



E-Newsletter Winter 2012-13

It's hard to believe that the festive season is upon us and it's almost the end of the year. We'd like to thank you for your continued membership and support of the Guernsey Society during 2012, and we wish you the Compliments of the Season and a Very Happy 2013.

We've had another year of great speakers and social events in London, (squeezed in between the Golden Jubilee celebrations and the Olympics), starting the year with a great lunch at Tuttons in Covent Garden, we maintained our unbeaten record against the Jersey Society in London at the 2nd Annual Boules Muratti and had a lovely day out at Down House, the former home of Charles Darwin. In Guernsey our regular monthly lunches continued to be well attended, relaxed and friendly affairs.

We've been planning the meetings and events to commemorate the Society's up-coming 70th anniversary in 2013, and we'll be letting you know about some of them in this edition of the newsletter as well as other bits of news and information.



The 2nd Annual Boules Muratti

Important Member Information - Change of Bank Account

We've recently changed our bank account, which means that members who pay via standing order will have to change their payment details. Information will be sent out in 'The Review' during January so you'll have plenty of time before subscriptions are due in April. If you're not already a member why not join up now – it's just £12 a year for Channel Island and UK Residents, £16.5 for the rest of the world. You can sign up via our Membership [webpage](#).

Web News

As you may already know our [website](#) had a makeover thanks to the good folk at Hamilton Brooke in Guernsey and our very own Webmaster, Stephen Foote, and we've had some great feedback.

[Donkipedia](#), the Guernsey Society's answer to Wikipedia, is proving to be extremely popular – so popular that we've had to move it to a larger site! It's a great way of finding out about the

Bailiwick's history and genealogy, and sharing your knowledge with others. Take a peek - you'll soon be hooked!

Our facebook page has continued to grow in popularity and now has a healthy membership of more than 250. It's proving to be a great way of sharing the latest Society news, Guernsey facts and information and some superb historical images of the Bailiwick. We're also lucky to have some great photographers amongst the members who are kind enough to share their images with us. If you're on [facebook](#) why not take a look?

Guernsey Society Bookshop

We've got a great online [bookshop](#) that's one of the best places to find Bailiwick related fiction and non-fiction titles that cover all aspects of island life, past and present. Just two of the recent new releases available include 'Guernsey Evacuees: The Forgotten Evacuees of the Second World War' by Gillian Mawson, which is a thought-provoking and sometimes heart-rending account of some of the 17,000+ islanders forced to flee in advance of the Occupation; 'A Matter of Honour: The Life, Campaigns and Generalship of Isaac Brock' by Jonathon Riley, a great insight into the life of one of Guernsey's greatest sons who is possibly better known in Canada than in his home island as a result of his efforts in saving the then British province of Upper Canada from the United States in 1812.

2013 - The Guernsey Society's 70th Anniversary Year

In order to commemorate the Society's special year we've been working hard to make sure the events and meetings throughout 2013 are memorable and enjoyable, and we hope we'll meet some new friends during the year.

In Guernsey the anniversary year begins on January 7th when children across the Bailiwick return to their schools after the Christmas holidays, and our 'Occupation Words' writing competition for children in years 3 to 6 begins. Devised in association with the Guernsey Museum the competition has already received a wide amount of publicity in the islands with, at the time of writing, three-quarters of schools across the islands taking part.

Primary pupils asked for their 'Occupation words'

by Shaun Shackleton

TO CELEBRATE its 70th anniversary next year, The Guernsey Society is launching a writing competition aimed at Bailiwick schoolchildren. Supported by Guernsey Museums, Occupation Words is open to pupils in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. Entry forms have already been sent out to schools and the competition will begin at the start of the spring term in January 2013. Devised by the Society's secretary, Philip Green, with the support of Guernsey Museums' access and learning officer, Jo Dowding, the competition will ask children to think what it might have been like living in Guernsey during the Occupation when family or friends had been evacuated to England. 'I came up with the idea because although we are based in England, we wanted to get the society more recognised in Guernsey,' said secretary Philip Green. 'We thought a competition for children, to get them thinking about the Occupation, would be a good way of doing this.' The piece of writing might be either in the form of a story, a newspaper report, a letter or a diary entry and can include an illustration. The competition will coincide with Key Stage 2 history that is currently being taught in Bailiwick schools. The judging panel comprises of the Priaux Library's chief librarian,



Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 pupils are being asked to write what it might have been like living in Guernsey during the Occupation as part of a Guernsey Society competition to celebrate its 70th year.

Amanda Bennett; chairman of Guernsey FC, Steve Dewsnip; Guernsey Press editor Richard Digard; Jo Dowding; former head teacher and deputy chief education officer George Footter; and council member and editor of the Review of the Guernsey Society, Michael Paul. 'We're delighted to take part in this competition and help the Guernsey Society celebrate 70 years,' said Miss Dowding. 'A lot has been written about the Occupation by adults so it will be really interesting to hear a younger person's perspective. The "rules" of the competition are intentionally very broad to make it accessible to as many children as possible.' There will be first, second and third prizes awarded in each category and winners will be announced in June 2013, with an awards presentation being held at Castle Cornet in the summer. Prizes will include the winning entries in each year group being published in a special edition of the Review of the Guernsey Society, a one-year Guernsey Museums Family Heritage Pass, one year Family Membership of the Guernsey Society, Guernsey Museum goody bags and book tokens. The school that provides the most entries will receive a £100 voucher to purchase books from the Guernsey Museum shop. The Guernsey Society was formed in 1943 to represent the interests of the island to the British Government during the Occupation and to establish a network for Guernsey evacuees in the United Kingdom. Its aims are to promote, maintain and stimulate interest in all matters concerning the Bailiwick of Guernsey, its past, present and future - and keeping alive the 'spirit of Guernsey' both in the island and overseas. Members will be holding an anniversary lunch in London next February with the Bailiff, Richard Collas, the society's president, and a number of other honoured guests.

Guernsey Evening Press, 7th November 2012

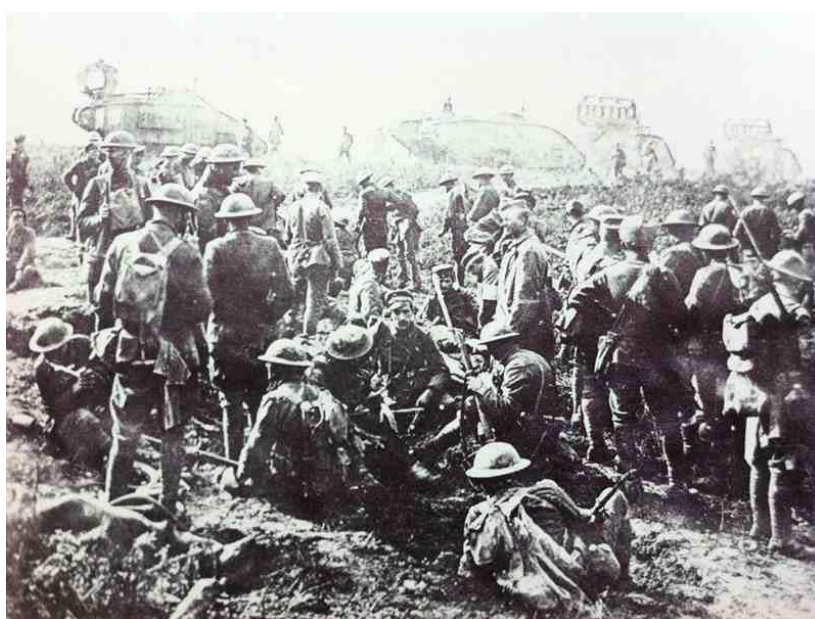
In London the anniversary year begins with a special lunch at the Charing Cross Hotel on Saturday 9th February, with our President, Mr. Richard Collas, the Bailiff of Guernsey and other honoured guests in attendance. You can find out more information and booking details on our [webpage](#) - places are limited, so if you'd like to join us please book soon!

We're organising a Society trip to watch Guernsey FC play at Bedfont Sports on Saturday 16th March – if you want to join us supporting our very own Green Lions please email Philip Green at networks@guernsey-society.org.uk.

Events later in the year include our AGM on 11th May with guest speaker Gillian Mawson, historian and author of 'Guernsey Evacuees: The Forgotten Evacuees of the Second World War', we'll be defending our unbeaten record at the 3rd Annual Boules Muratti in late June, and in September we are pleased to say that our meeting will be held in Winchester with guest speaker the Bishop of Winchester. We'll also be announcing something special taking place in Guernsey too!

RGLI Battlefield Tour of Cambrai and Lys

We are also planning a visit in late October or early November to Cambrai and Lys, site of the Royal Guernsey Light Infantry's most famous battles in World War One. The itinerary and prices are still to be finalised, but this will be a specially-organised tour with our own tour guide. If you would like to find out more details of the tour and register your interest please contact Stephen Foote at stephen.foote@guernsey-society.org.uk



Members of the RGLI at Cambrai

The next edition of The Review will be sent out to members during January, and the next E-Newsletter will be emailed to you in Spring. If you want any further information on the Society or the items contained within this newsletter, please contact Philip Green, the Secretary of the Guernsey Society, at networks@guernsey-society.org.uk

A la perchoine!