Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I hereby submit my first annual report for the year just ended. Below is a summary of our member meetings and Society events for the previous 12 months.

2017

March  Annual General Meeting  
Wednesday 8th

April  Jersey Archive Tour  
Wednesday 12th at Jersey Archive

May  Liberation Day  
Slave Workers Memorial Service  
Tuesday 9th At the Slave Workers Memorial, Westmount

June  Guided Walk: “Heroes of the German Occupation”  
Sunday 11th Albert Pier area with Blue Badge Guide Martin Walton

Batterie Lothringen 40th Anniversary Opening & Archives Display  
Sunday 25th at Noirmont Point

July  Saint-Malo Day Trip  
Saturday 22nd with Neil Walker

August  Normandy Day Trip  
Wednesday 23rd with Noel Le Fondré

September  Film: “Hitler’s England”  
Wednesday 13th at the Société Jersiaise

October  No Member Events

2017 Occupation Review  
The annual Review was released by the CIOS Jersey branch.

November  Film: “Breakout From Normandy”  
Wednesday 8th at the Société Jersiaise

Trinity Commando Raid Memorial Service  
Friday 10th

Former Internee Get-Together & Archives Display  
Sunday 26th at Saint Helier Town Hall

December  No Member Events

2018

January  Talk: “Limpet Stew to Liberation”  
Wednesday 10th with Colin Isherwood at the Société Jersiaise

Local History Fayre  
Friday 19th & Saturday 20th at the Town Library

Holocaust Remembrance Day
February

Beijing Baiyi School Students Visit
Thursday 1st at Noirmont Point
Film: “A conversation with Bob Le Sueur”
Wednesday 14th at the Société Jersiaise

2018 was another successful year for the Society, with membership numbers today at 419 (409 paying members & 10 Lifetime). A small percentage didn't renew, but as with last year, we saw plenty new members join.

Last year I expressed my concern that we are not putting enough effort towards telling Jersey’s side of the Occupation story. Instead we dedicate the majority of our time and capital towards preserving the legacy of Jersey’s German oppressors and I find this very odd.

For my part, I have started producing a series of video interviews called “Occupation Conversations” to directly tell the stories of Jersey men and women who lived here during the war. These are an opportunity to describe daily life to a mainstream audience. I have three already filmed and plenty more to schedule going forward.

To their credit, the bunker teams do a lot of work, with some fortifications maintaining a high degree of integrity and authenticity. However others use a lot of reproduction and replica gear, making them more popular with tourists than they are with historians.

Once again I remind you that the Society is “dedicated to the preservation and recordal of all aspects of the German Occupation of Jersey during the Second World War”.

I would like to encourage all members to volunteer some of your time. Visualise a project you would like to see happen and then start working on it. You can organise a guided walk or talk, conduct original research using our Archives, assist with surveys of important Occupation sites, and much more. Contact me any time and I’ll help you get started.

Tom Brossman
Secretary
14th March 2018