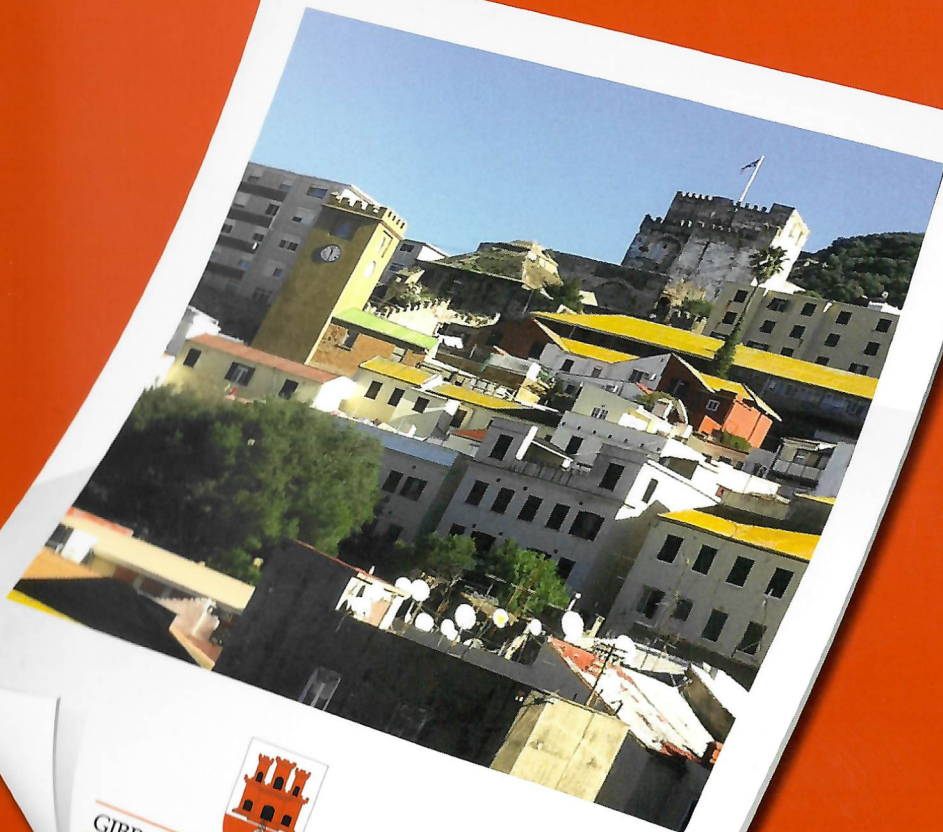


GIBRALTAR HERITAGE TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT

2011/2012



GIBRALTAR HERITAGE TRUST

The Trust's office is at:
The Main Guard
13 John Mackintosh Square
Gibraltar

The Board of Trustees for the period covered by this report consisted of:

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Mr Alexis Almeda MBE
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The Trust's officers for the period were:

Chief Executive

Mrs Claire Montado

Administration

Mrs Germaine Smart

Retail Officer

Mrs Sally Fox (to June 2012)
Ms Stephanie Chipolina (From Oct 2012)

Hon Treasurer

Mr Roy Harding FCIS

Cover Photo Credit: Michael J. Smith



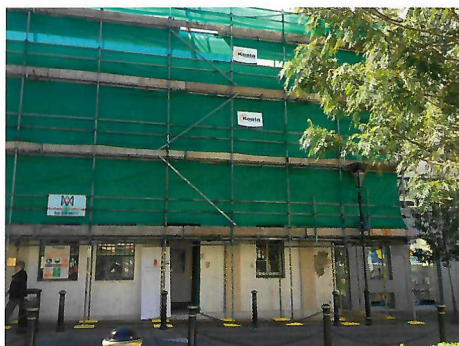
YEAR IN REVIEW

This report covers the period from the Gibraltar Heritage Trust's (Trust) Annual

General Meeting in December 2011 to 31st December 2012.

UPDATES:

The Main Guard



Trust Exterior

There is movement on this front at long last. The project received planning permission from the Development and Planning Commission at the end of November and works have commenced. The initial works will be to the roof, and entail a complete restoration of it addressing all structural and long standing water ingress issues. It is hoped that the works will be completed over a period of 3 months and that the full restoration of the building will follow in the coming year. Once up to spec, we have exciting plans for the use of the ground floor, ones that we hope you as members will engage with and become regular users of our building.

Apart from being the heart of the Trust's operations, the Main Guard building is also one of the oldest buildings in the town, its ground floor dating as it does to at least 1753. We are grateful to the

Government of Gibraltar for making the funding available for this essential work to happen and in doing so investing in the future of this aspect of Gibraltar's unique heritage.



Props support ceiling during works.



Refurbished shop now open on the ground floor.

LIASON WITH GOVERNMENT:

The DPC

The new open format of the DPC ensures that the voice of the Trust is heard with respect to planning matters. The Trust takes its responsibility as a voting member on the

DPC very seriously and endeavour for our input to be consistent and fair on as many levels as possible. We recognise that Gibraltar is a thriving city that needs space

to grow, but we also feel that this growth should not be at the cost of our built heritage, views and vistas and open spaces. Finding the right balance is a very difficult line to tread. Gibraltar's old town, fortifications and historic buildings are part of what makes us unique as a place, people and community and we have a duty towards their preservation for future generations.

At the start of the year a sub-committee of the DPC was also established to deal with minor applications in order to implement a fast track system for small works such as internal alterations, shop signage, etc. The Trust has been included on the committee as it felt that it is often in the small applications that authentic features on buildings are removed, covered over or gradually eroded. The subcommittee consists of the Town Planner and his Deputy and a representative from the Gibraltar Heritage Trust. It meets on a nearly weekly basis to consider applications and feedback from the planners and applicants is that it is working well. A continuing issue for the Trust is enforcement of conditions, but this is something that is being actively pursued by the Town Planning Department who have recently recruited two assistant planners to deal with this and other matters.

There have been 12 meetings of the Development and Planning Commission in the period that this report covers. All the agendas and minutes of the outcome of those meetings are available on the Government's website www.gibraltar.gov.gi/dpc however here we summarise a number of significant applications where the Trust has worked closely with applicants, Government and contractors towards a heritage friendly outcome. It is sometimes difficult for the Trust to communicate the outcome of our work as often our input is a process working

with stakeholders to arrive at a mutually satisfactory end. This often entails compromise on all sides, but the Trust has a number of policies and redlines that it endeavors to adhere to.

One of the Trust's main principles in reuse of old buildings is that of the sustainability of the project through its intended use and the retention and restoration of authentic features in a building. The latter is often the hardest to achieve. There is a myriad of fire, health and safety, accessibility regulations (to name but a few) that need to be navigated. We have good working relationships with Government Departments and other consultative bodies to the planning process which goes a long way towards helping. However, in the absence of modern heritage protection legislation and administrative framework for its enforcement, the Trust maintains that Gibraltar lacks the structure and dedicated resources to take forward heritage management in an integrated way. Under the current Act the Gibraltar Heritage Trust is tasked with the protection, preservation and conservation of Gibraltar's heritage. This includes a legal requirement for consultation ahead of any works to listed buildings or monuments and the issue of a license to anyone wanting to carry out works on said listed buildings.

In addition to this, the Trust's seat on the Development and Planning Commission means we input into proposed developments and the detail of conditions on developments or building refurbishments through this process. For an applicant to undertake any building works in Gibraltar, they require a planning permit which will come with its conditions as is the case in the UK and other countries. When a building is listed, it requires a further Heritage License for the works ahead of any works starting.

A deficiency of the current Heritage Act is the lack of listed buildings. There are only 9 in the town area under Category B, a few more if you include those under Category A which are mainly parts of batteries or barracks that form part of the fortifications of Gibraltar, but listing of our vernacular architecture is sparse. You would be forgiven for thinking that buildings you might automatically assume to be listed are not, for example the Mount, the City Hall, the Central Police Station, Old Colonial Hospital and other such buildings of the same caliber. In this legislative vacuum, works are controlled through the planning system, and, by working with departments and interested parties we do see positive results, but this is a system that is based on good working relationships rather than law and set procedures and policies and is not sustainable in the long run. This is the real



The Mount



Central Police Station



*Old Colonial
(Ex St. Bernard's) Hospital*

Some notable applications in the last 12 months have been:

Dutch Magazine, Rosia Road – Proposed alterations and change of use from store to media studio.

The application related to the rooms below the Dutch Magazine itself that are accessed via the railway gorge. The application was approved subject to the retention of the

reason for the need for a new Heritage Act that will provide the framework for listing and the legal instruments by which to enforce such protection. We must not forget the reason for listing a building, wall, monument or fortification is not to stop any changes from ever being carried out to it, but rather to ensure that the changes are managed in a way that will ensure the prolonged preservation of the building, use of quality materials and design and in doing so ensure its survival and relevance to society for further generations. The Trust is working with Government on improving information flows to all interested parties at an early stage in any development where a historic building or site is concerned. It is vital that the heritage significance is put across to developers and individuals at an early stage if there is to be a real meaningful outcome.

railway tracks with at least part exposed for display purposes, and the retention of the timber doors. The overhead gantry crane was also to be retained.

2 & 3 Kavanagh's Court – Proposed demolition of existing buildings and redevelopment for residential and associated car parking.

The site consists of 2 and 3 storey properties in very poor condition, sharing communal bathrooms, cramped rooms with accumulations of debris and collapsed building materials. It was important to the Trust that the site remained as residential and to reflect as much of Gibraltar's vernacular architecture as possible. Having already refused an earlier application for a multistorey car park on the site, the Commission approved the application with conditions on public participation to apply at full stage, digital record of site, and provision of swift nests.



Kavanagh's Court

Loreto Convent School, 13 Europa Road – Proposed replacement of windows and shutters on external facades.

The request was for permission to use UPVC windows as replacement despite the Development Plan stating that all replacements need to be on a like for like basis. Although the building is not listed it is has historical character and the windows should be of timber material to retain the character of the building. The Development Plan policy was upheld.

The Deanery, 11 Bomb House Lane – Proposed refurbishment and extension, demolition of extensions

The Trust was very much involved in the progress of this application. The application to refurbish the building was welcomed, but the desire to demolish the extensions on the southern end of the building caused a great deal of debate. The Heritage Trust and the Ministry for Heritage concluded that the extensions although of the early 18th century had no historical function and were of little streetscape value but the reasons given for demolition, a larger patio and proposed pool and parking space, did not convince the Trust of the need for demolition. An archaeological watchin brief was required for any digging operations. In the end the decision to demolish went to a vote at the DPC and the application was approved with the demolition by a majority of 7 to 2.

3 Secretary's Lane – Proposed redevelopment with 8 storey office building and open space.

The Trust objected to the demolition of the existing building as it was against the Development Plan policy and would set a precedent for the demolition of similar buildings in the old town. The application was rejected.

Commonwealth Parade – Proposed public park.

After having given its views on the proposal to widen an existing breach in the City Walls (which are a listed monument), the Trust worked closely with Government and designers to find a way to satisfy access requirements and also avoid any further alterations to the walls. The results are satisfactory to all parties. The City Wall will be respected as there will be no further widening of the existing breach. Access will be eased with the installation of a glass

lift onto a viewing platform in front of the wall which will provide circulation space for wheelchair users and prams.

Outline - The Island, Queensway – Proposed detached house.

An application to build a further detached house in the gap between the quay side and the Island development at Queensway Quay was refused on the grounds of a negative impact on the marina in terms of natural and heritage conservation and an over development of the area.

38 Admiral's Place – Proposed extension and re-use of chimney stack.

The Commission approved this application subject to the chimney being designed sympathetically to the others in the estate.

Giralda Gardens, Smith Dorrien Avenue – Proposed extension to Petanque Club Premises and disabled ramp - GoG Project.

This item is still ongoing. As a Government project, it is taken to the DPC for guidance rather than permission, however the Trust's objections to building further extensions on a listed monument have led to the application being carried forward pending further discussions on what would be acceptable at the site. The Trust maintains that the Petanque Club have outgrown the site and what they now need is a larger area in order to cater for the larger clubhouse they require. It has been a long standing policy that there is to be no further building on the City Walls, in fact the impetus has been to declutter and expose them as the monument that they are. The difficulty comes in giving these sites a use as it is in

nobody's interest to have a dilapidated site on the city walls, and if user groups such as the Petanque Club can make use of the area, all the better. The Trust is actively working with Government and the Petanque Club to find a way forwards on this matter.

Wellington Front refurbishment scheme (GOG project)

This GoG project has had a long consultation history with the Trust over the last few years. The move to beautify this long neglected bastion has been a long time coming. After agreeing on the concept of clearing the top of the walls as a walk or linear park to include a cycle lane and the vaults to be given as premises to various user groups and clubs, the detail of the scheme has been looked at. A major problem is the flooding of the site in heavy rains. A scheme has been devised to alleviate this which involves the use of one of the casemates to house the pumping equipment and outlet that will address this problem. Working together with Government's Technical Services Department, the architect and the Ministry for Heritage, we are looking at the detail of how all of this is achieved without compromising the fortification. Many of the World War II emplacements were removed suddenly a few years ago as they were causing serious water penetration issues to the vaults below. The remaining emplacements are to be kept and interpreted as part of the evolution of the bastion, the requirement to keep them has been reinforced through specifications and conditions in the heritage license issued as part of the course for works on a listed monument. Newer builds and accretions on the lower parts of the site will be removed, and in doing so will expose historical features such as powder & shell magazines.

The Trust will continue to keep a watching brief on the project and work with Town Planners to produce, as has been done with other similar restoration projects, a design guide to advise end-users on acceptable signage, placement of air-conditioning units etc in order to maintain a uniform finish to the project into the future.

1B Engineer Road – Proposed conversion of 2 storey house into 4 storey house.

During works on the approved scheme for the above property, a Second World War observation post was revealed in the garden area. After consultation with Town Planning, the Heritage Agency and the architect for the applicant, it was agreed that the bunker was to be retained and incorporated into the scheme.



WWII observation post at Engineer Road

American Memorial Steps, Reclamation Road – Proposed handrail.

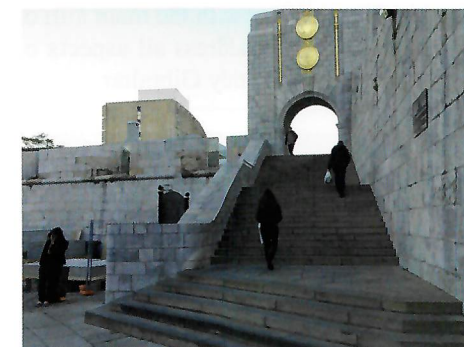
Close liaison between the Heritage Trust, Ministry for Heritage and Technical Services Department have resulted in the installation of a discreet handrail on the American War Memorial steps.



Beaulieu House

Beaulieu House, 12 Europa Road – Proposed alterations, rear extension and new vehicular access.

This is a property that the Trust has been highly concerned about for many years, but especially since it was released for sale by Tender in 2004, since which time it has remained empty and with minimal maintenance. The proposal to build a 2 storey extension on the building, but using the natural terraces of the garden, was a concept that had not been tabled before. If this building could take an extension this was probably the best way to do it. The main building was to be refurbished and restored, and through meetings with the applicant, it was agreed that original features within the house would be kept. Window proportions on the western elevation that were to be changed would not be, and would be kept in their original state.



American Memorial Steps

The application was approved subject to further investigation on trees in the grounds and the Trust is hopeful that this building would at last see some long needed investment and once again become a family home.

Unit 7, 3 Calpe Road – Proposed loft conversion, front and rear dormer windows and rear spiral staircase.

The Trust objected to a number of features of this loft conversion, namely the desire to install Dormer windows on the west and eastern side of the roof, and a spiral staircase at the rear to provide an alternative means of escape required by the Fire Department.

The DPC did not approve any windows or skylights on the west face roof line,

however a vote on allowing Dormer windows at the rear of the property was lost by 4:3 in favour of their installation. The installation of the emergency staircase was also seen by the Trust as unnecessary as there are plenty of loft conversions carried out the world over that do not have this requirement, and especially in a building of heritage value. The application was approved and now has set an unacceptable precedent in the eyes of the Trust for all these properties to carry out the same conversion. There have to be other ways that the safety of the home owner can be guaranteed without the need to attach such a structure to the rear of the building. The Trust is exploring this avenue with a view to finding a way forward should there be future applications of the same type.

THE LITTER COMMITTEE

The Trust has a seat on the Governments recently created Litter Committee. The committee, which meets frequently and regularly, is composed of representatives from many agencies, departments and companies that are some way involved with keeping Gibraltar tidy with the main aim of pooling resources to address all aspects of achieving a clean and tidy Gibraltar.

Our historic monuments play a big part in this. Many of these sites lie in a state of dilapidation and neglect, many of them purely because their care has not been resourced or tasked to any body. The Heritage Trust compiled a comprehensive report of heritage sensitive sites around



Tovey Battery Before



Tovey Battery in progress

Gibraltar that are hotspots for fly tipping, dumping, and in need of a superficial clean or a more comprehensive project with a view to starting to make inroads into these longstanding problems. As a result of our report a team from Master Services has started to tackle many of the identified sites. So far Tovey's Battery has seen a total transformation with Farrington's Battery and West Place of Arms also receiving the same treatment. This initial clearance has to be seen as what it is, phase 1 of any eventual beautification project to these sites, but the potential of this focus and energy to recover many of our heritage sites is clear. Some preliminary works are due to start at the entrance to the Northern Defences very soon, starting the ball rolling on another longstanding neglected heritage asset.



West Place of Arms

The challenge will be to keep up the momentum and secure a 'phase 2' for each of these sites. This collaborative formula is showing very positive results, but there is a long road ahead.



West Place of Arms



Farrington's Battery before painting

HERITAGE ACTION COMMITTEE

The Trust continues to sit on the HAC. Frequency of meetings have increased and there are a number of projects and issues that are being tackled through this forum which has value in that it brings all of the

that it brings all of the Departments, Agencies and bodies that deal with heritage together on a regular basis in the presence of the Minister for Heritage.

CEMETERIES VISITOR BOARD

The Trust has become increasingly concerned at the way many historic graves at the North Front Cemetery are seemingly treated. Many are being lost as space is required to fulfill the requests for plots within the cemetery. There are a number of historically significant graves within the



cemetery and also a number of monuments which have heritage value in themselves. The Trust's concerns are not so much at the fact that these graves might need to be cleared away, that is



Unique & beautiful monuments understandable in a functioning cemetery, but rather the manner in which they are cleared and the way the monuments are treated in the process. As a result of our concerns being made to the Minister for the Environment, under whose responsibility the Cemetery falls, the Cemeteries Visitor

Board has been reconstituted after not having met for many years and the Trust has a seat on the Board. The Board is yet to meet, but it is hoped that this body will be able to work together with the Superintendent of Cemeteries to find a way forward that will meet the needs of a functioning cemetery and also respect the heritage value of the site and monuments therein.



Areas being cleared for reuse

LIASON WITH THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

The Trust continues to maintain good links with the Ministry of Defence and its land agents. The MOD has recently presented its Integrated Rural Management Plan (IRMP) for the management of its estate within Gibraltar. There are a high density of heritage sensitive buildings and installations within the estate that the Trust

is keen to be treated in the appropriate manner. The Trust was consulted during the drafting of the IRMP and asked to give our input. We are committed to working together with the MOD to achieve the aims and best practice targets set within the document as they are in the best interests of Gibraltar's Heritage.

ANNUAL EVENTS

23rd Annual Painting Competition

Our Painting competition took place in May. The theme was Catalan Bay, a revisit to the site since it was last held there in 2003. As always there was good support in entries on the day and also from the schools, specifically St. Anne's Middle School, Loreto Convent and the Hebrew Primary School. There was a good mix of new comers to the event and the adjudicator, Mario Finlayson, had a tough job on his hands.



A new award was introduced this year in memory of the late David Gladstone, an energetic artist who always supported the competition year in and year out. The David Gladstone Award was presented to the artist who in the adjudicator's view showed the most promise. The award will become an annual prize of the event. Our thanks to Chesterton Property Management Ltd who for a second year running donated the prizes for the children and junior section of the competition.

In the Adult Section the prizes went to:

1st Prize	Jenifer Munton
2nd Prize	Lorraine Buhagiar
3rd Prize	Vin Mifsud

Junior Section:

1st Prize	Natalie Olesen
2nd Prize	Amy Montovio
3rd Prize	Erika Mackintosh
Highly Commended	Marta Gomez Pabon Claudia Szabo

HERITAGE AWARDS & DINNER

The Trust's annual Heritage Awards saw a change this year with its association with the Trust's annual dinner. The Trust held its first dinner for the membership in 2011 and built on its success to repeat it this year, this time with a guest speaker from outside Gibraltar.

The blacktie dinner took place in the Rock Hotel's Khaima and was attended by the Minister for Heritage, Minister for the Environment and HE the Governor and guest speaker Mr John Lippiett, the CEO of the UK based Mary Rose Trust. Following the dinner, Mr Lippiett gave a most engaging presentation on the work of the Mary Rose Trust which is the preservation of the Mary Rose, King Henry VIII's warship in Portsmouth's Historic Dockyard. Mr Lippiett also shared his

Children's Section:

1st Prize	Edana Marrache
2nd Prize	Emma Dean
3rd Prize	Sam Miller
Highly Commended	Shilat Bentata Grace Macniver Bathseva Schicha

The David Gladstone Prize for the most promising artist went to: Elianna Medici



Prize Winners at the Presentation Ceremony

thoughts on the potential of Gibraltar's heritage to attract investment.

The multi million pound Mary Rose project is engaging with visitors and inspiring the public whilst telling the fascinating story of the Mary Rose and telling the story of life in Tudor England. Mr Lippiett shared his experiences and the ethos behind such a project and the power of heritage in shaping lives and providing learning experiences. The model of the Mary Rose project is one that could be paralleled in Gibraltar on a number of projects such as the Northern Defences or the restoration of the Moorish Castle and its conversion into a major tourist attraction and is something that the Trust is keen to look into further.

The main aim of the annual dinner is to bring Trust members together in a social context where the topic of conversation for the evening is Gibraltar's heritage and its preservation. With this in mind it was thought to be the perfect forum for the presentation of the annual Heritage Awards which aim to do precisely that, promote the enhancement and preservation of Gibraltar's heritage, mostly its built environment.



This year's Awards were presented by the Minister for Heritage, the Hon. Stephen Linares. Three individual awards were given, two group awards and one special commendation.

A Special Commendation was been awarded to The Convent, Gibraltar for the continuing programme of renovation and restoration works within that historic complex. The Convent is one of Gibraltar's oldest buildings dating back to the 16th Century. Maintenance of such a historic building is never ending and a number of

major refurbishments have been undertaken over the years, the last major one being in 1997 of the Ballroom, drawing room and small dining room by the Governor and Lady Luce. This latest programme has seen the repair of the roof and the restoration of the ballroom and other ancillary rooms.

An Individual Heritage Award was awarded to Mr Roy Harding for a decade of services to the Gibraltar Heritage Trust as Honorary Treasurer. Mr Harding has lent his services as Treasurer to the Trust for over 10 years, going beyond the call of duty on many occasions and still to this day investing many hours of his time in ensuring the Trust's Accounts are tightly managed. The second Individual Heritage Award of the evening was awarded to Mr. Tito Benady MBE for life-long dedication to researching and documenting Gibraltar's history and heritage. Mr Benady is well known as a learned local historian and as an authority on a number of periods and subjects in Gibraltar's history. The third Individual Heritage Award was awarded to Mr. Joseph Gingell for his book 'We Thank God and England' and associated research and compilation of archives. Mr Gingell researched and compiled information for the book over a 6 year period, during which time many evacuees were interviewed, and anecdotes, documents and photographs collected. Much of the material has been on public display in a photographic exhibition set up by Mr Gingell. This archive which he has amassed will be presented to the



Mr Roy Harding



Wayne Estella of HSE Consulting Ltd



HE The Governor received Special Commendation on behalf of the Convent

Gibraltar Archives for the benefit of researchers and Gibraltar as a whole. He has to date sold 3000 books all proceeds of which have gone to the Gibraltar branch of Cancer Research UK. Mr Gingell is currently compiling a supplementary booklet with material that did not make it into the book.

A Group Heritage Award was awarded to The Friends of Gibraltar Society for their continued and long standing support of Gibraltar's Heritage. Set up in 1987 as a charity devoted to the history and heritage of Gibraltar, it has in more recent years widened its focus to include cultural, political, business and recreational aspects of Gibraltar, however the Society's interest in Gibraltar's Heritage is undiminished.



Mr Tito Benady



Mr Joseph Gingell

MEMBER VISITS

The year has seen a varied programme with walks to the Northern Defences; a walk of the Ridge Defences on the Upper Rock; a trip on Siege Battlefield Tours 'Battle Bus' following the history of the Great Siege; a visit to Parson's Lodge; a Guided Tour of the Garrison Library and its collections; a visit to the Nefutsot Yehudah Synagogue in Bomb House Lane; a second visit to Parson's Lodge to



Synagogue visit

The second Group Heritage Award was awarded to HSE Consulting Ltd for the sensitive refurbishment of the exterior of 62-64 Irish Town. This building is one in a row of Merchants houses on the west side of Irish Town straddling this street and Linewall Road. Both facades of the building have been sensitively refurbished, maintaining the integrity of these streetscapes.

Regrettably there were no nominations in the junior award category. This is something we would like to encourage for future years as there are some good heritage related projects being carried out in our schools and youth groups. We want to hear about them!



Jerez Horse Show



Western Defences

view the Gorham's Cave excavation field laboratory in action; and a couple of ventures out into Spain, in particular to the



Garrison Library



Upper Ridge Defences

FRIENDS OF GIBRALTAR

Once again, a group of 30 Friends of Gibraltar Society (FOGS) members visited Gibraltar for a week in June. A comprehensive programme of tours and social activities was put together by the Trust. The programme included a visit to the Synagogue at Bomb House Lane, a visit to the works at Grand Battery and another to the works at the Royal Naval Hospital. A visit to British Forces Gibraltar at the Tower in the Dockyard, was followed by a trip to the ComCen. The group attended the



The FOGS at the ComCen

Jerez Horse Show. The Trust's second annual heritage dinner as reported on above was also a great success.



Parsons Lodge



Breccias below Parsons Lodge

Queen's Birthday Parade and were also given a guided tour of the old prison in the Moorish Castle. The Mayor Julio Alcantara also kindly hosted a reception at the City Hall. The week ended with a farewell reception at the Garrison Library. All in all it was a very successful week that served to further reinforce links with the Society.

FOGS Winchester seminar

Trustees Delilah Smith and Dr Keith Farrell both represented the Trust at the FOGS annual seminar and dinner in Winchester. At the event a report was given of the Trust activities over the past 12 months as well as a presentation on a holistic heritage management approach for Gibraltar. Both presentations were well received. A working meeting with the FOGS board was also attended where a number of possible collaborative projects were discussed.

PROJECTS

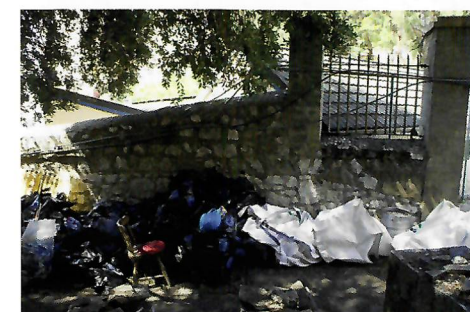
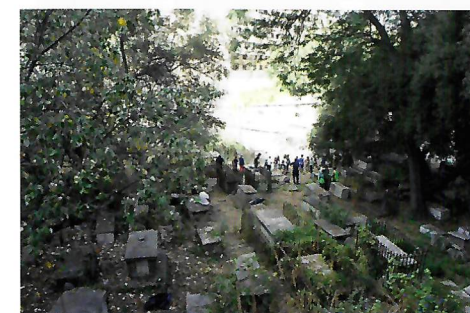
Devil's Gap

Last year's Clean Up the World project, Devil's Gap Battery, has been progressing over the last 12 months. With volunteer labour from various volunteer groups and individuals, the site has been cleared of graffiti and weeds and given a complete facelift. Thanks must be given to the small group of individuals who have consistently kept up the momentum on the site transforming it to what we have today. The Trust has fitted a couple of security gates to the lower chambers but there are a couple of other areas that need attention. We are hoping to give the site a use that involves the restoration of the battery and installation of replicas and interpretation, but it is early days as we are aiming to establish links with similar heritage organisations in the UK. What is clear from this project is the potential for volunteer groups to work towards recovering our heritage assets although we have learnt a number of valuable lessons along the way. Our thanks also to the Tourist Board for their support through the provision of paint and materials.

Clean Up the World

The Trust was proud to once again support the Clean Up the World campaign. Many of the derelict sites in Gibraltar have heritage significance either because they are part of a disused battery or fortification or because they are significant sites that have fallen out of use and been forgotten. Witham's Cemetery is one such site that has been neglected for many years. It is a historic cemetery with a number of notable people buried there such as Charles Buisson, first editor of the Gibraltar Chronicle, Gibraltar's first Vicar Apostolic. The

Cemetery itself has been cleaned on a number of occasions by voluntary groups such as the Scouts, the Army and the Trust itself and Community Projects do a clearance every 6 months, however the problem comes with how it is managed after it is cleared.



3rd Europa Scout Group make an impact on the cemetery

It is clear that the cemetery provides a green space in a very built up area. It is off the beaten tourist trail at present so does not attract visitors on a daily basis, but it is not in a fit state at the moment to be shown off anyway. The concept was to link it to the Plata Villa refurbishment project and create an access to it from the southern side, reinstate pathways and provide benches and make it a place that people might want to spend time, rather like Trafalgar Cemetery is today. The Government recently put Plata Villa out to tender. We await the outcome and see whether our plans will still be achievable.

There continues to be significant interest in the cemetery. The Trust receives enquiries from time to time from relatives of those possibly buried there. The Commonwealth War Graves Photographic Project is also very interested in adding the list of those in this cemetery to their international database which would open it up to enquiries, and possible visits, from around the world. There is a local volunteer who is carefully researching and documenting this information at the moment, not an easy task.

The Trust's contribution to this year's Clean Up targeted Witham's Cemetery with the help of some of our members and a great work force of around 40 3rd Europa Scouts and Explorers and Senior Section Guides. The difference made to the site in just one day was immense. The aim is to make the most of the clearance to document and survey the tombstones with a view to putting together a more concrete project.

Time Capsule

The Time Capsule project was conceived by the Gibraltar Heritage Trust as a way of marking the Queens Diamond Jubilee by capturing a snapshot of school life in Gibraltar.

Local schools were asked to contribute something to the capsule that reflects the life of the school and its pupils. Submissions have varied from schools prospecti, to pieces of art, to items of school uniform, to essays and predictions of life in 50 years time. It is hoped that the capsule will be unearthed and opened in 2062, perhaps by some of the children involved in its burial.

The capsule itself is made of stainless marine grade steel, and is sealed to be airtight. Every item has been carefully packed in archival grade polyester pockets which will hopefully prolong the life of the objects by providing a buffer between the different materials within the capsule. The biggest danger to the survival of the items is condensation within the capsule over the years, in an attempt to counteract this, all items, and the capsule itself, have been dehumidified as much as possible before going into the capsule... a challenge in itself due to the high humidity levels at this time of year. Only time will tell in what condition the contents of the capsule will survive, but they have been given every chance.



The Capsule ready for burial



Adding soil to bury the capsule

Time capsule contents:

- St. Bernards First School - uniform poloshirt, signed by all the teachers.
- St. Joseph's First School - school prospectus.
- St. Anne's Middle School - school prospectus.
- St. Mary's First school - class photograph of reception class and a school sweatshirt signed by all year 3 pupils.
- St. Paul's First School - predictions of themselves in 50 years time.
- Governor's Meadow School - sports day fun medal.
- Hebrew Primary School - photographs of the school and a school photograph.
- St Joseph's Middle school - a specially made mosaic of glass pebbles showing the Rock of Gibraltar.
- Bishop Fitzgerald Middle School - school photograph and predictions of what school will be like in 50 years time.

- Sacred Heart Middle School - assortment of artworks, pottery, a calculator, a protractor, a test tube and holder, a piece of maths works from an exercise book, school photographs.
- Notre Dame First School - selection of work by pupils and school handbook.
- Loretto Convent - year book and Christmas Card.
- Westside Secondary School - staff handbook, school glass paperweight.
- Bayside Secondary School - programme of play, parents handbook, student planner.

An index of contents and the days Gibraltar Chronicle and Panorama have also been included in the capsule.



Selection of items in the capsule

CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Trust has invested in a number of capital projects in the last 12 months.

Utopia Cross

Trust, in conjunction with the contractor Cruz Construction who carried out the works at cost, undertook to restore the Utopia Cross at North Front Cemetery.

The large marble cross, and associated ironwork marks the spot of the mass grave containing those who either drowned or died of their injuries during the catastrophe that was the sinking of the SS Utopia in the bay of Gibraltar in 1891. The Utopia was a transatlantic passenger steamship which collided with the HMS Anson in what an

enquiry into the accident blamed on a "grave error of judgment" of its captain John McKeague, who survived the accident. The Utopia sank in 20 minutes resulting in the death of 562 of the 880 passengers. This memorial was erected in North Front cemetery over the site of the mass grave that was prepared to receive the



Before

After

dead. With the passage of time and exposure to the elements, the cross had started to lean and was until recently being propped up by a number of wooden beams.

There are many beautiful monuments and grave stones in the North Front Cemetery that commemorate events from our past. The Utopia Cross is just one of them worth visiting when you are next at North Front Cemetery.

Victualling Yard Arch

This listed monument was in need to some careful restoration work as its inscriptions had become weathered and unreadable over the years. Works to restore the Arch were started in May by Gil Podesta on behalf of the Gibraltar Heritage Trust. Funding for the works were mostly covered by a donation from a locally based company, Mainstay Ltd. Mr



Podesta removed redundant pipes and cabling that were obscuring part of the inscriptions, repaired the peeling render, and took layers of paint off the coat of arms revealing its original colour scheme, which has now also been restored. Anyone passing through the area now cannot fail to notice this entrance way performing the function it

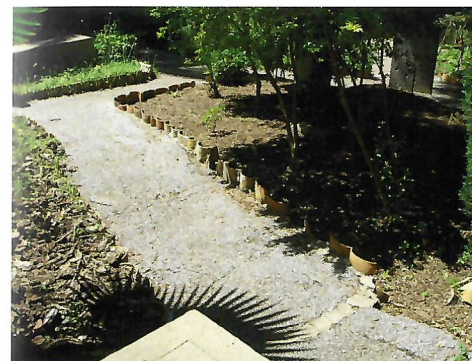
was meant to, announcing the entrance to this historic building.

Trafalgar Cemetery

Trafalgar Cemetery is another significant heritage site that has seen significant investment from the Trust. Aside from installing much needed bins and helping in the installation of a new memorial bench, the GHT has recently resurfaced all the pathways within the Cemetery. This has entailed the leveling and widening of paths and installation of ramps to take wheelchairs and mobility scooters (visitors are now able to access the upper levels of the site), and the tidying up and removal of redundant and surface mounted service pipes. The flowerbed edgings have also all been replaced with locally sourced limestone to replace the brittle clay tiles that were used as flowerbed edgings previously. Pathways have been tinted to mimic the red sands that this area is noted for. With the financial assistance of the Friends of Gibraltar Society, handrails have been installed and a number of gravestones and tombs in poor condition were repaired. The Trust also has plans to place some interpretation within the Cemetery to further enhance the site.



Before



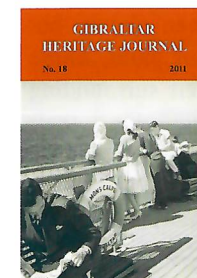
Before



After

TRUST PUBLICATIONS

The Heritage Journal No 18 was published earlier in the year and has already been followed by Journal No 19 which recently went on sale to the general public. Work is already well underway on Journal No 20. Our thanks must go to the Journal's editor and editorial board who put in many hours to ensure that the content and standard of this publication is kept high.



The Trust's calendar was issued towards the end of the year. This year's theme focused on the Royal Visit of 10th - 11th May 1954 and shows photographs, postcards, souvenirs and ephemera of that twentysix and a half hour visit in 1954.



OTHER NEWS & MISCELLANEA

Volunteer Input

Input from our members is very important to the Trust. We are grateful to a small number of individuals for their support of the Trust by lending their practical skills to us. Whether it has been painting, scraping, clearing or helping us sort through our paperwork and filing in the office, every minute of volunteer time is greatly appreciated by the Trust.



Before



After



Before



After

Water Plaques

You may have noticed that a number of the utility plaques on the walls around Gibraltar have received a coat of paint recently. This attention has been with thanks to the 1st 4th Scout Group who have been slowly but surely giving them a coat of paint. These plaques often blend into their surrounding and go underappreciated for their significance. Some were even starting to disappear off the sides of buildings where they have been for decades. These cast iron



cast iron plaques are markers to show where water or gas stopcocks and valves are in the street. They are no longer in use but are of interest as many display the royal coat of arms, a further marker of our British identity, and are also used as reference by the Fire Brigade even today when they require to locate a valve or stopcock. Keep an eye out for them around the Rock. There are a great deal more than you might think!



LOOKING AHEAD

The past twelve months have seen the establishment of a fruitful working relationship between the Trust and the new Government which has helped to nurture the mutually respectful relationship that has been building up over the years through the Trust's interaction with Government Departments.

We aim to continue this relationship and continue to work towards tightening up heritage protection and working practices involved.

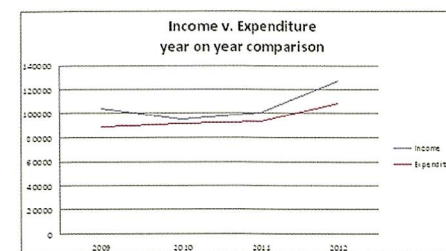
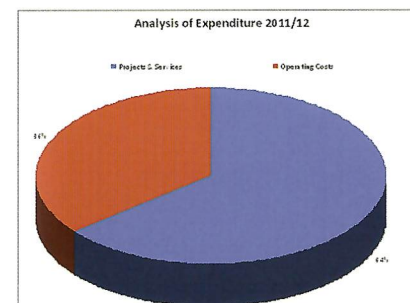
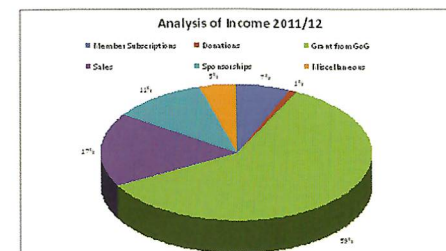
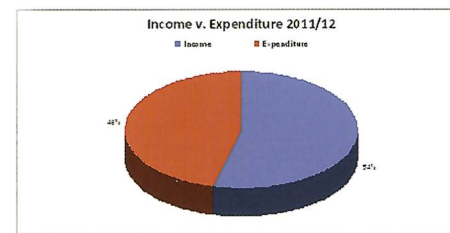
2013 will see the completion of the refurbishment of the Main Guard building and will provide the springboard from which the Trust aims to launch new initiatives in putting heritage awareness into people's lives.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The Trust's total income in financial year 2011/12 amounted to £126,865. A major component of this being the grant from the Government of Gibraltar which goes towards staff and administrative costs. Included within this total are income from sales, sponsorships for events and publications, income from memberships and donations. Comparative figures of income versus expenditure from previous years shows a trend in increased income and in relation to this increased expenditure on projects and initiatives.

Areas of the Trust's income and expenditure are analysed in the charts below. The Trust's expenditure in 2011/12 totalled £107,983, which resulted in a net operating surplus for the year of £3,518.

The detailed accounts for the period have been submitted to the government auditors. Copies of the accounts will be made available to Trust members upon request once certification has been received.



The Trust reflects with sadness on the memory of the late Mario Mosquera, who passed away suddenly at the beginning of the year and under whose Chairmanship much of the achievements covered in this report were made.

May he rest in peace.



GIBRALTAR HERITAGE TRUST

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