

ANNUAL REPORT 2016



GIBRALTAR HERITAGE TRUST

CHAIRMAN'S foreword



As another Heritage year comes to a close, we stop a moment to take stock of the work that has gone on, mainly unseen and in the background and which you will find summarised in the following pages.

I would like to extend my thanks to my fellow Trustees for their work and invaluable support during my period as Chairman. Most especially, I would like to thank Claire Montado, our CEO and our small team at the Main Guard who ensure that all the cogs are oiled and the wheels

keep turning. Claire is taking a short break for the best of reasons - a new baby! We welcome Tasmin Griffith to the team, recruited as Executive Personal Assistant, who will help us to keep things ticking over during Claire's maternity leave.

My thanks also to all our volunteers who give up their free time to help us in our shop, run craft classes for our children, lend muscle when we need things moved and brains in helping with our archive and ever-growing library.

I would also like to commend those who have helped deliver our membership programme of events; those stalwart folks who will come out, usually on a Saturday morning to host our historic walks, or run with our Tuesday evening presentations and historic talks. We couldn't do without these dedicated folk.

As always, we have much to do - please continue to support us with your continued membership and participation. Don't forget to keep us updated with your current email address, as this is essential if you want to keep up with our latest news.

Delilah Smith
Chairman

This report covers the period from the Gibraltar Heritage Trust's
Annual General Meeting in November 2014 to March 2016.

THE MAIN guard



*Main Guard pre 2014 renovations
(generic photos pre and post restoration).
Works in exhibition and shop commence, 2014.*

*Official opening of the Main Guard after renovations by Chief Minister Fabian Picardo.
The Main Guard after renovation.
The shop / exhibition floor pre renovation.*

UPDATES

The Main Guard

The refurbished Main Guard was officially opened on 13th June 2014 by The Chief Minister, Fabian Picardo QC. The building has been beautifully refurbished with many of its original features such as entrance lobby and its pan tiled roof reinstated. The location of the building in one of Gibraltar's historic and central squares, as well as its restored appearance has certainly enhanced the profile of the Trust as well as that of the square itself.

We have now expanded our shop and increased the quantity and quality of the items on sale. Apart from Gibraltar books we also offer a fine selection of gift items and souvenirs for all ages, focusing always on products that promote the uniqueness and beauty of Gibraltar's heritage. All profits from the shop are reinvested back into the work of the Trust and the small restoration and awareness events and publications that we produce.

The ground floor is available for talks and lectures and we have expanded our programme of events to include both general interest talks and debates. We have also introduced the option of private hire of the ground floor area and patio for small launches or events with a number of book launches having been held there in the last 12 months. We look forward to developing what we can offer in the way of facilities over the coming months.

Early last year we also welcomed the Gibraltar Tourist Board to the ground floor of the Main Guard. They have established a tourist information point within our building. This is a mutually beneficial arrangement for the Trust as we gain from the increased footfall into the building whilst also fostering closer links with the Tourist Board.

Elsewhere within the building, staff have been working hard to improve and streamline our administrative processes. As well as Trustees, we also have support from a growing number of regular volunteers and individuals on the Community Care Scheme for over 60s who are significantly contributing to the organisation, ordering and archiving of records and furthering of research on historical matters, whilst also helping with ongoing maintenance and beautification of the Main Guard. Our patio at the back of the building is looking really lush and green, providing a little oasis in an otherwise busy town centre. We

have also benefitted over the last three years from the placement of Summer Students within the Trust on the Government's Scheme for University Students. These periods of focused work and support have also helped greatly to advance the aims and tasks of the Trust on many fronts.

We are also in the process of formalising our book collection into a reference library with a Gibraltar connection on the upper floor. The library has been dedicated to Mr Mario Mosquera, past Chairman, who sadly passed away in 2012. This library is accessible to Trust members during office hours on an appointment basis. We are currently in the process of cataloguing our collection. This record will become part of the Gibraltar Repository- an initiative which is being spearheaded by the University of Gibraltar Libraries Forum (of which the Trust is also a member). The aim is for there to be a searchable database available to the general public of the Gibraltar related material that exists locally, where it is held and how it can be accessed. We are currently accepting donations of Gibraltar history books in a bid to increase the range and depth of material we hold.

Thanks to a donation from GML Ltd, we were able to purchase an archival map cabinet to properly store our collection of historical Ordinance Survey maps of Gibraltar. These had previously been stored rolled up and were suffering damage from constant access to them as they are an essential reference resource for our work. The maps have now also been scanned to PDF so are far more easily accessible than ever before.

Summer 2015 saw the introduction of a summer Heritage Crafts Club led by two dedicated volunteers. The sessions were very popular and have led to a term time heritage themed craft club for 7 to 11 year olds. The group have learnt about all sorts of varied aspects of Gibraltar's history, from making models of the lighthouse, learning about the Neanderthals, making a wall book/timeline of Gibraltar's history and more recently learning about Gibraltar's Referendum of 1969.

Membership

A major project and investment by the Trust was made in early 2015 to boost the membership of the Trust and improve our interaction with existing members and the public via an improved online presence. We were fortunate to have the support of Bentley Whitehorne Image (BWI), a creative communications agency, who approached the Trust with a campaign that they believed would help us to achieve an increased profile and widen our solid support base within the community. With their help, and the sponsorship of local finance and accounting company EY Gibraltar who covered 50% of the costs, we were able to undertake a direct mailing exercise to households across Gibraltar inviting them to become members of the Trust, relaunch a newly branded website, an online shop,



Our online Membership Campaign

review and relaunch our corporate member scheme and improve our overall image, reflecting the level of the professional work we undertake. The campaign was a success with over 200 new memberships within the drive period. We also had a good response from companies who have taken up our corporate membership option with a 50% increase in corporate memberships for the 2015-16 year. Thank you to you all for supporting us.

Our online shop has had mixed success. We are finding that having the facility has increased the number of members joining from overseas, as well as locally based members taking advantage of the facility for renewing their memberships. In terms of online retail and sale of souvenirs, this is an area identified for growth in the near future through further development of the site and the products we are able to offer.

Apart from our new website which has given us a reliable platform to keep our members and the public up to date with latest events and news, we have set up and been running a popular E-newsletter which we issue direct to members inboxes on average every 3 to 4 weeks. We have found this a very useful way of keeping our membership up to speed on events and issues that are important to heritage preservation. If you are not receiving the e-newsletters and wish to do so, send an email to heritage@gibraltar.gi stating that you wish to subscribe.

Staff

With an increase in duties and interactions with Government, our members and the public, there is a direct need for more staff at the Trust. In addition to the Chief Executive Officer, Executive Officer and Shop Assistant, in early 2014 we were able to secure 6 months of funding to employ a Heritage Officer with the aim of developing the professional services we were able to offer as well as consolidating and further developing the systems and resources available for managing our urban heritage. Unfortunately we were unable to sustain the position longer than the planned 6 months.

In recent months we have employed an Executive Personal Assistant (EPA) for our CEO who has reduced working hours ahead of taking maternity leave. Apart from supporting

the work of the CEO and the Trust, the EPA will keep continuity of Trust matters whilst the CEO is away. She will be supported as always by our Trustees, a number of whom have also undertaken to increase their already substantial contribution to the running of the Trust to ensure that commitments are delivered.

Trustees

There continue to be 6 Government appointed and 6 elected Trustees on the Board of the Trust. As part of our input into the new Heritage Act, we have campaigned to have the number of GoG appointed Trustees removed altogether or reduced for the simple reason that it is essential that the work of the Trust be seen to be independent from Government interference. This in no way means that there is any Government influence in the work of the Trust, all our Trustees are principled individuals of standing within our community, however transparency must be perceived as well as practiced. As a result of these interactions, Government has given a commitment in their 2015 Manifesto to reduce the number of directly appointed Trustees to the Board of the Trust.

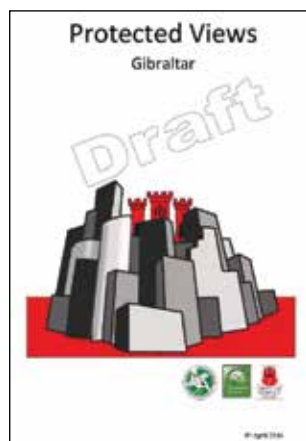
Campaign list



Our Campaign list is available through our website

In October 2015 we issued our Campaign List, which aims to collate and focus on the main heritage issues that concern the Trust, and the areas we would like to see progressed or integrated into Government policy and/ or Gibraltar Law. The document is mainly centered around three main issues, legislation, management and resourcing. Many of the points are items that are at varying levels of progression in our contact and meetings either directly with Government and departments and agencies through the varying consultation processes that exist. We aim to keep this an active document

that will serve as a reference point and a proactive tool to help shape those discussions as matters and issues progress. The document can be viewed and downloaded via our website.



Front cover of our Views and Vistas Documents

Views and Vistas document

The Trust recently launched a draft document on Protected Views which we have collaborated on together with the Environmental Safety Group (ESG) and the Gibraltar Ornithological and Natural History Society (GONHS). The main purpose of the document is to highlight the fact that visual access to many of our iconic monuments and buildings is being lost behind the ever increasing number of high rise buildings appearing in Gibraltar's skyline. This draft document has been presented to Government for initial comments and has been put out to public consultation and comment with a view to formally submitting it to the DPC as a case study and framework for protecting key views and vistas. We have also consulted the Town Planners and had a meeting with Land Property Services on their views on the practicalities of achieving the aims of the document. The document can be viewed and downloaded from the Trust's website.



The DPC

Our duties vis-a-vis our representation on the Development and Planning Commission continue. With the rolling out of the e-planning portal and the open format of the DPC meetings, we have noted a significant increase in public interest in the planning process, specifically with regards to large developments. This is very positive as the engagement of the public in issues that directly affect the way Gibraltar looks, feels and performs as a comfortable and beautiful place to live is everyone's concern.

As a Trust we aim to be honest and open and above all consistent in feedback given on developments. We are guided by the policies within the Gibraltar Development Plan (2009) and champion their implementation and consistent application in our interactions with applicants. We believe that the policies within the GDP, 2009, are based on sound principles and contribute towards good, sustainable heritage practice. We hope to build on them in the upcoming review of the plan to ensure that our architectural heritage and character is protected through the planning process. It is essential that good planning policies support a strong heritage protection Act.

There have been some important and high profile heritage sensitive developments which have come before the DPC that have had a mixed outcome.



Risso Bakery, before demolition

The demolition of the Risso Bakery building in Engineer Lane in 2014 was a blow for the Trust. The case highlighted the shortcomings in Gibraltar's heritage protection framework to address and deal with the long drawn out dilapidation and wilful neglect of a historic building. Despite an online petition and media attention, and appeals for the retention of at least the traditional building façade the building was lost in favour

of the construction of a 50 room hotel, over 7 floors. The hotel has not been built on the admission by the developer at a subsequent DPC meeting in September 2015 that the

scheme was unviable and required more rooms. This request was refused at the DPC and the development is now up for sale. The whole affair has left a bitter taste. Many of the warnings the Trust gave have unfortunately become a reality. We can only work to ensure that this situation does not arise with other historic buildings in our old town.



Police Barracks, pre construction works

between the Trust and the developer throughout the design and planning process, however despite our best efforts we were unable to save the 'E' Block building which had been so characteristic of the streetscape to Castle Road for over 100 years. In exchange for the loss of this building, there will be an open public space, improved pedestrian access and a slightly wider road for the passage of vehicles. The rest of the complex is in the process of being restored and refurbished as family homes. The majority of which were sold off plan very quickly proving demand for these types of renovation projects.

Another building put out for tender was that of Plata Villa, or the ex-St. Joseph's Middle School. The successful scheme is seeing the construction of semi-detached maisonettes in the grounds surrounding the old school building as well as the demolition of later additions and accretions on the building. The building itself is being restored and split into 4 apartments around the original central courtyard. Many of the large trees are also being retained and incorporated into



Ex-St Joseph's School, pre restoration, now known as Plata Villa

The tender of the Police Barracks on Castle Road has been a bitter sweet process for the Trust. The allocation of the site to the preferred tenderer meant that at last there was a future for the empty and derelict large estate of buildings situated in the heart of Gibraltar's old town. The Police Barracks is an iconic site both architecturally and also in the collective memories of many Gibraltarians who lived and grew up there. There was close liaison

the communal landscaping of the development. Another positive outcome is the fact that the developer is committed to helping in the creation of a new access point to the adjacent historic Witham's Cemetery as well as carrying out essential tree work, installing a path through the cemetery and lighting. More about the Witham's project later on in this report.



Newly Renovated, Rock Cottage

A building we have reported on in past reports in that of Rock Cottage. This large colonial property in the South District had seen a rapid decline over the years since it became vacant when handed from the MOD to Government of Gibraltar. In 2004 it was put out to tender, however the successful tenderer then in turn put it up for sale with speculative plans to build a further two villas in the grounds. This was successfully

discouraged and another owner purchased the property with plans to refurbish it as a family home. Unfortunately this project did not get underway and the building was sporadically targeted by vandals and squatters until in 2014 a new and current owner took possession of the building and has proceeded to refurbish and restore the house, keeping many of its original features as well as adding elegantly to the property. The grounds have also been landscaped, setting off this historic building.

The adjacent Beaulieu House is in the process of a very different refurbishment. The original house has been retained, but has been extensively added to and extended off the western façade. Again, the original proportions of the building have been retained as well as architectural features such as arched windows and high ceilings, however there have also been a number of very modern additions such as curtain glazing, and the western extension is completely modern in character. All in all, the final product will divide opinions, but as will all such applications, decisions are based on carefully considered factors. The extensions on this building could be removed by future generations and strip the building back to its pure form - the original building will still be there to allow this to happen.

There have also been some major Government projects on heritage sensitive buildings that have seen completion over 2014 and 2015. Government projects are still not subject to the full planning process, a manifesto commitment that the current Government is yet to deliver on, however projects to come to the DPC for a view and guidance with the Trust often continuing liaison with project managers throughout the project period.

The Northern Wing of the Ince's Hall complex has been converted into The Gibraltar International Bank. There has been controversy over the style of the windows installed, however the overall restoration project is one that Gibraltar can be proud of. Once again many internal features have been retained, stonework restored, original ironwork refurbished and restored, the building has been reroofed and its roofline, including chimneys retained and the courtyard beautified. The conversion of this building has completely lifted the southern end of Main Street. We can only hope that Government will now also deliver on its reassurances that southern wing, that of the Ince's Hall Theatre, will also be afforded the same restoration treatment.



*St Bernard's Hospital,
pre renovation*

The adaptation and conversion of the ex- St. Bernard's Hospital into a First and Middle School was also completed in the period of this report. The Government took heed of the Trust's advice not to demolish the Nurse's Quarters building at the southern end of the site and instead have refurbished it to provide extra class rooms and specialist subject labs and staff areas. The old Colonial Hospital building has been adapted into St. Bernard's Middle School, with classrooms looking into the now covered courtyard which creates a multi-functional gathering and activity area for the school. The adjacent wings have been extended with a clear architectural language that differentiates the original building to the new extensions. This is now St. Bernard's First

School. A multipurpose sports hall and gym has also been achieved towards the back of the site. As part of the DPC consultation process, the Trust alerted of the possibility of the discovery of human remains on the site due to its long association with health care, reaching back to the 1500s. This did prove to be correct with the remains of over 250 individuals being recovered from the site by Gibraltar Museum archaeologists. These remains are currently being studied by Osteoarchaeologists as part of a joint project between the Gibraltar Museum, the Ministry for Heritage and the Leverhulme Institute with some interesting initial outcomes. There is still one remaining item outstanding for completion at the site, which is the reinstatement of an ornate cast iron balcony



*Recovering Human Remains at the
former site of St Bernard's Hospital*



*Dismantled Cast Iron Balcony
to be restored and replaced at
St Bernard's School*

entrance to the University. The Europa Point area is well known for its often extreme wind and weather conditions- the integration of the atrium also provides protection in this environment.

As well as the larger more visible projects and refurbishments, we continue to work closely with the Town Planning Department on smaller and routine applications, extensions, refurbishments, changes of use and property improvements. In all cases we refer applicants to and champion the Gibraltar Development Plan, 2009, specifically the Old Town Guide section of the plan. Although there is a lot to do in terms of tackling long standing issues such as antiquated infrastructure and poorly maintained buildings, there are a growing number of successful renovation projects coming through in Gibraltar's Old Town. In late 2015 Government also appointed a dedicated Urban Renewal Officer who is based at the Town Planning Department. We look forward to seeing some progress and improvement in traditional problem areas such as issue and enforcement of Section 37 notices which oblige landlords to maintain and repair their buildings. This said however, the process is not as simple as issuing a repair order. There are a number of interlinked issues challenging the gentrification and renewal of Gibraltar's old town. These were highlighted by the Trust in our Campaign List which was launched towards the end of last year and can be downloaded from our website.

Tenders

Another important area of interaction is that of Tenders and Expressions of Interest for buildings and sites of heritage importance issued by Government. We have found

that was found encapsulated within a partition wall! The balcony was no longer safe in itself, but the ironwork was salvaged and has been reconditioned by Bolaños ready for installation at the school. After many months of delay, we have been assured that this will be happening in the very near future.

A third large refurbishment project was that of the conversion of the Bomb Proof Barracks and Casemates building at Europa Point into the University of Gibraltar. Another highly heritage sensitive building which has seen a complete refurbishment and conversion into Gibraltar's University. The introduction of an atrium that spans the two historic buildings has been achieved in a sensitive way that has added a unique multifunctional space and

consultation from Government ahead of Tender Notices being issued to be ad-hoc both in the format of consultation and in time given ahead of official publication. These factors have a direct impact on the ability of the Trust to input meaningfully into the tender documents for these sites so as to give guidance to prospective tenderers on the sorts of projects that would 'tick the box' on heritage requirements. Having brought the matter up with Government, consultation is improved of late in that we are being informed of notices before they go out, but the current time given for feedback (typically 2-4 days) is not sufficient for large sites.

Staying on the issue of tenders, we have recently made representations to Government on the need for holistic thinking when it comes to the allocation of tenders to ensure that proposed schemes comply with established Planning and Development policies for the Old Town. Although Government policy is to treat the land allocation system and the planning system as two separate processes, the reality is that this approach does not make sense and will only cause issues further down the line when a proposed development is refused on planning grounds yet premiums on the scheme have already been paid as part of the land/tender allocation system. This was recently highlighted in the tender for 2 Hospital Ramp where the DPC refused the construction of a 9 apartment block on the grounds that it was out of character with Upper Town policies, yet the Land Management Committee had accepted the scheme and awarded the applicant the tender.

Heritage Act

The long standing issue of the review of Gibraltar's heritage protection laws took a step closer to fruition when in July 2015 the Government published the draft new act in the form of a Command Paper. The Trust held a well attended briefing session for members to go through the significant changes in the Act and discuss and take note of any concerns. We sent through the Trust's formal response on the Act to the Government's legal unit as well as a copy to the Minister. Included in this response was the Trust's proposed schedule of listed buildings. Since the submission of the feedback we have been periodically seeking updates from Government on their preferred timescales for the finalization of the draft and its submission to Parliament as a Bill. We are particularly insistent that the schedule of protected buildings goes forward for ratification and inclusion with the new Heritage and Antiquities Act. We are also consistently making the point that the new Act will need to be resourced in terms of key staff members to ensure that its requirements are enforced and upheld consistently. It will not be an easy transition, and one that the Trust will need to navigate as the implementation of the Act will potentially see a change in the way Gibraltar's heritage is managed and take the pressure off the Gibraltar Heritage Trust - a fundamentally volunteer based organisation with limited budget and limited human resources.

Ministry for Heritage

We continue to have a positive working relationship with the Minister for Heritage and his Ministry. Towards the end of 2014 the Ministry recruited a City Archaeologist, a post that the Trust had been highlighting the need for for a number of years now especially with regards to required research and watching briefs ahead of and during developments. Over the past year the need for Desk Based Assessments ahead of developments and as part of the planning process have become established. These studies are important to ensure that we understand the true heritage significance of buildings and sites and ensure that we are emphasizing the conservation and restoration of the right aspects. There is also a requirement, where conditioned, for Archaeological Watching Briefs, or in some cases formal excavation on or during development works. Very positive working relationships have been formed and/or strengthened between many local construction companies and developers, which sets a positive scene for the improvement of the conservation of our built and urban heritage.

Other Government Ministries, Departments and Committees

Although the majority of our day to day interaction on heritage matters is through the City Archaeologist, there continue to be very good working relationships with other Government Departments. We have met with a number of Ministers on issues of cross-ministerial responsibilities and concerns such as the issue of Rosia Bay, urban renewal through the **Urban Renewal Committee** and issues of litter and maintenance on the **Litter Committee**. We have also been consulted on the preparation of documents such as the Environment Departments Building Renovation Strategy which takes into account the renovation of historic buildings. The Trust is also represented on the **Cemeteries Visitor Board**, although, until recently, it had not met for some time. There has also been a very active role played in the **Northern Defences Committee**, both the management and technical groups where we have encouraged the continued clearance of the site and in the past 12 months supported the essential public access to the site through providing guided tours for members to the public. In this case, thanks to a group of dedicated volunteers, over 500 people have been given free, top class tours of the site. We are now looking forward to seeing a formal management agreement put in place which will see the site being opened up even further and run as an official visitable historic site.

LIAISON WITH THE ministry of defence



Cannon Barrel at Rock Gun

The Trust continues maintaining good links with the Ministry of Defence and its land agents. Both the Trust's CEO and the Vice Chairman attend regular meetings with the MOD Conservation Committee to discuss matters of mutual interest and to ensure the maintenance of the heritage value and conservation of assets within the Ministry of Defence estate. As a result of this forum and the positive working relationship struck between all members of the Committee, which includes the Department of the Environment, Town Planning, GONHS and the Gibraltar Museum, we have been able to make a number of significant achievements.

Through the forum we have the start of a catalogue of moveable historical artefacts held by the MOD in their various facilities and offices on the Rock. This includes pictures, maps and miscellaneous pieces of furniture. In the process of compiling the inventory, condition of items has also been recorded. There is still work to do to improve the conditions in which many of these items are stored or displayed, but this will be an ongoing process. The forum has also facilitated visits to many MOD sites that are normally restricted access. For instance a visit to REME Chambers identified a number of items (signs etc) that are of historical interest and the Gibraltar Museum is now making arrangements to collect. The same goes for a visit to Rock Gun where a cannon barrel on a disintegrated wooden carriage was spotted. Visits to Buffadero have also allowed us to keep an eye on the Rock Model (sister to the one housed in the Gibraltar Museum) which, although in need of extensive restoration, is stable and protected from the elements. There was a plan a few years ago to move this model to Grand Battery with plans being presented at DPC as a Government project. This is something that the Trust is still keen to see happen so that the model's long term future is guaranteed and so that it is accessible to many more people.

There has also been much improved lines of communication on forthcoming MOD projects, which through this forum and together with the open Development and Planning Process, has facilitated a number of good heritage management outcomes. For instance, what is known as Building 56 within the Naval Base has undergone a sympathetic renovation which included repair (or replacement where necessary) of windows and doors, and the replacement of the roof with a heritage and environmentally sustainable mock- slate

material- which has not only improved the environmental performance of the building, but also restored its appearance within its historic setting.

Another success story is that of Building 50 - known as the Timber Shed also within the Naval Base. We were approached with the view that it was surplus to MOD requirements and the intention was to demolish it to make way for further car parking. Through consultations and discussions, a new use was found for the shed as the new armoury and pass office which has facilitated the repair of the main structure of the building and the new facility being built within it. Although the Timber Shed is not a building that impresses architecturally, it was an integral part of a functioning Naval Base and with this new use will continue to be so for the foreseeable future.



Building 50, on Tower Road



*Police Pass Post at the
MOD Dockyard*

We have also been liaising on the details of the conversion of the shell store at Ragged Staff into the new Gibraltar Services Police headquarters. Here, JBS have done a great job on retaining internal features such as original iron work. The windows and door replacements are also well proportioned timber replacements that work to retain the character of the building. Memorial plaques that were on the exterior of the building and were being damaged by vehicle movements in the area have also been removed, cleaned and restored and placed at the American War Memorial.

However, not all are good news. One other building within the estate that is at risk is that of the Police Post at the North entrance to the Dockyard. This building, although small, is what remains of the Dockyard North Gate. At present the MOD position is that there is no use for the building which is also narrowing access on what will be one of the main vehicle entrances into the base. The Trust, together with the Ministry for Heritage have been liaising with MOD officials and suggesting alternative uses for the building which has ranged from storage, to bicycle parking, to a plant/ server room, but so far there has been no progress. The roof of the building is currently being held up internally by props, but we do not think that the building is past the point of repair. Many of the timbers can be replaced to allow reroofing and a reuse of the building. We have made Government aware of our views and continue to monitor the situation very closely.



*Claire Montado CEO of
The Gibraltar Heritage Trust,
signing the letter of agreement*

We have a working relationship with the University of Gibraltar on a number of levels. The Trust is represented on the Library Forum which is looking to create a unified database of Gibraltar related publications and material that is accessible and freely searchable. Through this forum progress is being made on bringing together all Gibraltar focused research institutions and organisations under the umbrella of the University. There is also a desire to create a Gibraltar Repository of Gibraltar related material to assist and promote research on Gibraltar. Focus at this early stage is on creating a solid structure upon which to marry the information.

The Gibraltar Heritage Trust also recently signed a Letter of Agreement with the University that aims to establish a basis of mutual understanding and cooperation. It is important for the Trust, that although this cooperation happens naturally anyway, that it is also formally established for the sake of continuity.

26th Annual Painting Competition

Our 26th Open Air Painting competition took place at the end of May. This year's theme and venue was North Front Cemetery. As usual, the support by local artists was good on the day and also in the run-up to the event the competition was entered by various schools.

The judges for this year were John Langdon, Genevieve Whiteland and Gino Sanguinetti who had a difficult task selecting the winners of the various sections.

The Winners were:

Children's Section

1st Prize - Finlay Savignnon-Watson

Junior Section

1st Prize - James Mir

2nd Prize - Axel Villa

3rd Prize - Matthew Bosano

Highly Commended - Kevin Bellido

Senior Section

1st Prize - Fco. Javier Perez Plata

2nd Prize - Vin Mifsud

3rd Prize - David Staunton Browne

Highly Commended - Sarah Devincenzi

Lorraine Buhagiar



*Artists receiving their Prizes at the Main Guard, 2015
presented by His Excellency the Governor Sir Jim Dutton*

The David Gladstone Prize for the most promising artist: Fco. Javier Perez.

The prizes were presented by His Excellency Sir Jim Dutton at the Main Guard and the entries were exhibited for a week.

Heritage Awards & Dinner



Successful Nominees receiving their Awards in 2015

This year two individual awards were given, and three group awards.

The first **Individual Heritage Award** was awarded to **Mr Brian Gomila** for the promotion of education on Gibraltar's natural heritage through 'Monkey Talk' outings and events. These events have been running since 2012 when Mr Gomila, a qualified primatologist, started

them as a hobby which has grown into a wider educational programme that is now reaching into schools and a formal tour option for visitors to Gibraltar.

The second **Individual Heritage Award** was awarded to **Dr. Sam Benady** and **Mrs Mary Chiappe** for their series of historical fiction novels the 'Bresciano Mysteries'. These novels set in 18th Century Gibraltar, are thoroughly researched and although the course of events are fictitious, bring the period vividly to life.

The **Group Heritage Award** was awarded to **Jew's Gate Cemetery** for the sensitive installation of raised walkways and improved access to this historic site. There were a number of engineering and visitor requirements for this site which have all been addressed in an intelligent manner through the installation of these walkways which allow visitor circulation, places for pause for prayer and reflection, whilst facilitating easy access for the conservation and maintenance of the site.

The second **Group Heritage Award** was awarded to **Gibraltar International Bank** for the sensitive conversion of the Ince's Hall into the G.I.B. head office. The conversion of this side of the Ince's Hall complex and patio from offices and when it was last used as a nightclub has given a complete refocus to this previously tired looking complex. Many features of the building have been recovered, exposed and reused within the conversion project.

The third **Group Heritage Award** was awarded to **University of Gibraltar** for the conversion of the Bomb Proof Barracks into a 21st Century higher education facility. This area of barracks, and defensive walls have been unified in such a way as to provide the facilities required for the University, whilst retaining and exposing the significant historical monuments and at the same time accounting for the often harsh environment at Europa Point.

Members Visits

This year there was another varied programme of visits arranged for the benefit of the membership. Many areas of Gibraltar were covered including Rosia Bay and its environs, Hesse Pumping Station, Harding's Battery, The National Archives, The Dockyard Tower, Parson's Lodge and the Waterworks. The programme also included some interesting and informative walks around the Old Town led by Richard Garcia and Manolo Galliano.



A Tour of the Hesses Pumping Station

Fortress of Gibraltar Group

The Trust has created an affiliation with the newly created Fortress of Gibraltar Group (FOGG). This is a small group of local Trust members with an interest in the history of Gibraltar's defences. In conjunction with the Trust they are currently undertaking a massive project of researching, visiting, and recording WWII defences. All their findings are being methodically recorded digitally and in graphic form to ensure this part of our heritage is kept for posterity.



A Tour of the Northern Defences

The Northern Defences

After extensive refurbishment and beautification work by HMGoG, the Northern Defences were opened to the public on the basis of guided tours. The Government requested the Trust to organise the visits and to provide guides. Members of the Fortress of the Gibraltar Group and some Trustees, in conjunction with Carl Viagas Government Project Director, volunteered their time to conduct the tours. The demand was so great that

on the majority of days we had to organise more than one tour. The response from the public was fantastic. Everyone who attended were very impressed with the work that has been carried out and how impressive the site is. Further works are being presently carried out to extend the areas of public access. To date over 500 visitors have been guided through the site.

Night Conversation Sessions & Quarterly Debates



Heritage members visiting the Gibraltar National Archives

In October 2014 we started a series of night conversation sessions where members can bring along ideas and also learn more in depth about the work of the Trust. These were held regularly with a reasonable attendance. Following on from feedback from attendees, we structured the Night Conversation events to be talks of general historic interest. We have held talks on subjects as diverse as the History of the Fire Service, the development of Gibraltar's Architecture, the work of the National Archives, the history of Europe Point and

had an update on the progress of the bid for UNESCO status for the Gorham's Cave complex and Neanderthal landscape.

We have also recently additionally developed and launched a series of debate nights to discuss key development and heritage preservation issues. The first of these debates was themed on whether a sensitive balance between preservation of our Heritage and the drive for urban development could be achieved - essentially a preservation versus profit debate. The second, which has recently taken place, was on the theme of views and vistas and Gibraltar's developing skyline. Although still in their infancy, these debate sessions have been well attended by professionals working in the development scene as well as members of GoG departments involved in guiding and encouraging Gibraltar's growth. We have also been able to offer CPD certificates for those wishing to use these towards their Professional Development requirements. We look forward to seeing these events grow in popularity and perhaps stimulate debate on the direction of heritage preservation in Gibraltar.

Heritage Craft Club

A long term aim of the Trust has been to increase the offering of heritage related education to our younger generations. Last summer we offered heritage themed craft classes for 7-11 year olds as part of the Summer Sports and Leisure Programme. These were so popular and well attended that we decided to continue to run them into the school term. A year on we have a regular



Children's crafts on display at the Main Guard

group of 8 children who attend weekly sessions. The classes are run by volunteers Sarah Devincenzi and Eli Farrell and have covered a wide range of topics. Children have learnt about the Neanderthals, Gibraltar's Lighthouse, The Moorish Castle, Gibraltar's Railways, Traditional Uniforms and Costumes, Theatres and Cinemas and most recently the Referendum. Plans are already in hand for the continuance of the programme this summer.

FoGS Visit

The Friends of Gibraltar Society annual visit to Gibraltar in June went very well once again. The FoGS had a very full programme of social engagements, visits and tours which were enjoyed by all.

In October, Delilah Smith attended the FoGS annual seminar in Winchester where she gave her Chairman's Report on the work of the Trust to those present. Her presentation was very well received with some positive project collaborations being confirmed.

Calendar

The 2016 Calendar has been a total success and sold out ahead of Christmas. The 20th edition of the popular calendar sees a return to the classic theme of historic views of Gibraltar.



Our 2016 Calendar

The publication presented historical views from different angles and perspectives. Collected were views from the West, South, North and East, looking down from the top of the Rock, or in from the Harbour, across towards the Rock from the isthmus, and illustrations of special events and Royal visits. The calendar was also available for sale via our online shop.



Gibraltar Heritage Journal

Volume 21 of the Gibraltar Heritage Journal was published and went on sale ahead of the Christmas period. The last two editions of the journal are now also available from our online shop as a digital downloads either by the article or as a complete PDF copy.

Shop

Our shop at the Main Guard has been growing steadily in terms of the range of books, souvenirs and gifts that we stock. We have a number of bespoke ranges that are designed and produced exclusively for the Trust. A limited number of items are also available via our online shop. Don't forget to look in when you are next looking for that special gift.

UNDERGONE projects



*The Great Siege, available
in our Heritage Shop*

Great Siege Book

Following on from the drive to increase resources available for the teaching of local history, the Trust, through Trustee Keith Sheriff, and with the financial support of the Department of Education, published a text book on Gibraltar's Great Siege for distribution and use in local schools. The book has been produced by the Heritage Trust and the Department of Education. This school text book, aimed at Key Stage 2 School Children, breaks this critical episode in Gibraltar's history into 10 easily digestible topics that will undoubtedly spur the reader into wanting to discover more about this period of Gibraltar's history.

The book is highly illustrated with new resources and

maps and museum quality images and original artworks from the period. There is further support with an online website and learning resource (www.gibraltarheritagetrust.org.gi/explore/schools) that can be made use of in the classroom and at home to further support the learning process. The book has been very well received locally with it already in use in a number of schools. We hope to review the impact of the book and the resources provided with the aim of improving future editions and other study topics already in the pipeline.

In addition, The Gibraltar Heritage Trust in conjunction with Manolo Galliano recently published their own book regarding the turbulent history of Saint Mary the Crowned, Mosque, Church and Cathedral. The book is titled **"Under The Shadow Of The Crescent and The Cross"** and is available to purchase in our shop, all proceeds go towards the work of the Gibraltar Heritage Trust.

Evacuation Facsimile Cards

In December, the Trust has presented all first and middle schools with facsimile Evacuation Scheme Identity and Embarkation Cards. The cards, one for each pupil in each school, were produced by the Trust as a small memento for each child of this important event in Gibraltar's history. The cards include a brief summary of events of the



Evacuation Facsimile Cards

Evacuation and Repatriation of the Gibraltarians during the period. We hope that they are useful to students in studying and remembering some of the facts of the Evacuation.



Box Car pre-restoration



Adding the finishing touches

Box Car Restoration

A major project for the Trust in the last year has been the completion of the restoration of the last known surviving railway boxcar in Gibraltar.

Gibraltar had an extensive railway system within the Gibraltar Dockyard and neighbouring works and storage facilities. It included tunnels, one of which traversed through the Rock. At the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries there was also a temporary industrial railway in Gibraltar. At the period when both railways were operational, it was possible to travel right round the entire coastline of Gibraltar by train. The dockyard railway had a roster of 17 locomotives, distinguished by numbers, but four of which also carried names: Gibraltar, Catalan, Rosia, and Calpe.

Work on the project commenced in early July 2014 when local carpentry and joinery firm, Rock Joinery, who are carrying out the project on behalf of the Trust, carefully dismantled the boxcar where it stood in its siding in Dutch Magazine Gorge. Each piece was painstakingly labelled, every nut and bolt and bracket carefully removed and taken off site for safe storage. GibDock then provided the necessary support to remove the undercarriages into their yard in the Dockyard where they have been sandblasted to remove the rust and reconditioned ready for reconstruction of the carriage. The pieces were then moved to the premises of the Gibraltar Electrical and Mechanical Services yard where they were reconstructed by the Rock Joinery team. The process was a slow one because the team reused as much of the original timber as possible. This entailed stripping, filling and reconditioning each and every piece, making a replacement using the original as a template where this was not possible and putting it all back together following the drawings and notes made on disassembly. Once complete the boxcar and associated items were displayed in John Mackintosh Square for a month before being moved to its current location at Ragged Staff. We hope to move it again to a more prominent location in the near future. This project has at long last recovered a piece of our industrial and little known railway heritage for all to see and appreciate.

Our thanks once again to all those involved in the progress of this project - GibDock, Rock Joinery, GMES, Government of Gibraltar and Gil Podesta.

UPCOMING projects



*Witham's Cemetery,
in its current state*

Witham's Cemetery Project

The Trust has been acting as the liaison to bring about action on this long dilapidated cemetery.

Earlier this year we announced the commencement of a project to clear, improve access to, and restore Witham's Cemetery. The first phase, vegetation clearance, was kicked off by troops from a visiting Squadron from 10th Signal Regiment. Later on this year, Reafina, the contractor for the adjacent Plata Villa development, will construct a new entrance and pathway that will improve access to the site, which at the moment is a cul-de-sac with only one entrance at its northern end.

Witham's Cemetery houses the graves of over 300 people of all ages who died between 1765 and 1850. These were not only men in the services, the majority of the graves being those of their wives and children. Gibraltar was a Garrison in conflict for many years and living conditions were harsh and unsanitary - the supply of clean water being a particular problem. Many of the vulnerable died in 1787 in a smallpox epidemic and there are many graves of young children from this time. The cemetery has been long abandoned with some graves having been moved to North Front Cemetery about 20 years ago, but the vast majority of graves remain. Research is ongoing to locate the names of all those buried there as in many cases the tombstones have fallen foul of vandals - however, many do still survive in good condition. The area has, over many years, been the subject of clean ups instigated by the Gibraltar Heritage Trust, the Environmental Safety Group, Scouts and Guides amongst others, but we have always maintained the determination to find a lasting solution for this historic site.

The support received so far has been excellent. Initially from Alex Dobbs and Alaine Navarro who put together a scheme for the cemetery, to the support from Reafina who refined and took the scheme on, to support from the Ministries for Heritage and the Environment. There's still a long way to go. We have also had confirmation that the

Friends of Gibraltar will be sponsoring the restoration of approximately 20 tombstones in the initial phase of the project, however the restoration of all the tombstones will be a long term project that will run over a number of years, so we will be looking for further sponsorship in the future as well as the involvement of volunteers to help with minor works in the cemetery.

The list of those contributing to the project is growing, but the Heritage Trust would at this stage like to thank Reafina, Royal Signals, David Seed, Greenarc, Anglo Hispano and the Ministries for Heritage and Environment for their support to date as well as Community Projects who have lent their support to the cemetery maintenance over the years. If you wish to make a donation towards the project you can do so via the Trust's website, by cheque or by popping into the Main Guard.

FINANCIAL summary

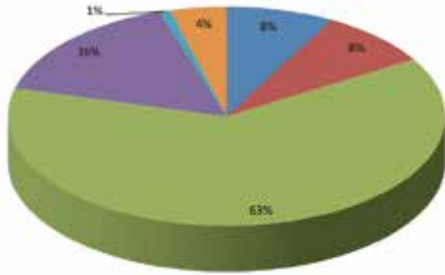
The Trust's total income in financial year 2014/15 amounted to £127,775, a major component being the grant from the Government of Gibraltar which goes towards staff and administrative costs. Included in this are income from sales, sponsorships for events and income from memberships and donations. Figures show a loss of expenditure over income. This is due to projected required expenditure related to the restoration and refurbishment of the Main Guard and also the Box Car restoration project.

Areas of the Trust's income and expenditure are analysed in the charts below. The Trust's expenditure in 2014/15 totalled £167,625, which resulted in a net operating loss for the year of £39,850.

The detailed accounts for the period have been audited and certified by the Principal Auditor and been submitted to the Minister for Heritage for presentation to Parliament as required by the Gibraltar Heritage Trust Act 1989.

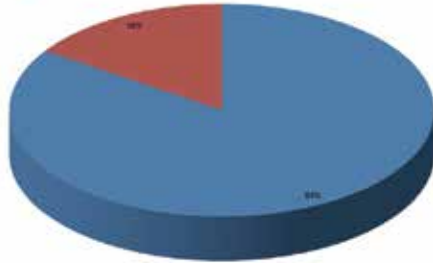
Analysis of Income 2014/15

Member Subscriptions Donations Grant from GoG
Sales Sponsorships Miscellaneous

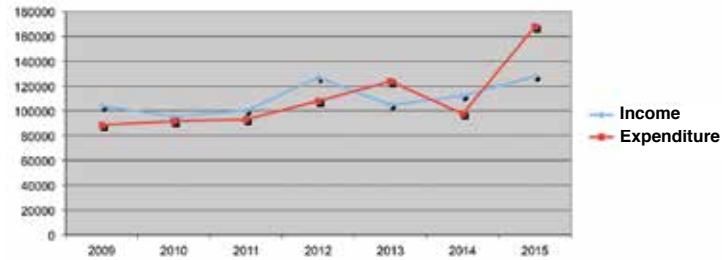


Analysis of Expenditure 2014/15

Projects & Services Operating Costs (including staff)

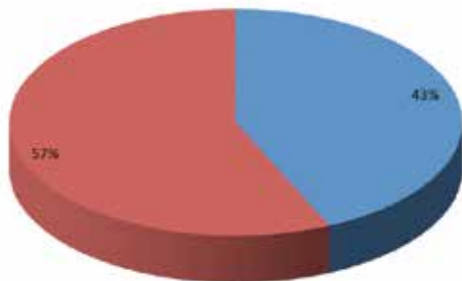


Income v. Expenditure 2014/15

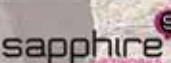
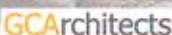
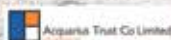


Analysis of Income v. Expenditure 2014/15

Income Expenditure



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