



Guernsey Music Centre

Prospectus 2023 - 2024

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Contact Details



Guernsey Music Centre

The Guernsey Music Centre operates on several sites:

- Guernsey Music Service Offices,
Les Varendes, St. Andrews
- Les Varendes High School & Sixth Form Centre,
Les Varendes, St. Andrews
- Princess Royal Centre for the Performing Arts,
Les Ozouets, St. Peter Port

On Saturday Mornings all calls should be made to 01481 222953

Guernsey Music Service

The Guernsey Music Centre is operated by Guernsey Music Service, a part of Education, Sport and Culture, States of Guernsey. In 2018-19 it celebrated its fortieth anniversary.

The Music Service office is open Monday to Friday, 9:00am – 5:00pm term time and is based at the Les Varendes High School & Sixth Form Centre. Access is from the rear car park off Les Varendes (not Footes Lane). Outside office hours there is an answer-phone service.

All weekday calls / contact should be made to the following:

Tel: 01481 226097
Email: musicservice@gov.gg

All correspondence should be sent to the postal address for the Music Service:

Guernsey Music Service
Les Varendes,
St Andrews,
GY6 8TD

For further information about Music Service activities please visit
<https://gov.gg/musiccentre>

Music Centre Staff



Head of Service	Timothy Wright	Percussion
Heads of Section	Elizabeth Green	Woodwind
	Neill Hadden	Brass
	Carmen Craven-Grew	Strings
	Rachel Wright	Vocal Studies
Instrumental Teachers	Daniel Madden	Woodwind
	Katie Gough	Woodwind
	James Hatton	Brass
	Sarah van Vlymen	Upper Strings
	Chris Holland	Lower Strings
Part-time Teachers	Alessia Orme	Strings
	Samantha Holland	Strings
	Juanita Byrne	Theory
	John Sealey	Drum Kit, Guitar, Keyboard & Music Technology
	Neil Burton	Alderney Brass & Woodwind
Executive Officer	Susan Tostevin-Hall	
Administrative Assistant	Joanna Feist	
Music Shop Assistant	Antonio Strappini	
Tuck Shop Assistant	Grace Sarre	

Aims of Guernsey Music Centre



The Music Centre is open to all children in the Bailiwick of Guernsey. It aims to provide:

- enjoyable music-making opportunities which are carefully matched to students' abilities in order that they can realise their potential and achieve excellence
- opportunities for students to make a positive contribution and to develop confidence, self-discipline and critical thinking
- opportunities for students to understand the importance of reliability and teamwork through their music-making.

ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND REGULARLY AND PARTICIPATE IN PERFORMANCES.



Princess Royal Centre
for the
Performing Arts

Orchestras, bands, choirs and ensembles cater for the Island's young musicians at all levels. **As it is an integral part of their musical tuition, attendance at Music Centre is compulsory for all Music Service students in addition to their weekly instrumental lesson.**

The Music Centre Autumn Term commences on Saturday, 16th September, 2023. The registration form indicates the groups (chamber group, band, orchestra or choir) your child participates in. Please take careful note of group names and their times as these may have changed from last year. The timetable is at the back of this prospectus.

Registration



A single registration fee includes all Music Centre activities for the year. Registration forms for September 2023 should be returned to the Music Service office by Friday 18th August. Invoices for the registration fee will be issued by the Corporate Customer Services at Edward T Wheadon House where payment is accepted by the Cashiers in cash, by cheque or by credit / debit card. Cheques should be made payable to '**States of Guernsey**'.

Students should be registered before the start of the academic year. A grant-aid scheme is available that offers financial help in special cases. Further details are available from the Music Service office.

Conditions of Registration

Successful music-making requires commitment and teamwork. In order to continue to promote high standards and to ensure that the work of students is not compromised **all** Music Centre students are required to:

- attend instrumental lessons regularly and practise regularly if they participate in bands and orchestras
- support both their school/college ensembles and Music Centre ensembles through regular attendance at rehearsals. The Service must be notified in writing, by email or by telephone if a student is unable to attend Music Centre rehearsals for any reason
- take careful note of concert and Open Morning dates which are published regularly in Music Centre newsletters and make every effort to make themselves available for them.

If students are not available for concerts or Open Mornings, parents are required to excuse them in writing from the Head of Service at least six weeks in advance, unless there are exceptional circumstances to be considered.

Music Centre membership and/or lessons with the Guernsey Music Service may be withdrawn if these conditions are not met.

Data Protection Statement



ABOUT THE INFORMATION YOU GIVE US

Personal data held by the Service about students and parents is covered by the Data Protection (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law 2017. This means that the data held about students must only be used for specific purposes allowed by Law and that the Service needs to comply with the requirements of the Law in collecting, processing and disposing of your personal information.

We are required to tell you about the types of data held, why the data are held and to whom it may be passed on.

The Service holds information on your child in order to contact you on Service related matters; to support your child's teaching and learning; to record their educational progress; to give appropriate pastoral care and in order to assess the Service's overall progress.

The information held includes contact details, family details, attendance information and characteristics such as special educational needs and relevant medical history.

In order to administer graded examinations we are required to pass on some of this data to the relevant examination board.

For a full explanation of the data we collect and use, and your rights as a data subject, please see our Fair Processing Notice at <https://gov.gg/musiccentre> or ask the Guernsey Music Service Office, who will be able to provide you with this.

Students have a general right of access to personal information held about them. All rights under the Data Protection Law rest with the child once he or she is able to understand these rights. In practice, this is normally taken to be 12 years of age, but it can be more or less. If you wish to have access to personal data held about your child, and he/she is less than 12 years old, you can submit a request to the Head of Service. Children over 12 years have the right to see their own records. You are entitled to one free copy of these records, any additional copies may incur a charge.

Music

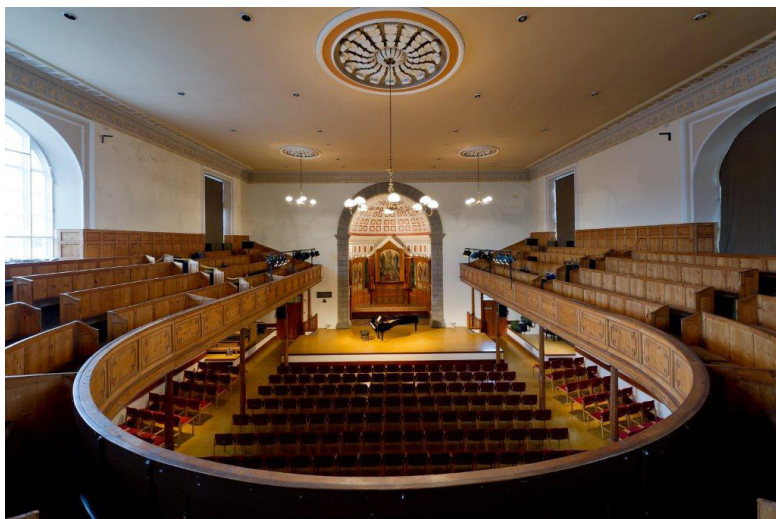


Music used in band and orchestra rehearsals is sometimes available for home practice on free loan. Music folders must be kept clean and tidy. Damaged or lost copies will be charged for at full replacement cost.

As music is shared, it is imperative that it be returned each week, even if the student is unable to attend.

Concerts and Courses

Music Centre groups regularly give concerts on the island: at Music Centre, the Princess Royal Centre for the Performing Arts (PRCPA), St. James' Concert Hall and other venues. They also tour abroad. Since 2003 groups have visited Australia, France, Germany (three times), Canada (three times) & Wales. In July 2016 they toured Prague, Western Bohemia, Biberach in 2018 and 2023, Canada in 2019 and Sark in 2021.



St James' Concert Hall

Concerts for Schools

These are provided by Music Service staff towards the end of certain terms. The Service also has a very productive relationship with the Southbank Sinfonia and endeavours to offer workshops with visiting musicians whenever possible.

Examinations



Music Service students are encouraged to enter external examinations at appropriate stages. The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) and Trinity College London hold local examination sessions. Fees are payable in advance by parents and dates are set by the examining board. Examinations are usually held during the day on weekdays and transport to and from examinations is the responsibility of parents. The Service arranges aural lessons as required and rehearsals with accompanists at no additional cost to parents. These usually take place during Music Centre hours on Saturdays when students are usually available. Parents may make their own arrangements, at their own cost, if they prefer.

Music in the Guernsey Curriculum, BTEC, GCSE, A-Level examinations

Music Service teachers, in collaboration with class music teachers, are involved in helping candidates prepare for public examinations and supporting music in the curriculum.

Students taking any of these examinations must discuss preparation with their school Head of Music and instrumental teacher at the beginning of the academic year in which they commence the course.

Auditions

Auditions for Youth Orchestra, Concert Wind Band and the Youth Training Orchestra take place towards the end of one academic year for the next. A range of factors is taken into consideration when placing students: the examination grade achieved, how they perform in the audition, their attendance at Music Centre and their availability for concerts. The aim of the auditions is to place students in the most suitable position within the most appropriate ensemble(s). As well as performing a prepared piece, students also sight-read prepared and unprepared excerpts. Auditions provide an ideal opportunity to review senior students' progress. Results of auditions are sent out at the end of the Summer Term.

Lessons



Lessons

The Music Service supports school teachers in providing class music lessons for all pupils in State schools in both Year 2 and 4. During the final term of Year 2, all pupils are invited to attend Music Centre for general musicianship classes that lead to the opportunity to learn stringed instruments from Year 3. All pupils have the opportunity to learn woodwind, brass or percussion instruments in school through a Wider Opportunity scheme with the option to continue into Year 5. The Service also offers keyboard, guitar, singing and percussion tuition for other States pupils at secondary level. The aim is to ensure that high quality class music tuition is available to all and that there are entry points at the most appropriate stages in a pupil's career for them to learn particular instruments.

Theory Lessons

Theory requirements for Grades 1 and 2 are covered during instrumental lessons. When these stages are successfully completed, students **should** continue their studies at Music Centre. Students intending to enter ABRSM practical Grades 6 to 8 are required to pass ABRSM Grade 5 theory. The aural component of Trinity College London Grade 6 and above also requires theoretical knowledge so students taking these examinations are strongly recommended to take their ABRSM Grade 5 theory examination. These lessons supplement and are in addition to instrumental music lessons. Theory lessons are available between 8:30am and 12:30pm at the Grammar School on Saturdays.

Aural Lessons

Aural training for Grade 1 and 2 examinations is given during instrumental lessons. Music Service students entered for practical examinations of Grade 3 level and above **must take a term's** course on Saturdays in aural training at the corresponding grade. Those entering for Associated Board examinations at Grade 7 and 8 **must take two terms** of aural lessons. These lessons supplement and are in addition to instrumental music lessons.

General Information



Safeguarding Policy & Behaviour Policy

Copies of these policies are available to view at <https://gov.gg/musiccentre>

Parking

At peak times several hundred students converge on the Music Centre and parking can become difficult at all sites. At Les Varendes High School and Sixth Form Centre please use only the parking bays and the slip road off Foote's Lane. Please do not abandon cars, block others in, obstruct fire exits and do observe disabled bays. Cyclists may use the cycle shed at Les Varendes High School and should leave via the Foote's Lane exit.

Lost Property

A considerable amount of lost property is accumulated during a term. It is held in the Music Centre store and should be collected promptly. Unclaimed items are not held after the end of the school year.

No Entry Area

Students are not allowed to enter areas of Les Varendes High School or the PRCPA other than those designated for Music Service use.

Instruments

Instruments should be labelled clearly with the student's name and telephone number.

Insurance

Music Centre does not accept responsibility for privately owned instruments. These should be insured by their owners either on a separate policy or possibly as an extension to the household policy.

Travel between Music Centre sites

It is only a few minutes walk between sites. Music Centre staff are not responsible for students travelling between them. Parents are asked to supervise their own children at this time if they consider it necessary.

Enquiries

Enquiries and problems on Saturday should be taken to a member of the Music Service staff or, at Les Varendes High School, to the Assistant in the accessories shop.

General Information continued



Waiting Area

Parents are asked to collect pupils promptly at the end of Music Centre rehearsals. Younger children should be dropped off and collected directly from the room in which their ensemble takes place. Students with time to spare between activities or parents waiting to collect their children are welcome to wait in Les Varendes High School cafeteria area of the foyer of the PRCPA. **Please leave these areas clean and tidy and be aware that others use the premises.**

Tuck Shop

A selection of healthy drinks and snacks is available in Les Varendes High School cafeteria during Saturday morning. Food and drink may only be consumed in the school cafeteria or in the foyer of the PRCPA. Chewing / bubble gum and fish & chips are prohibited at all Music Centre sites. Please do not drop litter anywhere in any of the Music Centre sites and do use the bins provided.

Toilet Facilities

These are provided on all sites and pupils are reminded to leave these areas clean and tidy and be aware that others use the premises.

Accessories

Accessories Shop

The shop at Les Varendes High School is open for Music Centre students on Saturdays during term time from 8:45am - 12:45pm. A comprehensive stock of accessories is available:

- For **string players** strings, rosin, mutes, shoulder rests, rockstops and replacement parts
- For **woodwind players** reeds, cork grease, cleaners, reed cases and neck straps
- For **brass players** oils and creams, mutes, water sprays and mouthpieces
- For **general use** manuscript paper, music bags, ties and theory books

Parents are reminded that some brands of valve oil and slide grease are harmful and should be handled accordingly.

Spares



String players should carry a spare set of strings and some rosin. For bassoons, cellos and double basses a spike protector or rock-stop is essential. Wind players should have spare reeds, cork grease and cleaners. Brass players require valve oil, tuning slide cream and a mouthpiece brush.

Medical Needs



Parents are asked to update the medical information that is held on their child on an annual basis and to advise the Music Service office if there is any significant change in the interim.

If parents have concerns they should discuss these with the Head of Service who may ask that they give permission to liaise with the health care professionals supporting their child.

As students usually attend Music Centre for short periods at a time, Music Service staff are not expected to give or supervise students taking prescribed medication. Students who use inhalers for asthma are expected to self-administer. Parents should contact the Head of Service if they have any concerns in this area.

There is an **Automated External Defibrillator (AED)** on the wall of the Sixth Form Centre at Les Varendes and at the Performing Arts Centre.

If students are acutely unwell they should not attend Music Centre. Instead parents should contact the office, tel: 226097 or, on Saturday mornings only, the Music Centre, tel: 222953 to excuse their child from attending.

In the case of a medical emergency, students should contact a member of Music Centre staff. The telephone in the accessories shop may also be used to contact an ambulance if required.



Full Orchestra

Guernsey Youth Orchestra

This symphony orchestra offers experience of orchestral repertoire and is regularly involved in concerts and courses as part of its annual programme.

Entry to this orchestra is by audition only. The minimum expected standard is Grade 6.



Photo by Chris Tostevin-Hall

Concert Wind Band

This band gives regular concerts in the islands and takes part in courses and concerts in the UK and abroad. Entry to this band is by audition only. The expected minimum standard Grade 6.

Orchestras



String Orchestras

Primary Strings

For Year 3 students who start lessons in September 2023 as infants and Year 5 students who start lessons in September 2023

Year 3 students will begin in September 2023 and Year 5 in January 2024.

Junior Strings

A group for string players with some basic orchestral experience

Elementary Strings

A group for upper junior level string players



Photo by Chris George

Intermediate Strings and Senior Strings

Groups for intermediate level string players

Youth Training Orchestra

A string orchestra for senior level students. Entry is by audition only. The minimum expected standard is Grade 4

Youth Chamber Orchestra

A chamber orchestra for selected members of the Youth Orchestra, which normally takes part in the Guernsey Eisteddfod and has performed in the National Festival of Music for Youth.

Wind Bands



Primary Woodwind

This group is for woodwind & percussion students in Year 5 who will start lessons in September 2023.



Photo by Chris Tostevin-Hall

Primary Brass

This group is for brass & percussion students in Year 5 who will start lessons in September 2023.

Primary Brass and Woodwind start January 2024.

Junior Wind Band

This band continues the work started in Primary Woodwind and Primary Brass.

Intermediate Wind Band

This group is for brass and woodwind players with more experience.

Senior Wind Band

This group is for older, more experienced players.

Youth Wind Band

This group caters for more advanced players. Students would usually be expected to have achieved Grade 4 standard.

Jazz Orchestras



Guernsey Youth Jazz Orchestra

Youth Jazz Training Orchestra

Entries are accepted into the Training Jazz Orchestra as places become available. Entry is by audition for students who already play in another Music Centre ensemble. Students would usually be expected to have achieved Grade 4 standard. A popular programme of local concerts is arranged throughout the year.



Photo by Chris Tostevin-Hall

Chamber Music



Additional groups for more experienced students exist to complement the bands and orchestras. The chamber music groups can be most valuable in helping develop students' self-confidence and furthering their musical development. An annual chamber music day combined with developing basic conducting skills has proved beneficial.

Brass Band

This group provides the opportunity to explore some of the varied repertoire available for brass band.

Clarinet Choir

A group comprising all sizes of the clarinet family. This well established group plays music of many styles.

Flute Choir

This is for intermediate level and more experienced flute players. The group is made up of the full range of instruments and plays music in many different styles.

Percussion Ensemble

This is for intermediate level and more experienced percussion players. The group explores the full range of orchestral percussion instruments as well as ethnic and other instruments of the family. It plays music of different styles and helps with the development of skills needed to perform in smaller ensembles.

Electric String Quartet

There are opportunities for a small number of advanced pupils to explore string chamber music for electronic instruments.

String Quartet Coaching

This is available to a small number of pupils and is co-ordinated by the Head of Strings.

Percussion Practice

Percussion instruments are available from 9:00am to 12 noon on Saturdays at Les Varendes High School and the Percussion Room at PRCPA. Sessions should be booked in advance through the Music Centre shop and in consultation with percussion staff.

Concert Dress



Orchestras, Bands, Ensembles & Instrumental Groups

Guernsey Youth Orchestra, Concert Wind Band, and Youth Chamber Orchestra

- Long sleeve black shirt, black trousers, black socks and shoes.
- or Black blouse / shirt (not sleeveless), **long** black skirt or smart trousers and black shoes.

Youth Training Orchestra and Youth Wind Band

- Long sleeve white shirt, black trousers, black socks and shoes.
- or White blouse / shirt (not cream or sleeveless), **long** black skirt or smart trousers and black shoes.

Guernsey Youth Jazz Orchestra / Brass Band/ Clarinet & Flute Choirs

- Black shirt / blouse (not sleeveless), smart black trousers, or black socks and shoes.

Training Jazz Orchestra

- Brightly coloured shirt, smart black trousers, black socks and shoes.
- or Brightly coloured shirt / blouse (not sleeveless), **long** black skirt or smart trousers and black shoes.

All Other Music Centre instrumental groups

- Long sleeve white shirt, smart dark trousers, dark shoes and Music Centre tie.
- or Long sleeved white shirt or blouse, dark knee length skirt or smart trousers, white socks, dark shoes and Music Centre tie.

JEANS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE

Choirs



Choirs are open to all the island's young people, whether or not they have any experience of choral singing.

The choirs are part of Music Centre and therefore run on the same basis as the bands and orchestras. Students who receive vocal lessons with the Music Service are expected to attend a Music Centre choir and support their school groups as well.

Music Centre Primary Choir

This choir is for students in school years 3 & 4, aged 7 - 9 years.

Music Centre Junior Choir

This choir is for students in school years 5 & 6, aged 9 - 11 years.

Music Centre Intermediate Choir

This choir is for students in school years 7, 8 & 9, aged 12 - 14 years.

Guernsey Youth Choir

This is a mixed voice choir for students, normally for year 10 and above.

Guernsey Girls' Choir

This choir is for girls in school years 10 - 13, aged 15 and over.

Choral groups give concerts locally and the choirs for older students travel to festivals and competitions. Members of the Youth Choir toured Prague and the Czech Republic in 2016, Canada in 2019, visited Sark in 2021 and Biberach, Germany in 2023.

Concert Dress for Choirs



Primary & Junior Choirs

- White shirt, Music Centre tie, dark trousers and dark shoes.
- or White shirt, Music Centre tie, dark knee length skirt, white knee socks and dark shoes.

Intermediate Choir

- White shirt, Music Centre tie, dark trousers and dark shoes.
- or White, open-necked, short-sleeved blouse, smart black trousers and black shoes.

Youth Choir

- Black shirt, black trousers, black socks and shoes.
- or Black shirt or blouse (not sleeveless), black trousers or long black skirt and black shoes.

Guernsey Girls' Choir

Girls' Choir uniform (available from the Music Service) and black shoes.



Photo by Chris Tostevin-Hall

Music Centre Groups & Timetable



KEY: LVHS = Les Varendes High School (formerly Grammar School)

PRCPA = Performing Arts Centre, Les Ozouets

Primary Groups

Primary Violin 1 & 2	LVHS	Saturday	10:00 - 10:45
Primary Viola & Cello	LVHS	Saturday	11:00 - 11:45
Primary Double Bass	LVHS	Saturday	12:00 - 12:45
Primary Woodwind	LVHS	Saturday	13:30 - 14:30
Primary Brass	LVHS	Saturday	13:30 - 14:30

Year 3 pupils commence in September 2023, Year 5 pupils in January 2024

Orchestras

Junior Strings	LVHS	Saturday	10:00 - 10:45
Elementary Strings	LVHS	Saturday	09:00 - 09:45
Intermediate Strings	PRCPA	Saturday	09:00 - 09:45
Senior Strings	LVHS	Saturday	12:00 - 12:45
Youth Training Orchestra	LVHS	Saturday	13:00 - 14:30
Guernsey Youth Chamber Orchestra	PRCPA	Saturday	10:45 - 11:30
Guernsey Youth Orchestra	PRCPA	Saturday	13:00 - 14:45

Wind Bands

Junior Wind Band	LVHS	Saturday	09:00 - 09:50
Intermediate Wind Band	PRCPA	Saturday	11.30 - 12.30
Senior Wind Band	LVHS	Saturday	11:30 - 12:30
Youth Wind Band	LVHS	Saturday	10:00 - 11:30
Concert Wind Band	PRCPA	Saturday	10:00 - 11:30

Chamber Music

Brass Band	PRCPA	Saturday	09:00 - 09:45
Clarinet Choir	LVHS	Saturday	09:00 - 09:45
Flute Choir	PRCPA	Saturday	09:00 - 09:45
Percussion Ensemble	PRPCA	Saturday	09:00 - 09:45
Electric String Quartet	PRPCA	tba	tba

Music Centre Groups & Timetable



KEY: LVHS = Les Varendes High School (formerly Grammar School)

PRCPA = Performing Arts Centre, Les Ozouets

Jazz Orchestras

Youth Jazz Training Orchestra	LVHS	Friday	16:30 - 17:30
Guernsey Youth Jazz Orchestra	LVHS	Friday	16:30 - 17:45

Music Centre Choirs

Primary Choir	LVHS	Tuesday	15.45 - 16.30
Junior Choir	LVHS	Tuesday	16:30 - 17:15
Intermediate Choir	LVHS	Wednesday	16:30 - 17:30
Guernsey Girls' Choir	LVHS	Thursday	18:00 - 19:30
Guernsey Youth Choir	PRCPA	Saturday	11:45 - 12:45

Theory & Aural Classes

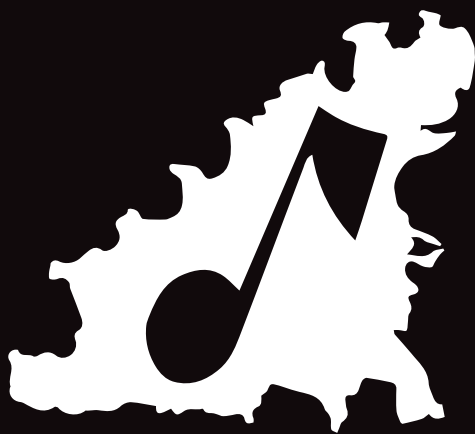
Theory Groups	LVHS	Saturday	08:30 - 12:30
Aural Groups	PRCPA / LVHS	Saturday	08:30 - 13:30

Friends of Guernsey Music Centre



www.fgmc.org.gg

The Friends of the Guernsey Music Centre is the support group for Guernsey Music Centre. The association, which has been granted charitable status, helps raise funds, assists with the promotion of concerts and courses, and provides instruments on loan. As a member of the Friends you may enjoy certain privileges and your help ensures the continuation of their excellent work. The Guernsey Music Centre is very grateful to the Friends for their continued financial and practical support. If you would like more information about becoming a member of the Friends, if you are interested in volunteering or are able to contribute in some way, please contact the Music Service office: telephone 226097 or email musicservice@gov.gg or visit us on facebook.com/friendsofguernseymusiccentre



States of
Guernsey