

How did you compile the list of names for the project?

Compiling the list of names of deported Channel Islanders is something that had to be undertaken from scratch as there was no roll of honour available. Having said that, the late Joe Mière, a former political prisoner from Jersey, had compiled his own list, but as many of these people were sent to civilian internment camps it was not a reliable list for what we were looking for with the Frank Falla Archive. In addition, I wanted every name to come from a verifiable archival source rather than to come from a list where the sources were unknown, so I started from the beginning.

The first source I began with was the political prisoner log book for Jersey prison, as this recorded all those who were deported from Jersey (and a few people from Guernsey who were sent to Jersey before deportation). This was not a fool-proof source because it also listed people who came to Jersey during the occupation (such as people who worked for the Organisation Todt), and so every name needed to be scrutinised and double-checked.

As the Guernsey counterpart of this log book does not survive (or at least, has not been tracked down and might yet exist in private ownership, as I suspect), we cannot know who from Guernsey was deported, and this is a problem as it means that we can be much more sure about Jersey names compared to Guernsey, and also means that our list of people deported from Jersey is longer, which may or may not be an accurate reflection of who was really sent away.

We can also add the names of 'known' people from Guernsey who were deported, such as the 16 policemen convicted for stealing food from German stores; the five men deported for their role in the Guernsey Underground News Service; and the 16 members of families deported for sheltering the two commandos, Hubert Nicolle and Jimmy Symes. This immediately nets us 37 people. After that it was a matter of adding locally 'known' figures, such as the three Jewish women ([Therese Steiner](#), [Auguste Spitz](#) and [Marianne Grunfeld](#)) deported to France in April 1942; [Winifred Green](#) sent to [Caen Prison](#) for cheekily saying 'Heil Churchill' when asked to say 'Heil Hitler'; or [Xavier de Guillebon](#) who was also sent to Caen Prison for chalking up V-signs. After I added the known people, taken from various books and memoirs on the occupation, the next big source was those who wrote a testimony in the mid-1960s to claim compensation for being a victim of Nazism. I went through the list of over 4,000 people from the UK who submitted a claim and picked out Channel Islander surnames and other English names that I recognised.

After this process, things became harder. I was then a matter of finding references in prison correspondence to other islanders in prison. I also made a list from police copies of court martial records from both Guernsey and Jersey of everybody who had a sentence of longer than three months. Not all of these people would have been deported, but many of them were. My research colleague on the project, Rod Miller, was sent to France to go through prison records from places such as Caen Prison and [Fort de Villeneuve-Saint-Georges](#), where many islanders were sent, to see if he could find any new names.

I also published many articles in the Guernsey Press and Jersey Evening Post asking people to come forwards if their family members were deported. I have also consulted the

International Tracing Service records at the Wiener Library in London and checked out the prison and concentration camp records of islanders. Sometimes on the same page of the prison record of one person, another islander is named.

Currently we are at the stage where we expect few new names to crop up. We are now almost entirely reliant on families to come forwards as we have almost exhausted the available archival records. The new names I am finding now tend to be those of foreign nationals (or non-islanders) who moved to the islands in the 1930s, and who I had previously discounted as being possible Organisation Todt forced labourers. As the Aliens files are closed in Guernsey and Jersey archives, checking each new name means bothering archive staff! Guernsey has not yet put its occupation registration cards online, so each time I have a new name for Guernsey, I have to ask my research assistant there, Susan Ilie, to check out the records for me.

It's a slow process and I have been collecting the names over a long period. Do I think that we'll ever have a full list of all of those deported? The answer is: we will never know when we have the full list. At the time of writing, we have around 204 names, and I feel confident that we are 95% there. If anyone reading list has a new name for me, please get in touch!

Gilly Carr, 10 August 2017