has given Islanders the chance to connect with its built heritage, to communicate with the history that it has survived and to contribute to the tower's stories for years to come.





## JERSEY'S PREHISTORIC PAST

Leading the digs at Les Varines and La Cotte de St Brelade:  
*Interview with Dr Matt Pope*

Ice Age Island was a three year project to explore Jersey's deep prehistoric past, from exploration of Island caves, through the archaeological excavation of hunter gatherer camps preserved in the Island's interior, we set out to discover why this remarkable landmass attracted Neanderthal and modern humans during the deep past.

Jersey is emerging as a key location for understanding human evolution, expansion and survival over a quarter of a million years of climate change. Jersey: Ice Age Island came to an end with 2016, but the research into Jersey's Ice Age past continues.

Dr Matt Pope of the Institute of Archaeology at UCL, London, worked on the three year project, leading the digs at Les Varines and La Cotte de St Brelade. For Matt, the project gave him an opportunity to work with a team of incredible experts on an exceptional record of the ancient human past. He gives us an insight into what the project has taught us and what we have yet to discover.

**What pieces of the puzzle that were missing before the excavations are now in place to help create a more informed history of Jersey?**

Jersey is situated within the shallow waters of the Normano-Breton Gulf, the seabed here is the former ice age landscape from which Jersey rose as a plateau. These landscapes contain so many pieces of the puzzle of recreating stone age life, but we're starting to bring this landscape into focus in the inter-tidal zone.

**What physical objects did you find to propel the narrative of Jersey's Ice Age past?**

While we have recovered some 6000 stone tools from the site of Les Varines alone, it's always individual striking artefacts which have made the most impact. These include the engraved pieces of art from Les Varines itself, but the most stunning objects for us are the Neanderthal tools we have recovered from the sea bed at low tide, they are rare and exceptional glimpses of lost Neanderthal landscapes.



### **What makes La Cotte de St Brelade one of the most important Neanderthal sites in the North-West Europe?**

It's been recognised since the first excavations at the beginning of the 20th century that La Cotte de St Brelade was a very exceptional site. To this day it has remained the largest, longest occupied and most productive Neanderthal site in northern Europe. La Cotte is the only single site which allows us to look at 200,000 years of Neanderthal evolution, adaptation, and occupation.

### **What more needs to be done to gain a fuller picture of Jersey's Ice Age past?**

When the site of La Cotte de St Brelade was excavated, archaeologists had a very different understanding of past climate change, and many techniques that we use today had not been developed. Protecting the site from future erosion could give us the opportunity to apply these techniques to the exceptional sequence from the site, adding to what we understand about changing Neanderthal adaptations and survivorship in the often harsh conditions of the Pleistocene.

### **Did you achieve what you set out to achieve?**

We set out to re-initiate a landscape scale study of the early prehistory of the Jersey: the amazing thing about looking at landscapes on this scale is that they always surprise you, and throw up new questions. We feel that the project has allowed us to inhabit the landscapes of the last 200,000 years and experience them in new ways.

### **Are you able to pin point any real highlights of the project for you?**

For us reinitiating excavations at La Cotte de St Brelade, realising the importance of Les Varines and discovering the offshore Neanderthal record stands out as the most exciting moments of the project so far.

### **In your opinion, why is it so important to continue research in this field?**

Without keeping the past under active research knowledge is lost and new stories of the deep past are lost too.

*A set of stone pieces carved with lines which are thought to be at least 14,000 years old were dug up as part of the Ice Age Island dig at Les Varines in St Saviour.*



# JERSEY: ICE AGE ISLAND

## Exhibition discoveries & highlights

### Statistics

- The exhibition welcomed an impressive 65,000 visitors.
- We had 5,000 visits from local school children.
- The live dig at Les Varines saw over 900 visitors.

### Visitor Comments

“Excellent museum, great presentation and information. Particularly enjoyed the “Ice Age” and now have a much better understanding of prehistoric Europe. Well done”.

“Ice age exhibition was FANTASTIC !!! I have a big interest in this & it really brought it to life for me”.

“Superb museum. The ice age exhibition was impressive. The Neanderthal man very life like!”

### Press Activity

- “Ice Age engravings found at Jersey archaeological site”, covered by Jonathan Webb of the BBC in November 2015.
- BBC’s Digging for Britain featured our collaborative archaeological research in the opening episode of the 2016 series of Digging for Britain.

Professor Alice Roberts and archaeologist Matt Williams present 2016’s most outstanding archaeology. The episode broadcast on BBC4 on 10 March featured research undertaken by the Ice Age Island Project in Jersey.

Matt Pope and Ed Blinkhorn (Archaeology South-East) were interviewed about their work to find evidence of a Stone Age hunter-gatherer campsite, often fighting against the elements to do so, and were able to display engraved pieces of shale, found during their excavations, on television for the first time.

### Walking Tours

Walkers can now discover Jersey’s Ice Age history whilst exploring its scenic coastline. In 2016, Jersey Heritage launched an Ice Age Walking Guide, which includes three dedicated Ice Age Trails at key locations around the Island.

- The Hunting Grounds of La Cotte (Ouaisne to St Aubin)
- Hunters of the Northern Coast (L’Etacquerel to Grosnez)
- The French Connection (Gorey to Fliquet)







## REMINISCENCE: CREATING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY AND BELONGING

For over 13 years, as part of our involvement with the Social Activities Forum, teams from Jersey Archive have been reaching out into the local community with what has become one of our most popular initiatives.

Our 'reminiscence' sessions involve visiting community groups and residential homes with either a film from our Film Archive or boxes containing objects and photographs to encourage people to share their memories and knowledge.

Over the years the sessions have grown in popularity and the range of people who have enjoyed them has broadened. The underlying principle is to create a sense of community and identity, setting in context our rich and varied history through everyday objects from the past.

We have such a huge collection of documents and items we are able to create any number of collections that can be used for the series. For example, when someone sees something like a Red Cross parcel it can evoke a memory of going with their mother or father to collect them.

Many people have quite strong reactions to crystal radio sets, remembering how they used to hide them from the German occupying forces, and the risk they used to take by owning one.



Wirelesses, of course, were banned during the Occupation and it was illegal to listen to the BBC. If you were discovered you faced imprisonment or deportation. Islanders hid them wherever they could – under floorboards, inside a lavatory basin or even in a baby's pram.

As an example of how these sessions can stimulate minds and create conversations, after a recent session with Eyecan – formerly the Jersey Blind Society – the level of conversation rose noticeably and members connected in ways they might not have done without experiencing together the objects we took along. Over time themes have developed and the team has built up an understanding of what stirs memories most: the Occupation, old shops and farming because there is still a big agricultural community in the Island.



*Brass door knocker, typical form of brass ornamentation found in many farmhouses including horse shoes. This one was a souvenir from Clovelly in Cornwall*

As well as items that many will recognise, we also try to take along objects whose use might be slightly more mysterious – a chick feeder for instance or a field anvil (used for holding tools or sharpening sickles). By introducing an element of fun or competition into the sessions we are able to get everyone involved in the discussion, which is a really important objective of the programme.

The Reminiscence Series is a valuable and rewarding element of the work we do. We are not only sharing our collection with people, we are also gathering a huge amount of knowledge from people about how some of the objects were used, and in some cases alternative uses for them.



*Field Anvil, this is for use by farm labourers in the field. The sharp end is knocked into the ground up to hoops, then sickles can be sharpened on the other end*

This is the kind of information that can be immensely valuable to Jersey Archive and Jersey Heritage overall, especially as some of the objects we use in the series are unique to Jersey, because it helps us interpret them in a more holistic way.

Stuart Nicolle has been involved with the programme from the very beginning and has seen not only its popularity increase, but also first-hand the impact a session can have on people. He believes that sharing the objects, many of which the public would not usually get to see, creates a spirit of commonality and a sense of belonging, which is one of our key objectives to make our heritage accessible and relevant for all.



*Small Box with connection points & light socket, used by donors family in the Occupation as part of a crystal radio set*

## Example Object List for Household Loan Box:

- Small Bakelite Box for storage
- Pack of Sunny Jersey series playing cards
- Medium Sized Stoneware Inkwell
- House Wife magazine September 1955 issue
- Ceramic Oval Shaped Bed Warmer
- Small Oxo Cubes Tin
- The Modern Girl's Guide to Social Success, book on Etiquette from the 1930s
- Meat Mincer with metal clamp for fixing to table
- Small solid hand held iron pre-electric ones
- Reckitt Cherry Blossom dark tan polish
- Replica Art Deco Style Glass Perfume bottle with pink patterned pump
- Circular Make-up Pot with metal lid with floral pattern on the top
- Clothes brush of same design as above
- Copper kettle, HANDL/2005/7, Note - this was used as a film prop on the film set of Under the Greenwood Tree. An ITV Christmas drama filmed at Hamptonne in 2005
- Folder containing 25 copies of photographs from Jersey Archive, Jersey Evening Post & Société Jersiaise.
- James Keiller & Son Ltd Dundee Orange Marmalade Jar

1 Empty tin of Horniman's English Breakfast Tea packaged by Overseas Trading Corporation, Jersey, who were based at First Tower



British Red Cross Parcel from Scottish Branch given to Islander at the end of the Occupation



House Wife magazine September 1955 issue









## COMMUNITY: LAMÈRQUÉTHIE D'L'HERITHAGE

In 2016 we produced our second Heritage Counts report, on behalf of the States of Jersey Environment Department and in association with other local heritage organisations including the Société Jersiaise, the National Trust for Jersey and the Channel Islands Occupation Society.

Heritage Counts explores the social and economic role of the historic environment and provides an overview of key developments. The theme of the 2015 report explored the changing face of the town of St Helier, and the desirability of its historic character and identity.

The evidence-based report provides a summary of measurable indicators, which show how Jersey's heritage and historic environment have an economic, cultural, environmental and social impact on the wellbeing of the Island and its community. The objective is to better understand the Island's historic environment and the challenges it faces, making a positive contribution to future policy development.

The report confirmed that heritage continues to play a significant and highly visible role in raising Jersey's international profile. Projects such as the conservation of the world's largest Celtic coin hoard (see page 16) and the Ice Age Island project (page 38) exploring the Island's earliest stories of half a million years of human pre-history have been extensively covered in both academic journals and in national television programmes produced by the BBC and ITV, taking Jersey's story into the homes of millions of people.





Improving Jersey's capital St Helier is a strategic priority for the Island's Council of Ministers and consultations with key stakeholders have identified a number of considerations and concerns shared by the public in the improvement of the town. St Helier is a special place with its own urban character and a heritage that has evolved over many centuries, and continues to do so, but care is needed to ensure this ongoing renaissance takes advantage of its rich heritage and works with the historic character, rather than see heritage as an obstacle to overcome.

The challenge of balancing the desire to retain St Helier's character with the demand for higher density residential development and protecting the unique identity and character of town neighbourhoods

was of particular public concern. The need for greater awareness and appreciation of St Helier's historic character – and giving its heritage greater protection – without unduly stifling development is also a consideration.

The Heritage Counts report features a number of case studies to illustrate a range of developments that took place during 2015 that demonstrate how the evolution of St Helier can work hand-in-hand with historic buildings, both to sustain the Town's special character and distinctiveness and add to its economic vitality.

Conversely, in some cases it is possible to see how the historic grain of St Helier can be eroded through incremental loss or more dramatic demolition.



The report does not just consider our built heritage in St Helier; as well as listed buildings and places, protected historic wreck sites and sites designated of international importance are also considered. Conservation areas, protected trees and woodland and natural sites of special interest, and the need for a more sophisticated Historic Environment Record for Jersey (as referenced in the Chief Executive's report at the start of this Annual Review) are also covered.

Among the indicators published in the report it was encouraging to see a 3% increase in the number of members of Jersey's heritage organisations, a 5% increase in the number of visits to heritage sites and events and a 24% increase in the number of school visits to heritage sites.

## EVENTS & EDUCATION

Growth in social media reach and free member access associated with family events such as Discovery Days enabled us to record 19,847 student visits outside school hours, the highest ever. A record 18,386 volunteer hours were given. Here is a flavour of the heritage events calendar 2016.

Month	Event
January	<b>Wandering Wassailing at Hamptonne Country Life Museum</b>  Islanders gathered at Hamptonne to resurrect the tradition of blessing the orchard in order to receive a good harvest later in the year.
February	<b>Pirates! At the Maritime Museum</b>  1,915 visitors enjoyed five days of pirate fun. Stories, action activities, crafts and general marauding once again proved popular with Jersey's children and adults alike.
March	<b>Drop in and Draw Day, Jersey Museum and Art Gallery</b>  Inspired by the anecdotal sketches of Edmund Blampied, we filled the concourse with easels and pencils to encourage all abilities and ages to pick up a pencil under the guidance of local artists.



Month	Event
April	<p><b>La Fête Du R'nouvé at La Hougue Bie</b></p> <p>818 visitors welcomed the season of renewal by celebrating nature with music, food, artists and local producers.</p> <p><b>Hautlieu students Take Over, Link Gallery, Jersey Museum</b></p> <p>We were delighted to host an exhibition of Five Year 13 International Baccalaureate Visual Arts students who showcased an exciting selection of paintings, sculpture and textiles.</p>
May	<p><b>Discovery Day - Butterflies and Bees at Hamptonne Country life Museum</b></p>
June	<p><b>Discovery Day - Celtic Treasure at La Hougue Bie</b></p>
July	<p><b>Discovery Day - Musical Merriment at Mont Orgueil</b></p> <p>We welcomed the Jersey Academy of Music for a spectacular of musical merriment with mini concerts, make your own percussion instruments and instrument trials.</p> <p><b>The American Drama Group Europe at Mont Orgueil</b></p> <p>We were treated to two open air performances of William Shakespeare's The Tempest. ADG Europe performed at castles across Europe and we were delighted that Mont Orgueil was part of the castle tour.</p> <p><b>Ice Age Island Painting Course at Les Varines</b></p> <p>We offered a two day course in the art of painting with acrylics led by the fantastic Jacqueline Rutter. This special experience took inspiration from Jersey's Ice Age past and took place at our live dig site at Les Varines.</p>





## EVENTS & EDUCATION

Month	Event
July	<p><b>Local History Week at Rouge Bouillon</b></p> <p>Rouge Bouillon spent a whole week researching, studying local history topics and visiting heritage sites. Nursery to Year 6 studied pirates and maritime history, Gerald Durrell, Farming in Jersey, the Ice Age Island and the Celtic Coin Hoard, the Battle of Jersey and the German Occupation. Every pupil was involved and put a huge amount of effort and time into their chosen topics. Schools encouraged children and their families to visit Elizabeth Castle and we awarded our visitors with a special certificate.</p> <p><b>Jersey's primary school children to handle the Ice Age with care</b></p> <p>Jersey Heritage, with the support of the One Foundation, launched an educational Prehistoric Project that provides all Jersey primary school children with the chance to learn about the Prehistoric past of Jersey and the special story that Jersey tells about the Ice Age.</p>
August	<p><b>Wild Play Days with Stephen Le Quesne at Hamptonne Country Life Museum</b></p>
September	<p><b>Discovery Day – Myths and Magic at La Hougue Bie (319 people in 6 hours)</b></p> <p>Local author Erren Michaels and friends became monster hunters for the day, entertaining our young visitors with a mock, Jersey Legends documentary. We enjoyed performances from 11-14 year old members of the amazing Love Theatre as they regaled the legend of The Black Dog of Bouley Bay.</p> <p><b>Primary school pupils learn about their local history at Hamptonne</b></p> <p>Over 100 St Lawrence Primary school children spent a fun packed, educational day at Hamptonne Country Life Museum.</p>



Month	Event
October	<p><b>La Faîs'sie d'Cidre at Hamptonne Country Life Museum</b></p> <p>Our annual celebration brings together communities, volunteers and of course apple and cider experts. 3,971 people brought in the harvest with live music, creative activities, dancing, great food, competitions, poetry, Genuine Jersey stalls and living history.</p> <p><b>Halloween at Mont Orgueil</b></p> <p>Our hugely popular bi-annual hosting of Halloween at Mont Orgueil Castle was a night to remember. We met The Medieval Dead for terrifying tours throughout the Keep, experienced the macabre with the Dance of the Dead and were wowed by fantastic outdoor fire shows.</p>
November	<p><b>Discovery day – Ocean Life at the Maritime Museum</b></p> <p><b>Young creative writers reflect the tragedy of the Somme</b></p> <p>Boys from Victoria College, some of them not much younger than many of those who died during the battle over one hundred years ago, told the story of Howard Davis, drawing their inspiration from our workshop, where they heard about Davis and the thousands of comrades, and opposing soldiers, who gave their lives in one of the bloodiest encounters of the conflict.</p>
December	<p><b>A Victorian Christmas Market at Hamptonne Country Life Museum</b></p> <p>2,000 visitors enjoyed local produce, festive activities and crafts at Hamptonne's annual Christmas event.</p>



# COLLECTIONS ABROAD

Jersey Heritage has continued its programme of reaching out to heritage organisations and galleries overseas by lending items from its collections. In 2016 and early 2017 Jersey Heritage supported a number of exhibitions in the UK and Europe, including London, Paris and Frankfurt.

The famous painting of Lillie Langtry by Sir Edward Poynter was loaned to the Petit Palais in Paris for display as part of its biopic of Oscar Wilde, the ardent Francophile who died in the city. The Irish author and poet was a close friend of Mrs Langtry. The Poynter painting of the Jersey Lily was first displayed at the Royal Academy, London in 1878.



*Sir Edmund Poynter, Mrs Langtry, 1878, Oscar Wilde, Insolence Incarnate, Petit Palais, Paris.*

Photographs from the Claude Cahun collection were loaned to the National Portrait Gallery in 2016, earning praise for the way they have been preserved. Further items were loaned to the Stadel Museum in Frankfurt as part of its exhibition 'Battle of the Sexes. Franz von Stuck bis Frida Kahlo'.



*Claude Cahun, Keepsake, 1932, Battle of the Sexes, Franz von Stuck bis Frida Kahlo, Stadel Museum in Frankfurt.*

And Jersey Museum further strengthened relations with its Normandy counterparts with objects for an exhibition at Musée maritime de L'Île Tatihou at Saint-Vaast-La-Hougue in Normandy. The exhibition entitled "Pleased to Meet You" explores the relationship between the Duchy of Normandy and the UK.



*15,000 year old Flint blades found at Les Varines, were loaned to Musée Tatihou.*







## EDMUND BLAMPIED PENCIL PAINT AND PRINT

Edmund Blampied captured the spirit of the Jersey way of life and people, particularly in his rural scenes. Blampied illustrated what became the iconic Jersey - people began to exclusively recall his work when thinking of the Island.

Blampied's drawings were created with a sense of humour and intimacy that still leap from the page. His anecdotal style spoke of a community; images of people at work - collecting vraic (seaweed) from the seashore or driving cows home in the rain. He depicted scenes of Island life as many would like to remember it.

In 2014, Jersey Heritage received a generous donation from the Association of Jersey Charities which enabled us to add eight of Edmund Blampied's rare sketchbooks to our collection. The sketchbooks revealed some of Blampied's working methods and favourite subjects. These sketches alongside finished paintings and prints helped us paint a picture of Blampied's process from start to finish.

The exhibition was not only an opportunity to celebrate the work of Blampied and to show the eight new sketchbooks recently acquired - it was also an opportunity to celebrate the Jerriais language within the context of the Jersey that Blampied drew.

The exhibition featured sound recordings of a Jerriais speaker reciting some of the comical poems written by Blampied. Jerriais was Blampied's first language - he apparently would have Jerriais swearing competitions with fellow-Jersey artist John St Helier Lander whilst they were both living and working in London. The exhibition was a celebration of the Jersey that existed when Blampied was alive, as much it was a showcase of his extensive portfolio.



As well as the exhibition itself, Jersey Heritage worked behind the scenes to conserve and restore Blampied's work. Conservation plays an important role in helping maintain and preserve our history for us to learn and enjoy.

Some of the watercolours and prints in the Blampied exhibition were recently conserved and restored by Lisa Oxenden-Wray of Baudains Art Conservation. During the course of the exhibition, Lisa was kind enough to host illustrated talks at the museum, which proved hugely popular both within the institution and to the public at large. The exhibition welcomed some 21,000 visitors, inspired Drop In and Draw days and captured an unquantifiable sense of nostalgia for Jersey of the 1900s.

*"A wonderful exhibition of Edmund Blampied's glorious work. A brilliant Jersey man".*

*Visitor Comments Book, 30/05/2016*





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David Gainsborough Roberts (1944-2017), Jersey Heritage  
People's Portrait, 2015, by Benjamin Sullivan









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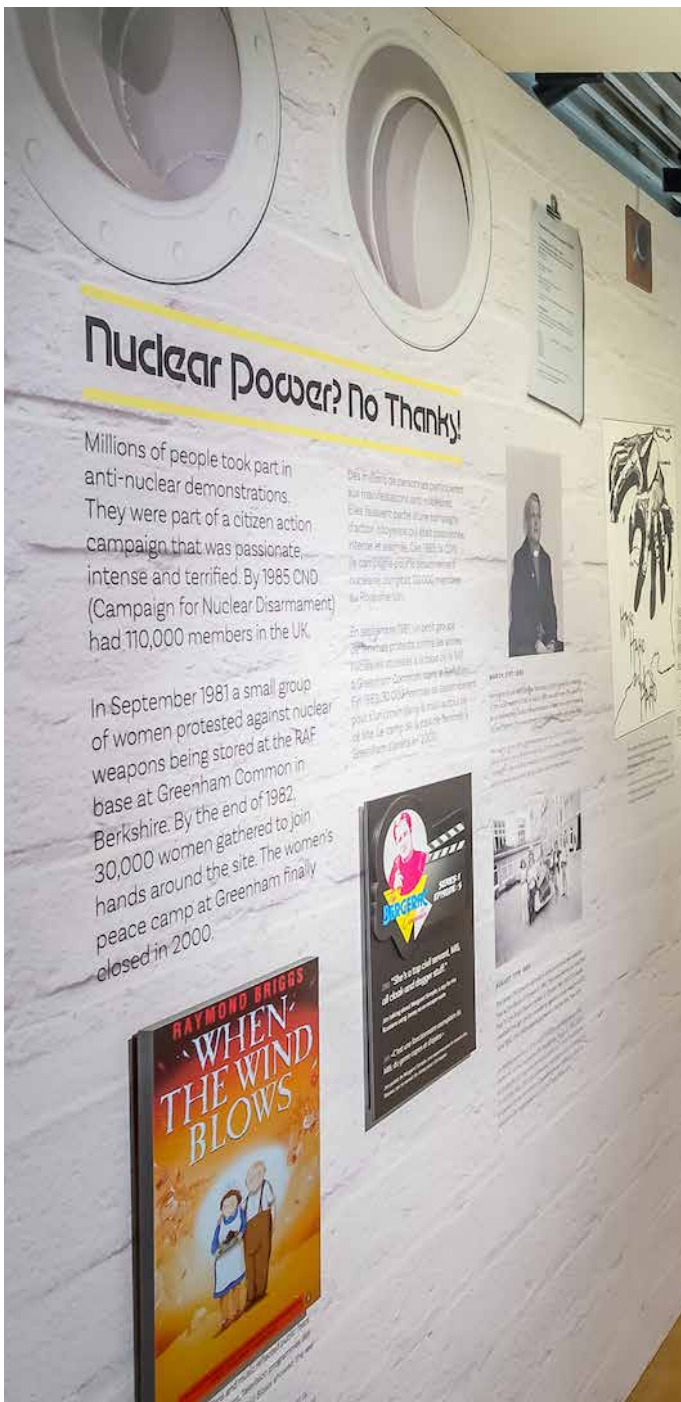


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## BERGERAC'S ISLAND JERSEY IN THE 1980S

'This exhibition has everything. We are enormously grateful to the hundreds of Islanders who have donated precious items and shared with us their memories of what it was like to live here during that time.'

- Louise Downie, Curation and Experience Director for Jersey Heritage

*Bergerac's Island - Jersey in the 1980s* opened in April 2017 and has so far welcomed 14,271 visitors, up by 34% from the same time last year (July 9th 2016). Louise explains that the exhibition was 'shovel ready' by the end of 2016, largely due to the overwhelming level of public engagement. The 'Then Me Now Me' photos project commissioned by Jersey Heritage with the Société Jersiaise, is a slide show of images showing photos taken in the 1980s next to restaged images of the same people today. The photographs that feature in the exhibition came from thousands submitted via the *Jersey 80s fotos* facebook group. The group, set up to gather images and objects for the exhibition has a growing community of 7,185 members. Members share pictures, reconnect with old school friends and laugh at their fashion choices way back when.

This is the crux of the exhibitions success. In a small community like Jersey, celebrating a decade in living memory is like a school reunion. Moreover, the community isn't limited to those living in Jersey. By using facebook, we were able to instantly receive images from as far away as New Zealand. Indeed, most of the community engagement was leveraged through facebook posts to locate objects, locate photos, choose music etc. People also used the facebook group to reach out to people and share memories they hadn't visited since the 1980s, 'hoping to strike a chord with someone out there.'

*Bergerac's Island - Jersey in the 1980s* is open at the Jersey Museum until December 2018.



Jersey summer holiday,  
arriving well-known TV stars  
Mollie Sugden, Barbara  
Ferry Scott and John Inman.

After the theatre would have  
all productions from the  
local amateur companies.

During the Jersey summer holiday  
and influence of the local amateur  
companies.

And with the theatre. One of the  
most parts of the theatre is Jersey,  
especially the days of the theatre  
when Barbara Windsor, Terry Scott and  
John Inman.

The theatre received its first success  
from the local amateur companies.



## CALL ON ISLANDERS TO 'LOVE YOUR CASTLE'

At the beginning of 2017 with the support of the Assistant Minister for Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture, Deputy Murray Norton we launched a major initiative to raise awareness of our aspirations for Elizabeth Castle.

'Love Your Castle' aims to encourage people to visit this most iconic landmark and to understand the historical and environmental value of the fortress. The campaign is part of our longer term strategy to invest in a collection of key buildings, which will play a significant role in plans to interpret and re-tell the history and story of the site.

Elizabeth Castle has stood guard to the Island's premier maritime gateway for over 400 years. Time, and military occupation, has taken its toll on significant areas of the site and although there has been some partial restorative work undertaken since the German occupation, this is an opportunity to improve the visitor experience and give the fortress a solid future for the benefit of generations of Islanders to come. It is a

significant project for Jersey Heritage and one which we hope everyone who enjoys the castle – whether as a visitor or just as a daily view – will get behind. A significant proportion of the buildings at Elizabeth Castle are closed to the public for health and safety reasons, or do not adequately interpret the history of the site. The initial phase of the campaign will not only highlight the restoration work that we would like to undertake, but will also raise funds towards the first project we have earmarked – refurbishing and reopening the Hospital Block.

The campaign has a distinct look and feel and during 2017 we will deliver two Lloyds Bank-sponsored public open days in April and October, and an exciting new sporting event in September.

The Hawksford Castle Chase will see teams of two runners competing in relay to race from West Park to the Parade Ground at the Castle, and back with competitors raising sponsorship money that will fund the first restoration project at the Barracks Hospital building.

The first Love Your Castle Open Day attracted in excess of 4,000 people, which is significantly more than we had planned for and demonstrates how dear the Castle is to Islanders. Later in the year, with the support of law firm Ogier, local schoolchildren will be involved in a fun educational programme of events and competitions to support their learning.





*Love Your Castle*



## BE PART OF OUR ISLAND STORY

There is so much to look forward to with Jersey Heritage, with an exciting and popular programme of events, activities and exhibitions giving you even more ways to be part of our Island heritage.

As a Jersey Heritage member you can enjoy a whole range of benefits, from free entry at our sites to exclusive discounts and one-off events. We are also making it even easier for you to take part in your heritage, through initiatives such as our project with Ancestry which sees Church of England records available online for the first time.

From 2,000 year old Celtic treasure to the groundbreaking era that was the 1980s, we have so much for you to enjoy in 2017. Thank you for your continued support and for being such an important part of our journey.

Support your heritage by becoming a member or renew from as little as 98p per month and help keep your heritage alive.

Find out more at [www.jerseyheritage.org](http://www.jerseyheritage.org).











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