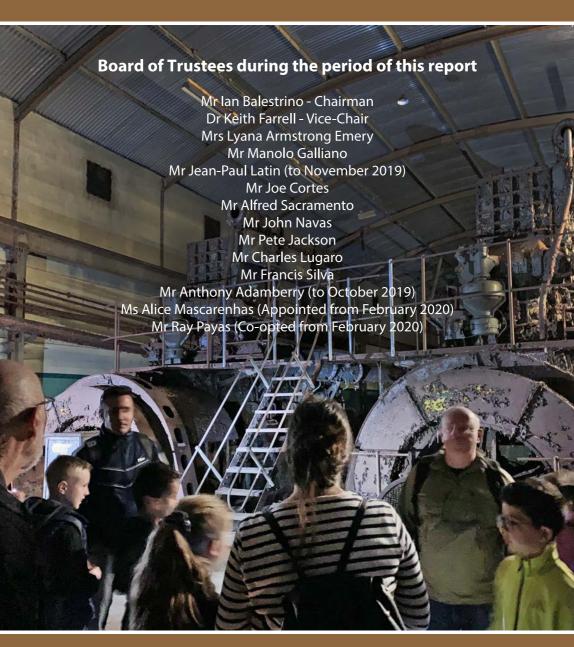


# GIBRALTAR HERITAGE TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20

## This report covers the period of the Gibraltar Heritage Trust's Activities from April 2019 to July 2020



Youth Jamboree Tour of the WWII Tunnels and Calpe Hole Generating Station March 2020



# chairman's foreword

The year covered by this report has been out of the ordinary due to the Covid-19 pandemic that we have all had to endure. The Trust found itself in an unprecedented position in respect of how we carried out our day to day business. In March 2020 the decision was taken to postpone, until further notice, all the planned members tours, outings and other activities. Our shop was closed and staff made preparations to work from home. All Board Meetings were also put on hold with only essential meetings held via video

conferencing. Given the current situation the Board resolved to extend our membership year until September. This year's popular Annual Painting Competition was held under different conditions. Instead of the usual open air location we asked participants to paint a view from their window. The response was phenomenal with over two hundred entries received from local artists of all ages. This event was made possible thanks to our staff's enthusiasm and eagerness to ensure its success.

In February we saw the departure from Gibraltar of our Patron and Governor Lieutenant General Ed Davis. The Trustees and CEO had the opportunity to personally thank him for his support and bestow on him and Mrs Davis Honorary Life Membership of the Gibraltar Heritage Trust. We welcome our new Governor, Vice Admiral Sir David Steel to Gibraltar. Sir David has very kindly agreed to become our Patron during his tenure on The Rock. The Trust looks forward to sharing our mutual interest in conservation and preservation of heritage assets. Since early June things are slowly getting back to a "new normal". Board meetings are now being held and the Trust's participation in various forums is steadily returning. The Heritage Shop is now opening offering across the counter and online sales. All our staff are to be commended for their excellent effort in getting us back to normality in the day-to-day running of the Trust.

Throughout the lockdown period the Editorial Board continued working on the preparation for publication of the 26th edition of the Journal. This has enabled the Trust to meet the target dates and ensure the timely publication of the Journal. All this has been possible thanks to the determination and effort of the Editorial Board. There have been a number of changes in respect of Board members during the period covered by this report. Two Trustees resigned and have been replaced by Ms. Alice Mascarenhas and Mr. Ray Payas. We welcome them to the Board and thank Mr Jean Paul Latin and Mr Anthony Adamberry for their contributions to the Trust as Board Members, Additionally Mr Manolo Galliano, who has served on the Board as a Government Appointed Trustee for 14 years has decided it is time to step down from his position. Sadly two stalwart individuals who made a huge contribution in the early days of the Heritage Trust passed away recently. John Porral was the first Gibraltar Heritage Trust Chairman in 1987. He was instrumental in the setting up of the then Gibraltar Heritage Trust Ordinance and establishing the first Board of Trustees. Marjorie Hoare was a founder member of the Gibraltar Heritage Trust and served as a Trustee for many years, becoming an Honorary Life Trustee in 2001. May they both rest in peace. At our next AGM I will be stepping down after four years as Chairman. I wish to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all the individuals, entities, government ministries, authorities, and all others that have put up with me, advised me, and in many other ways, helped me in taking forward the aspirations of the Trust. I also wish to express my gratitude to our membership and volunteers for your continued support. A special thank you to my fellow Trustees for voluntarily dedicating time and effort to the Trust. Last, but definitely not least, my most sincere gratitude to Claire, Tasmin, Germaine, Wendy and Caroline for everything they do to keep the Trust active and successful through thick and thin.

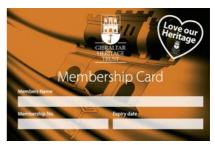
#### lan H. Balestrino

Chairman

# YEAR IN COLOR OF THE COLOR OF T

#### Membership

After a busy start to the year in terms of events and business as usual, we were hit in March by the unprecedented disruption caused by the Covid-19 Pandemic. As a result, this membership renewal year has been extended until September 2020. This is an unprecedented move due to COVID-19 pandemic affecting our resources and ability to meet the renewal mailout target. We



2020/21 membership card

hope all our members have stayed safe and well during the lockdown. Those members who have direct debits/ standing orders for memberships we will process your renewal automatically.

Our membership cards for 2020/21 are orange in colour and will be replacing last years' teal. We are in development of a new system that will allow memberships to roll for a 12-month period irrespective of when joining the Trust. This will help in the onerous admin associated with our membership mailouts. It is envisioned that over time the system will also allow members to manage their own profiles. For the moment though everything will continue as usual and no action is required on your part.

We are ever grateful to our members for providing essential support to the Trust. This year we have continued to welcome new members and some life members. Thank you all for your support. Our corporate members also form a very important role in the Trust, not only through their membership but through their support and donations in kind be it

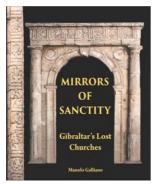


The Main Guard building

discounts for our members or miscellaneous items. They are also critical in the production of our Heritage Journal and other publications. However we are eager to extend our corporate membership family and would love more local businesses to join us.

#### The Main Guard

Again, after a busy summer and Christmas, the Main Guard has been rather quiet since the start of 2020. With the Pandemic we have been unable to host many activities, and our







Manolo Galliano signing his latest book

shop and offices were closed for the full 12 weeks of lockdown. This has meant, like many business we have had to adapt. Many of our staff worked from home as core functions of the Trust continued in terms of Town Planning applications and DPC commitments. Our enewsletters were sent

out weekly rather than fortnightly and included more engaging content, like quizzes, links to free heritage content and a virtual book club.

Before the pandemic the Main Guard was able to host our Christmas event for members, it was great to see many of you joining us and we look forward to a time where we can host such an event again. In terms of book launches we saw the fourth and final book in Manolo Galliano's series on the history of Gibraltar's churches and monasteries 'Mirrors of Sanctity' and also the launch of a 'Pictorial History of Gibraltar 'by



Lina Searle book signing at the Main Guard

Book signing for the Pictorial History of Gibraltar

Sam Benady and Sarah Devincenzi. We also hosted 2 book signings – Lina Searle's book on the history of physiotherapy in Gibraltar and the Pictorial History of Gibraltar by Sam Benady and Sarah Devincenzi.

#### The Main Guard Shop

The Main Guard continues to be our interaction hub for members. We have introduced a 'click and collect' system on our website to save you time

and maintain social distancing in our shop. The majority of our products are online, but you can always contact us if you have something more specific in mind. We now have two part-time retail staff members, Wendy and Caroline. Caroline has joined us in the last year and together they are working to improve our shop offering.

The shop display area has expanded to the rear end of the building offering more products and an easier shopping experience. We are always keen to expand the range of products on sale, we welcome local authors and businesses to engage with us about new products or opportunities. Books continue to be our best sellers and with the loss of our last dedicated local bookshop we have worked to increase our offering, focusing on history and Gibraltar related literature and authors

# OUR AREAS OF WORK

#### Our Areas of Work

#### **Development and Planning Commission**

There have been 10 meetings of the Development and Planning commissions within the period covered by this report with over 300 applications being tabled, 11 of which being classed as 'Major Development Applications.

There was a suspension in meetings in the run up to the General Election in October and then the Covid-19 pandemic stopped face-to-face meetings for April and May. Meetings commenced virtually in June with the July meetings being streamed live on the Governments Youtube channel. The latter is significant in terms of the commitment and requirement in the Town Planning Act, for meetings to be accessible to the public. The DPC Sub-committee which deal with minor applications continued to meet virtually throughout the period. Major applications of note that have been discussed in the last 12 months:

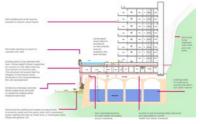
7 Europa Road - Proposed demolition of derelict casino and bund wall to provide a new apartment block of 111 high quality residences with multi storey car park and amenities.

The Old Casino Site on Europa Road, now known as 'The Reserve'. The development will fully respect the existence and continued used of the water

tanks on the site. Of note is the removal of the blast wall which was added in 1881 to protect the tanks from shot and shell.



The Reserve development



Secction showing tanks



Tanks view

Brief (AWB)

Forbes ex-ready mix site image- Gamma.gi

# Forbes, Ex Ready Mix Site, Devil's Tower Road - Proposed mixed-use multi-storey development.

A Desk Based Assessment (DBA) carried out the site highlighted the possibility of the existence of remains of several lime kilns. An Archaeological Watching Brief (AWB) is in operation during excavations for foundations.

### Rialto Cinema, 24 Turnbull's Lane - Proposed demolition of existing buildings and construction of an eight-storey block of 58 apartments.





Rialto proposed street view

This application was heard several times by the DPC with various



Rialto, turnbull's Lane

ammendments being made to the scheme. The approved scheme retains the front façade and rooms of the building, with the demolitions mainly towards the back in what was the



Rialto proposed facade

old cinema. The entrance to the Rialto Stores, and the decorative cast iron columns will remain in situ and form part of the entrance lobby and new internal courtyard for this building. Ground floor and courtyard are to be publicly accessible. There are various other architectural elements within the building that have been identified for retention. restoration and reuse within the building. An Archaeological Watching Brief condition is in force for any works.

# 47 Line Wall Road and 15 and 17 College Lane - Proposed demolition of existing buildings with the exception of the College Lane facades of 15 and 17 and construction of a seven-storey block of 24 apartments.



47 Line Wall Road

The proposal for this building was tabled at DPC a couple of times before being refused on the basis that the existing building should not be demolished in its entirety. A petition by the residents of College Lane against the excessive extension of the building was also heard at the meeting.

A Heritage Desk Based Assessment of the evolution of the site was conducted as well as an explorative survey of the building fabric. It was determined that the ground and first floor of the original building still existed, and

confirmation that an extra floor was added in the 1960s. A revised scheme that retains the College Lane facades has been submitted to the DPC but is still awaiting tabling.

The Trust retains the view that the building can and should be redeveloped in a way that restores and retains the form and massing of the original traditional building and that any extra floors should be limited to comply with the Development Plan limit of 4-5 with their appropriate setbacks an architecture sympathetic to Gibraltar's old town within the City Walls.

# 7B Engineer Road - Proposed demolition of an existing dwelling/structure and construction of new development comprising a mews of five town houses.

The construction of a large single dwelling was approved at the site some 5 years ago. A revised scheme to relocate a 19th Century (now defunct) sewer ventilating shaft from the centre of the site to its edge was refused by the DPC despite all heritage aspects associated with its relocation being mitigated for. The latest scheme for the site proposed a mews of 5 town houses. Following an in-depth discussion with the developer



Scheme as presented in February 2020

on the proposals, the scheme was refused on the grounds that it was too dense a development for the area which is also on the boundary of the Nature Reserve.

### 23 John Mackintosh Square - Proposed construction of a two-storey office extension and the refurbishment of the existing building.



New Haven Front Visual

This scheme was returned to the DPC once again with further ammendments to the glass façade and the addition of 2 storeys, taking it to 7 in total. The DPC resolved to approve 6 storey's maximum and for the glass treatment of the building to be revised so as to soften it into the cityscape and take the swift population in the existing building into account. The Trust maintained its objection to any increase in height in this building and also sought reassurance that the requirement that the bridge to City Hall was to be removed as part of the project.

### Airport and frontier access road, East end of the runway - Eastern Simple Approach Lighting System (ESALS)

This application was for a required jetty into the sea at the end of the runway so as to provide further lighting and access. Due to the existence in the area of a listed wreck of a WWII aircraft: a Liberator B24. As a result of the consultation process on the works and the required Heritage Licensing structure, a procedure for the implementation of precautionary measures to protect the aircraft during construction of the jetty was designed and implemented successfully.

### 18 Winston Churchill Avenue - Proposed construction of the Gibraltar national stadium.

Physical construction works are yet to begin on this project, but the process is well underway having achieved Full Planning Permission last year with that scheme also undergoing an EIA. Some changes were made to the scheme that meant that a new submission for Environmental Scoping was made and passed with the requirement for an Archaeological Desk Based Assessment.

#### Other applications of note

### Proposal to relocate the Cross of Sacrifice to Midtown Park.

After a request to Government from the local branch of the Royal British Legion, there is a proposal to relocate the Cross of Sacrifice from its current position at Winston Churchill Avenue to Midtown Park. There has been a great deal of discussion on whether the move should take place with the Trust being of the view that it should remain in situ.



Cross of sacrifice in its location at Winston Churchill Avenue

There are various pros and cons of such a move which have been documented at the DPC meeting and also in the media.

Research in to the thoughts at the time of the erection of the Cross in 1922 have even brought to light its mention early in 1922 in a letter from Rudyard Kipling (a member of the Imperial War Graves Commission) to Sir Andrew Macphail when he visited

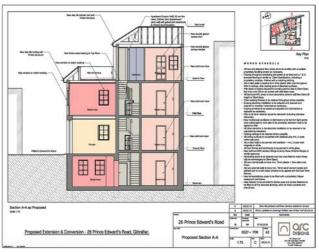


Proposed layout of new park

Gibraltar scouting locations for the cross. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission has visited Gibraltar to assess the proposal to move the cross and a decision is still pending.

An issue of concern is that of loss of traditional roofs and roofscapes within the old town.

With the redevelopment and extension of buildings we find that applications are increasingly coming forward for the creation of flat roof terraces are being created where previously they were pitched. This desire to make the most of roof areas by creating open spaces is under-standable, but the impact on streetscapes can be phy-sically impacting in terms of the way the now taller building overshadows



Section of bulding showing false pitch with flat roof terrace behind it

the street or aesthetically in terms of the introduction of new modern materials such as glass balustrades onto the edges of buildings, or the loss of the brick piers that define a parapet.

The Trust's view is to allow such conversions as long as they adhere to the design guidance given in the Gibraltar Development Plans' old town guide. In many cases we are able to resolve the matter with a change of materials or reinstatement of the feature, but this is an item we are looking to set a policy for within the Old Town Design Guide.

# **LIASION WITH** vernment

#### Election year

October 2019 saw the GSI P/Liberals gain a further 4 year term in Government. Their electoral manifesto contains a number of very positive heritage focused and related projects that promise to address a variety on long standing areas of concern in need of attention and investment. A major area for the Trust



Rosia Bay, proposed instalations, GSLP Liberal party manifesto 2019

will be addressed

is that of Rosia Bay which was earmarked for repair and redevelopment as a lido-style leisure area. This is a positive scheme as it would mean that many of the long-standing



City Walls Walk, image from GSLP Liberals Manifesto 2019

Our thoughts on the potential of Rosia Bay as a pubic amenity that protects its natural and man-made heritage were submitted to the Government. We continue to monitor the site

issues i.e. very poor condition of the pier, condition of the beach, anti-social gatherings, littering and general state of dilapidation

Another positive major project was the announcement of the 'Walk the Walls' scheme that will link all the western. city walls to provide a cycle lane, walking route and leisure area.

The walls are already used in this way with sections such as Orange Bastion and Wellington Front having been restored, but the project would unite all these areas up to Jumper's Bastion.



The Mount proposed outdoor activity area. from GSLP Liberals Manifesto 2019

The Mount was also announced for redevelopment as a leisure area to include walks and outdoor activity areas, as well as the Civil Registry moving to the Northern Porter's Lodge with the facility for weddings and events to be held in the grounds.

On Grand Parade, an area earmarked for construction of a multistorey carpark, it was announced that the carpark would now be



Grand Parade, proposed new park, from GSLP Liberal Manifesto 2019



Northern Defences, proposal from GSLP Liberals Manifesto 2019

the vicinity of the Moorish Castle Gatehouse, which required the demolition of two typical verandahed ex-married quarters. The establishment of a skills Training Centre within the Victualling Yard complex also drew our interest as did a Naval/Military Museum earmarked for the old Fortress Headquarters Building at Rosia.



The Mount, proposal from GSLP Liberals Manifesto 2019 underground and the ground level a park/garden/leisure area. You will recall that the Trust and fellow NGOs met with Government to lobby against the building up of this site.

The Archives were set to expand and move into Duke of Kent House as part of a Gibraltarian Identity Centre. Ideas on how the Dockyard might be redeveloped should the ship repair yard cease to operate were also put forward, potentially releasing this large

area of historic docks to redevelopment and public accessibility.

Works at the Northern Defences also continue with a view to establishing the area as one for leisure and outdoor pursuits that will enhance the historic site.

In the same way that the above projects were of great heritage interest, there were a few in the manifesto which drew concern, such as the proposed construction of a multistory carpark in



Carpark at Moorish Castle Estate, GSLP Liberals Manifesto 2019

#### Eastside Development Tender

The Trust together with fellow NGO's the GONHS and the ESG, have been highlighting the need for a holistic vision for the development of the Eastside. In a recent meeting with the Deputy Chief Minister and Minister Cortes on Government's call for Expressions of



Eastside Development Expressions of Interest plots for development

Interest to develop the eastside in plots of land, all 3 NGO's gave their views and discussed the pro and cons of such an approach. The outcome of the meeting was a positive one with all parties pledging to continue to work in their mutual areas of interest so as to ensure what is achieved is the best possible balance for Gibraltar and future generations.

#### Lathbury Sports Complex

Works on the complex continued after the Island Games and as it now nears completion, elements that were identified for interpretation and display during the Archaeological Watching Brief on the site are being finalised. One such item in the Heavy Anti-Aircraft 3.7"Gun Steel Frame which was uncovered during the excavations. This will now be relocated and displayed in the vicinity of the complex.

#### Liaison with Ministry for Heritage



Larios dresser at the City Hall

We continue to take a joint proactive approach to heritage management and monitoring issues together with the Ministry for Heritage. This is now routine working practice. Notable projects this year include:

#### The recovery of the Larios Dresser

The Trust was made aware of the existence of this piece at a property on Main Street some years back. Since then we had worked to recover the piece for public display. This all came to fruition in March this year when following donation to Gibraltar by Heredium Ltd, the Department of Environment and Heritage commissioned the restoration of this unique piece of antique furniture that once belonged to one of the most well known families in Gibraltar's history, the Larios.

The piece, an ornate mirrored sideboard dating from the late 1800's once adorned the dining room on the first floor of the current City Hall when it was the property of the Larios Family. The piece was restored by Robert Sanguinetti, took three months to complete and is now on permanent display in the lobby of the City Hall.



Repainting bastion names in progress

#### Repainting of fortification names

The Ministry has begun a programme of the repainting of names on city walls. These have been in place since the 1960s and in more recent years were in need of a complete maintenance schedule. This programme will be ongoing.

#### **Site Visits**

Site visits to inspect buildings and sites in the process of renovation or the scope of new projects is ongoing and part and parcel of our role in the planning process. Many of these have been reported upon in other relevant sections of this report, but noteable are:

#### **Restoration of Grand Battery Firesteps:**

These banquettes have been in a poor state of repair for a number of years since the initial clearing of the battery. Funds were made available for their repair and reconstruction in the case of those that had been lost over time. The Battery provides a natural link and very convenient link to the Northern Defences that should be used as and when the Northern Defences are ready for structured tourism visits.



Firestep restoration



Grand Battery Frestep restoration

#### **Garrison Library Balustrade**



Garrison Library Balustrade pieces

The balustrade surrounding the library had been subject to the ravages of time and pollution, meaning that many of the pillars were in very poor structural condition and posed a danger to the public. They have now been replaced with replica pillars where needed and the whole



Garrison Library Ballustrade

structure reinforced to ensure that it will survive many more centuries. All works were carried out under heritage license following conservation practices and materials.

# private sector



Vaults at Casemates under LineWall road

When schemes are approved by the DPC the work of the Trust does not end. There is a continuing liaison with applicants, developers and their architects where the Trust together with the Ministry for Heritage and the Town Planning Department monitor and enforce the conditions set within planning permissions. Notable examples are the conversion of two vaults at Casemates into a digital bank. Being within a listed monument, all invasive cleaning and repair works needed to be carried out under Heritage License and by a suitable restorer.

During restoration works it was found that the vaults to the rear of the Casemates Barracks were actually

much older than first thought with parts dating to the medieval period. All consolidation and protection works have now been effected by the Museum Restorer and will ensure this previously unidentified part of our heritage will survive into the future. Similarly

with the Central Police Station project, whilst extension and internal works are going ahead internally, a restorer



Weathered sandstone cornices

has been engaged for the consolidation and restoration of the external brick facades and stone window sills. This is an involved project] as the bricks have suffered the effects of time. Liaison with project directors, engineers and architects over the proposed development at the North Gorge has been

ongoing for some time now as it has gone through the Planning Process.



Restoration work on the stone, brick and windows of the Central Police Station is underway



Exploring the Cold Stores



Much of the internal timbers and cladding of the Victorian magazine still survive in good condition



Remains of the refrigeration vaults



One of the 2 brick ventilation chimneys on the site



Bassadone workshops are up and running at buidlings 81-83

The Trust's main concerns focused on the protection of Judge's Cave (protected under the 2018 Heritage and Antiquities Act) as well at the protection and reuse of the large underground Cold



Cable Car upgrade project - proposed top station

Stores complex and associated ventilation chimneys. The scheme achieved outline planning at a July meeting of the DPC. Another major project still in the development stages in that of the expansion of the Cable Car. When it was last heard, the DPC required a visitor management plan from the applicants so as to further understand the impact of the capacity for higher visitor numbers on the nature reserve.

This has now been submitted to consultees and will likely be tabled at a meeting of the DPC in the coming months. And continuing work with Bassadone Group on their heritage aspects of their headquarters project we have been working with a group of ex-Dockyard workers as they share their memories and recollections of their time working in these buildings.



The group on site



A site visit to understand layouts and how the facility worked



A coffee morning held at the Trust earlier this year to record memories of working at the buildings

# ministry of defence

Meetings of the Conservation Group started again towards the end of 2019 with two quarterly meetings having taken place and a further virtual one over Zoom during lockdown.

A number of infrastructural and improvement projects within the MOD estate have been discussed. Notably to the Trust is that of the replacement of the entrance porch to the King's Chapel which was in a very poor state of collapse. These works are now nearing completion. The Command is also planning a major renovation and upgrading project for The Tower which is the administration and command HQ for MOD in Gibraltar.

The majority of the proposed works cause no heritage issues, however we have lodged an objection at the proposal to change the interior metalwork balustrades of the walkways and stairs to glass. Our view is that such an alteration will negatively impact the character of the courtyard and internal aspect of the building.

We have suggested some alternative solutions for their architects and project managers to consider both through the Conservation Group forum and also through the planning consultation process.



Interior courtyard of the Tower



Ironwork on the courtyard

# trust activities and events

#### GHT Calendar

Our 2020 calendar celebrated 30 years of our Annual Art Competition. The competition has been held since 1990. The aim of the competition has been to bring attention to heritage sites in Gibraltar by encouraging participants to take a closer look at the history that surrounds them on a daily basis and reproduce it through artistic media. The



competition has proved very successful with many returning artists. Many school and art groups also take part each year, encouraging a new generation of artists. The atmosphere on the day is always very positive and community orientated with artists engaging with each other and families coming to take part together.

A particular benefit from the project is the archive of artwork that The Trust has built up over the years. The artworks depict Gibraltar at various periods of time in our recent history. The competition has also focused on areas where significant works are carried out on heritage sites and street scenes such as the 2016 Northern Defences. Thank you to everyone who made this year's calendar possible. There are still a few calendars left over and selling at just £1.00 in our shop, if you wish to purchase a copy. Our 2021 Calendar features entries into our 'View from your window' competition and are now available from our shop.

#### Coalition for Climate Action Gibraltar

The Trust forms part of this coalition of NGO's calling for climate action and sustainable policies for Gibraltar. We believe that the future of our heritage is intricately linked to a sustainable agenda on many levels. Policies on the sustainable use of buildings, the materials used,



the sourcing of local materials



The group being met outside No6 by the Minister for Climate Change

and knowledge are just a tiny aspect of how we should be stewarding our present for the protection of our future and with it our past.

#### Gibraltar Heritage Journal

2019 was a very satisfying year for The Trust as we published our 25th Heritage Journal. The first edition was published in 1993 as a vehicle for



Journal cover

raising funds for the restoration works of The City Hall. It was so popular that it was decided to continue to release annually and



25th Journal Launch at the Mayors Parlour

since then the journals have published articles on social history, personal anecdotes and reminiscences, military and natural history, biographies and major events in Gibraltar's history. The Trust would like to take this opportunity to thank every contributor and Journal Board member who has helped make the Journal such a success.



Collage of all past covers

The 25th Journal was launched officially by his Worship the Mayor at the City Hall and was further the subject of a popular event at the 2019 Gibraltar Literary Festival. The 25th Journal commences with a



Session at the Literary Festival on the history of the Journal

foreword from our Chairman Ian Balestrino and an article on 25 years of the Journal of the Gibraltar Heritage Trust by current editor Richard Garcia. This is the first time the Journal has reflected on itself and delved into the history of The Trust and its

formation. The 25th Journal is our biggest one yet and packed with 17 articles and notes about Gibraltar

Going forward, it has been decided to remove the Cumulative Index from the Journal and have the latest version available online at the Trust's website: (https://gibraltarheritagetrust.org.gi/index.php/knowledge/gibraltar-heritage-journal) with a hardcopy published every five years.

The cumulative index is a very useful piece, providing a quick guide to a subject area or article you want. However due to its size, it was no longer feasible to print in each Journal. Articles for each journal can be submitted up until the 31st of January of the year it is to be published. Anything submitted afterwards will be considered for the following Journal. The editorial board is always looking for new authors to contribute, more information can be found online or email us.

#### Witham's Cemetery

Another year of solid work in Witham's Cemetery has been completed by our dedicated group of volunteers. Aside from a short intermission due to Covid-19 lock-down, activity has been ongoing on site several

times a week. With gratitude to support from

the Friends of



Top view of cemetery looking tidy ahead of gravel path laying

New paths being laid following old traces



Steps to hold back soil and deal with level changes

Gibraltar whose funds have gone towards the work of a professional mason working on the tombstones, as well as ongoing support from Electricon, Casais, JBS and the Ministry for Heritage, Environment and Climate Change.

#### Fortress of Gibraltar Group

The group has continued its long-term project to research and record Gibraltar's WWII bunkers. They are also always on call to assist with historical information in relation to our defences. The group have continued to host Northern Defences Tours for our members over the last year. Notably, the group also undertook the clearance of a bunker known as 'Fort Canada' at Devil's Bellows with a view to its eventual interpretation and display.



Fort Canada at Devil's Bellows

# HERITAGE Why do we do what we do? CEO's presentation

Unfortunately plans for this year's visit to Gibraltar were stopped in their tracks due



Friends of Gibraltar Society

Chairman, Ian Balestrino, addressing the seminar

to the Covid pandemic. Their annual seminar and AGM at Oxford is also postponed. Contact has however been maintained as per usual with the Society with a number of projects being proposed for funding this coming financial year.



### 30th Anniversary Painting Competition

Exhibition

An exhibition to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the

Gibraltar Heritage Trust's annual painting competition was held at the Gustavo Bacarisas Gallery at Casemates. Close to 300 artworks are held by the Trust in its collection which have been accumulated over the years. The exhibition displayed 82 of them which have been selected to show a variety of sections and artists. A slide show of pictures was also shown. The exhibition was well



Exhibition opening night

received with the paintings showing a snapshot of Gibraltar's heritage sites over the last 30 years, many of which have been re-developed, restored or repurposed in some way, yet the majority still retain their historical charm.

#### Painting Competition

2020 saw a very different style of the painting competition. This year due to the pandemic we decided to host the competition virtually. This meant artists submitting a photo of their blank canvas via email on the day, along with a picture of the view from the window, which was the theme of the competition. The concept 'A View from my Window' was born from being in lockdown and unable to leave our homes, the competition has recorded a period of time which is already significant to our social history and world history. Despite being in lockdown and the competition being run online, we saw a record high number of entries. Well over 250 people took part, including school entries who were notified of the event via the school's online learning platforms. The judging of the competition took place on the 29th June. Thank you to Davina Barbara, Gino Sanguinetti and Paul Cosquieri for judging the artwork.

This				
i nis v	vear's	wini	ners	were:

ADULTS JUNIORS CHILDREN INFANTS
(Aged 18 and over) (Aged 11 - 17) (Aged 7 - 10) (Aged 6 and under)

1st Prize :Karl UllgerSinead DesoizaKeane Mark ReyesTyler Barnes2nd Prize :John LangdonCatherine RosadoBartosz PanczakHarriet Caulfield3rd Prize :Monica PophamLaura XuAniela PrudzienicaAlma Belle Baharal

Highly Commended: Julia Prudzienica, Beatrice Garcia, Alberto Danino, Kirsteen Crawford,
Kathlann Victory, Alvam Boadouri, Mikov Picie, Adam Socrietan

Kathleen Victory, Akram Begdouri, Mikey Piris, Adam Sacristan, Toby O'Keefe, Bella Kew, Emma Garcia, Lyka Lucia Estacio Balajadia,

Kai Alsina, Vladimir Ionescu, Erin Banda



Blank canvas & view ready



Ready to go



Sketching underway



Work in progress



Adult 1st Prize Karl Ullger



Adult 2nd Prize John Langdon



Adult 3rd Pize Monica Popham





Bartosz Panczak Age10 Aniela Prudzienica Age 9



Harriet Caulfield Age 5



Sinead Desoiza Age16



Catherine Rosado Age 13



Keane Mark Reyes Age 10



Laura Xu Age15



Tyler Barnes Age 6



Alma Belle Baharal Age 5

#### Heritage Awards & Reception



This year the Heritage Awards took a different format. In order to be more inclusive and encourage a more relaxed approach to getting the debate out how we conserve and champion our heritage, the Trust will no longer host a



formal black-tie dinner. Instead an evening reception with drinks and canapés was trialled. The event was well attended and most importantly a total of seven awards were presented.

#### Individuals

The first award was a Heritage Commendation awarded to Mr Daniel Lanigan for sharing his oral history of the Old Army Bakery at Town Range. Over a number of sessions with his neighbour Sidney and Trustee Alfred Sacramento, Mr Lanigan gave his memories of working in the RASC Bakery at Town Range in the 1960s. The information given was recorded on video and then made into a presentation which was shown by the Trust at its Open Day in April early 2019.

An Individual Heritage Award was presented to Mr Louis Pereira for promoting heritage awareness surrounding the evacuation and links with Madeira & Malta, and for genealogical research over many decades leading to the trees of over 100 families being researched and prepared.

Mr Pereira is a very well-known figure in our community. He has been awarded internationally for his promotion efforts in 2013 with the Gold Medal of Merit awarded to him by the Funchal Council in Madeira. Over the years he has led over 1,000 Gibraltarian tourists to Madeira to explore this element of our heritage, as well as numerous trips to Malta with the same aim of promoting links. In addition, this award also recognises the genealogical research Mr Pereira has carried out over the years into the production of local family trees, with over 100 families and their roots being documented. This body of work is an important part of cataloguing and cementing the Gibraltarian identity and origins of our people.

Mr Gerald Lopez was also presented with an Individual Heritage Award for his lifelong dedication to the craft of traditional boat building and the promotion of boating culture at Catalan Bay. Catalan Bay has seen a steady decline in its fishing tradition in the past 30 years with only a handful of people who still continue to fish. The boat culture is something very dear to the village but has seen little encouragement to continue with the upkeep of these vessels. The craft of making and restoring wooden boats is now solely in the hands of Mr Lopez who has continued with this work despite the many challenges that have come his way.

#### Buildings

A Heritage Commendation award was presented to Idan and Ruth Greenberg – for the sensitive renovation of 8-10 Booth's Passage, retaining vernacular features and contributing to the regeneration of Gibraltar's Old Town. This building was purchased by the Greenbergs via the Government's tender scheme aimed at regenerating buildings within Gibraltar's old town. The Greenbergs have worked on the property since 2014 addressing many of the issues in the building which was derelict and in a state of collapse in parts. The project has seen the building restored and beautifully transformed, with attention to vernacular details, into a family home full of character and unique quirks which now stands out as an example to what can be achieved in this area of Gibraltar.

Another Heritage Commendation was awarded to Mr Bassadone of Red Fox Limited for the dedicated and determined restoration of the facade at 1-9 Giro's Passage with handmade replica tiles. Although its address is Giro's Passage, this building fronts onto Main Street, and is a key building contributing to the character of the square to the Cathedral of St Mary the Crowned. The building has been in peril in the past when its complete demolition had been proposed on the grounds of its redevelopment not being economically. The family company took on the building with a vision to retain as much of its vernacular character as possible, whilst also sympathetically extending it. The façade was a key part of this project. Covered in handmade tiles, many of which were broken, they were faced with finding a source for replacements, eventually hitting on a tilemaker in Seville who was working out of his shed. The successful renovation of this building is a story of how vision and perseverance can triumph. An Individual Award was presented to Mr Andrew Brookes for the sensitive restoration of the 'Villa' at 3 Library Gardens. This large villa had been split in two over the decades with many of its vernacular features obscured and mistreated. Mr Brookes has re-exposed and restored many of these features such as the balcony terrace which had been enclosed with unsightly aluminium windows, re-exposing the cast iron columns and balustrade that were still there. Of note is the repair and restoration of the timber cupola in the roof of the building which previous to his intervention had been in danger of being lost altogether. There are many other features within the property that have been restored and enhanced such as fireplaces, floors, windows and doors, as well as the large marble staircase running up the house which had previously been blocked in.

The final award for this year was a Group Heritage Award presented to the Ministry for Heritage for the successful translocation of the Dockyard Gatehouse, a heritage building now protected for posterity. The story of this small but significant building has been well documented since its total demolition was first mooted by the MOD in 2014. The intervening efforts by the Government to ensure that the building was not lost altogether were substantial and then down the Ministry for Heritage to ensure that it was removed and translocated in the same operation rather than being 'stored' as was originally suggested. The building is now listed, so protected under law, and although is still pending its final use, there is a project to do so which will allow it to be of benefit to the public. An additional award introduced for the first time this year was the 'Chairman's Award' which is presented at the discretion of the Chairman to a person, group or organisation that the chairman feels has supported the Trust's Chairman in the advancement of aims and objectives. This year the award was given to Prof. John Cortes, currently Minister for Heritage.

#### Member visits

The Trust hosted several tours in 2019, however in 2020 tours were postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We would like to thank each of the tour guides and the



Hanging paintings fo the 30th Anniversary Painting Exhibition

Fortress of Gibraltar Group who were able to host a tour this year for our members. Members got to visit

The Convent, 100 Ton Gun, WWII Tunnels, The Alameda,



Tour of the Masonic Lodae



Tour to the 100 ton gun

Main Street, Victoria Battery, the Masonic Lodge, as well as visit our 30 years of the Gibraltar Heritage painting competition exhibition. We hope we can return to hosting events and tours as

soon as possible.

and tour:



Walk of the Western Defences



Youth Jamboree Tour of the WWII tunnels

#### William Serfaty Shield

Late last year the Gibraltar Heritage Trust and Rotary (Gibraltar) launched an essay competition within all local secondary schools to honour the memory of the late William Serfaty who was a lifelong Rotarian and member of the Trust. Aimed at the Year 8 cohort, the competition prize was a shield and a £100 cash prize to be presented at the annual Rotary Awards



2020 Rotary Awards Abby Cohen

in March/April each year. To enter, students had to write a short piece on the following prompt:



'You can travel back in time to any period of Gibraltar's history. Tell your story on any aspect of life, events or situation during your chosen period.'

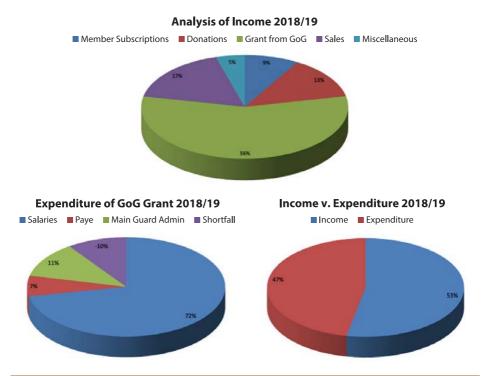
The story (maximum 1000 words) had to be fact based, although application of imagination was encouraged. The winner of the first year of this competition was Abby Cohen whose piece 'And

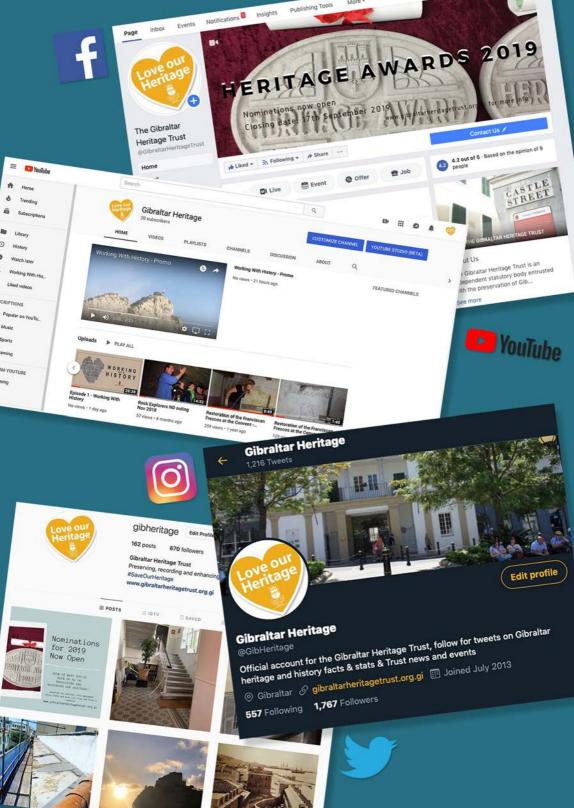
Here I stand' recounted the experience of a child evacuee yearning to return to Gibraltar and his father who had stayed behind.

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The Trust's total income in financial year 2018/19 amounted to £184,153, a major component being the grant from the Government of Gibraltar which goes towards staff and administrative costs. A case for the 10% of income versus expenditure shortfall of the grant was taken up with the Minister for Heritage and a corresponding adjustment has been made for the 2019/20 financial year. Included in our overall income is sales, sponsorships for events and income from memberships and donations. Areas of the Trust's income and expenditure are analysed in the charts below. The Trust's expenditure in 2018/19 totalled £162,763 which resulted in a negligible net operating profit for the year of £21,390.

The audited accounts for the financial years ending 2017, 2018 and 2019 have been submitted for Audit and are in the final process of sign off ahead of being presented to Gibraltar Parliament as required by the Heritage and Antiquities Act 2018. This will clear the backlog on accounts with the 2019/20 year-end accounts well advanced, although affected by the extension of the Financial Year to Sept 2020 due to the Covid-19 Pandemic.





#### With thanks to our Corporate Members:

































#### GIBRALTAR HERITAGE TRUST

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