

Heroes or Villains? British Resistance against Nazism in the Channel Islands

Start date	25 February 2017	Time	10:00 – 16:45
Venue	Madingley Hall Madingley Cambridge		
Tutor	Dr Gilly Carr	Course code	1617NDX027
Director of Programmes	Emma Jennings		
For further information on this course, please contact	Public Programme Co-ordinator, Clare Kerr clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk or 01223 746237		
To book	See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262		

Tutor biography

Dr Gilly Carr is a Senior Lecturer and Academic Director in Archaeology at the University of Cambridge Institute of Continuing Education. She is also a Fellow and Director of Studies in Archaeology at St Catharine's College, and a member of the UK delegation of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA). She works in the field of conflict archaeology and post-conflict heritage studies, and is one of only three experts in Europe in the German occupation of the Channel Islands. She has over fifty publications, of which ten are books. She is currently writing a volume entitled '*Victims of Nazism in the Channel Islands: A Legitimate Heritage?*', as well as co-editing a special issue of the *International Journal of Historical Archaeology* on the theme of material culture from Nazi camps. This was inspired by her recent excavation of Lager Wick, a forced labour camp in Jersey. She is also working on her next museum exhibition, on victims of Nazism in the Channel Islands, which will be showing at the Wiener Library in the autumn of 2017. Gilly has also recently made two BBC documentaries on the subject of victims of Nazism in the Channel Islands, in the course of which she found the graves of three deported men who had been lost to their families for 70 years.

Course programme

9:30	Terrace bar open for pre-course tea/ coffee	
10.00 – 11:15	Session 1	Resistance in the Channel Islands during the German occupation: heroic or foolish?
11.15	Coffee	
11:45 – 13:00	Session 2	Stealing from the Germans and the case of Sidney Ashcroft
13:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 15:15	Session 3	Finding our fathers: How Joseph Gillingham and Joseph Tierney were found after 70 years
15:15	Tea	
15:30 – 16:45	Session 4	Dorothea Le Brocq: 'Jerrybag' or Righteous Among the Nations?
16:45	Day school ends	

Course syllabus

Aims:

This course aims:

1. To give students an insight into the range of different acts of resistance that took place in the occupied Channel Islands;
2. To help students see the 'grey zones' in acts of resistance and in resisters;
3. To show students the range of archives and document types which exist, which can help the researcher find people who are lost in the Nazi prison and camp system.

Content:

This course follows the story of certain resisters against Nazism in the Channel Islands, and their subsequent deportation to Nazi prisons and camps. Inspired by recent BBC documentaries presented by ICE's Dr Gilly Carr, she joins us on this day school to speak about the stories behind the cameras.

The course opens with an overview of the range of different acts of protest, defiance and resistance in the occupied Channel Islands, and the consequences faced by those brave enough to defy the Germans. It also examines the attitudes of the local island governments to the resisters.

In the second lecture we will examine the common offence of stealing from the occupiers, focusing on the case of Sidney Ashcroft, one of the 'Guernsey 8', and viewing a short film about the discovery of his grave.

In the third session we will follow the moving tale of two men with the same names: Joseph Gillingham from Guernsey and Joseph Tierney from Jersey, both deported for spreading the BBC news. On their journeys across Europe, they coincided at two of the same Nazi prisons, where other islanders were the last people to see them alive. They did not return home and their bodies remained lost until a momentous trip was made in the spring of 2016 with the two men's daughters, Gilly Carr, and the BBC. We will follow the archival and geographical trail of how the men were found after 70 years.

The day school finishes with the tale of Dorothea Le Brocq, a Jersey woman who sheltered a Jewish woman in her house in St Helier, and how she became recognised by Yad Vashem as Righteous Among the Nations in 2016. But what makes this case extraordinary is that both she and the Jewish woman she sheltered were in relationships with German soldiers. So in the last analysis we ask: were resisters heroes or villains, or perhaps a bit of both?

Presentation of the course:

This course is taught through the medium of illustrated lectures, class discussion, film, and hand-outs.

Outcomes:

As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

1. Become aware of the range of types of civilian resistance that can be carried out in densely occupied areas, and the dangers that this carries;
2. Understand what information can be gleaned from which types of evidence, and where those documents are based in the UK;
3. Understand the complexity and grey zones of resistance, and why occupation rarely resulted in black or white binary responses from the civilian population.

Reading and resources list

Listed below are a number of texts that might be of interest for future reference, but do not need to be bought (or consulted) for the course.

Author	Title	Publisher and date
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The books listed below are a mixture of academic treatment of the subject matter (Carr et al, Cohen, Sanders); survivor testimonies (Falla, Faramus); and post-war treatments of the subject matter (Courtviend, Maugham, Wood & Wood).

Carr, G., Sanders, P. and Willmot, L. (2014). *Protest, defiance and resistance in the Channel Islands: Occupation 1940-1945*. Bloomsbury Academic.

Cohen, F. 2000. *The Jews in the Channel Islands during the German occupation, 1940-1945*. Jersey: Jersey Heritage Trust.

Courtviend, V. 1945. *Isolated Island*. Streamline Publications Ltd. [later editions printed]

Durand, R. 1946. *Guernsey under German Rule*. The Guernsey Society.

Falla, F. 1967. *The Silent War*. Leslie Frewin [reprinted by Burbridge; multiple editions].

Faramus, A. 1990. *Journey into Darkness*. Grafton Books.

Maugham, R.C.F. 1946. *Jersey Under the Jackboot*. W.H. Allen.

Sanders, P. 2004. *The Ultimate Sacrifice*. Jersey: Jersey Heritage Trust.

Wood, A. & M. 1955. *Islands in Danger*.

Website addresses

www.frankfallaarchive.org

<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

<http://www.wienerlibrary.co.uk/>

<http://www.iwm.org.uk/collections>

<http://catalogue.jerseyheritage.org/>

Additional information

Venue

Details of how to find Madingley Hall can be found on our website:

<http://www.ice.cam.ac.uk/who-we-are/how-to-find-the-institute>

Refreshments

Tea and coffee and lunch will be provided. If you have any specific dietary requirements or allergies and have not already advised us, please inform our Admissions Team on

ice.admissions@ice.cam.ac.uk or +44 (0)1223 746262.

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

Information correct as of: 07 November 2016