

THE TRUST Newsletter

No. 72 Autumn 2022



Preserving Guernsey's heritage
for future generations

nationaltrust.gg

Gazette

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Can you help?

We need teams of fit, enthusiastic people to help maintain our land areas and with the setting up and taking down of Lé Viaër Marchi each year. These are great Corporate Social Responsibility opportunities.

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President's Welcome

Dear Members,

This may be a slight departure from articles written by previous presidents, as I do not propose to reflect on past achievements of the Trust but rather to concentrate on the challenges facing us.

It has been clear to Council for some time that our artefacts store at Moulin de Quanteraine is not fit for purpose. It has difficult access and lacks adequate parking, but more importantly, it is damp and lacks essential facilities if staff are to work there for any length of time.

What we need is a large dry store, easily accessible with enough room to provide a workspace so that our artefacts can be properly stored and easily located, enabling the displays at the Folk and Costume Museum to be regularly refreshed.

That is easy to say but difficult to deliver. But deliver we must. Along with the major project to digitally archive the Trust's historic documents, we are making the provision of better storage a high priority. Council is debating various storage options, including the matter of how to fund it.

We are in preliminary discussions with Planning to see if they would be amenable to the provision of a building on one of our existing sites.

Turning to our green spaces, the Island is under increased pressure from development and I believe that it is important for the Trust to engage in the debate on the response to this pressure. We must work with like-minded organisations and the States to influence decisions and policy and do what we can to mitigate the loss of green space. No single organisation has all the answers and collectively, we must work together to coordinate our responses to States initiatives relating to planning and development.

Climate change is clearly here. I do not accept the view that Guernsey is so insignificant on a global scale that what we do will have little effect.

We must, and that means everybody, do everything we can to reverse climate change.

The Trust mandates green policies on its land and we insist that our land tenants understand and support this.

For the sake of future generations, we must do what we can to reverse the worst effects of climate change. As they say, every little, no matter how small, helps. To that end, it is imperative that we have decided to create a new post on Council to champion nature and biodiversity and to mitigate the effects of climate change. This individual will work with the Land Manager to develop a strategy to manage the Trust's expanding land holdings.

The final piece to this jigsaw is to work with others to educate the Island's children, teaching them the importance of the environment and engendering respect for the natural world. Unfortunately, not every child on the Island is fortunate enough to have access to their own garden and we continue to make sections of our land available to schools to enable all children to benefit from exposure to nature.

There are a lot of 'musts' in this piece, for which I cannot apologise as this is an urgent call to arms. I sincerely hope that Members of the Trust can buy into my vision and the direction I want the Trust to go in.

I refer to the words of Past President Raymond Falla – uttered before global warming was either born or thought of – and ask for your particular focus on the word 'countryside'.

"We have a duty to save the things that mattered to us, to Guernsey, and which would be of considerable interest to our children and grandchildren ... we must create in the minds of the young an appreciation of the countryside, the wonders of the seashore and the things that really matter in life".

***Raymond Falla OBE (1901-1991)
Past President (1973-1976)***



President and Lands Manager,
Mike Brown

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Estate Management

Where has the time gone since our Spring newsletter was published? As always, it has been an incredibly busy time at the National Trust of Guernsey - there is never a dull moment for the Trust staff and volunteers!

Following completion of the restoration of Church House, I am pleased to report that the property has been tenanted for the last six months, and that the new occupiers are taking such great care of our Triangle House.

Works to Mowlem's Yard, next door to Church House, are progressing well and are reported by the Properties Manager. We plan to open the new Interpretation Centre, detailing the rich history of Guernsey's granite industry, in 2023. Building works are well underway as is the research for the information and display boards. We thank especially Peter Stewart, whose family home was at Church House, for his help with our research.

Les Caches Farm has been a hive of activity this year with a busy event calendar. We had a record number of visitors passing through our doors during our open season from early May to the end of September. In addition to our treasured local visitors, we have welcomed travellers from as far away as New Zealand and all guests who visit this



Les Caches Farm summer wedding 2022
©Nick Després Photography

and outbuildings, dating from the 15th to the mid-19th centuries, are equally fascinated with the history of Les Caches. We have received the most wonderful comments in our visitors' book, always rewarding to read. Heartfelt thanks must go to our loyal and committed team of knowledgeable volunteers who never fail to offer an exceptionally warm welcome to everyone who pops in to say hello.

Wedding blessings have been taking place at Les Caches Farm throughout the year. To be able to privately hire a traditional farmhouse and surrounding land for a wedding or special occasion has really caught on. Each occasion feels unique and we feel privileged to offer such a tranquil and whimsical place.

The property lends itself very well to a variety of occasions such as well-being retreats, family fun days, AGMs, meetings, yoga and meditation classes, photography exhibitions and even a place for artists to spend time painting and drawing.

We have had all of these at Les Caches Farm. Do please get in touch if you would like to enquire about availability for your event.

While our open days for visitors are now over until 2023, we would be pleased to show you around Les Caches Farm at any time of the year if you have an event in mind. We reopen during the merry month of May 2023 and confirmed dates will be posted on our website as soon as possible, together with published dates in our Spring 2023 Newsletter.

What an incredibly successful year we have had at our **Fermain Tower** self-catering unit too! We have been booked almost 100% of the time during 2022 and bookings for 2023 are coming in at an infectious rate, so be sure to book early to secure your stay. We have had more guests from overseas this year, but it's true to say that the vast majority of our visitors are Islanders who love a mini staycation by the sea. The popularity of sea swimming continues to increase and come rain or shine, beautiful Fermain Bay is just steps away, whatever the season or weather.

Positive feedback is constantly received by our Reservations and Servicing team at **La Barbarie Hotel**. It is a pleasure to share just one of many heart-warming comments:

"It was really lovely. The tower is so well equipped and more spacious than we were expecting. We are back again soon!"

As some of you will have noticed, the waterwheel has been under restoration for a long time.

The waterwheel at **Le Moulin** dates back to the 16th century and was part of a bequest to the Trust in 1989 by Mrs Elizabeth Silten, together with the hamlet of properties in this beautiful part of the valley, on the strict proviso that the waterwheel was restored and reinstated.

We have fulfilled this promise

During the last three years, the wheel ground to a standstill and it was clear that the bearings on the waterwheel needed to be replaced. The wheel was then dismantled in sections, awaiting the arrival of new bearings which, we were advised, needed to be sourced from the USA. During these difficult times of Covid and endless delays with orders, we suffered disappointing setbacks with delivery.

The wheel is now back in its rightful place and contractors are monitoring the bearing lubrication and the overall moisture of the wheel. The wheel is currently in "test mode" until it beds in. The dry summer hasn't helped and we hope it will soon be turning again.

*By Jemma Charlotte Field,
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Property

The period leading up to the AGM is an appropriate time to take a brief look back at some of the standout projects we have been involved in over the last few years and also look to the future.

It's tempting, as time passes and we move on to new projects, to forget the value of what has gone before and, in some cases, the possible disasters both physical and reputational, which were averted by timely action!

Of note was the extensive reinforcement required to the dry-stone wall supporting the mill race at **Le Moulin de Quanteraine**, which our engineers confirmed was in a much-weakened state.

The problems that a failure of the wall would cause can easily be imagined as it supports the heavy stone troughs supplying water to the overshot mill wheel. The works of grouting and re-pointing the support wall were a priority and it was a relief when these major works were completed.

In 2019 it was decided to install a Gridforce surface to the grass parking area at **Les Caches Farm**, made necessary by the Trust's wish to open the building to the wider community.

Whenever it rained, the existing car park quickly became a muddy and slippery mess.

The popularity of Les Caches Barn as a public venue increases year by year as does the variety of events held there and over time it is also

becoming the centre of the Trust's activities due in part to it now having an all-weather parking surface.

A lot of the routine work we do is unpredictable and can be likened to a game of Whack-A-Mole where a problem arises and must be dealt with accordingly.

Glenbardie, the home of Little Angels nursery, was one such job that started simply enough with a small leak in the roof but finished with a spend of £80,000. An aerial survey revealed that the extent of the work required included repairing extensive movement cracks in the gable wall and forming expensive lead coverings to the parapets' box gutters. In the real world, it would have been better value to have renewed the whole roof while the scaffold was in place, but this would have required us to upgrade the insulation in the roof space and the line has to be drawn somewhere. Similarly, at the **Victorian Shop and Parlour at 26 Cornet Street**, a leaky roof was attended to in isolation although we knew that the better solution would be to replace the roof covering.



Les Caches Farm by Fred Wynn Drone Photography

This leads on to what our aims are for the future and how we fulfil them, followed by the question and resolution of where to find the funding.

We have already announced that the Trust is engaged in the planning process to obtain, build, or purchase a suitable light, dry and airy store that will serve as a repository and workshop to accommodate and enhance our collection of historic artefacts.

In addition to this is the need for some further covered space at the **Folk and Costume Museum** to act as a centralised store for the hundreds of essential things needed for our events programme. These are currently stored in various damp, cramped and barely accessible places around the Island along with hundreds of items of event seating.

Our historic and valuable collection of farm carts, wagons, and other implements is lodged temporarily with people kind enough to share some space with us, and it is hoped that we can bring these items under one roof and open them to public view in the near future.

Returning to the here and now, the forge building at Church House, soon to be the Museum for the Island's granite industry, is nearing completion with just the electrical fit-out and the fitting of window safety guards to be completed before the installation of the exhibition itself can begin. This will complete the renovation phase of this project started on site in January 2018 following a lengthy drying-out stage started many years previously.

*By Jim Whitmore, Property Manager
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Land Acquisition Fundraising

Land often comes up for sale with little or no warning
we want to be able to act fast

Please support our aim for Islanders
to act together and preserve
Guernsey's land

"Everyone who
loves this beautiful
island should
donate" - John R.

"A fantastic cause,
you have all our
support" - Anonymous

"Well done. Just
what the world
needs. Your work in
saving green spaces
is vital for our
island". - Anonymous

Testimonials from our Just Giving page



nationaltrust.gg

Since 1960, proudly preserving Guernsey's heritage for future generations

Please support our Land Acquisition Fundraising campaign at: [justgiving.com/national-trust-guernsey](https://www.justgiving.com/national-trust-guernsey)

Lands Report

A review of the Island Development Plan, which dictates where housing can be built, is set to take place between 2023 and 2025, together with a review of demand and housing land supply which is likely to determine a substantial requirement to develop land, including likely greenfield sites.

The fundamental aim of the Trust is to preserve and enhance the Island's natural beauty, its historic buildings and its heritage.

The Trust recognises the characteristics and importance of open landscapes, biodiversity and the agricultural value of greenfield sites and it serves to protect these areas from development.

We recognise the increasing demands on housing and the development of the Island's infrastructure. We support and campaign for the recycling of derelict land and support appropriate development of brownfield sites to prevent, wherever possible, further urbanisation of Guernsey's

green spaces. We do not support development of derelict glasshouses where they are located in open countryside and agricultural areas.

When Council decided to launch its appeal for funds to enable the Trust to actively go out and purchase land, we had no idea what to expect. Was there an appetite among the public for us to increase our land holdings; did people care about our green spaces; indeed, in this period of economic stress, could those who cared afford to donate?

The pressure on our green spaces and the public outcry about the development of the field beside the Princess Elizabeth Hospital convinced

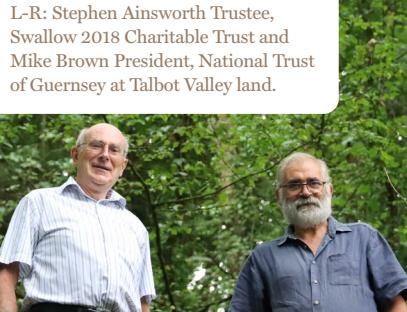
***The amount donated so far,
after only a few months, is
more than £11,000. Please keep
it coming. Land is expensive!***

Council that we had to do something and gave us the necessary impetus to launch the fund. We are delighted to say the public have responded magnificently. We have had a significant number of small donations, and a number of large ones. For all of these we are immensely grateful.

In addition to these donations, we were approached by the Swallow 2018 Charitable Trust who generously offered to fund the purchase of land in the Talbot Valley, and additionally contribute towards the cost of making the site accessible. This means that funds raised through our Just Giving page are directly available for land purchase, rather than filling the gap in Trust reserves.

Since the launch of the appeal, a local resident contacted the Trust and offered to donate a piece of their land. This is in addition to three plots of land currently being donated to the Trust by non-residents who had inherited the land.

Faced with an ever-increasing demand for more housing, public interest in the preservation of Guernsey's green spaces has never been higher. More development



L-R: Stephen Ainsworth Trustee, Swallow 2018 Charitable Trust and Mike Brown President, National Trust of Guernsey at Talbot Valley land.

would appear to be inevitable. This trend serves to emphasise the importance of those pockets of land owned and safeguarded by the Trust. We are pleased to work with other organisations committed to the environment, **La Société**, **The Pollinator Project** and **Guernsey Conservation Volunteers**, to protect our natural environment.

We are pleased to see the States are moving to put the environment higher on their priority list. We welcome the move to reduce the use of weed killers. We hope that the UK's current discussion about banning the use of peat-based composts is also picked up by the States.

As our land holdings increase so do the work and cost associated with its maintenance. Members and others wishing to become involved in helping the Trust in this task are encouraged to come forward. This can range from joining Council to merely walking our land as a ranger reporting issues to Jemma, our Estate Manager and Coordinator.

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Planning Report

“Growth is inevitable and desirable, but destruction of community character is not. The question is not whether your part of the world is going to change. The question is how.”

The quote above is from Edward T. McMahon, who is Senior Fellow on Sustainable Development and Environmental Policy at the Urban Land Institute, and has authored or co-authored over 15 books and 200 articles on sustainable development, land conservation and urban design.

As Planning Officer for the National Trust of Guernsey, I have had an interesting first year in role, and McMahon's quote has rung true alongside the Trust's aims to preserve and enhance the Island's natural beauty, its historic buildings and its heritage throughout the year. One of my functions is to review the weekly list published by the States of Guernsey Development & Planning Authority which publicises the planning applications currently under consideration by the Authority. It usually runs to around 7 or 8 pages and contains mostly innocuous applications by householders that require little scrutiny at all, if one believes in the old sayings that one's home is one's castle, and that one will never leave a mess on one's own doorstep. There are some applications on the list that shouldn't

go unchallenged, however, and out of the thousand or more we see in the course of the year we could count these in the low 40's, normally around one per week.

We made a broad representation to the Authority late last year as the number of applications for conversion of agricultural land to domestic gardens seemed to be escalating and including parcels of land that didn't fit the original intention of this part of policy. We were pleased with the outcome of the review process, which led to a requirement to demonstrate biodiversity improvements to the land under application. Unfortunately we all know that once agricultural land is lost to another use it might as well be lost forever, and therefore we remain concerned on two levels; one, that once domestic curtilage is established, it may only be a matter of time before

some form of further development goes ahead, and two, that when we look for greater security on our food and farming supply chain in future we may not have the land available for such use. Of course, agricultural land of all sorts support some form of biodiversity, and it is very much in the hands of those husbanding these land parcels subject to change of use to avoid loss of habitat for important species of flora and fauna.

Part way through Spring we were asked to give support to the Requête being led by Deputy Steve Falla in relation to the potential development of the field between the PEH and Duchess of Kent House. We declined to involve the Trust in what seemed to us to be a matter for the States to resolve by their own procedures, but it did highlight for the Trust the need to be proactive when faced with opportunities to secure land use for future generations. It also raised the question of how best to educate and inform those in public office, and in the public service more generally, on how development can co-exist in environmentally sustainable ways with our native species, and this will be high on my agenda for the next twelve months as we see areas of the island come under increasing pressure to yield much needed 'homes' and 'houses' for our human population.

Other work-streams have included major applications under consideration, which require a great deal of digesting, often with little to no comment from the Trust as

they affect neither the natural nor historic built environment which we are charged with protecting and enhancing, or they have been so well considered that all reasonable measures of mitigation are already written into the proposals. We have put forward strong arguments against the extensive alteration of historic fortifications for the purposes of domestic use where these appeared to have made the original building fabric secondary to the dwelling. Comments are occasionally offered on applications for works to alter Protected Buildings, and more often than not these coincide with the views of the Conservation and Design Team at the D&PA.

All in all, it has been a productive year, and the next twelve months will see us continue to offer advice and expertise on planning matters which may support growth, but which we consider not to have given sufficient thought to the 'how' in relation to our natural beauty, our historic buildings and our heritage.

*By Oliver Brock
Planning Officer
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The Folk and Costume Museum

After two years of uncertainty, we are delighted to be able to say that we have welcomed back cruise ship tourists to the Museum this year. Combined with our decision to continue free admission throughout 2022, the footfall numbers remain high.

In anticipation of the return of holidaymakers and to encourage group visits, Island tour guides were invited to the Museum before the official opening on the 5th of April, to refresh memories of our collections and to preview our Costume exhibitions for 2022.

Our colourful **1980s Costume display** has injected liveliness into the Museum. Visitors enjoyed some of the greatest hits from the decade and appreciated the disco scene upstairs. This colourful era was created with great flair by the Costume Collection team and brought to dynamic dancefloor life with the help of **Joys Production**. By contrast and in sedate style, the ground floor exhibitions of exquisite **purses, handbags and travel cases** from the early 20th century drew great admiration from visitors. Particular favourites were a TB & W Cockayne steamer trunk, which would have been someone's portable wardrobe around the world and the Lulu Guinness designer handbag collection.

The Museum gallery exhibitions, publicised as Art at The Park, have seen a range of artists bringing their own styles and subject matter to the Museum this year. The rotation of exhibitions has drawn in regulars and passers-by. We have had **Chris Griffiths** make a return, along with **Michelle Schofield** and **Louise Le Pellec** with their Guernsey Pub Crawl exhibition. **Ellie Atkinson** also returned this year with her collage, watercolour and acrylic skills, emphasising local nature scenes. Our summer exhibition A Moment In Time saw a change of medium where we asked the local community to submit photographs taken over the past two years capturing their experience of any on-island Moment in Time. Our penultimate artist **Gill Harrison** exhibited 'Island Blue' through to the end of the Museum open season.

Our Christmas Art at The Park exhibition belongs to **Penny Dawes**, who brings her **Guernsey Folklore illustrations** to our gallery space.

First exhibited at Castle Cornet and moving to the Museum, we are particularly thrilled to showcase Penny's art for her mastery of pen and ink illustrations and inclusion of National Trust of Guernsey properties in her folklore book and art, together with a **Folklore trail around Guernsey**. Les Caches Farm, Moulin de Quanteraine and specifically, a cauldron on the hearth of the Guernsey Kitchen here at the Museum feature in Penny's captivating work.

At **Lé Viaér Marchi** – our first for two years – we opened the Museum to the public, coupled with a 'Quiet Courtyard' being a peaceful space to get away from the crowds. We put a table out at the front of the museum with a selection of goods from the shop to draw in passers-by and my thanks go to extra staff and volunteers for manning our part in the event. I was on the main gate near the back car park dealing with card payments by Sum Up devices – a post-Covid necessity and a new learning curve for us all – which proved to be an excellent opportunity to see familiar faces and hear positive feedback as people left. Next year, I think the Folk and Costume Museum stall should be in the park with the rest of the event to be closer to the action – and always with the Quiet Courtyard open.

At the end of August, we said 'Au Revoir' to Ethan who has been with us for some years as part of the invaluable weekend staff team and always leaping to help at our events. Ethan has passed his A levels with flying colours and we wish him every success in the future. Ethan, if you are reading this, we've loved your time with us and we do

Gill Harrison, artist
'Island Blue' exhibition



hope you'll come back and catch up with us all.

It is often the case that our temporary staff are school or university students with an interest in e.g., history, archaeology or architecture. Working with the National Trust of Guernsey is a good addition to a CV and the **Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme**, so if you are interested, or know anyone who might be interested in joining us, please be in touch.

As I write, our shop ladies Ann and Dorothé are busily preparing for the **Museum Christmas shop**. This year, by popular demand, and possibly as a secret code, I have been asked to pass on the following message: "the chocolate owls will be making a return.

We hope to see you at the Museum Christmas shop and our Christmas Courtyard Market, both much-loved by people near and far.

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Costumes Review 2022



We were totally onboard when Helen Sheppard from Trinity Church contacted us earlier this year about a two-day summer event they were hosting for local care home residents and other support groups.

Holidays at Home was designed to bring memories flooding back, with music, food, imagery and clothing and so we were delighted to be able to lend a couple of 1970s psychedelic swimsuits and some elegant, curvaceous and gathered floral bathing costumes from the 1930s and 40s.

Local artist **Charlie Buchanan** has been working on a project to illustrate the classic novel **Ebenezer Le Page**. She contacted me earlier this year as she was working on a painting of his two sisters and was interested in sketching authentic dresses from that era, to achieve the correct drape of the fabric. It was fascinating working with Charlie and seeing her project evolve from the early sketches all the way through to the final paintings. During the summer, **The Market Building** mounted an exhibition of these illustrations, and this Autumn they are featured on the new season's stamp collection. We have been thrilled to be involved with this project.

Work in the upstairs Costume Archives here at No. 26 always slows right down through spring and summer as we focus our attention

on the shop below, but I would like to make two thank-yous. Firstly, to Hayley Corbet who, after graduating in History, came to work for us inputting the handwritten archives onto the database. She made enormous inroads with this important task for which we are very grateful and wish her all the best as she moves on in her career.

Also, I would like to thank Eloise Jones, who has come to us through **Guernsey Employment Trust**. Having graduated in Costume Interpretation, I knew we would work well together and, indeed, this was a perfect match.

When the entire Costume Collection moved from Les Baissieres to 26 Cornet Street last year, the date order of the garments inevitably became muddled. Eloise has taken on the challenge of getting our historical costumes back into their correct date order. I can't thank Hayley and Eloise enough for all their help. Tackling these two jobs really has been a godsend.

By Caro Drake, Costume Curator

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Lé Viaër Marchi 2022

The bubbly spirit of Guernsey's first great Summer event coursed onto Saumarez Park on Monday 4th July with Lé Viaër Marchi which, having been mothballed for the last two years, came back on point, shiny as a new pin.

The weather gods smiled radiantly on thousands of visitors, lines of market stands and, focus of all, the central arena.

A record number of new stallholders set up pitches, flanked by traditional favourites championing Guernsey foods, artisan crafts, music and dancing.

The enchanting sound of vocal soloist **Anya Mancini** greeted visitors arriving at the Park. Anya is the great-granddaughter of National Trust of Guernsey founder member and founder of Lé Viaër Marchi, Peggy Carey. Anya's mother and grandmother were there too, bringing together three generations of Careys. A delightful moment, and one for the Trust's memory box. Peggy was surely smiling down.

Senners Bakery did us proud with a gargantuan order of Guernsey gâche, Guernsey biscuits and doughnuts. Despite an increased order, the doughnuts were yet again the first bakes to sell out. Handing over the last doughnut is a crushing moment for us and those waiting in the queue.

Each year we comment maybe we should auction the last doughnut – it might become a new tradition and a surprising fundraiser.

It was a great pleasure to welcome Guernsey's new Lieutenant-Governor and Trust Patron, **Lieutenant General Richard Cripwell**, who mingled with the crowds and probably learnt much about Guernsey traditions at our heritage-centric gathering.



Our thanks as always to **The Boys' Brigade Band**, L'Assemblaie singers, Guaine du Vouest dancers and lastly **GU10** for rounding off the show with popular sea-shanties. What shall we do with a drunken sailor? brings the Park down, so to speak.

Responding to the rise in digital technology, reduction in printed material and mindful of the expansive demographic of visitors, a new pocket-sized programme sponsored by Islands' was handed out at all entrance gates manned by volunteer teams who, for the first time, used Sum-Up machines to collect entry fees. Post-pandemic, cash is no longer king and a move to contactless payment became essential. Somewhat anxiously but successfully, the event has adapted. Contactless payment was also available on the gâche and doughnut stand. The counting house probably appreciated less sugary coinage from doughnut sales.

After quite a few years, we saw flowers back at the event with a flower arranging competition sponsored by **2mi Financial Services** which, with

a nod to recent Platinum Jubilee celebrations, attracted some beautiful entries along the theme Fit for a Queen.

Visitors made a beeline for Bric-a-Brac, set up and manned by volunteers from 2mi, **C5 Alliance** and stall doyennes Clare Ogier and Jeanne Langford. They made a brisk trade, although our tables seemed to be less full than usual. Until about twenty years ago this stall was known as National Trust Treasures with tables laden with troves from emptied lofts or down-sizing households, keen to fundraise for the Trust. Nowadays, those treasures are either long-gone or finding their way onto e-Bay or into Island shops specialising in pre-loved or vintage goods. If you have treasures that could help fundraise for us, please give me a call and we can collect directly from you.

Bric-a-brac: miscellaneous objects and ornaments. We welcome leather, glass, china, pottery, objets d'art, knickknacks, trinkets etc. Please: no plastic, electrical goods, kitchen equipment, broken or damaged items.

Channel Island Co-operative Society, event sponsors for many years, returned with a French food stall and a sizzling barbecue by **Perelle Butchery** who went on to donate £1,250 of stall proceeds to **The Sarah Groves Foundation**.

Scribbled diary notes at the end of the day provide a positive sum-up:

"A superb evening with a really happy vibe. Great stalls, entertainers, crowd... incredible input from NTG volunteers and CSR teams. So many loved the event and seeing people they hadn't seen for ages. They loved being back on the park. The heartbeat of Lé Viaér Marchi remains strong and present."

The 50+ year history of the event, heralding the start of Guernsey's summer, still meets Lé Viaér Marchi's original aim that Island traditions live on. There are a few spokes to this wheel, including a traditional get-together and catch-up over bean jar and gâche, with family and friends.

The distinguishing hub of the wheel though is the contribution of traditional demonstrators, singers and dancers, variations of which have been with us since the outset in 1970. Our traditions will not come to an end because they no longer represent the world we live in. They will come to an end if they are not passed on.

A la perchoine.

Sara Lampitt
*For Lé Viaér Marchi
Organising Committee
M: 00 44 7781 165430
E: admin@nationaltrust.gg*

Organisation:
*Jemma Field | Jacquie Mancini |
Steve Hogg | Jenny Gallie | Chris Sackett*





The Victorian Shop and Parlour at 26 Cornet Street

"I always find my cards and presents in here, I don't know why I go to any other shops"

One of our lovely local customers

We do have such lovely customers in the shop that I thought I should introduce a few character types and personalities:

- **A bundle of smiles, laughter and freckles** – the arrival of the Beechwood boys who have come tearing down the hill to get here before we close, guess what they are after...
- **The French ladies** – “Oooh, tissue de Liberty” – they really adore this quintessentially English design. Finding Liberty fabric at No. 26 sparks great happiness.
- **How much further is it to Victor Hugo's house?** Well actually, I will stop for a breather and have a look around. Isn't it lovely in here!

We have had a fantastic season, bustling and busy with locals and visitors alike. More and more people are finding us up Cornet Street and being on the climb up to the amazing

and popular Hauteville House has been very helpful.

For complicated reasons involving the size of Paris Museums and the euro, **Victor Hugo's house, (Hauteville House)**, doesn't stock locally produced books and gifts. But we do. The ladies at Hauteville House send customers down to us, which is much appreciated.

The majority of the House's visitors walk up the hill from Town and many find that by the time they have reached us, especially those from the flat lands of East Anglia, they need a rest. While they are having a breather, it just so happens that they are tempted to do some shopping.

Following the death of the Queen and all the consequent magnificent ceremonial, it is especially poignant to recall the joyous celebrations of her Platinum Jubilee back in June. Along with the rest of the Island and beyond, we threw ourselves into that glorious event. As well as mounting two vintage Union Jacks on the front of the building, we went flag-mad inside the Shop, with handmade, hand-dyed and individually stitched Union Jack bunting and rosettes, all set off by a beautiful original banner from the

Trust's collection celebrating Queen Victoria's Silver Jubilee.

In 2021, I was captivated by the work of local artist Eleanor Atkinson and with the support of the Trust, commissioned artwork based on vintage shop tins, articles and many more shop artefacts from the early 1900s to 1970s. The result was fantastic and is now reproduced on a tea towel exclusively available at No. 26 Cornet Street. The original artwork for our shop remains here, much to the regret of one cruise boat passenger who was sad that it wasn't available to buy. It is very much part of 26 Cornet Street for now and forever.

At the end of the summer season, we said goodbye to Maisie Bisson who has been with us since we re-opened in 2021 and has been manning the shop on Tuesdays. Importantly - to me - Maisie has been someone to bounce creative ideas off, a detective delving into the historic questions regarding No. 26 Cornet Street and a go-to when I get stuck with technical issues. She is off to further her studies and we wish her all the best and will miss her.

But there is always a silver lining. In her place, we are welcoming Fay Le Prevost, another lady who loves history and is very creative, so I know she will fit right in.

She will be welcomed into the 26 Cornet Street family, although she is already family as her Mum is Rachel Dovey - our Saturday lady and also a well-known accredited Guernsey guide.

You may have noticed that, as usual, we closed at the beginning of October for an end-of-season break, but we will soon be opening The Victorian



Christmas Shop. The atmosphere of our cosy little shop - decorated with rich velvets, scented evergreens and sparkling cut glass - is enriched with flickering candles and the sound of a crackling fire in the grate. There is more than a nod to the fanciful spirit of 'The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe' when stepping through our double doors into a Christmassy and magical world. We stay open until 5pm for after-dark sparkliness.

Thank you for visiting us during this most successful year and we look forward to welcoming you soon to the enchanting Victorian Christmas Shop and Parlour.

Caro Drake, Shop Manager

M: 07781 145041

E: 26cornetstreet@nationaltrust.gg

Opening times

The Victorian Christmas Shop and Parlour at 26 Cornet Street Opens on Friday 18 November

Open six days a week: 11am-5pm

Late night opening until 8pm each Thursday during December

Closes on Wednesday 21 December at 5pm

AGM

Each Autumn the Trust holds its Annual General Meeting, the timing of which always chimes with Guernsey's summer swallows preparing to leave for warmer climes. Members and those interested in Trust work gather for this convivial meeting held in the cosy setting of our restored Guernsey farmhouse, Les Caches Farm.

That Members, friends and associates come along to hear a review of the previous year's activity and up-to-the-minute news means a great deal, especially with the full house enjoyed this year. There's nothing quite like an AGM for hearing hot-off-the-press news and having the opportunity to chat during business or afterwards over 'extremely good' sandwiches and refreshments.

We were acutely sorry that due to family circumstances, retiring President Tony Spruce was unable to join us at what would have been his last meeting, which appropriately opened with his personal message:

Dear Members,

It is with great regret that I am unable to join you for this year's AGM.

I am in the U.K. supporting a very close member of my family who is very ill.

It goes without saying that the National Trust of Guernsey is a fantastic organisation, an organisation committed to protecting the very best of Guernsey.

During my past six years as Trust President I believe that the Trust's aims have been fulfilled and that your Council have achieved a great deal.

So, as I am unable to verbally support my Nominees in person and with the future in mind I ask you to wholeheartedly support my nomination of Mike Brown for President, and Sara Lampitt as Vice President. Under their stewardship I am confident that the Trust will be very well served.

In closing I wish to thank each and every Council Member for their support and Team effort over the past six years, also thanks to our brilliant Staff, and our many Volunteers for their commitment.

Wishing you all the very best for the future.

Tony Spruce

With Mike Brown as our new President, all Trust offices filled and the company of invigorated guests, the long arc of the Trust continues. Hearing the chatter and watching people mingle is more than a fleeting pleasure. It has been this way since 1960.

Business matters closed with warm thanks to Tony and a feeling of sadness that he wasn't with us.

"We would like to close by saying how much we feel Tony's absence tonight.

As President, he was not a newcomer to Trust business. He came with an embedded understanding of the Trust through being on Council for 5 years in the early 2000's, until standing in the States Elections of 2008 and 2012. He returned to us in May 2016.

During his two terms as President, Tony has been a catalyst for action and change, at a new pace that briefly left us blinking in the headlights, but always and unfailingly with a strong arm of protection around us.

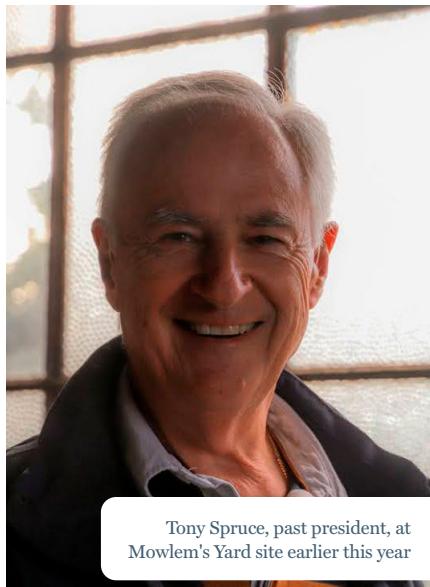
His vision, pro-active drive and support of new ideas has seen some unprecedented changes for the Trust - all in a great way. We are open at Fermain Tower, Les Caches Farm and so many events at Folk and Costume Museum, to name but a few.

His super-powers of determination and optimism have moved the Trust forward – and this is a contagious spirit.

We hope Tony will be with us as we open projects initiated during his Presidency.

For now ... thank you Tony, and we wish you and your family well."

*Sara Lampitt
Vice President
E: admin@nationaltrust.gg*



Tony Spruce, past president, at Mowlem's Yard site earlier this year

A load of old cobbles

From wooden blocks, to cobblestones, to granite setts, the changing face of street surfaces certainly included Guernsey granite exported by Victorian industrialist John Mowlem whose Southside offices were at Church House, now restored by National Trust of Guernsey.

Sweetly evocative of a past we never knew, but a nightmare for cyclists, cobbled streets were once a lifesaver for our working horses, explains Harry Pearson.

There are few sounds more evocative to the British ear than that of horses' hooves on a cobbled street. The rattle of iron against cobblestone is as much a part of our national collective consciousness as the sweet tang of strawberries, the hum of bees in lime trees and the scent of dog roses after June rain. Many of the nation's most beloved streets - Norwich's Elm Hill, The Shambles in York, Rye's Mermaid Street, Frome's Catherine Hill, Steep Hill in Lincoln, Frenchgate in Richmond, North Yorkshire- are cobbled. There's something about the knobbly vernacular style that awakens a nostalgia for a past we never knew.

It's little wonder that one of our favourite television adverts, for Hovis, featured the cobbled sweep of Gold Hill in Shaftesbury, Dorset, a boy in a flat cap pushing a bicycle and the sound of Dvorak's Symphony No 9. In our minds, the cobbled street is either bathed in a buttery late-afternoon sunlight or glistening beneath gaslight,

submerged in mist at the start of a Conan Doyle story.

Other nations, it should be noted, have the same romantic attachment to cobblestones. Paul Gauguin likened his painting style to the 'deep, hollow and powerful' sound of wooden clogs on cobbled streets. To Charles Baudelaire, the sound of logs thumping onto cobbles was as much a harbinger of coming winter as swooping swallows were the arrival of summer and Cyrano de Bergerac hoped his wit would flash like spurs striking cobblestones. It's unlikely that anyone has ever been so inspired by concrete paving slabs or asphalt.

The Romans built cobbled streets as early as the 3rd century BC, but the first ones in England began to appear in the 15th century. They were a durable alternative to dirt roads that, ripped up by a procession of carts and livestock, needed constant upkeep and repair. Cobbled roads did not rut and drained far better than their dirt counterparts, but building them was a back-breaking endeavour.

Cobbles (the name derives from 'cob' meaning 'rounded lump'-hence cob loaves) were naturally shaped by water.



They had to be picked from riverbeds, transported in barrows and laid by hand in a massive jigsaw puzzle. The celebrated Gold Hill contains 58,000 cobbles, which gives an idea of the enormity of the task. Merely thinking about the bending involved is enough to bring on lumbago.

A long walk on cobbled streets is likely to leave your ankles aching and prolonged cycling across them will bump you around until your bottom is numb (on the notoriously rugged cobbles of Belgium and northern France, cyclists may end races with nosebleeds), yet they are an excellent surface for horses. It was for this reason that a kind of cobble enjoyed a wave of popularity in the late 19th century.

The answer was the sett. Unlike the naturally occurring cobble, the sett was a quarried oblong of granite, hard sandstone or Yorkstone, with six flat sides. The size was calibrated to match the length of the average horseshoe from heel to toe.

Thanks to Sherlock Holmes, we think of Victorian London resounding to the rhythmic rattle of Hansom cabs on cobbles, but, until the 1890s, much of the capital's road network was actually surfaced with wooden blocks. These were tough, cheap and hard-wearing, but became slippery and dangerous when wet, particularly for workhorses, which could not get a purchase on the slick surface. Watching the carnage on a rainy day at Ludgate Hill in the 1880s, as horses slid and whinnied in terror, writer and animal-welfare campaigner John Denny speculated angrily that the makers of such roads must also be 'big share-holders in a joint stock horse-slaughtering company'.

The answer was the sett. Unlike the naturally occurring cobble, the sett was a quarried oblong of granite, hard sandstone or Yorkstone, with six flat sides. The size was calibrated to match the length of the average horseshoe from heel to toe and many farriers bent down the heels of shoes so they would find a grip against the edge of the sett, giving greater traction when pulling a cart, carriage or tram. The days of watching workhorses collapse and break knees or slide backwards, pulled by the weight of their load, were over. The setts had another advantage, too: the clatter of hooves and iron-rimmed wheels on cobbles served as an early-warning system for pedestrians.

This article appeared in Country Life 24 August 2022, reproduced by kind permission of **Country Life**.

Photo: Getty images. Photo caption: Gleaming through the ages: evening light catches the setts by London's Tower Bridge.



Our beautiful Christmas Shops and Christmas Courtyard Market

Gifts and decorations to be treasured
Sweet treats and savoury favourites to share
Indulgent chocolates to savour...

The Museum Christmas Shop at Saumarez Park

Friday 11 November – Wednesday 21 December
Open Tuesday – Sunday 10am – 4.30pm (closed Mondays)

Special Monday opening on Monday 12 December 5pm – 8pm.
Complimentary mulled wine each Friday.
Nearby parking, access-friendly.

The Victorian Christmas Shop at 26 Cornet Street

Friday 18 November – Wednesday 21 December
Open Monday – Saturday 11am – 5.00pm (closed Sundays)

Late night opening until 8pm each Thursday during December.
Complimentary mince-pies and mulled wine at late night openings.
One of Guernsey's oldest and most atmospheric shops.

The Christmas Courtyard Market at The Museum

Monday 12 December 5pm – 8pm

Special opening of The Museum Christmas Shop. Carols around the tree, festive food, artisan stalls and real Christmas magic.

*The most wonderful time
of the year is here*

Looking Forward

The Folk and Costume Museum

The Museum Christmas Shop

11 Nov to 21 Dec (closed Mondays)
special opening Monday 12 Dec
5.00pm – 8.00pm

Complimentary mince-pies
and mulled wine each Friday

Art at The Park Christmas Exhibition

Penny Dawes's 'Once upon an Island'
'Landscape'

11 Nov to 21 Dec (closed Mondays)
special opening Monday 12 Dec
5.00pm – 8.00pm

Complimentary mince-pies
and mulled wine each Friday

Christmas Courtyard Market

Carols around the tree, festive food,
artisan stalls and Christmas magic

Monday 12 Dec 5.00pm – 8.00pm
special opening of The Museum Christmas
Shop. The heart of a heritage Christmas

Free entry.
The Museum is access-friendly.

How to find us: Saumarez Park, GY5 7UJ
Perry's guide: 15G2 | Bus routes: 41 and 42
T: 01481 255384 | M: 07781 127476
E: fcm@nationaltrust.gg

The Victorian Christmas Shop

18 Nov to 21 Dec (closed Sundays)
11.00am – 5.00pm
Late night opening until 8.00pm every
Thursday during December

Complimentary mince-pies and
mulled wine at late night openings

How to find us: 26 Cornet Street, St. Peter
Port, GY1 1LF | Perry's guide: SPP 5L8-M9 | Bus
routes: any bus route ending at St. Peter Port
terminus | T: 01481 255384 | M: 07781 145041
E: 26cornetstreet@nationaltrust.gg

2023

The Folk and Costume Museum

With two floors of new costume
exhibitions opens:

Tuesday 4 April 2023

Art at The Park

Opens on Tuesday 4 April
Members and friends preview
Monday 3 April 5.00pm – 7.00pm

First exhibition and further exhibition details
to be released early 2023.

The Victorian Shop and Parlour
Opens **Tuesday 11 April 2023**

Les Caches Farm

Opens Thursday 11 May 2023

Lé Viaér Marchi
Monday 3 July 2023

For all the above please visit www.nationaltrust.gg, our social
media pages and keep an eye on the local press for updates.

Obituary

Peter Harris

We were saddened and shocked to learn of the death of Peter Harris. In January 2019, we asked out for Volunteers to help map walks around National Trust of Guernsey lands and from that very first meeting, Peter spearheaded the project. His technical ability to transcribe walkers' data into trackable routes seemed (and remains) a thing of magic.

I was very pleased to catch up with Peter and Alison Harris at our 2019 and 2020 AGMs and missed them in 2021, secretly hoping they were making some wonderful journeys themselves.

At our last meeting, Peter divulged his age, to which I replied “whatever face cream you’re using, I’ll have some”.

His bright and enthusiastic character will be sorely missed; his intelligence and ability to fulfil a long-held aim for National Trust of Guernsey, remains supremely admired and appreciated.

If you do walk at Pleinmont, please remember Peter and his contribution.



Peter Harris's completed map of Pleinmont walks can be found [here](#).

Membership Benefits

Home

Member Events

Please see full details earlier in this Newsletter.

Discounts for Members

10% booking discounts for Members and Corporate Members at Fermain Tower.

Regrettably this cannot be combined with a 10% discount for repeat bookings unless you or your Corporation have Donor status*. Membership details will be needed at the time of booking.

Existing Discounts

- 10% discount for repeat bookings at Fermain Tower (*see above).
- 10% discount for Members booking Les Caches Farm or the Courtyard at the Folk and Costume Museum
- 20% discount for Corporate Members at both of the above.

Membership details will be needed at the time of booking and early booking is recommended.

To view all properties available to hire please visit www.nationaltrust.gg/holiday-and-hire

Away

A full list of worldwide Reciprocal Arrangements is available at:
www.nationaltrust.gg



Online Newsletter

If you would prefer to receive an online copy of this Newsletter, please contact:
membership@nationaltrust.gg

Membership cards will be sent by post.

Reciprocal Arrangements

We strongly recommend checking the website and opening times of heritage places you wish to visit with Reciprocal Arrangement benefits.

Members will enjoy free access to an expansive global portfolio of properties, although parking charges may apply. These modest charges contribute towards high maintenance costs of all heritage properties. For details of participating organisations, please visit:

www.nationaltrust.gg/support

Please always take your membership card and where applicable, your car sticker too.

Replacement membership cards and car stickers can be obtained by contacting:

Jenny Gallie, Membership Secretary
E: membership@nationaltrust.gg
M: +44 (0)7781 108805

Booking Online

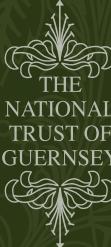
If making an online booking to visit a National Trust property in England, Wales or Northern Ireland (NTEWNI) or at any of the International National Trust Organisation sites, we are advised that our members should input the word INTO in the box where your membership number is requested. This should enable you to complete your booking. Your National Trust of Guernsey membership card will need to be provided at point of entry. The online booking system operated by NTEWNI does not recognise our membership numbers. Whilst we benefit from generous reciprocal arrangements, we are an entirely independent organisation.

See more world heritage more easily

Membership from £25 pa

National Trust of Guernsey Members enjoy free entry to all National Trust properties in England, Wales and Northern Ireland and many International National Trusts Organisation heritage places worldwide.

Parking charges will apply. Membership is your chance to support us and enjoy some of the world's finest heritage properties and places.



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