

Tudor Times

AND THE BAILIWICK OF GUERNSEY



THE TUDOR PERIOD (1485-1603) WAS A TIME
OF GREAT UPHEAVAL IN THE BAILIWICK.
THIS BOOK AIMS TO GIVE A FLAVOUR
OF THE TIMES FOR FAMILIES TO SHARE.

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The Bailiwick of Guernsey and the Islands of Jersey form the Channel Islands.



This map from the 1600s shows the Channel Islands and Cotentin coast of Normandy in France.

Did You Know?

Through the ages the Islands have been given different names and spellings. For example, Guernsey has been called - Lisia and Garnsay, Herm - Arme and Herme, Sark - Sercq and Sers, Alderney - Aurigny and Riduna.

The Bailiwick of Guernsey

The Bailiwick of Guernsey is situated in the English Channel just off the coast of France. Together with Guernsey it includes the islands of Alderney, Sark, Herm and Jethou. Once part of the Duchy of Normandy in France, the Bailiwick stayed under the control of the Kings and Queens of England after they lost Normandy in 1204.

1066

In 1066 Duke William of Normandy became King of England. The Channel Islands were part of Normandy so when King John of England lost his lands in Normandy to Philippe of France in 1204, the Islands remained with England. However, the Islanders kept their close links with France. They carried on speaking Norman - French, following Norman laws and following the teachings of the Catholic religion set by the Church of Rome.



King John hands over Normandy to Philippe of France (Brian Byron)

1485

When Henry Tudor became King of England in 1485, people in the Bailiwick still spoke Norman-French, followed many of their own laws and lived their lives according to the teachings of the Catholic religion. The Parish Church was the centre of the community and a crumbling Castle Cornet guarded a safe harbour full of ships trading between England and the coasts of France and Spain.

The Tudor period (1485-1603) was a time of great upheaval in the Bailiwick as the Islanders struggled to fit in with new Laws being made by the Kings and Queens of England.

Government

A Feudal Government

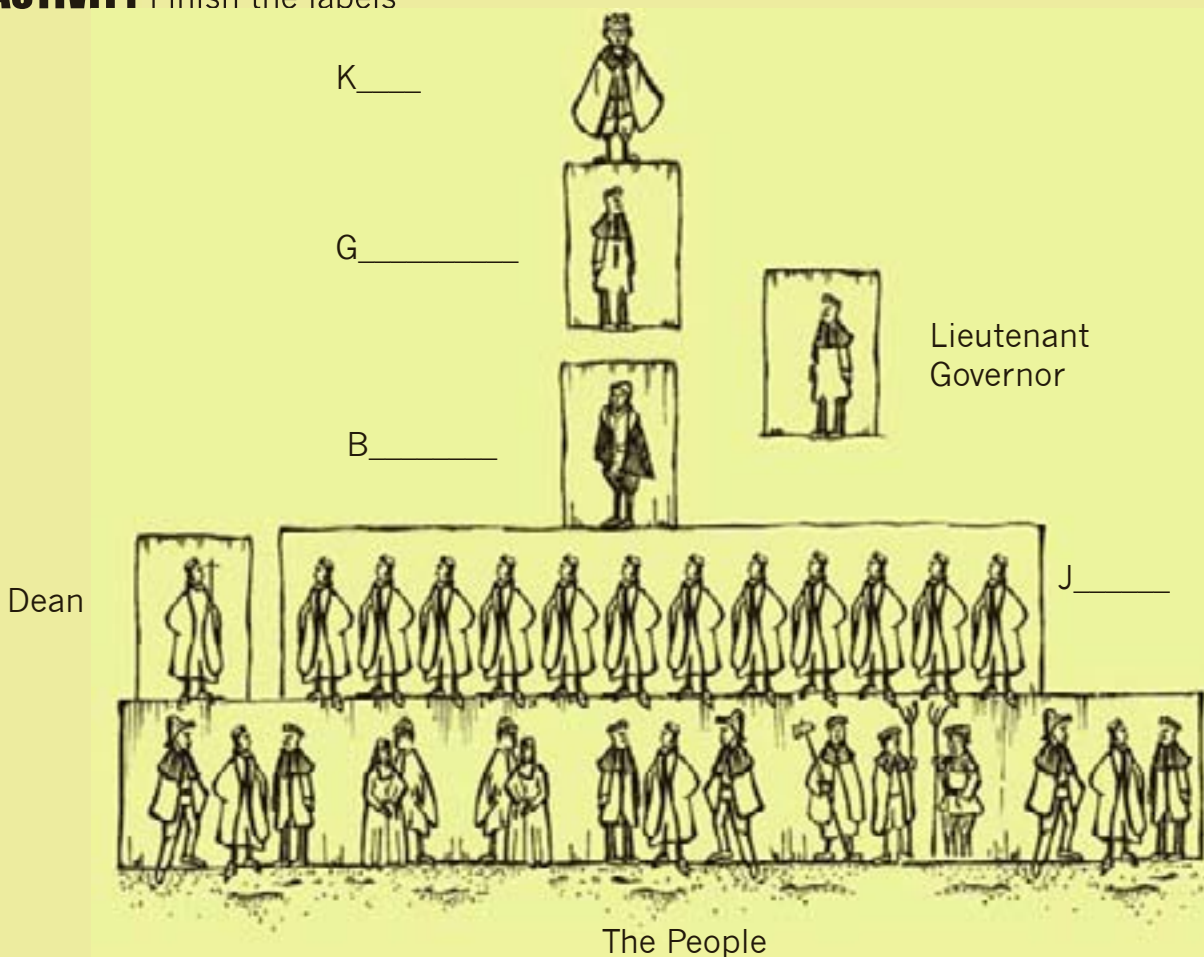
The Kings and Queens of England granted Charters to confirm the Channel Islands' special rights and privileges.



Charter of Elizabeth 1 (Royal Court Guernsey)

They also appointed a Governor to the Islands but as he rarely lived in the Bailiwick, his deputy, the Lieutenant Governor, a Bailiff and a group of twelve important local men called Jurats actually ran them. The Jurats (judgement finders) were chosen by the community and met in the Royal Court to make sure that the islanders followed the laws. The Dean of Guernsey had a separate court that dealt with the laws of the church.

ACTIVITY Finish the labels



The Seigneur

Fiefs

Since Norman times (1000s -1200s) parts of the Bailiwicks of Guernsey and Jersey had been divided into FIEFS. The King could give a Fief to a supporter who then became the SEIGNEUR of the FIEF. The Seigneur collected 'rentes' from all those living in his Fief.

People on some Fiefs also had to pay other taxes such as the 'poulage'. Each household had to give 2 chickens to the Seigneur each year.



Did You Know?

Only the Seigneur had a dovecote and could keep pigeons. The farmers hated the pigeons because they attacked their crops!



© Jane Brayne (detail)

The Chevauchée

Until the 1400s, every three years the Fief de St Michel's officials checked the King's Highway for overgrown hedges and obstructions. Even when the Royal Court took over the job everyone joined in, bringing picnics as they followed the procession.

In Guernsey, a picnic of bread, wine and cold meats was laid out at the Table des Pions at Pleinmont for the Seigneur's party *'which had by ancient use been hollowed out for them'* according to an old account.

The first written record of a Chevauchée was in 1324.



Tudor Kings & Queens



National Portrait Gallery, London

HENRY VII

KING 1485-1509 CATHOLIC

Henry Tudor became Henry VII, the first Tudor King of England, in 1485. His family continued to rule England until 1603 when the Crown passed to the Stuart family.

In 1485 most people in Europe were Christians who followed the way of life set by the CATHOLIC Church of Rome which was led by the Pope. Henry VII made England rich. He spent no money on wars, encouraged trade, built up the Navy and supported exploration across the seas. He gave a Charter to Guernsey which allowed the Islands to continue with their special rights and privileges.

HENRY VIII

KING 1509-1547 CATHOLIC

Henry VII's son Henry VIII was handsome, talented and popular but he upset a lot of people. He fell out with the Pope who didn't support his wish to divorce so he could have a son. He 'dissolved' and took over the rich monasteries. He made war with France, Spain and Scotland. In Guernsey, Henry set up plans to strengthen Castle Cornet against French attack.



National Portrait Gallery, London



Portrait of Jane Seymour;
Stipple Engraving after Holbein

HENRY VIII's six wives

Determined to have a son to succeed him, Henry married six times. Henry's wives met various fates, two were divorced (D), two were beheaded (B), one died (DD) and one survived (S). Can you match the wife to her fate:

- 1 Catherine of Aragon ()
- 2 Ann Boleyn ()
- 3 Jane Seymour ()
- 4 Anne of Cleves ()
- 5 Katherine Howard ()
- 6 Catherine Parr ()



National Portrait Gallery, London

EDWARD VI

KING 1547-1553 PROTESTANT

Henry VIII's only son supported his father's break with the Pope. He became a PROTESTANT but died aged 15. He agreed that LADY JANE GREY could be Queen after him but nine days later Henry VIII's eldest daughter Mary returned to London. She was made Queen and Lady Jane Grey was beheaded.

MARY I

QUEEN 1553-1558 CATHOLIC

Mary I supported the Church of Rome. She ordered terrible punishments for people who didn't follow the Catholic religion. Guernsey Protestants had to flee to places like the Netherlands, Switzerland and Germany.



National Portrait Gallery, London



National Portrait Gallery, London

ELIZABETH I

QUEEN 1558-1603

PROTESTANT

Elizabeth I supported the Protestant religion. She made new laws to make the Church in England the Church of England. She made sure that everyone in her Kingdom followed the new reformed religion.

This period of religious change from Catholic to Protestant affected everyone's lives.
We now call this the Reformation.

A religious way of life

When Henry VII became the first Tudor King most people in Europe lived their lives according to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

The Catholics

Catholics believed that after you died 'good' people went to Heaven and 'bad' people to Hell. If you did not do as the Church said you could be EXCOMMUNICATED which meant that you could never get into Heaven and would be left in Hell for all eternity. This terrified everyone. The Pope was seen by many as more powerful than any King or Queen.

Purgatory

The Church of Rome said that even 'good' people had to spend time in Purgatory before they could get into Heaven. This was a sort of religious 'departure lounge'. People could buy an 'indulgence' from the priest to get a shorter time in Purgatory. This money went to the Church of Rome and many of the Popes used it to give themselves a luxurious lifestyle and to make the Church more powerful.

Did You Know?

The Church of Rome dedicated every day to a Saint. Saints were holy people who had a special place in Heaven. People believed Saints could speak to God for them just as they do today, so they prayed to St Anthony if they lost something or St Clare if they were poor.

People used the Saint's days as a kind of calendar. Farmers knew when to sow and harvest their crops by the Saint's days. People talked about doing things by 'Michaelmas' (St. Michael's Day) or before St. Crispin's Day.

ACTIVITY

Are you named after a SAINT?

Do a Google search on:

List of Saints

ACTIVITY

Join each picture to its label



HELL

PURGATORY

HEAVEN

EARTH

Pilgrimages

Catholics believed that going on a journey to a holy place would make the time in Purgatory shorter. Wealthy people went to Rome or Compostella in Spain. This pilgrimage could take many weeks.

In 1488 John Bonamy, a wealthy merchant from St Martins in Guernsey started a notebook. He recorded that in 1500 he went on a pilgrimage to Rome with his father Pierre, Marguerite Patris, Jean Jehan, Collas Tomes, Collas le Messurier, Janette Tardif, Thomas Bunell, Collas Guerin, Johan le Messurier, Collas Fouaschin, Richard Ettur, Roland Henry, Pierre Brehaut, Guillaume Ozanne, Collas du Pre, Collas Mauger, Thomas de la Court, Mrs Jehanet Baudain and Mrs Collas Effart.

John Bonamy's party probably went on horseback with the ladies and the baggage in covered wagons. Special 'pilgrim inns' had a scallop shell (a sort of Pilgrim's logo) carved over the door. Pilgrims could stop here to rest, change the horses and meet other people making the pilgrimage.



We can work out the route John Bonamy took from his diary. His party left on the 10th March and once in France stopped in Caen. From there they travelled south east stopping at towns such as Blois and Lyon attending Mass and seeing relics of the Saints. They went to Avignon and Marseille and into Italy stopping in Savona, Lucca, Florence and Siena reaching Rome on Easter Monday, 20th April 1500.

John Bonamy describes little of what he saw and did during his 10 day stay in Rome except to say that they were robbed!



ACTIVITY

Colour the countries, which is which?

Colour them:

FRANCE - Yellow

SPAIN - Blue

ENGLAND - Green

ITALY - Red

What were the islands like?

At the beginning of the Tudor period GUERNSEY was divided into 10 parishes just as it is today. The most important building in each parish was the church.

Most people stayed within their parish. The names on old documents show that they worked, played and married others who lived in the same parish. Some people probably only went out of their parish to visit the market and that might only be once or twice a year!



Alderney's Parish Church today



1695 map by Robert Morden (Detail)

ALDERNEY had just one town, St Mary's (now called St Anne) towards the middle of the island where there was fresh water and better soil. There was a small harbour at Longis Bay and a few cottages around the coast.

Few people lived in SARK, HERM and JETHOU. Many of the people who once lived in Sark had died or left around the time of the Black Death (1348). Only pirates and fisherman visited it until 1565 when a 'plantation' (group) of Jersey people settled there to stop the French taking it over.



Lihou Island Priory Artist's impression (Brian Byron)



© Jane Brayne

Did You Know?

An order of monks lived in a Priory on **LIHOU ISLAND** off Guernsey.

Speaking

Norman French (dguernésiais)

The language of the Islands was Norman - French. English was spoken only by a few people who worked in the Town or traded with England.

Norman French

la paomme (powm)

jour de naissànze (joord nay-sahs)

la galaette (gah-lat)

la caboche (kahbosh)

la gâche (garsh)

Le Noué (nway)

à la perchoine (a la pairshoyn)

la tirr'ri (tee-ree)

la houichepotte (wishpot)

la jouaette (zhoo-at)

La moussaette (moozat)

le paissaon (pye sang)

English

apple

birthday

biscuit

cabbage

cake

Christmas

bye/'till the next time

gunfire

pudding

toy

bean

fish

Did You Know?

Norman French and old French did not use standard spelling so diaries written in Tudor times can be difficult to translate - especially if the handwriting is bad!!

Family Names

People were often named for the work they did:

Le Lacheur - Lace or lacet maker
(made laces to tie clothes)

Le Marchant - the merchant

Le Messurier - the man who
weighs and measures

Tostevin - taste de vin, wine taster

Le Pelley - an animal skinner

Le Couteur - a tailor

Le Feuvre - a silversmith

Le Moigne - the monk

Brouard - a brewer of beer

Bisson - hedge cutter

Le Tissier - a weaver, teases out
threads

Some were rude nicknames:

Lenfestey - the drunkard

Le Sauvage - quicktempered



The Parish Church

The Parish Church was the largest and strongest building in each parish. Everyone was expected to come to Mass (the service) in the church on a Sunday and on special days. The priest was an important man but often quite poor.

The priest was expected to keep the Jurats informed of any problems in the parish and to help the poor. Food and wheat were given out on special days. The church 'trunc' where people could leave donations for the poor can still be seen in churches today.



St Pierre du Bois Church, Guernsey



TRUNC St Saviours Church

Everyone believed that spending money on the church would help them to get into Heaven so the priest's special clothes (vestments) were sometimes embroidered with gold and silver. The 'Church Plate' (things that were used in the Mass) were often very valuable.

Many families belonged to a religious club linked to their Parish Church called a CONFRATERNITY. The Confraternity paid the priest to say prayers for members after they died to help them through Purgatory. Sometimes the money was used to help the poor.

The Mass was spoken in Latin which hardly anyone understood.

Did You Know?

People were punished during church services so that they could be shamed in front of everyone!

ACTIVITY Match the Latin word to the English

Salve	Students
Alunni	Greetings
Pulchima	Boy
Puella	Girl
Vale	Pretty
Puellus	Goodbye

A Religious Change

The Protestants

During the time of Henry VIII, churchmen in Europe started protesting that the Church of Rome was spending too much on grand churches, politics and wars instead of the poor. These people became known as PROTESTANTS. They believed that you could go straight to Heaven without doing all the things the Church of Rome said they had to do, like passing through Purgatory. To help people follow the teachings in the Bible they translated it from Latin, which only priests understood, to the language of ordinary people.

In the picture below Henry VIII is dying in his bed, he is passing on the throne to his son Edward VI. The Pope is being hit on the head with an English prayer book or Bible showing that the Catholic Church is no longer important.



National Portrait Gallery

ACTIVITY Label King Henry VIII ① Edward VI ② and The Pope ③

By the time EDWARD VI came to the throne these groups were suffering terrible punishments in Spain and France as HERETICS. (Heretics were people who didn't follow the Catholic religion). French protestants such as the Huguenots escaped from France with the help of people from the Bailiwick.

A Protestant Bailiwick

Elizabeth I was a Protestant. She made the Church of England the official church for England and Wales. However, as Guernsey people still spoke French she allowed French Protestants called Calvinists to lead the churches in the Bailiwick. They were very strict and didn't approve of singing or dancing.

The changes from following the Catholic way of life to a Protestant way of life were called the Reformation as people's way of life had been 're-formed'.

The Reformation

After Henry VIII ordered people not to support the Church of Rome any more and Protestantism came in with Edward VI and Elizabeth I, the priests' smart vestments were cut up into things like cushions and blankets.

Orders were given that the Church 'Plate' and statues should be sold and the money spent on things like making Castle Cornet stronger. However, for a long time many Jurats kept the money for the island and the parishioners hid many of the most valuable pieces!



This Chalice from St Sampsons Church was hidden in the grounds of the rectory until the 1950s.



This cruet was found near St Apolline's Chapel in Guernsey.



St Apolline's Chapel

Frescoes (wall paintings) of religious stories or Saints were scratched out or painted over.

These frescoes from St Apolline's Chapel and those at the Castel Church were recently restored.

Did You Know?

Frescoes (wall paintings), were used to teach people who couldn't read, the stories of the Bible and the lives of the Saints.



One of the frescoes in Guernsey's Castel Church (below) shows St Julian. He was the Patron Saint of Travellers and a hostel was (and still is), named after him.



Wayside Cross

Before the Reformation there were wayside crosses around the islands. Some were put up to mark the way to a church or in memory of a loved one. They may have also been used as markers for a pilgrimage by people who couldn't afford the journey to Rome.

Pilgrims may have travelled to the church of St Michel in the Vale which was separated from the rest of the island, Lihou Island or the Castel Church.



These photographs are not of Bailiwick wayside crosses as the Bailiwick ones were all destroyed during the Reformation. However, we know that there were at least 76 in Guernsey and some of the sites they were on have been found.

ACTIVITY

Design your own Wayside Cross



Catholic confraternities were banned but families like the de Lisles from St Pierre du Bois in Guernsey continued to help the poor. They built 'Alms Houses', which gave some of the poorest families somewhere to live.

The de Lisle 'Alms Houses' in St Pierre du Bois today

ACTIVITY How many words can you make from the word REFORMATION?

Crime & Punishment

In Tudor time punishments could be very harsh.

For Stealing & Begging:

You could be hung from a gibbet, whipped around the town, have an ear cut off and nailed to the pillory, or banished from the Islands by being '*put at the high water mark*' to be picked up by a passing ship. Sometimes people were given more than one punishment.

Did You Know?

Some of those who were banished ended up in Southampton but in the 1600s two poor boys were sent to Barbados! Today, that would be like going on a small sailing boat with no engine, to Disneyland in Florida.

The poor were seen as 'deserving' or 'undeserving'. The deserving poor were helped by the parish but the undeserving poor were punished as vagabonds and beggars - and you know what happened to them!

ACTIVITY Draw some ears nailed to this picture of a Pillory and Stocks!



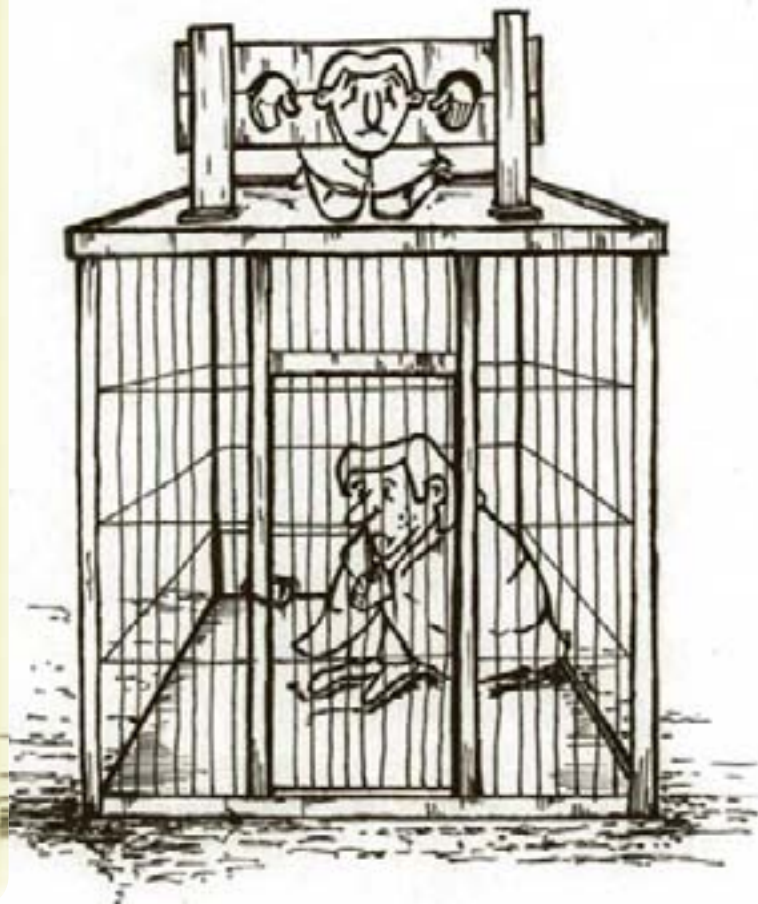
Detail from Foxes Book of Martyrs

The Cage and The Stocks

For scrumping apples, dancing on a Sunday or joyriding (on horses) you could be put in the stocks or hung in a cage!

These were placed in the market on Saturday mornings.

People jeered and threw rubbish and animal dung as they did their shopping!



More Punishments

After the Reformation when the French Calvinists set the rules, no-one in the Bailiwick was allowed to follow the Catholic religion and pray to the Saints. A group of 10 men were punished in the cage and the stocks for still belonging to a confraternity dedicated to St Suzanne.

No-one could work on a Sunday not even to take grain to the mill or wool to the knitters. If you were found outside the Church during the sermon you could be fined 10 sous.

The 'Gown Of Repentance'

One punishment involved standing in front of all the people in the parish holding a lighted candle. The 'gown' was a loose, long, white shirt. One poor girl had to do this because she refused to obey her father and marry someone she didn't love.

Did You Know?

The strict laws made by the Calvinists to make people follow the Protestant religion annoyed a lot of people. One Sunday the priests found the pulpits full of fresh manure!

ACTIVITY Draw someone in their 'gown of repentance'

Witches

Men and women who were not liked by the rest of the community were often called witches. Some were accused of using sorcery to curdle milk, covering people with lice and making spells which killed children or cattle. Witch trials in 1563 show that Martin Tulouff, Francoise Regnoff, his mother and Collette Salmon were sentenced to death as witches. Collette Gascoigne was whipped, had an ear cut off and was then banished.

Did You Know?

Witches Looked
nothing like this!

Although they were said to meet at ancient sites like Le Trepied in Guernsey.



Burnt at the Stake

Henry VIII's daughter Mary I was a strict Catholic. When she came to the throne she was determined to stop the Protestant religion. Anyone suspected of not being a true Catholic could be accused of heresy. The punishment for heresy was to be burnt at the stake.



Foxe's Book of Martyrs tells the story of three Guernsey women who were unlucky enough to be accused of heresy in 1556. Catherine Cauches and her two daughters Guillemine and Perotine were given a short trial. They were condemned to '*la profonde fosse*' (prison cell) in Castle Cornet before being led to Tower Hill to be burnt to death.

The Cauches women being taken from Castle Cornet (Brian Byron)



A Terrible Tragedy

People who were punished by being burnt at the stake were heavily drugged and roped up so they died before the flames could reach them. Catherine, Guillemine and Perotine had a terrible death because the ropes that held them were rotten. When they broke, the women fell into the fire while they were still alive.

*A Lamentable Spectacle of three women, with a sely infant brasting
out of the Mothers Wombe; being first taken out of the fire, and cast in agayne,
and so all burned together in the Isle of Carneley,
1556. July. 18.*

Perotine was pregnant and the shock of falling into the fire caused the baby to be born. The Master Gunner of Castle Cornet caught the baby boy and saved him, but the Bailiff threw the baby back into the flames to die with its mother. Many years later, Catherine Cauches' brother tried to get Queen Elizabeth I to punish the people involved as the baby was innocent of heresy. Several of them were dismissed but they were all pardoned.



Foxe's Book of Martyrs

Did You Know?

During the 1500s -1600s, only three people were executed for heresy. (Can you name them)? Fifty were executed for witchcraft!

Making a Living

In 1481 the Pope issued a PAPAL BULL of NEUTRALITY so that Channel Island ships, which were often attacked by the French or by pirates, could travel the seas safely with their cargoes of wine, wool and other goods.



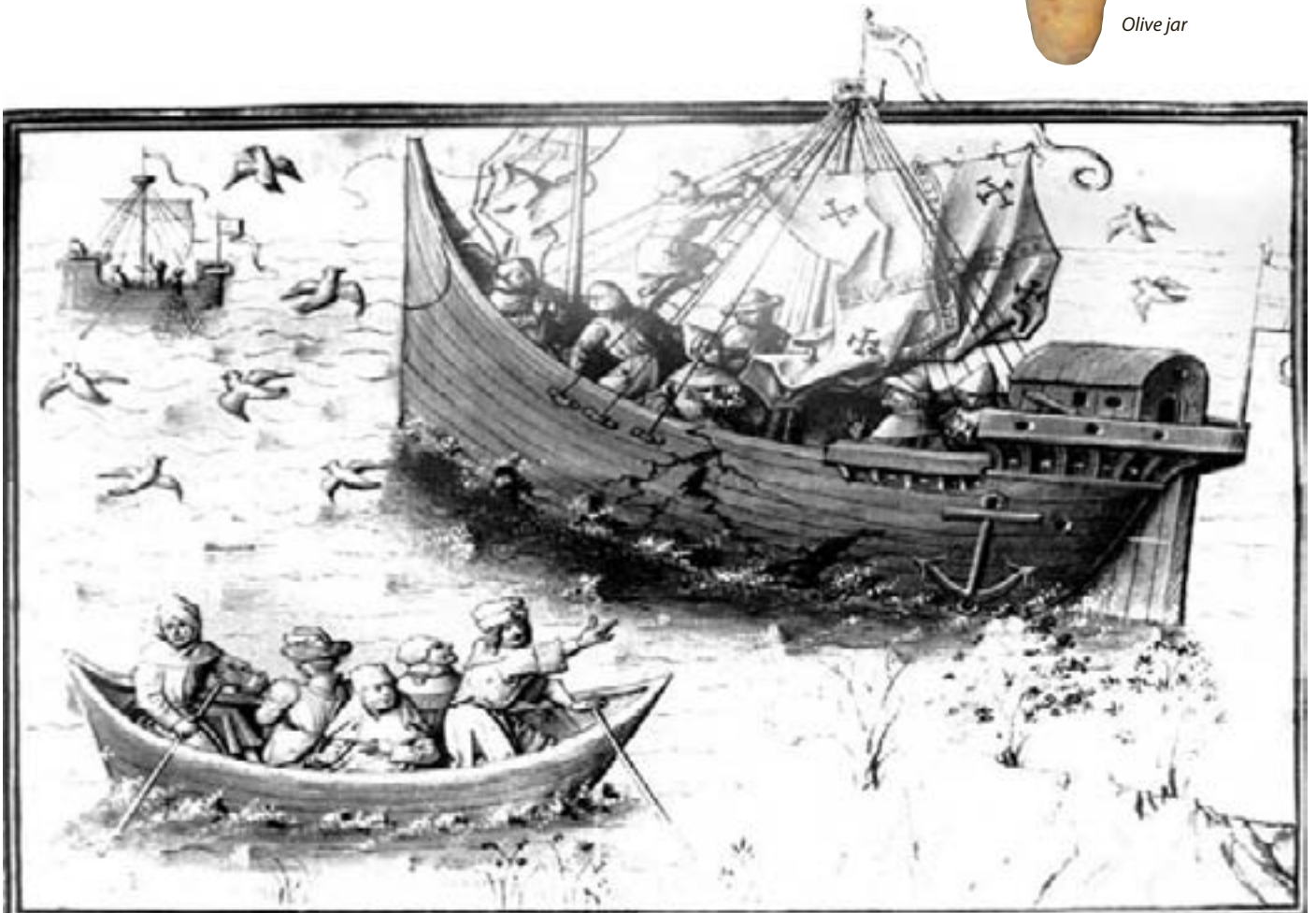
The punishment for anyone attacking Channel Island ships was excommunication which even pirates feared. The Bull gave the islands a big trading advantage especially when France, England and Spain were at war.

Sailors and seamen from the islands worked as pilots (guides) for ships trading around Europe. Some Islanders took shares in ships. The ship was hired out to an agent who organised the goods to be carried. The Captain sold the cargo as he sailed around Europe making profits for the agent and owners. For example, in May 1536 the *Jesus* of Guernsey brought a cargo of salt, canvas and wine into Plymouth and left carrying tin from Cornwall.

John de Beauvoir was a wine merchant. His agent Thomas le Marchant was based in Spain.



Olive jar



On the Waterfront

Guernsey's safe harbour of St Peter Port made it an important place for ships to stop when travelling between France and England. Many people in St Peter Port made their living by repairing and providing supplies for visiting ships.

St Peter Port was the largest town in the Bailiwick and about half the people in Guernsey lived close to the waterfront. The market, areas for killing cattle and cleaning fish as well as ship repair shops were crammed into the area around the 'Town' Church. Houses were built close together and fire was always a danger. The streets were narrow and rubbish and sewage piled up making it very unhealthy, especially for the poor. Richer people built their houses on the outskirts or escaped to their farms.



Peter le Lievre painted this picture of St Peter Port in the 1800s but the houses were probably built in Tudor Times

Cheap Wool

During the 1400s the Channel Islanders had helped Edward IV defend the Islands from the French. In return he allowed them to buy wool from England at special rates. The special prices helped to make knitting an important industry in Guernsey.

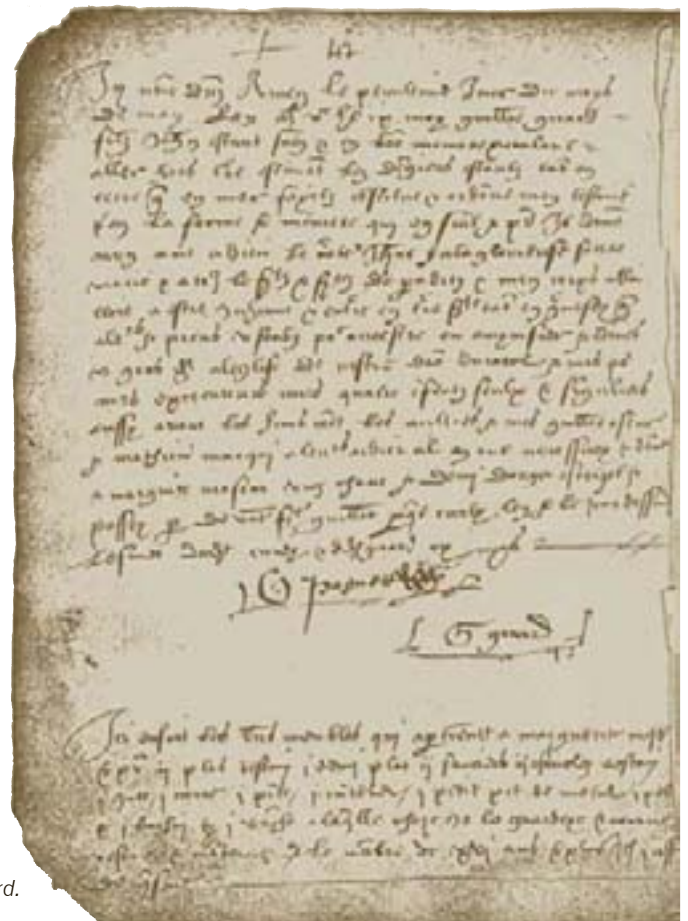
Did You Know?

The wool came from south west England and was coloured in Guernsey using a dye called European Woad. This took the colour without the raw wool having to be cleaned of the oil that kept the sheep dry in the rain.

Merchants & Landowners

Wealthy Islanders recorded their business transactions and many documents survive. John Bonamy's notebook records the land he bought and sold, items that his family owned and gifts he made. John Bonamy gave a pipe of wine (525 Litres) as a wedding gift so he was probably a wine merchant. As one of the richer families in Guernsey the Bonamys were also Jurats.

A lot of the information we have today was written on vellum.



Part of a will signed by L Girard.

The Knitting Industry

Knitting

Women and children worked at home knitting stockings to sell to Guernsey businessmen who sold them around Europe. According to letters between Matthew and Michael de Saumarez in the 1600s 'bas a canon' were the most popular. These were long stockings for men worn with knee length trousers decorated with lace and ribbon.

A boy could make a career from knitting. To qualify as a master knitter he had to knit stockings, a bonnet, a blanket and a woollen shirt.

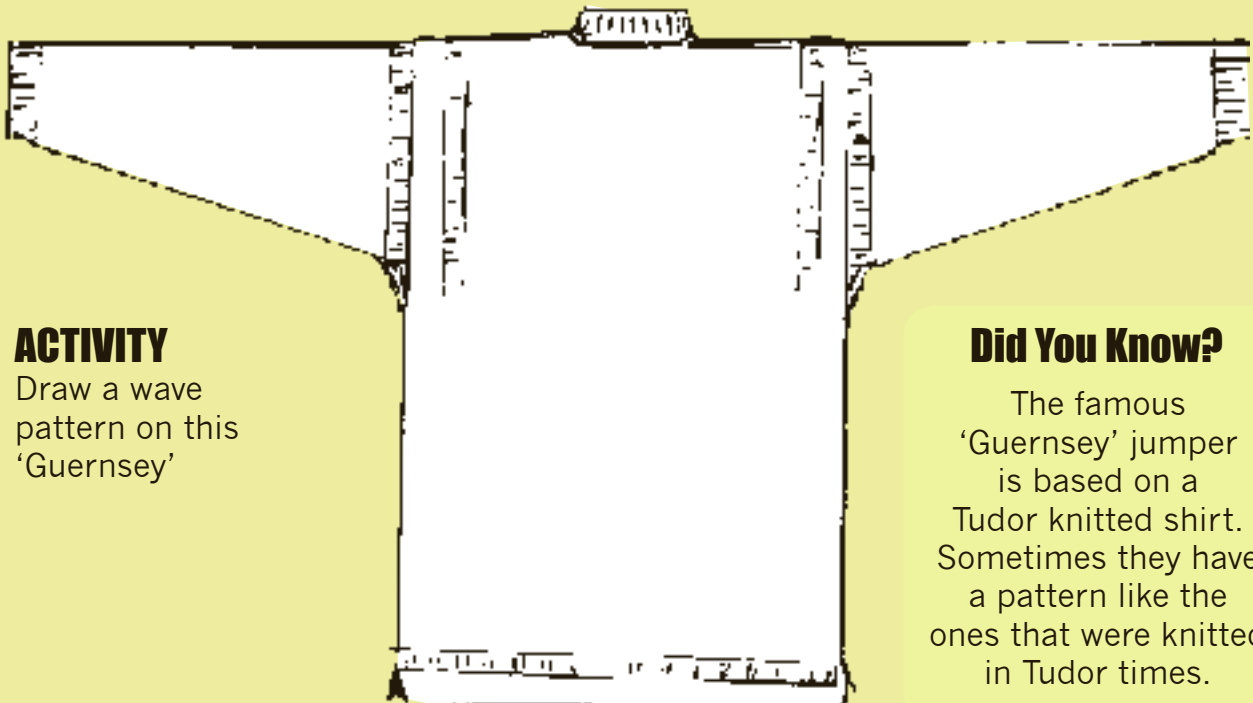
Knitters also made up patterns such as 'waves' or 'swans' which became more complicated as the fashion changed.



Peter Le Lievre

Royal Approval

Mary I accepted 'four wastecotes (shirts), four sleeves and four pairs of stockings of Garnsey making' in 1556. This was a gift from the Governor of Guernsey Sir Leonard Chamberlain. Later, Queen Elizabeth I paid 20 shillings for a pair of Guernsey stockings embroidered with silk.



ACTIVITY

Draw a wave pattern on this 'Guernsey'

Did You Know?

The famous 'Guernsey' jumper is based on a Tudor knitted shirt. Sometimes they have a pattern like the ones that were knitted in Tudor times.



Did You Know?

Mary Queen Of Scots wore a pair of white Guernsey stockings when she was beheaded in 1587!

Money

Most ordinary islanders bartered (swapped) things, so money was mainly used by wealthier people and merchants. Guernsey money was based on the French system of livres, sous and deniers (LSD). However, St Peter Port was an important trading port, so coins from other countries such as Nobles, Ecus, Groats and Spanish dollars were also used.

A livre = an English pound + 1 shilling.

This is a Henry VII groat. A groat was worth 4 English pennies.
5 pennies were equal to one Guernsey (and French) denier.
This was a day's wages for a workman.

This coin has been clipped around the edges, shown here.



Did You Know?

People often clipped tiny pieces from a coin and melted them down to make new ones!



This gold coin is an 'Angel' from the time of Elizabeth I.

ACTIVITY

An 'Angel' was worth 120 English pennies.
How many deniers is that?



Coins from the Tudor period

Bartering

Most ordinary people bought and sold goods by bartering. For example the farmer's wife might exchange butter she had made for some fish.



What is it worth?

10 eggs = a pair of knitted stockings.

A bushel of wheat = one month's rent.

4 lbs (pounds) of butter = a cooking pot.

A pig = half a year's wages for a working man.

Three chickens = 2oz (ounces) sugar.

ACTIVITY

What could you barter now?
Make a list.

Two DVDs =

On the land

Wheat was used for making bread but it was also used instead of money by many people. Measures of wheat paid for all sorts of things from 'rentes' to the Seigneur to offerings for the poor, so it was grown all over the Island. The people of the Bailiwick grew wheat following the French tradition. The best farming land in Guernsey was in the 'upper parishes' such as Castel, Torteval and St. Pierre du Bois.

The wheat was measured before it was ground up into flour. The largest measure in the picture below holds a boisseau (a bushel) of wheat.

Weights and Measures

5 Quints = 1 Denerel

3 Denerels = 1 Cabotel

2 Cabotels = 1 Boisseau

4 Boisseaux = 1 Quartier



Did You Know?

A field at La Houquette in Guernsey was sold for a 'Boisseau de Froment' (wheat).



A demi denerel of wheat



Guernsey spade

Farmers also grew vegetables such as beans, carrots, garlic and onions to feed their family and to sell in the market. Root crops such as parsnips were fed to the animals.

The Jurats could give farmers the rights to parts of the sea shore to collect vraic (seaweed) which they used to fertilise the crops.

Seaweed gatherers on the coast of Guernsey by PJ Naftel (1800s)



Animals

Farmers often kept a few animals and made cider from apples grown in an orchard.

PIGS

Everyone who had a small backyard kept a pig. Every part of the pig could be eaten or was useful. As pigs ate a wide range of food they didn't have to be killed when food was short in the winter.



CHICKENS

Chickens were also kept, even in the towns. Their eggs could be sold or bartered for things that couldn't be grown in the Bailiwick like sugar, spices, tea or ribbons to trim hats.



Did You Know?

In medieval times (before the Tudors) only the Governor or Seigneur were allowed to keep rabbits. They were kept in a 'garenne' (warren).



GOATS

Goat's milk was made into cheese and the meat was eaten. The skin was used to make material called vellum which could be written on.



COWS

Cows were much smaller than today and only produced a small amount of milk. This wasn't drunk but made into butter or curd cheese. As the cows ate grass they had to be killed and the meat salted when the grass stopped growing in winter.

SHEEP

A few farmers had sheep. In his will Pierre Brehaut left sheep to members of his family. He owned land on the cliffs in St Pierre du Bois which was no good for growing wheat. Sheep skin was also used to make vellum.



OXEN

The farmer kept oxen to pull the plough, turn the wheel on the apple crusher when making cider and to pull the cart when taking his produce to market.



Near the Sea

In Guernsey's 'lower parishes' such as St. Sampson's and the Vale and in the coastal areas of Alderney, the land was not good for growing crops. Some islanders made their living as fishermen and salt workers. Salt was important as it was used to preserve fish and meat to stop it going rotten. Salt was made by evaporating seawater in saltpans in low lying areas like Guernsey's Braye du Valle which separated the north of the island from the rest.



Trading in salted fish. Illustration to a work by Olus Magnus 1535 (woodcut)

Did You Know?

Guernsey and Alderney fishermen sailed across the seas with salt to Newfoundland near Canada and fished off The Grand Banks. They sold their catch on their return to Europe after salting the fish. It was too cold in Canada for salt to be made easily (they dried or smoked their food to keep it), so they welcomed the Bailiwick fishermen and their salt!



ACTIVITY

Make your own salt crystals

Put salty water in a dish

Leave in a warm place

When the water evaporates - you will have salt crystals

Look at them under a microscope!

ACTIVITY

Find these names on a map of Guernsey

Salt Pans - where salt was made

Salerie- where fish was salted

Eperqueries- where fish was dried

Houses

Until the Tudor period most ordinary people lived in cottages with one room kept for their animals. By the 1500s richer people were building separate barns for the animals and although the ceilings were low, they lived in two storey houses with several rooms. Some houses had a cellar to store wine and were decorated with carvings.

Houses in the Bailiwick were built from local stone and wood. Granite was quarried and stone was taken from ruined buildings and ancient stone megaliths.



Carving from a house in the Forest.



Les Adams has had its roof raised - you can see where it was in Tudor times.

Most houses had thatched roofs but wealthier homes used slates and tiles. Floors were made of wood or stone and heavy curtains were hung to keep out the draught.



Slate tiles found in Castle Cornet

Window glass was available but it was expensive so only the very rich could afford it. The glass was held in place by lead strips.



The stone in this alcove in Guernsey's Folk Museum probably came from a 'Tudor' window.



These two houses were originally built during the Tudor period.



Did You Know?

Les Caches Farm in the Forest in Guernsey has been restored by the National Trust of Guernsey. You can find more about house building in the late 1400-1500s from the Folk Museum in Saumarez Park, Guernsey.

Homes

The families of the ordinary farmer or fisherman lived in small houses which often had just two rooms with a hallway between them. One room was the kitchen/living room and the other a store or dairy. The family slept in the loft space on truckle or 'rope' beds near the warm chimney breast. Poorer people kept their animals in the second room. Roofs were thatched using reeds from reed beds grown in the Islands. The floor was made of beaten earth or stone.



These pictures from the 1800s give us an idea of what ordinary cottages looked like 400 years ago. However, they probably didn't have window glass so the openings may have been smaller.

The Kitchen

The kitchen was the most important room. It had a large fireplace in which sat the terpieds. These were stands which stood over the fire on which cooking pots could be placed. The fire was kept going with wood, furze and 'bousattes' (dried cowpats).



A rack was hung from the ceiling on which bacon and other items were placed.

In one corner was a Green Bed. This was a wooden frame with a mattress used as seating for the family and a bed for the very old or very young. The rooms were lit with tallow candles or a Crasset lamp which used fish oil.

Did You Know?

In the upper parishes the mattress was stuffed with bracken and called a 'Lit de Fouaille'. In the lower parishes reeds were used and it was called a 'Jonquiere'.



A Room to live in

ACTIVITY From the information on the opposite page can you find each object!

Spinning
Wheel

Terpied

Bacon Rack



Furze

Green Bed

Boussate
(Maybe!)

Peter le Lievre (Private Collection)



Replica rope bed



Tallow candle in Guernsey's Folk Museum

*Unused Crasset lamp
in Guernsey's Folk
Museum*



These plates, bowls and jugs from Tudor times were found in the Bailiwick.



Bellarmino Jug



Spanish Bowl



Tin glazed Spanish plate



Night Light



Beauvais Stoneware c 1550

The Guernsey Arch

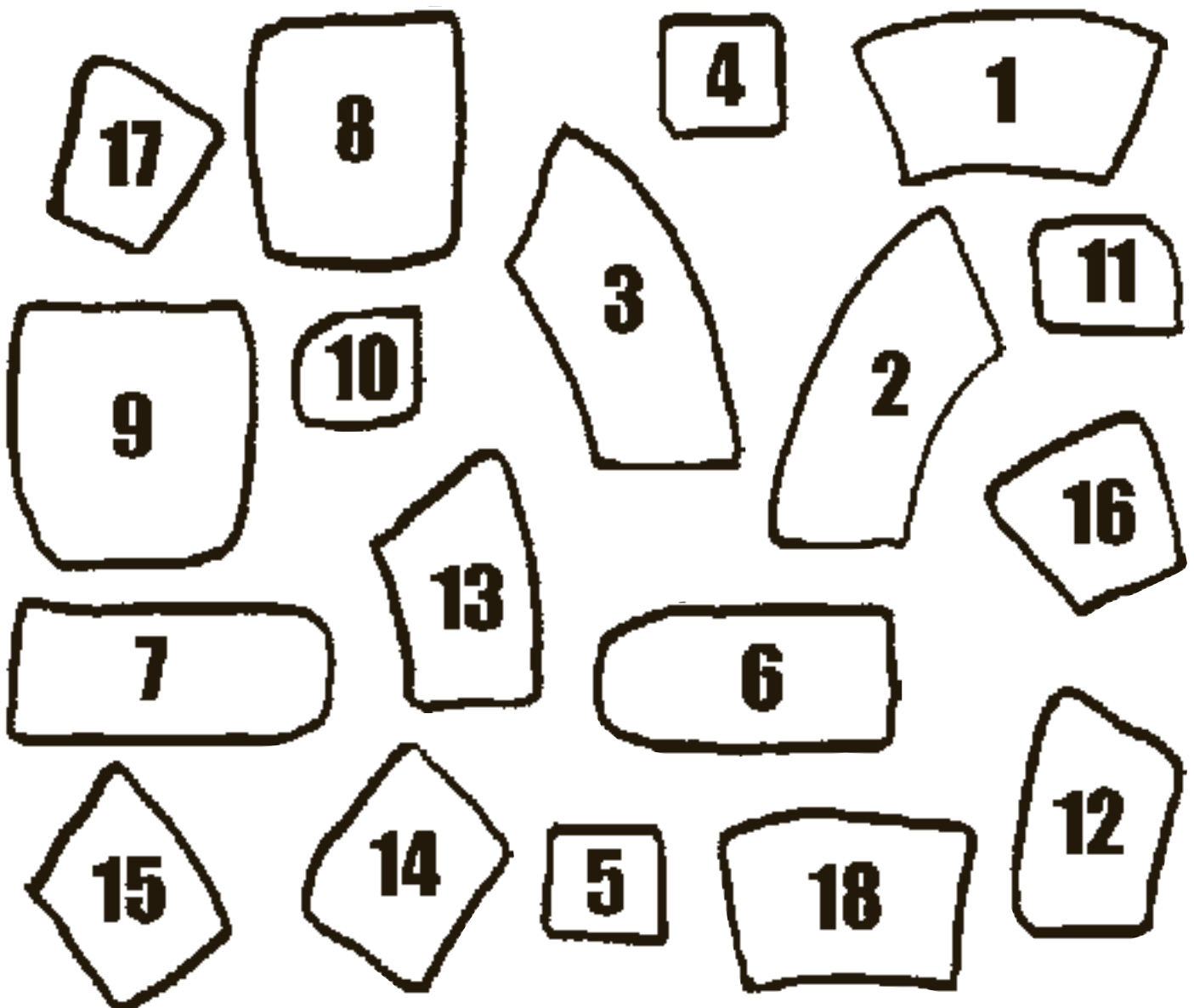
French Huguenots (Protestants) escaped to Guernsey when they were being punished for heresy in Europe. Many were craftsmen and may have started the design for what is now known as the 'Guernsey Arch'. An arch is a strong shape which can support a lot of weight so it was a good shape for a doorway.



ACTIVITY

When you are travelling around the islands, spot the Guernsey arches. Are there any Guernsey arches in Alderney or Sark?

ACTIVITY Make a Guernsey Arch These numbered stones make a Guernsey Arch. Make a photocopy, cut them out and build your arch. Start with the KEYSTONE (No 1). This is placed in the centre top of the inside arch.



Pffhoo!

Where is the Toilet?

People went to the toilet outside over specially dug holes. Inside, they used a pot which was emptied into the yard or street. Rich people had servants to empty their pots out - nice job!



Replica 'Piss' pot



Where is the Bathroom?

People got their water from a well. If they were rich, once or twice a year servants heated water to put in a bath, but generally everyone smelled!

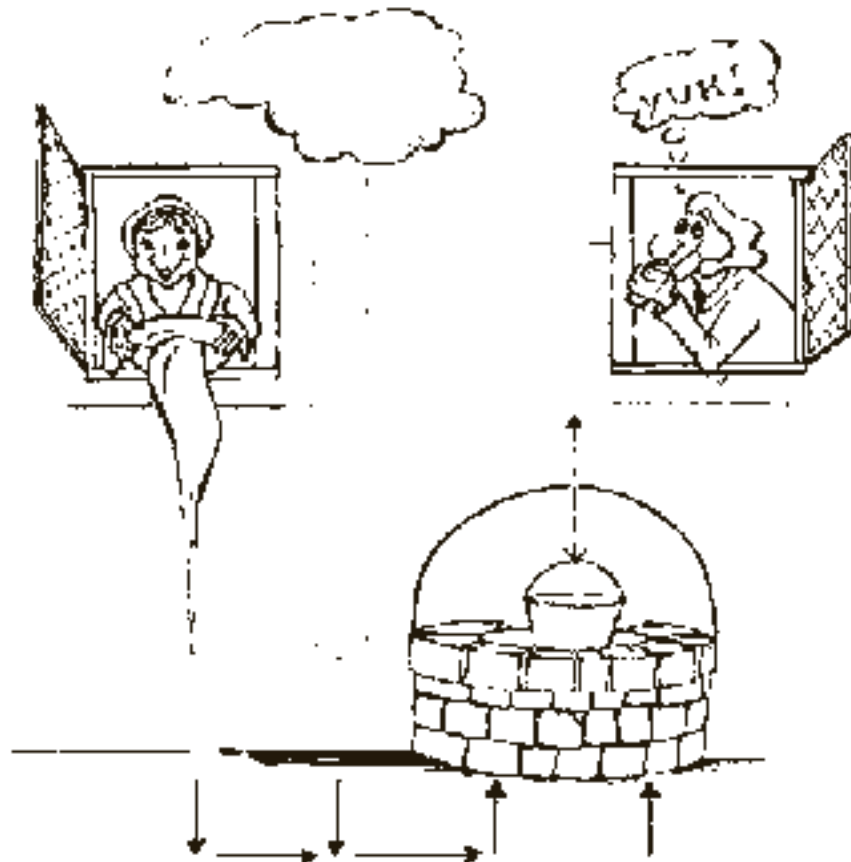
Old well at Dixcart, Sark by WA Toplis

Water to Drink

After collecting all the bugs from the rubbish and sewage which had been thrown out, rain water ran into streams and collected underground.

People got their water by drawing it up from a well.

If you drank the water it made you ill but they didn't understand why!



Did You Know?

Tudor doctors were called apothecaries. Unfortunately they knew nothing about germs!

Windmills & Watermills

As there was no electricity, wind or water power were used to turn the stone wheels which ground the wheat to make flour or crush the apples to make cider.

The mill was an important building in each parish and the miller an important member of the community, as without flour there was no bread.

Watermills were built near streams and windmills on the higher ground. Old maps sometimes show where windmills were sited.



Duvaux at St Sampsons, Guernsey by J Gosselin (1800s)



Cottage at Moulin Huet, Guernsey (1841)

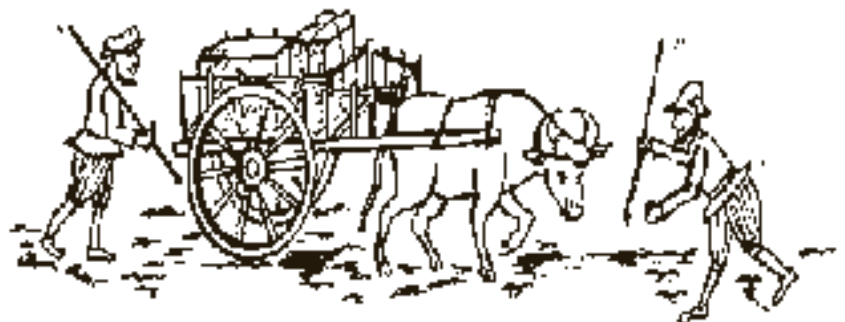


cider press

Travelling Around



In all the islands the best roads were the ones leading to and from the Parish Church. Most roads in the islands were just cart tracks or muddy lanes. The farmer might take his family to market in a cart pulled by oxen once or twice a year but most people just walked from place to place in their own parish. Only the very rich had a horse to ride.



This picture was painted by Elsie Henderson in the 1900s but the lane would have looked much the same in Tudor times.

Herbs

Herbs were used a lot in Tudor Times. They gave flavour to food that was not fresh, salted or dried and they were important to make medicines. People believed that they 'sweetened' the air and prevented disease. They were also useful for covering up the unpleasant smells from the rubbish!

Guernsey Physic Garden

A special garden for medicinal plants was 'The Guernsey Physic Garden of Nine Healing Herbs'. The herbs, shown in the activity below, were planted in a square, in three rows of three.

The pattern of threes linked with the Christian church's Holy Trinity of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. People believed that the medicine would be more effective if the plants were grown in this shape. They also believed that nine was a magic number.

Although Tudor doctors (apothecaries) didn't know what caused illnesses many of the medicines worked quite well.



Fuming Pot

ACTIVITY Look up the herbs listed below and draw each above its name.

Vervain	Sage	Rue
Hellebore	Rosemary	Lavender
Comfrey	Wormwood	Marjoram

Did You Know? Lambert's Garden in Guernsey's Castle Cornet has one section planted as a Guernsey Physic Garden.

Food & Cooking

The Tudors generally ate two meals a day, dinner at around 11am, and supper between 5pm and 6pm. The Catholic Church required everyone to eat fish on Fridays but later laws made it three days a week to encourage the fishing trade. As most ordinary people in Guernsey couldn't afford meat anyway this was not a problem.

Rich Islanders such as John Bonamy and his friends ate well. They had plenty of meat, sweet puddings, wine and spices and servants to cook for them. Salad was popular but made from herbs and raw vegetables.

They carried a Nef (knife and spoon) and used silver or pewter cups and plates and glazed cookware. Candles from sweet smelling beeswax were popular. These knives were used in Guernsey.



Knives used in Guernsey.

We have some idea of what food was eaten in Tudor times by the yearly supplies sent to Castle Cornet for the Governor, builders and soldiers.

100 tuns of beer,
10 "befes" (beef carcasses),
200 flitches (sides) of bacon,
500lbs (200 kg) of butter,
10 "weyes" of cheese (about 1000 Kg)
1,000 "stockfishe" (dried, unsalted cod)

These were sent from England.

Guernsey people sold them wheat, chickens, sheep and cider.

Carp, deer, pheasants, rabbits and "all sortes of spyces", currants, raisins, prunes, and "sweete oyle" were available for the Governor and his friends.



Sherd of glazed pottery



Pewter plate

Wealthy islanders ate fresh water fish from ponds made in the marshy areas. William Camden reported in 1570 that:

'On the West part near the sea there is a lake that is a mile and half across, full of fish, but large and tasty carpes especially.'



Eating & Drinking

Poorer islanders ate bread, salted fish, fresh skate and mackerel, bacon, conger eels and vegetables such as peas and beans that they could grow. If the harvest was poor, laws were made to stop people selling food outside the islands. Parsnips and carrots were grown mainly as cattle food. They used wooden plates called trenchers, leather cups, horn mugs and unglazed pottery cookware. Candles were made from tallow or animal fat and smelt awful!

Bees were kept for honey and pickles were made from piercepierre (samphire), a kind of weed collected in Brecquou and at Pleinmont in Guernsey.

People drank 'small' beer and wine as the water wasn't fit to drink (remember?!)

ACTIVITY Who may have had these items on their table.
Label them with an (R) for Rich, (P) for Poor or (A) for Anyone.



Clothes & Costume

In the early Tudor period rich and poor dressed in a similar fashion. Most people dressed simply to keep warm and to work. Their clothes were made from coarse wool cloth such as linsey woolsey, or twilled linen cloth.

The rich used more luxurious materials such as pure wool and velvet and fine fur or silver trimmings for special occasions.



Buttons found in Castle Cornet

Buttons were made of beaten metal or home made from pig or cow bones. A lot of clothes were often just tied together with lacing made from flax or strips of leather.



Buttons found in Castle Cornet



Buckle found in Castle Cornet



'Tudor' Figurine



Tip of a walking stick found in Castle Cornet



Mrs Thomas Andrews 1541

Did You Know?

To make their underclothes and shirts really white linen was soaked in a bath of urine and then left out in the sun to dry!

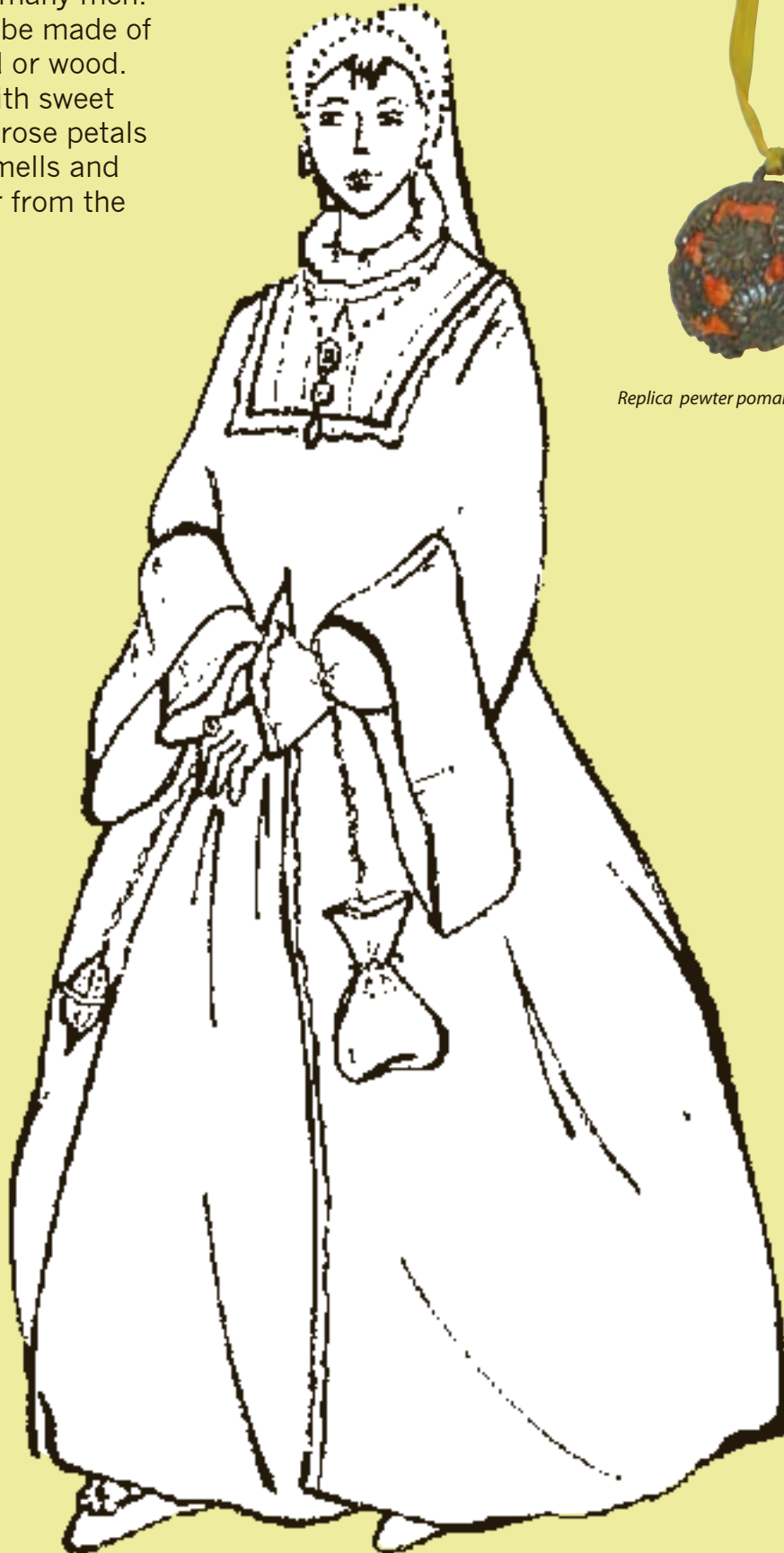


Pin maker

Accessories

ACTIVITY Colour in the Lady

Pomanders were carried by most women and many men. Pomanders could be made of pewter, silver, gold or wood. They were filled with sweet smelling herbs or rose petals to ward off bad smells and protect the carrier from the miasma (bad air).



Replica pewter pomander

How they dressed

Working men wore a loose shirt and long loose trousers sometimes bound with tape, knitted stockings and a woollen 'barett' shaped like a cone on their heads. Shoes were made of wood or leather.

Women wore long skirts and a large 'couvrechef'. This was a square of cloth that could cover the head and the shoulders. They wore woollen stockings like the men.

One of the most popular garments was 'le cadeau' which was a large woollen cloak with a hood which the rich trimmed with fur and which could be used as a blanket.

Did You Know?

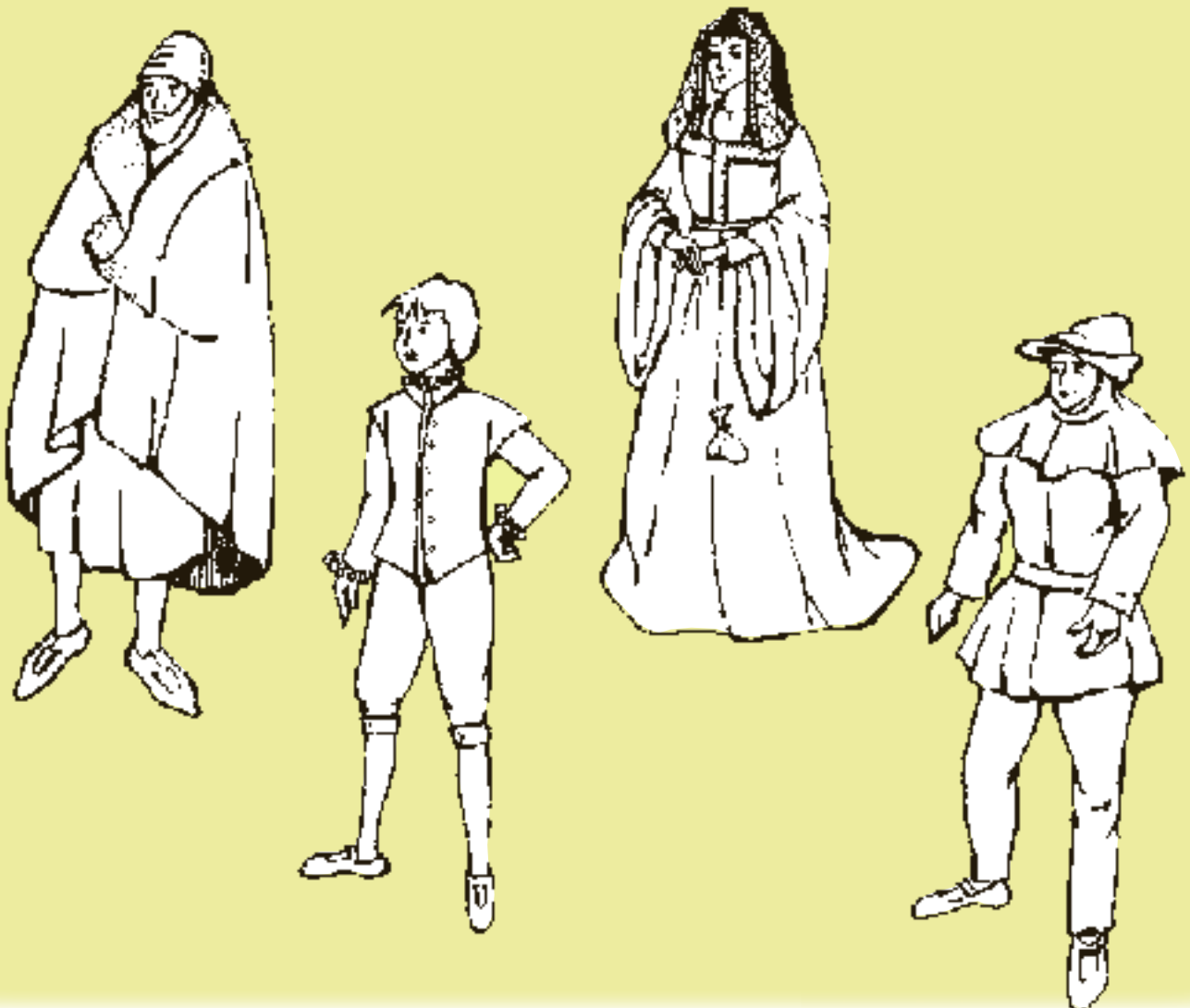
Flax which was used to make linen underclothes and shirts was grown around La Grande Mare and the Petit Bot Valley in Guernsey.



Unknown lady. Stipple engraving after Holbein.

ACTIVITY Who is Who?

Colour and label the figures: Lady - Man in a 'Cadeau' - Servant - Working Man



Elizabethan Fashion

Queen Elizabeth I liked fine clothes. Ruffs became larger and she introduced a stiff petticoat called a farthingale to make skirts stand out. Jewellery such as pearls and other precious stones were worn by the wealthy.



Did You Know?

The roads were so dirty that people wore wooden shoes called 'pattens' to lift them out of the muck!



Figure in late Tudor dress

Sumptuary Laws

Queen Elizabeth I didn't feel the ordinary working person should dress too richly and Sumptuary Laws were made to stop them.

In the Bailiwick the strict Calvinist Protestants were in charge. They disapproved of lavish clothes and jewels and made a law to stop servants wearing velvet, silk and gold or silver ornaments.

One document shows that Pierre de Garis' daughter went into service as a maid taking only a devantel (apron), chemise (undershirt), a couvrechef (scarf to tuck into her bodice), a blanket and a pair of wool stockings. She probably also wore a cotton cap, a cheap wool and linen (beslinge) skirt, a bodice and wood and cloth shoes.



This Cameo brooch was found in Castle Cornet.



Did You Know?

Tobacco was discovered in the 1500s by explorers to the New World (Americas). Clay pipes found in Castle Cornet are small because tobacco was very expensive. Maybe they belonged to the Governor.



Clay pipes found in Castle Cornet.

Having Fun

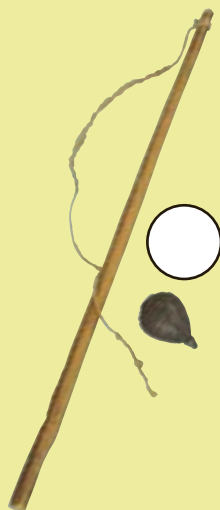
Until the time of Queen Elizabeth I when the Calvinist Protestants stopped them, adults enjoyed gambling with playing cards, singing and dancing. People met together by the church and held fairs and parish revels to celebrate special days.

After the Reformation dancing was strictly forbidden. *'Tossing, turns, frysks & flyngs- fall giving gazes game'* George Gascoine said disapprovingly (of course no one wore knickers in those days!)

The way to have fun on a Sunday was to meet your friends in the fields where the linen and flax was laid out to bleach in the sun. Children were treated as little grown ups so they didn't have a lot of time to play. They just had a few toys made from scraps of wood and cloth. Stump dolls, hobby horses, whipping tops and hoops, clay 'marbles' and windmills were popular.

ACTIVITY Which of these toys do you think Tudor children could have played with?

Yes (Y) No (N)



Did You Know? Footballs were made from a blown up pig's bladder.

School

Children in poorer or farming families helped their parents by working in the fields, knitting or fishing. Most people could not read or write but there were three parish schools for ordinary people in Guernsey. The parishioners paid one denier a year for the Minister to teach the children their numbers and letters. Richer merchant families sometimes hired tutors for their sons to make sure they could take over the family business.

Girls were expected to learn sewing and household skills, singing and maybe how to play an instrument.



Horn book



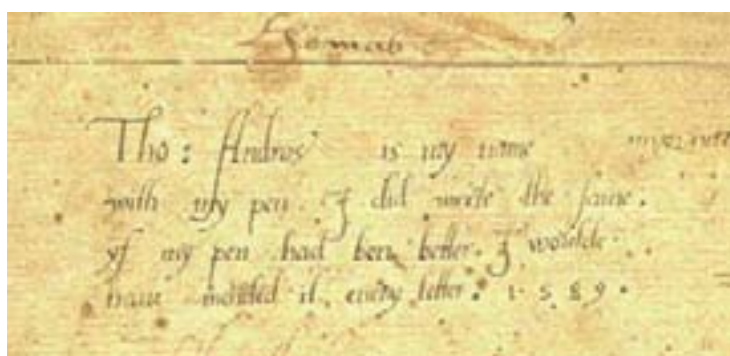
Quills, inkpot & pounce pot.

The first school for young children was started in St Peter Port by Thomas le Marchant and Jammette Thehy. It was later called 'Le Petite Ecole' and opened for boys in 1513. At this time lessons were in French or Latin.

In the 1560s the Royal Commissioners of Elizabeth I started the 'School of Queen Elizabeth' as a Grammar school to teach the sons of the wealthy to be 'good' English protestants. The first schoolmaster was Adrian Saravia. He didn't like Guernsey or its people and complained that the Islanders despised learning. He also called them 'slow bellies' because so few of them liked going to the Protestant church services!

Did You Know?

Adrian Saravia helped to translate the Bible into English for the first Stuart King, James I.



Handwriting practice by Thomas Andros 1589

Defending the Islands

The Militia

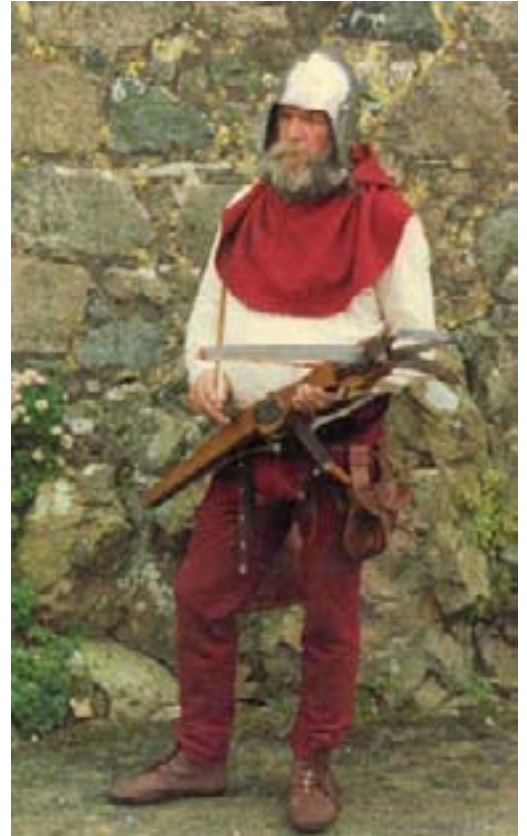
The Militia was made up of local men who were trained to defend the Islands if they were attacked. They had no uniform in Tudor times and often had to buy their own weapons.

The Militia had to train every Sunday after the Church service. The Church, as the largest and most secure building in the Parish, was used to store their weapons so it was easy to get the men together for practice.

The Militia practiced with bows, arrows and other weapons at Les Buttes.

ACTIVITY Can you find Les Buttes on today's maps of Guernsey and Alderney?

Elizabeth I made sure that some of her soldiers had modern weapons like the ARQUEBUS. This was a kind of gun. The gunpowder was stored in small containers called 'apostles'. Small balls of iron or stone were used as ammunition. Some soldiers even had MUSKETS which were the latest invention.



Cross bowman

ACTIVITY Colour in the Musketeer.



www.educpics.com



Apostles Castle Cornet

Islands Under Attack!

Pirates

Ships travelling to and from the islands were always in danger from attack by pirates. Pirates lived by stealing the cargo, weapons, clothes and food from ships they boarded. If the crew did not like the Captain they killed him. Even the threat of excommunication didn't stop them as some sailed the boat away before anyone could catch them!

However, if they were caught they were treated cruelly and hung.

Richard Hitchens, who was the leader of a gang of pirates from Alderney, was executed and hung up in chains at St Martins Point in Guernsey.

Maybe he was punished like the smuggler in this picture!



Essex Castle - Alderney

In the early Tudor period Alderney was used as a refuge for ships fleeing from pirates and French privateers. When the French tried to take over Sark in 1549, King Henry VIII sent 200 men and 200 soldiers to build a fort overlooking Longis Bay in Alderney. This was supposed to be strong enough to stand up to cannon fire and provide shelter for the islanders and their animals. A lot of money was spent but only a few walls were finished.

Four years later when Alderney was attacked by Captain Malesart, a French soldier of fortune, there was no fort to defend the islanders. Malesart stole cattle and goods and came back again at least twice. Eventually, the Guernsey Governor (Chamberlain) sent a force of soldiers to stop them.

In 1558 Malesart was captured, sent to the Tower of London and hanged. Later Chamberlain's son John was made Lord of the Manor in Alderney.

Did You Know?

Henry VIII's unfinished Fort was not called Essex Castle for another 200 years.

Sercq (Sark)

Sark was seized by the French in 1549 but the garrison from Castle Cornet chased them off. The French tried again, but in 1565 Helier de Carteret of Jersey 'planted' 40 people on the island who would live there and keep it safe from a French takeover.



Essex Castle in the 1800s

*Essex Castle today
(Chris Ireland)*



Castle Cornet

After King John of England lost Normandy to Philippe of France in 1204, it became necessary to build Castle Cornet to protect Guernsey's harbour from the French. After the 'Bull of Neutrality' (remember?) made the harbour safer from attack, the Castle fell into disrepair.



Castle Cornet in 1450 before the Tudor additions (Brian Byron)



Most of the work on the castle was organised by Sir Thomas Leighton. He was a relative of Queen Elizabeth which shows how important Guernsey was to the English Crown.

However, he wasn't very popular with the Islanders. He made them work on the Castle but documents show that labourers from England got 7d a day and labourers from the Islands only got 5d a day. The Islanders also complained that he didn't pay his bills on time.

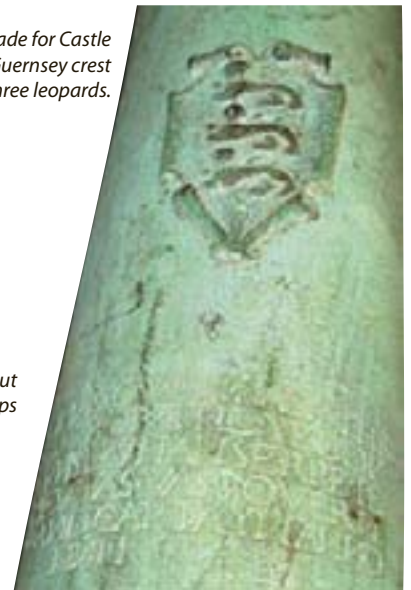


Rounded walls at Castle Cornet

This cannon was made for Castle Cornet. It has the Guernsey crest on it of three leopards.



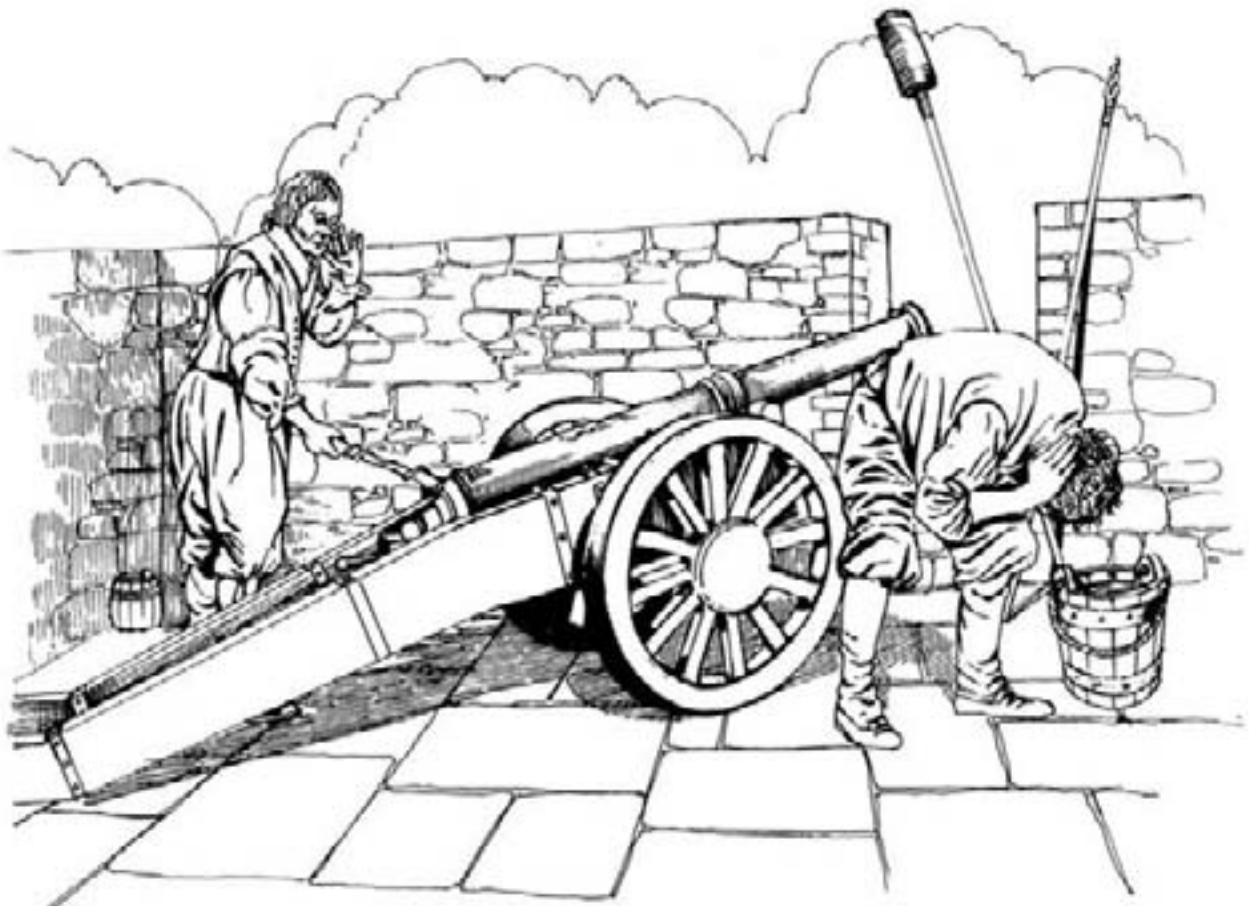
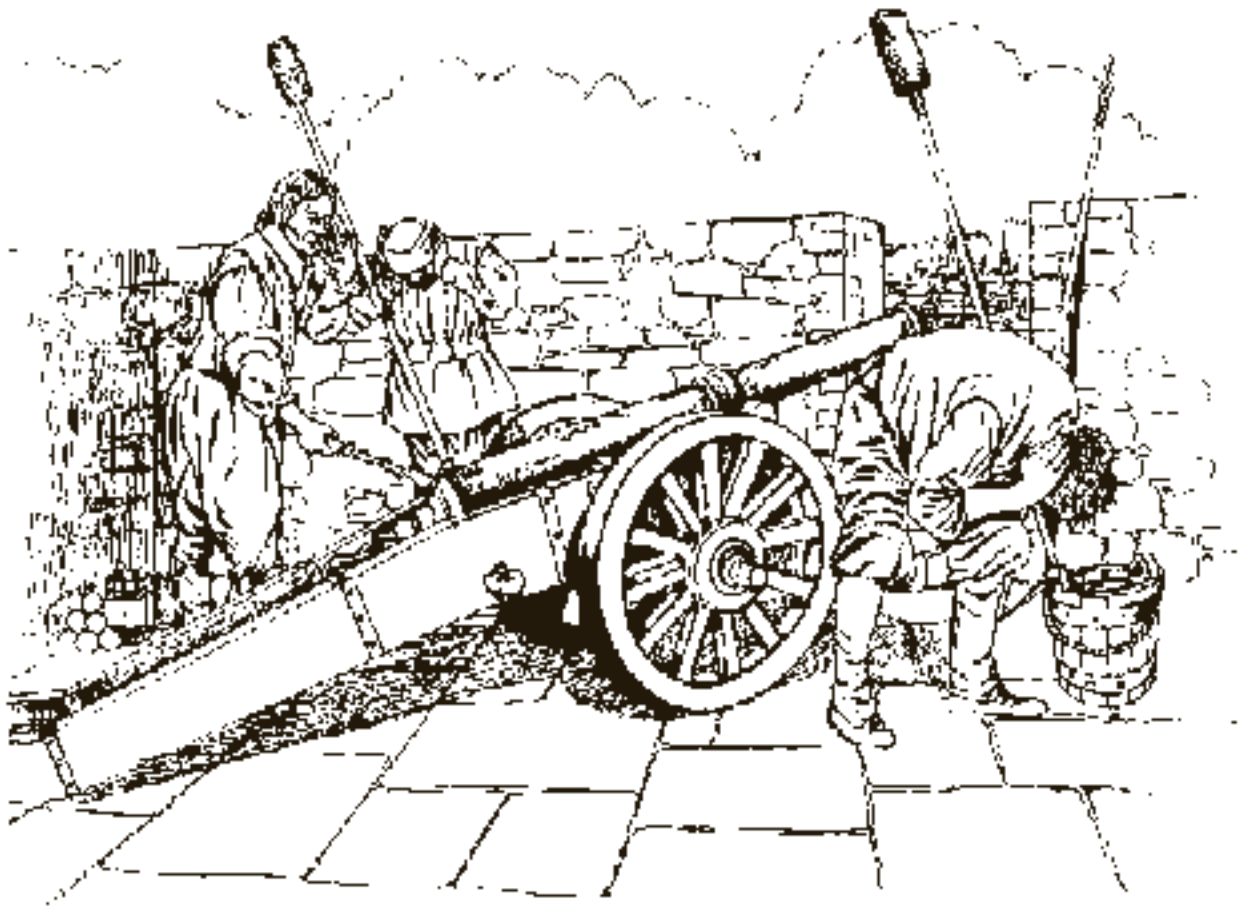
'Star' cannon to cut the rigging on ships



Legal document (indenture) written by Thomas Leighton

Did You Know? Sir Thomas Leighton used Herm and Jethou as his private estate keeping animals such as swans, deer and rabbits for his table. He also brought sand from Herm for the building work, using 6 'greate Normandie boats'.

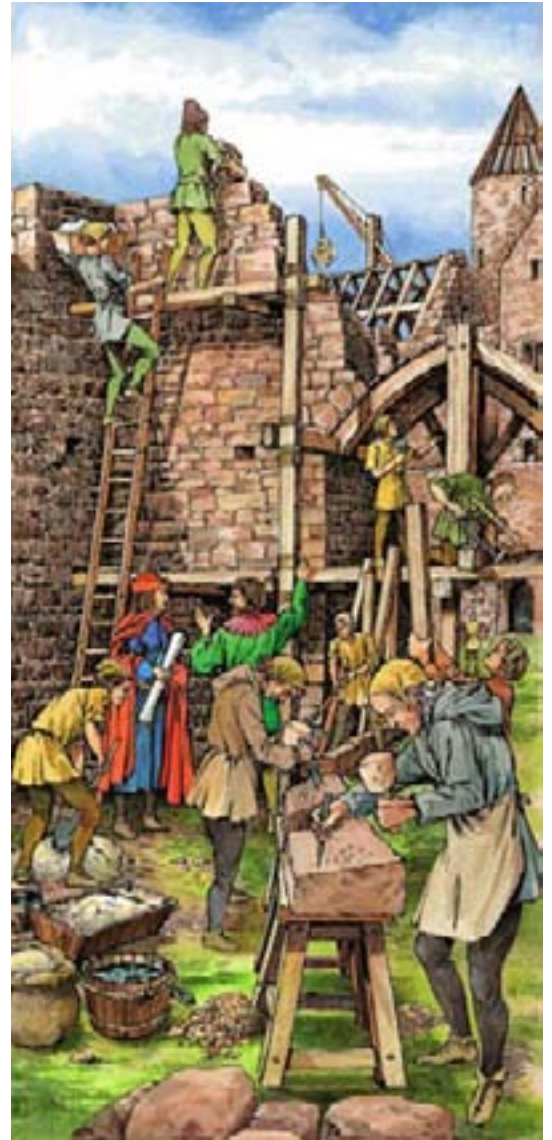
Spot the Difference



There are eight differences to find.

Building the Castle

Workers and materials of all kinds were involved in the building of the new outer walls of the Castle. Find some of them in this wordsearch.



Building the first Castle Cornet in the 1300s (Brian Byron)

baskets	cooper	glazier	limemaker	porter	roughmason	tar
candle	corselets	hair	painter	quarryman	smith	trumpet
carpenter	dryfats	hellier	plumber	rope	stonemason	yarn

We know a lot about the people and the payments made for the building works in the Castle because all the records were kept. The documents use words that are not as common today.



Did You Know?

Corselet = breastplate armour

Cooper = barrel maker

Glazier = Fitter of glass

Porter = water carrier

Dryfat = container to store dry goods

Hair = binds wall plaster together

Hellier = pulls heavy stone and bricks in place

Castle Cornet in 1600

In 1566 the Dean of Guernsey said that Castle Cornet was *'the key and centre of the Isles'*.

The new walls of the castle were finished in the time of Queen Elizabeth I. Her Coat of Arms can still be seen over the entrance to the Castle although it has been worn away by time.

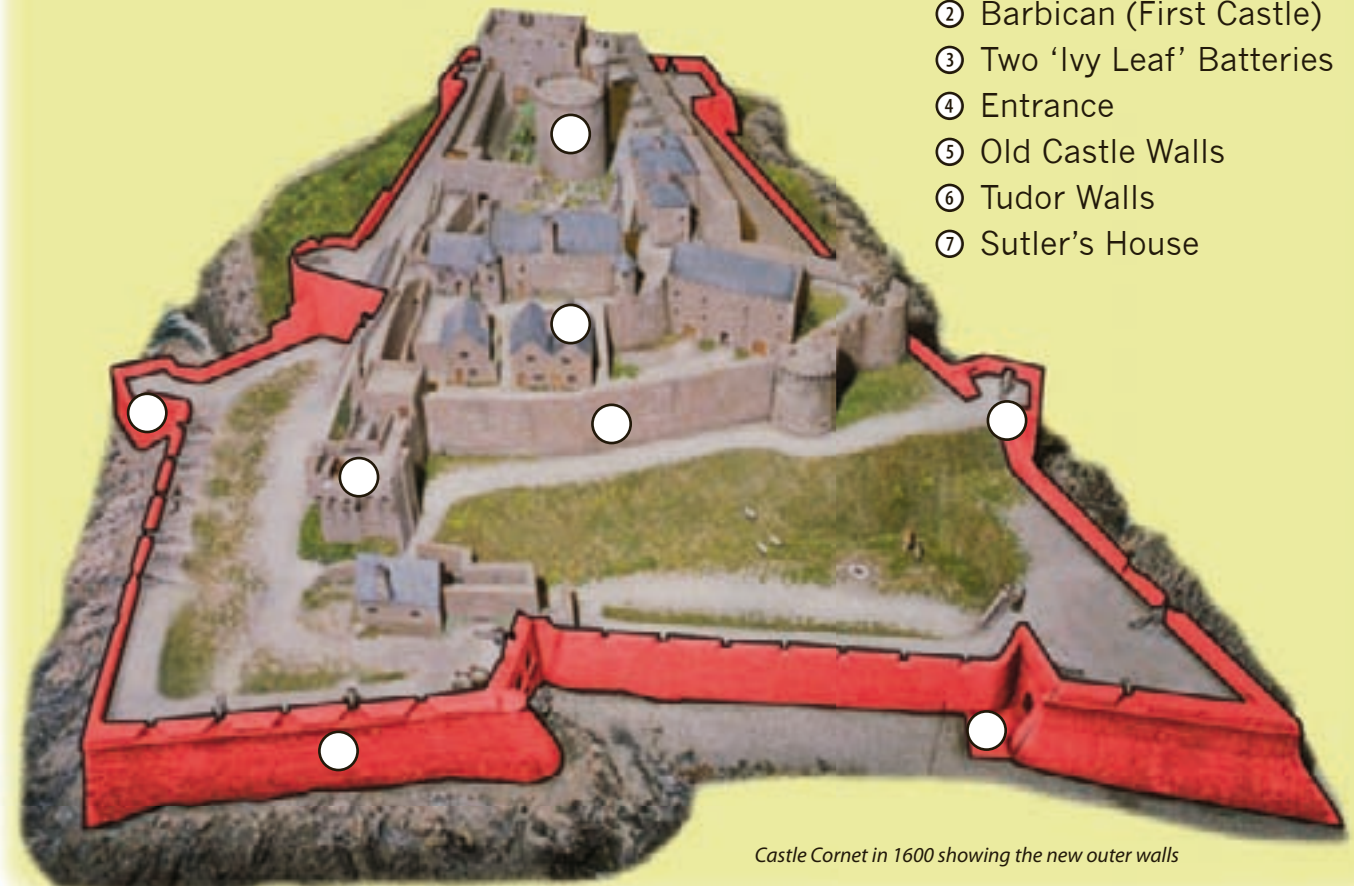


Entrance to Castle Cornet (Brian Byron)



ACTIVITY Label the parts of Castle Cornet

- ① The Donjon or Keep
- ② Barbican (First Castle)
- ③ Two 'Ivy Leaf' Batteries
- ④ Entrance
- ⑤ Old Castle Walls
- ⑥ Tudor Walls
- ⑦ Sutler's House



Castle Cornet in 1600 showing the new outer walls

Ships & Seafarers

During the Tudor period ships from Europe were travelling around the world looking for new lands. Rich cargoes of spices, gold and silver were brought back to England. In May 1535 Guillaume de Guernezé (William of Guernsey) was on one of the first ships to explore Canada. As skilled sailors it is likely that many Islanders were on ships that sailed to these far away lands.



Lead glazed platter



Compass Rose found in
St Peter Port harbour



Lead glazed jug



15th century water bottle
from Castle Cornet

Spies

Agents like John Tupper who spoke several languages, were able to spy on the King or Queen's enemies as his ships traded around Europe. Documents show that John Trohardye passed on information from a fisherman in Brittany which helped Queen Elizabeth I's sailors defeat the Spanish Armada.



Briard Coat of Arms

Privateers

In 1548 John Briard was given a 'Letter of Marque' by King Edward VI which gave him permission to capture enemy ships. This was called privateering. In later years many Islanders made money from the 'prizes' they captured.

Did You Know?

The largest treasure ever taken was from a Spanish treasure ship during Admiral Anson's voyage around the world 1742-44. The ship that made the capture was captained by Guernseyman Philip Saumarez.

A New Harbour

The Bailiwick Islands have always been visited by ships from other countries and Guernsey's safe harbour was a favourite stopping place.

In 1563 Queen Elizabeth I granted Guernsey the right to charge ships using the harbour. The money collected was used to build a new pier. This is now called The Albert Pier. In 1590 William Camden described it like this:

'This haven is situate nearly at the eastern extremity of the island: there is an arm erected towards the south, representing a half-moon. The little town of St Peter Port, which is long and narrow, is seated and borders on this haven, which is well provided with fortifications ..'

Tudor Islands

William Camden, who wrote about the Islands in the 1570s, described them like this:

Garnsey, 'lying out east and west in fashion of a harp... ..smiles right pleasantly on you with much variety of greene gardens and orchards: by means whereof, they use for the most part a kinde of wine made from apples, which some call Sidera and we Sydre.'

He considered that 'Garnsey' people were... ..'nothing so industrious in tilling of the ground as those of Jarsey (Jersey), but in navigation and trafficke of merchandise, for a more uncertain gaine they be very painfull.'

He says that in **Alderney**... 'the aire is healthfull, the soile sufficiently rich, full of fresh pastures and corn fields: yet the inhabitants poore, through a custome of parting their lands into small parcels by the Gavelkind (sharing land between sons). The towne is situate well neere in the midst of the isle, having a Parish Church and about 80 families with a harbour called Crabbic some mile off.'

Of **Jethou** and **Arme** (Herm) he says'for the Governour of Garnsey serveth in steed of a parke to feed cattell, to keep deere, conies (rabbits) and pheasants. Arme, which being larger than the other, was first a solitary place for Regular Chanons...'

Of **Sarke** (Sark) he says..... 'a little Iland that lieth betweene these above named, walled about, as it were, with mighty steepe rockes, which I(?) de S Owen of Jarsey... ..made a plantation whereas before it lay desolate.'

ACTIVITY

Look at this portrait of William Camden. It shows the family Coat of Arms. His coat is embroidered with heraldic symbols. Other items in the portrait show us what kind of person he was and what his interests are.

Find out more about Coats of Arms on the Internet and draw your own.



Alderney Wreck

During the reign of Queen Elizabeth I countries around Europe were battling for power and wealth. Countries that followed the Catholic religion were also trying to prevent those like England which followed the Protestant religion gaining too much power. English ships taking supplies and troops to fight in France sometimes had to pass by the Islands and some were attacked or wrecked.



Artist's impression of the shipwreck (Brian Byron)

Sir Thomas Leighton's wife Elizabeth tried to get help from the Queen for her friend John Lambert who lost three of his ships in this way.

A shipwreck has been found off Alderney which archaeologists believe may have been a supply ship taking troops and arms to Brittany in France. In a letter to the Queen in 1592, English General Sir John Norreys wrote: *'I have yet hard nothyng but that tow packets sent from your L: sins my coming over are lost in a shyp that was cast away about Alderney'*.

The wreck was a fantastic discovery as not only is it the only known shipwreck of an Elizabethan English ship, it had a lot of things on board which show what people were using during the Elizabethan or late Tudor period. Unlike the 'Mary Rose', Henry VIII's warship which sank as it left the dock in 1545, this ship had 'state of the art' weapons including identical cannons which used the same size shot and muskets of the latest design.



This stamp was found on a pan weight. It was used between 1587 and 1602 and is the mark of Elizabeth I. This gives a date for the ship.



Basin



Apostles

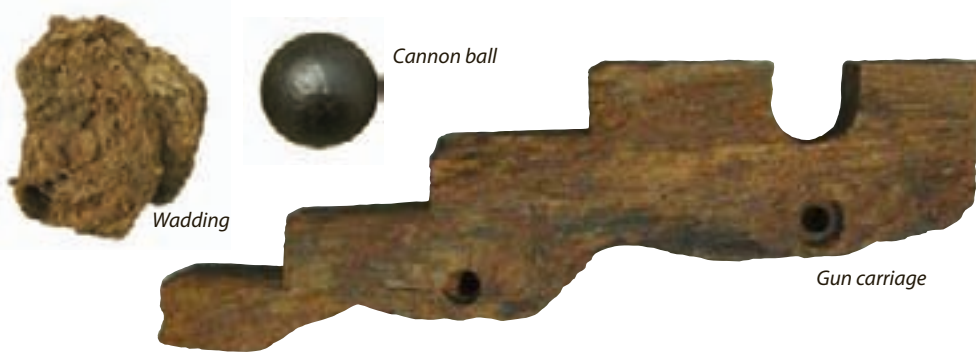


Cannon with reconstructed carriage

A military ship

The ship had 'four pounder' iron guns, round shot, bar shot and cross-bar shot which was designed to damage rigging. The guns were still loaded when they were found.

Other military equipment suggests that the ship was carrying soldiers or spare weapons. Divers found the remains of firearms such as the 'arquebus' and 'musket', gunpowder in wooden flasks and fine powder in copper 'apostles' plus iron breast-plates, back plates and helmets, swords and pottery hand grenades.



Did You Know?

'Concretion' is the hard covering made from shells and sand around an object. Even when the object inside has rotted or rusted away archaeologists can make a mould from the space that has been left. This way they can work out what the object was, so it can be reconstructed.



There were many domestic items on the ship and objects that suggest a surgeon or apothecary was also on board.



Horses.

Stirrups and a spur were also found which suggest that there may have been horses on the ship.



Tudor Timeline

1485

HENRY TUDOR DEFEATS RICHARD III AT THE BATTLE OF BOSWORTH FIELD. HE BECOMES KING HENRY VII – THE FIRST TUDOR KING

1490

GUERNSEY SAILORS FISH ON THE GRAND BANKS OFF NEWFOUNDLAND

1492

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS CROSSES THE ATLANTIC TO 'DISCOVER' THE WEST INDIES.

1505

IN FLORENCE, LEONARDO DA VINCI CONSIDERS HOW MAN MIGHT FLY.

1509

HENRY VII DIES AND HIS SON HENRY TAKES THE THRONE AS HENRY VIII

1512

MICHELANGELO COMPLETES THE PAINTING OF THE CEILING OF THE SISTINE CHAPEL IN ST. PETER'S IN ROME

1513

MR. LE MARCHANT'S SCHOOL LA PETITE ECOLE OPENS IN ST. PETER PORT

1521

THE POPE CONFERS THE TITLE 'DEFENDER OF THE FAITH' ON KING HENRY

1522

FERDINAND MAGELLAN'S EXPEDITION ARRIVES BACK IN SPAIN, HAVING SAILED ALL THE WAY AROUND THE WORLD

1526

THE TURKISH EMPIRE EXPANDS IN EUROPE BY OCCUPYING HUNGARY.

1537

FRIARS FORCED TO LEAVE ST. PETER PORT

1539

THE DISSOLUTION OF THE MONASTERIES IS APPROVED BY PARLIAMENT

1547

HENRY VIII DIES AND HIS 15 YEAR OLD SON EDWARD REIGNS AS EDWARD VI

1547

ENGLISH MERCHANTS START TRADE LINKS WITH RUSSIA.

1556

THE CAUCHES WOMEN ARE BURNT AT THE STAKE IN ST. PETER PORT

1558

MARY'S HALF SISTER ELIZABETH TAKES THE THRONE AS ELIZABETH I

1558

THE FRENCH, COMMANDED BY CAPTAIN MALESART, ATTACK ALDERNEY

1565

THE TURKS FAIL TO CAPTURE MALTA AND THE EXPANSION OF THEIR EMPIRE WESTWARDS IS HALTED.

1568

THE UNITED PROVINCES - LATER TO BECOME THE NETHERLANDS - RISE IN REVOLT AGAINST THEIR SPANISH RULERS.

1573

ENGLISH SETTLERS ARE 'PLANTED' IN NORTHERN IRELAND

1588

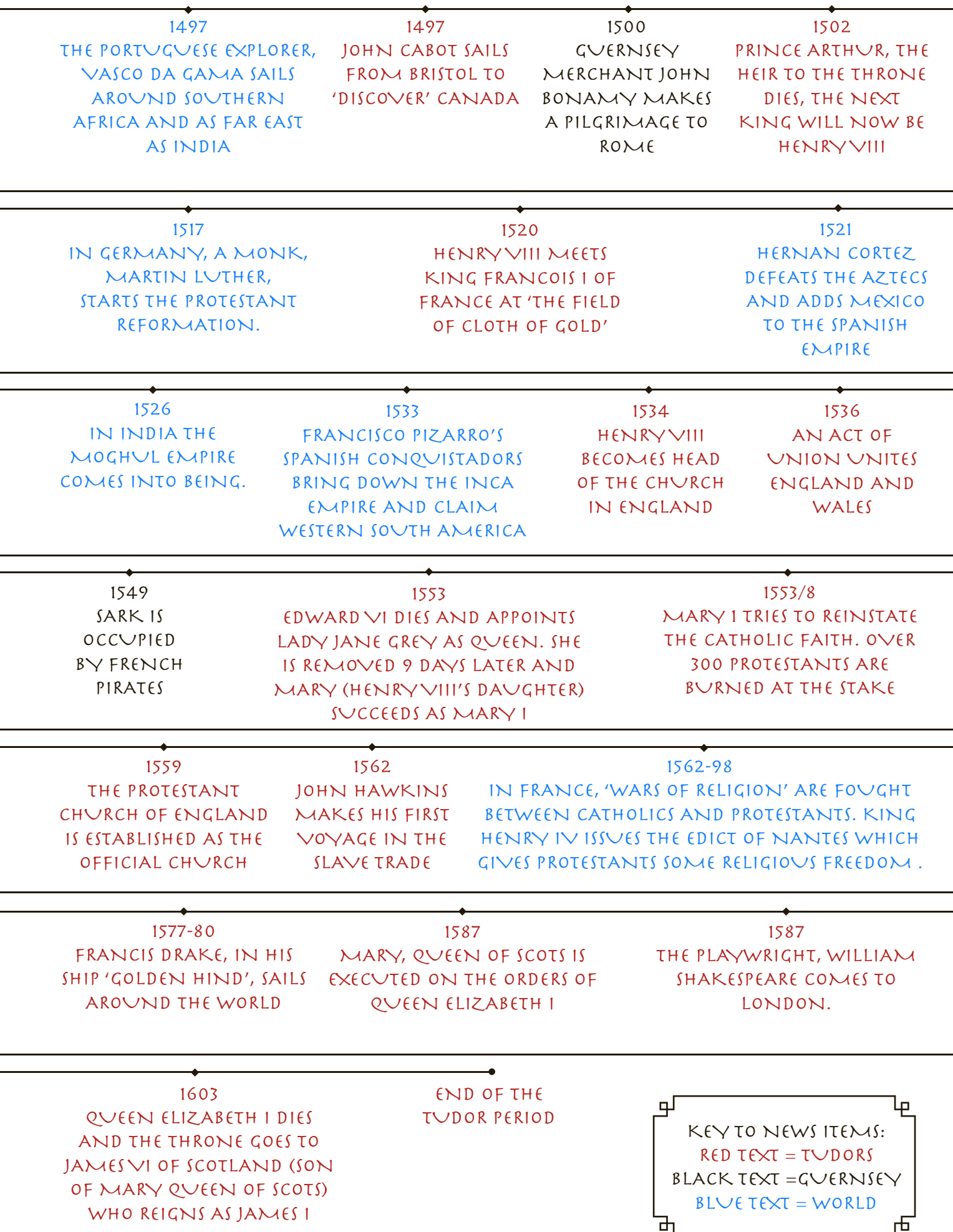
THE SPANISH ARMADA IS DEFEATED BY THE ENGLISH NAVY

1590 - 1600

WORK ON STRENGTHENING OF CASTLE CORNET IS COMPLETED, LARGELY UNDER THE GOVERNORSHIP OF SIR THOMAS LEIGHTON

1592

JOHN NORREYS LOSES A SHIP OFF ALDERNEY



The End of the Tudors

Queen Elizabeth I had sent Royal Commissioners to make sure that the islands were run well and that the Islanders remained loyal to the Kings and Queens of England. Trade routes had grown with the discoveries in the New World and many more Islanders had become wealthy.

Castle Cornet was now stronger and well stocked with cannon, houses had been extended and improved and the towns in the Bailiwick were busier than ever.

The Islands had been reformed although not every one was happy with the new Protestant religion. However, the Islanders still had their special rights and privileges, spoke mainly Norman-French and continued to live by the rules of the Jurats, the Seigneur and the Church.

Acknowledgements

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Illustrations: Brian Byron, Ann Segers. Illustration on page 48 by kind permission of John Ovenden taken from the book 'Shipwrecks of the Channel Islands' by J Ovenden and D Shayer.

Photography: Bob Waite, Harry Orton

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More information on selected topics can be found on the Guernsey Museum Website www.museums.gov.gg



QUEEN ELIZABETH I Coat of Arms (Brian Byron).

ACTIVITY Colour in the Coats of Arms on the opposite page.

Answers

p4

- 1 Catherine of Aragon (D)
- 2 Ann Boleyn (B)
- 3 Jane Seymour (DD)
- 4 Anne of Cleves (D)
- 5 Katherine Howard (B)
- 6 Catherine Parr (S)

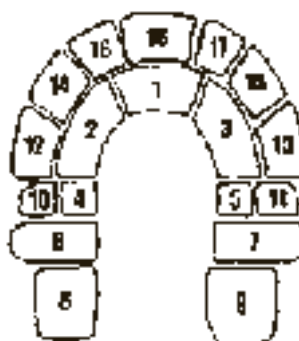
p44 · WORDSEARCH

baskets (N, 2 ↔)
dryfats (M, 8 ↓)
painter (I, 3 ↔)
roughmason (C, 6 →)

candle (E, 7 ↘)
glazier (A, 9 ↑)
plumber (B, 1 →)
smith (B, 9 ↓)

carpenter (F, 7 →)
hair (F, 9 ↘)
porter (O, 12 ↑)
stonemason (D, 4 →)

p28

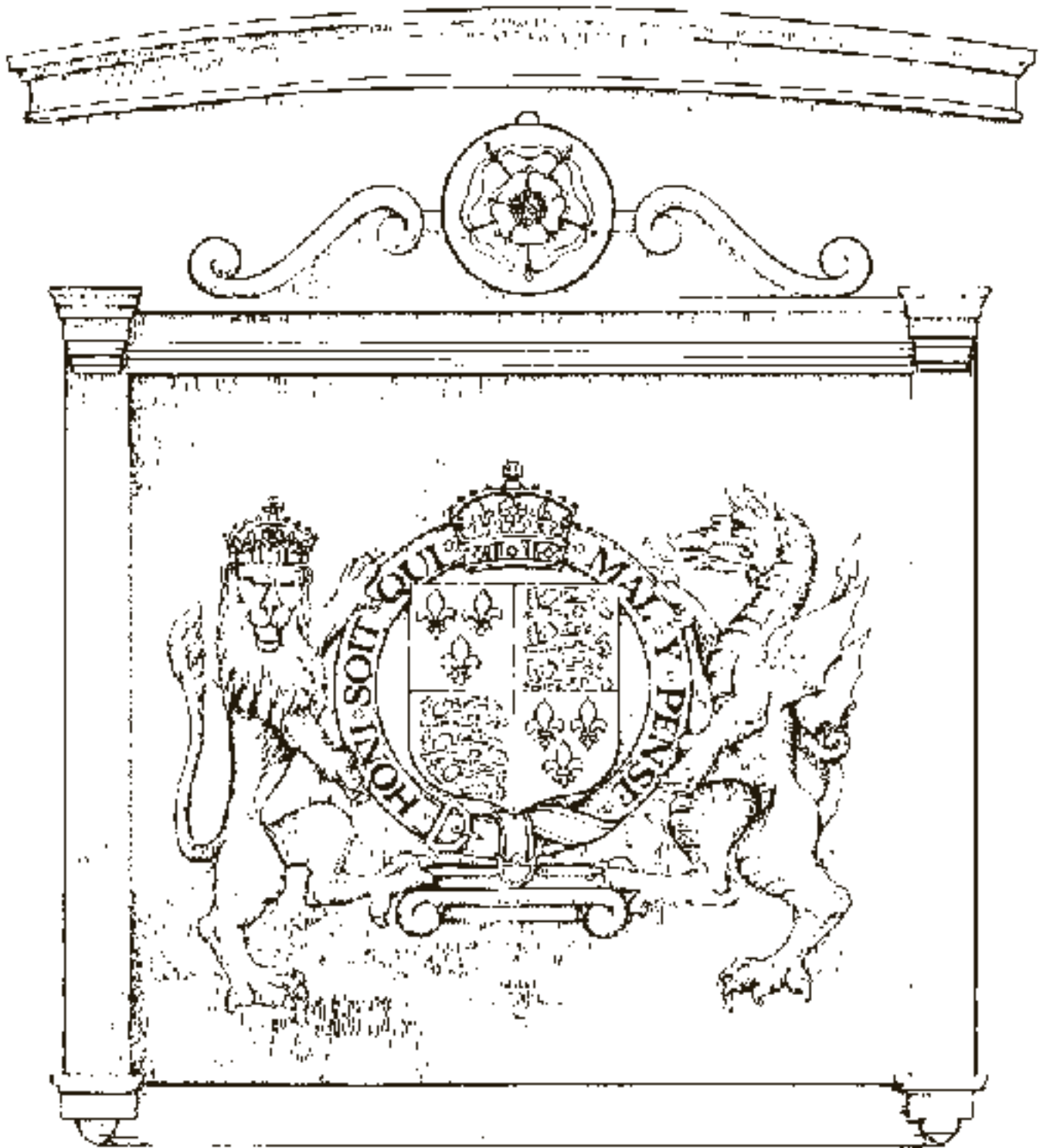


cooper (G, 5 ↔)
hellier (H, 15 ↔)
quarryman (N, 4 ↓)
tar (I, 8 ↓)

corselets (L, 13 ↔)
limemaker (C, 14 ↑)
rope (J, 11 ↑)
trumpet (O, 1 ↔)

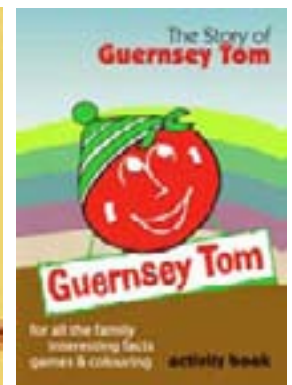
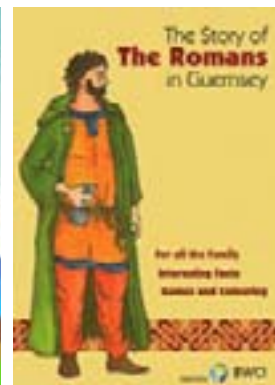
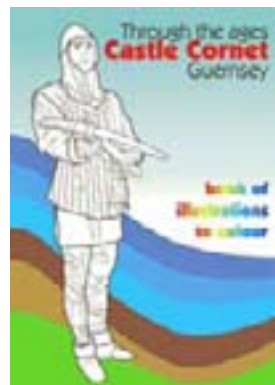
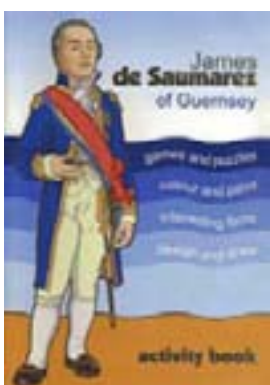
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O

1 c p l u m b e r t e p m u r t
2 l r r p l r t s t e k s a b p
3 r m r e t n i a p t a u r e p
4 e g b s t o n e m a s o n q k
5 i r e p o o c e e e e r m u p
6 z l r o u g h m a s o n n a d
7 a t e r c c a r p e n t e r r
8 l e k e r a z e t e a e d r e
9 g s a o t h n g a p l s r y t
10 r m m y n e a d r o t m y m r
11 a i e r k n e i l r o r f a o
12 a t m t p a i t r e s u a n p
13 l h i s t e l e s r o c t r t
14 o n l n r a y s u r p r s i p
15 s r e i l l e h u i t r i a r



QUEEN ELIZABETH I Coat of Arms (Brian Byron).

Other books in this series:



Tudor Times

The Tudor period (1485-1603) was an extraordinary time in British History. The Reformation, exploration and discovery of the New World and family upheavals within the English monarchy ensured that the lives of Islanders in the Bailiwick of Guernsey would never be the same again.

This book aims to give a flavour of the times for families to share. Further information on a number of the topics referred to in the text can be found on the Guernsey Museum website.

Guernsey Museum is grateful to the Set Sail Trust for sponsoring the publication of this book and the development of further e-learning material on behalf of Guernsey Museums & Galleries.



Mercator map -1590 (Detail)

ACTIVITY:
Which of
the Bailiwick
Islands is
missing from
this map?

The Set Sail Trust is a charitable initiative which receives funding and support from Cable & Wireless, Deutsche Bank, the Long Port Group, International Asset Monitor and The Partnership Agency. The Trust was created to help underprivileged members of the community take part in nautically themed activities; support the development of marine activities within Guernsey's schools and organisations; and raise awareness of Guernsey's nautical history.

With Guernsey's Lieutenant Governor, Sir Fabian Malbon, as its Patron, the Set Sail Trust is proud to sponsor this booklet which aims to help children and their families discover more about the history of the Bailiwick of Guernsey.

