There was a strong Jersey presence at London International Shipping Week which ran from Monday 7th – Friday 11th September 2015, bringing together leaders from across the international shipping industry and offered many important networking opportunities.

Jersey’s Chief Minister Senator Ian Gorst, Assistant Chief Minister Senator Philip Ozouf and Treasury Minister Senator Alan Maclean attended a variety of key events throughout the week.

The Chief Minister attended the Lancaster House Reception hosted by the UK Department of Transport and addressed by Secretary of State, The Rt Hon Patrick McLoughlin MP. HRH The Princess Royal was the principal guest for the evening.

The following day, Jersey joined five other British jurisdictions (Bermuda, BVI, Cayman Islands, Gibraltar and the UK), which collectively form the Red Ensign Group, to host a major international shipping reception. The Red Ensign Group is comprised of the UK and members of the Crown Dependencies and UK Overseas Territories which operate shipping registers, with the purpose of collaborating to promote and develop the British fleet’s reputation and growth.

The reception brought together prominent figures connected to the shipping industry, including UK Under Secretary of State for Transport, Shipping Minister Robert Goodwill, as well as ship owners, lawyers, brokers, shipyard and finance house representatives, and registrars of shipping. Jersey’s shipping register has built particular expertise in its superyacht and small commercial ship business in recent years and participation in London International Shipping Week provided many valuable opportunities for Ministers and senior officials to discuss how Jersey can play a bigger part in world ship registration and related business, thereby further raising the Island’s international profile.

Last week, Jersey hosted the 26th European Regional Conference of the Assemblée Parlementaire de la Francophonie (APF). Around 70 French speaking parliamentarians and parliamentary officials travelled to Jersey to attend the conference.

The APF brings together parliamentarians from countries across Europe where French is the first or a secondary language. The States of Jersey have been members of the APF for many years with French being the Island’s second official language. During the conference, plenary discussions centred around two main themes: ‘Freedom of Expression in Europe’ and ‘Economic Strategy for Europe’.

If you would like further information on anything contained in this quarter’s newsletter, would like to contribute anything to subsequent editions, or would prefer not to receive these updates, please contact the Jersey London Office on jio@london.gov.je or 0207 808 1140.
The inaugural Channel Islands Pride Parade took place in Jersey on Saturday 12 September. Organised by the local charity Liberate, the theme of the parade was ‘Proud and Free’, which appropriately coincided with this year’s on-island celebrations for Liberation 70. Hundreds of Islanders took part in the parade, travelling from West’s Centre to Weighbridge Square, carrying a 50 metre rainbow flag as a symbol of inclusivity, pride and equality in Jersey. Once the parade had arrived at Weighbridge Square, Islanders were treated to live music from local artists, refreshments and speeches, including a keynote speech by English actress, musician and LGBT rights activist, Heather Peace.

Following the weekend’s Pride celebrations, Jersey’s States Assembly voted on a proposition to introduce legislation to allow same-sex couples to get married in Jersey. The proposal was overwhelmingly agreed (34 votes to 4) and legislation is expected to be introduced by 2017.


FinTech Jersey 2015, was a free day-long event featuring over 20 international and local speakers, which gave participants the opportunity to consider how fintech has already had, and will continue to have a significant impact on the traditional financial services sector.

The event was hosted by Digital Jersey, an independent organisation which works alongside government and industry to promote and develop Jersey’s digital industries. Under the leadership of newly appointed Chief Executive Officer, Tony Moretta, Digital Jersey is working on developing business in a range of areas including, digital health, data analytics and fintech, amongst others.

As a world-leading international finance centre, Jersey is becoming increasingly involved in the fintech sector, which uses digital tools to deliver financial services. With clusters developing on the Island around several fintech areas, such as investment technology, cybersecurity, crypto-currencies and blockchain, Jersey is looking to develop its position as a global hub for fintech business.

Jersey was treated to yet another fantastic international air display on Thursday 10 September. The annual event, organized by Jersey Air Display A.R.L., showcased traditional RAF aircrafts as well as international aircrafts from Sweden, Poland and Canada amongst others.

The air display has been running for over 62 years and is a popular event on the Island, watched by thousands of local residents every year, as well as attracting significant numbers of visitors to the Island.

As well as experiencing the spectacle in the air, it was also possible to get a close-up view of the aircrafts at the two major static displays on the Island located at Jersey Airport and in St Helier.

For many, the highlight of the show was the big finale - the Red Arrows. Officially known as the Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team, the Red Arrows are a firm favourite amongst the Jersey audience who always enjoy watching the bright colours and clever tumbles of the impressive aerobatic display team. Fortunately, Jersey had blue skies for the occasion and Islanders enjoyed an afternoon on the seafront watching the impressive display overhead.
MINISTERIAL BUSINESS

Over the summer period, Ministers remained busy with various diplomatic engagements in the UK.

Ministers have had the opportunity to develop Jersey’s external relationships through bilateral meetings in London.

On Tuesday 28th July, Assistant Chief Minister Senator Ozouf signed a double taxation agreement between Jersey and the Seychelles with High Commissioner, Her Excellency Mrs Marie-Pierre Lloyd.

Jersey and Guernsey’s Chief Ministers attended a meeting with Minister for Europe, David Lidington MP, in September to discuss EU reform, conveying the Channel Islands’ perspective of the current EU renegotiations.

The Island has also welcomed members of the diplomatic community over the summer with inbound visits from the Korean Ambassador and the Italian Ambassador to the UK, and most recently a visit by the German Ambassador and his wife. These occasions further strengthen Jersey’s existing network of bilateral relations and give Ambassadors the opportunity to see for themselves what the Island has to offer and meet key representatives from Government and business.

As well as conducting several important bilateral meetings, and receiving inbound visits on-Island, Ministers and officials have also attended various diplomatic receptions in London. On the invitation of the French Ambassador, Jersey was represented at the impressive Fête Nationale event to celebrate Bastille Day. In recent weeks Ministers and officials have also attended a farewell reception for the Romanian Ambassador to the UK, Malta’s National Day celebrations, the Danish Ambassador’s summer reception, a Gibraltar Day reception and a ‘Day of Unity’ event at the German Embassy to celebrate the 25th anniversary of German reunification.

On Tuesday 15th September, we held our second Jersey in the UK event. The event was hosted at Walkers of Whitehall in Westminster and attended by more than 50 of our Jersey diaspora members who are now living in London.

We were delighted to see so many Jersey in the UK members either returning after the success of the launch event, or attending for the first time to network with a range of interesting members and contacts, all of whom share a common affection for the Island.

We were treated to live music from Tom Falle and Eddy Bailhache who make up two-thirds of the London-based band Teddy. Tom and Eddy, originally from Jersey, played a brilliant set of their lively new material which was very well received by an enthusiastic audience.

We hope to continue growing the network as far and wide as possible and would welcome your support in spreading the word to your Jersey friends and contacts in the UK. We look forward to seeing the Jersey in the UK community at our next event.

Follow the Jersey in the UK Facebook and LinkedIn pages for further updates.

JERSEY FESTIVAL OF WORDS 2015

In recent weeks, Jersey held its inaugural book festival ‘Connections: Jersey Festival of Words’ to celebrate the literary work of writers both from Jersey and further afield.

Over 30 home-grown creative writers were involved in the Festival, and the central theme of ‘war and remembrance’ was particularly fitting with this year’s celebrations of Jersey’s 70th anniversary of its liberation from German occupation.

The Island also welcomed several internationally esteemed writers, including the likes of Jane Hawking, best-selling children’s writer Holly Smale and UK performance poetry group Farrago.

The Festival, which ran from 30th September to 4th October, featured several workshops, writing competitions, story-telling sessions for children at the Jersey Library and displays, installations and screenings.
**JERSEY MARATHON**

At 9am on Sunday 4 October, thousands of runners set off on the course of this year’s Standard Chartered Jersey Marathon. Olympic gold medallist, Jonathan Edwards CBE was in Jersey for the big event, acting as a Jersey Marathon ambassador, along with former world champion, paralympian distance runner, Noel Thatcher MBE, to celebrate the Jersey Marathon’s 10th anniversary. Alongside the full Standard Chartered Jersey Marathon, there was a relay race sponsored by Mourant Ozannes for teams of five runners competing on the full marathon course, and a 3k Fun Run course on the streets of St Helier, open to anyone over the age of 9.

**JERSEY INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SCHOOL**

Jersey International Business School (JIBS) are now accepting applications for their 2-year fast-track financial services degree, awarded by the University of Buckingham.

The unique 2-year BSc (Hons) International Financial Services degree features a paid undergraduate employment programme with leading financial services organisations.

The degree follows Buckingham’s four-term -per-annum model, which means that students will complete a full degree in just 2 years. The University of Buckingham is ranked number 1 in the UK for graduate prospects.*

The degree has a number of unique features:

- Paid work experience two days a week for the duration of the degree on the undergraduate employment programme, with a choice of 21 of the Island’s leading financial services organisations (UK students are fully eligible for the undergraduate employment programme).
- A summer placement for confirmed students prior to commencement of their studies.
- An industry mentoring scheme, which provides students with access to senior finance professionals for personal one-to-one mentoring.
- Delivered in Jersey, one of the world’s leading international financial centres and arguably one of the most beautiful campuses in the world.

Applications are being accepted for October 2016. To find out more or to arrange for an informal visit, please visit www.jerseyibs.com/about-jibs/brochures/ or contact Gavin Fraser on +44 (0)1534 816333.

*The Guardian League Table 2014

For the full prospectus and brochures please visit www.jerseyibs.com/about-jibs/brochures/

**JRFC & A VISIT FROM THE WEBB-ELLIS TROPHY**

The Jersey Rugby Football Club (JRFC) and members of the general public were treated to a visit of the Webb-Ellis Rugby World Cup Trophy at the end of August, before the 2015 World Cup got under way. On the 79th day of a 100 day tour of the British Isles, the Webb Ellis Trophy was flown in to Jersey by a Royal Navy Sea Link helicopter.

The Trophy was taken to the Royal Square in St Helier where it was met by the Jersey 1st XV Rugby Squad before hundreds of local rugby fans and supporters were given the opportunity to get a photograph with the famous trophy.

The following weekend, JRFC got their 2015/16 Greene King IPA Championship campaign under way. After an initial defeat away against Yorkshire Carnegie, Jersey secured victory over Cornish Pirates in front of their home crowd.

Subsequently, Jersey suffered two successive losses but this month came back to beat Mosley and Bedford Blues. After a narrow loss to London Welsh at Richmond on 17 October, Jersey will have their sights set on a home victory over Nottingham on 23 October to push them further up into a mid-table position.

The squad were in action in more than one capacity in recent weeks as the club used the occasion of their home fixture against Bedford Blues to host a charity day, raising over £10,000 for local charity JAAR (Jersey Action Against Rape). The Rugby Football Union allowed the Jersey team to play in a one-off JAAR purple and white strip for the occasion.

Photo credit – Sue Armes