

# The **Victorians** in Guernsey



*games and puzzles*

*colour and paint*

*interesting facts*

*design and draw*

**activity book**



# Victorians

## activity book

Guernsey Museum & Art Gallery's 2006 exhibition 'Pursuits and Joys' follows the interests of the Lukis Family of Guernsey. This activity book uses this family, prominent during Victorian times, for its Victorian theme.

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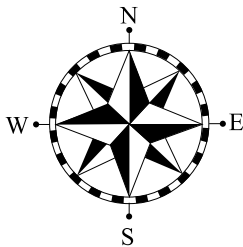
# The Lukis Family of Guernsey

The Lukis Family lived in the Channel Island of Guernsey when Queen Victoria was Queen of England (1837-1901).

This is a map of the Channel Islands drawn in 1814



**activity:** which direction would you travel to go:



- (a) from Guernsey to Jersey?
- (b) from Jersey to Alderney?
- (c) from Guernsey to Sark?
- (d) from France to Guernsey?



# Lukis Family History

Frederick Corbin Lukis was born in 1788. He was the son of a wine and goods trader who had made enough money to build a fine home on the outskirts of St Peter Port in Grange Road.

Frederick was probably educated at Elizabeth College and from an early age he took an interest in scientific learning. In 1801 an older cousin, Joshua Gosselin, took him to see what some soldiers had discovered on L'Ancrese Common. It was a prehistoric passage grave full of bones, tools, weapons and pottery. Lukis was fascinated by this. He took away a skull and began a lifelong interest in archaeology. He also studied sealife, plants and antiquities as well as prehistory. Later, he encouraged his children to follow his interests and their work and collections form the basis for the Guernsey Museum.

In 1813 FC Lukis married his cousin Elizabeth Collings and the couple had six sons and three daughters.

Frederick Collings Lukis, the eldest, became a surgeon. He was particularly interested in natural history and he helped his father in his archaeological work. He was also very kind to the poor.

John Walter Lukis , the second son, became a mining engineer with an interest in geology (the study of rocks).

The third son, William Collings Lukis became a Vicar. He was also an archaeologist but he had a special interest in churches, including bells and church silver.

Sadly, Thomas Dubois Lukis, who went to sea, died when he was 17 on board the ship Reliance.

Francis Dubois Lukis joined the army, but when he returned from a posting in India he worked as an archaeologist in Derbyshire.

The youngest son, Ernest, died when he was 15.

FC Lukis' daughters were also interested in their father's work.

Louisa, who married and lived in Sark, was a botanist (she studied plants).

Mary Ann helped her father to paint and record his collection.

The youngest daughter, Margaretta, married an English Vicar and lived in England until she died in 1906.

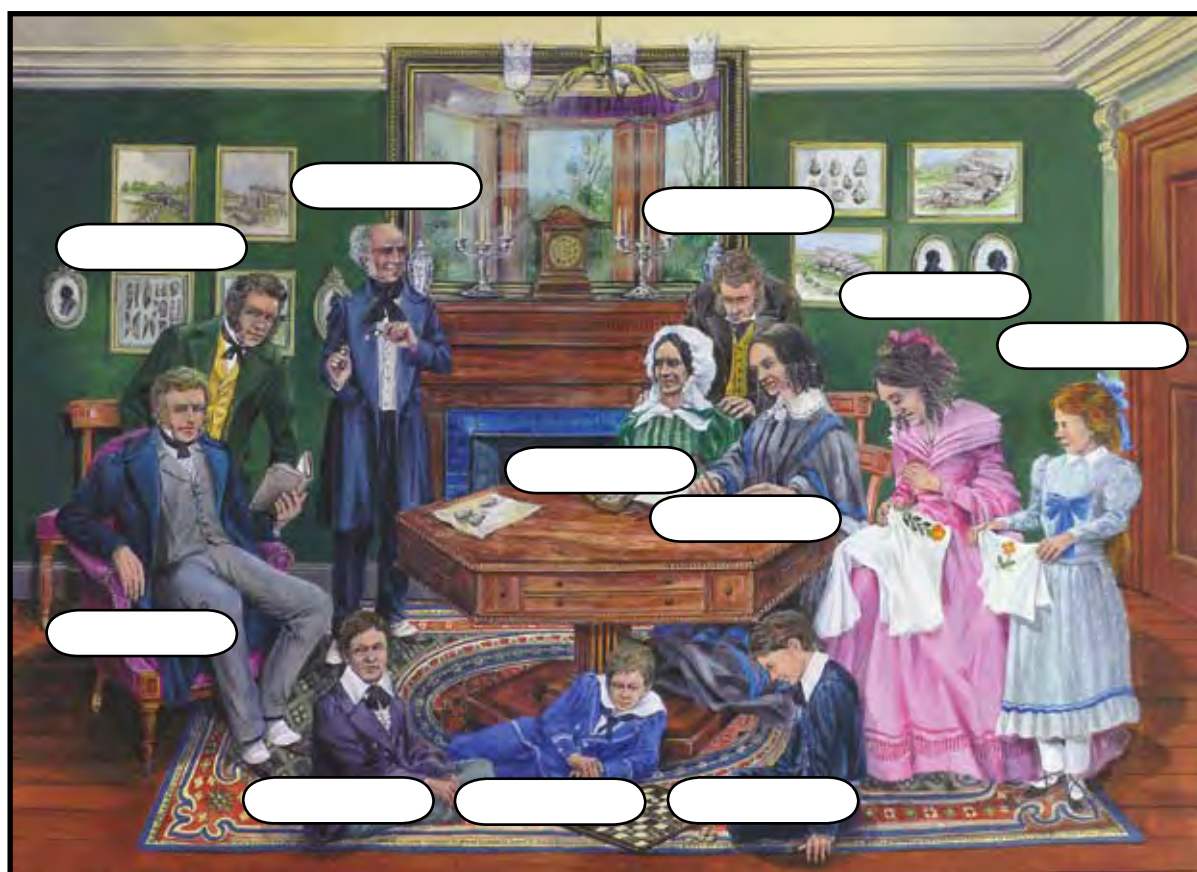


The family lived in Lukis House in Grange Road. FC Lukis worked for the Atlas Insurance Company for a while and he was in the Guernsey Militia as well as being a church warden. He did a lot for the community and was a founder member of the Mechanics Institute which was set up to help poor boys to learn a trade.

The family was very close and throughout their lives they wrote many letters. These were often about their work and interests but they were always signed in an affectionate manner. The family went on outings and in one instance they stayed on Lihou Island with their servants for 5 or 6 weeks so that they could do some archaeological work on Lihou Priory.

FC Lukis was a remarkable man with a remarkable family. The lectures, letters and meetings with friends in the London academies of science helped to develop systems to record the past which are used by scientists today.

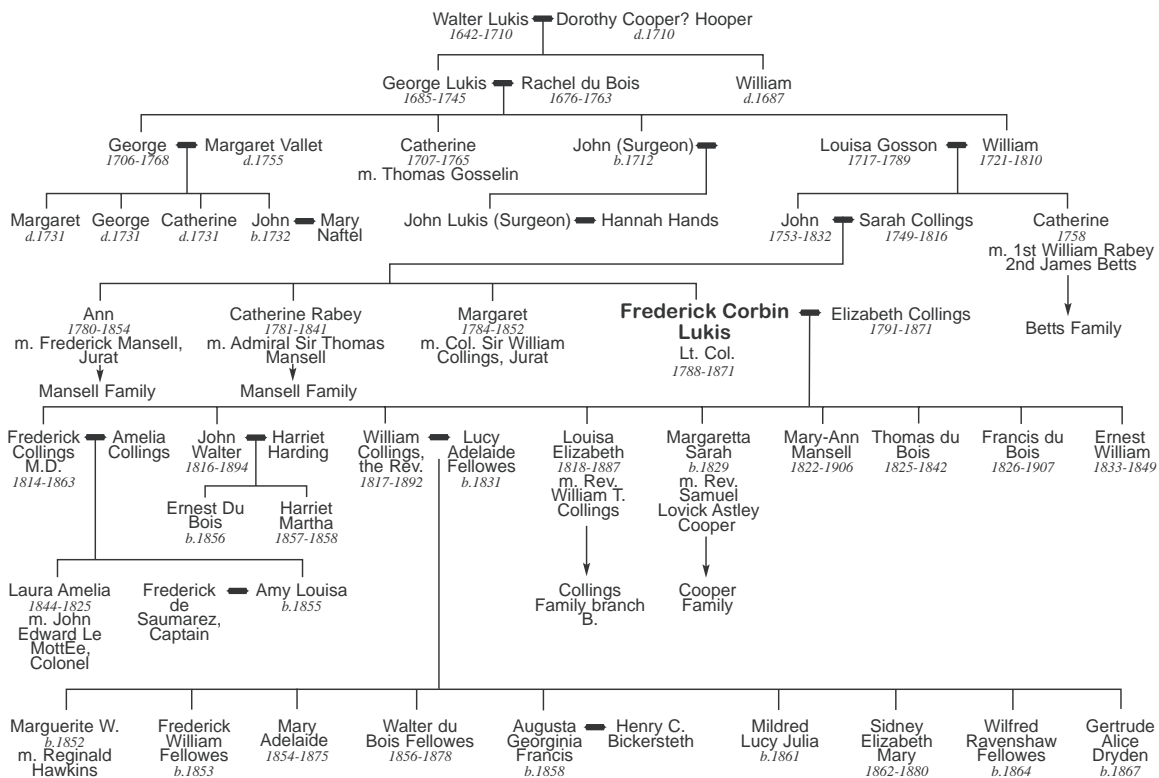
FC Lukis died in 1871, a well respected man. He is buried in Candie Cemetery, St Peter Port with the rest of his family.



**activity:** look at this picture of the family at home. Use the information on the family and the Family Tree on the next page to name each member of the family.



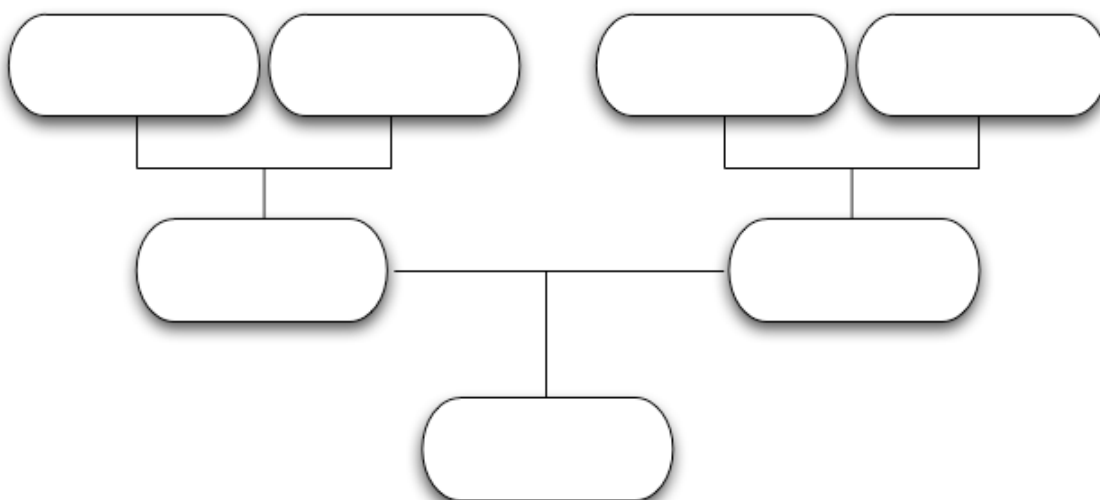
# The Lukis Family Tree



**activity:** make your own Family Tree?

Start with yourself and add your brothers and sisters on the same line, then your parents and grandparents.

If you have step parents and step or half brothers and sisters, where would you put them?

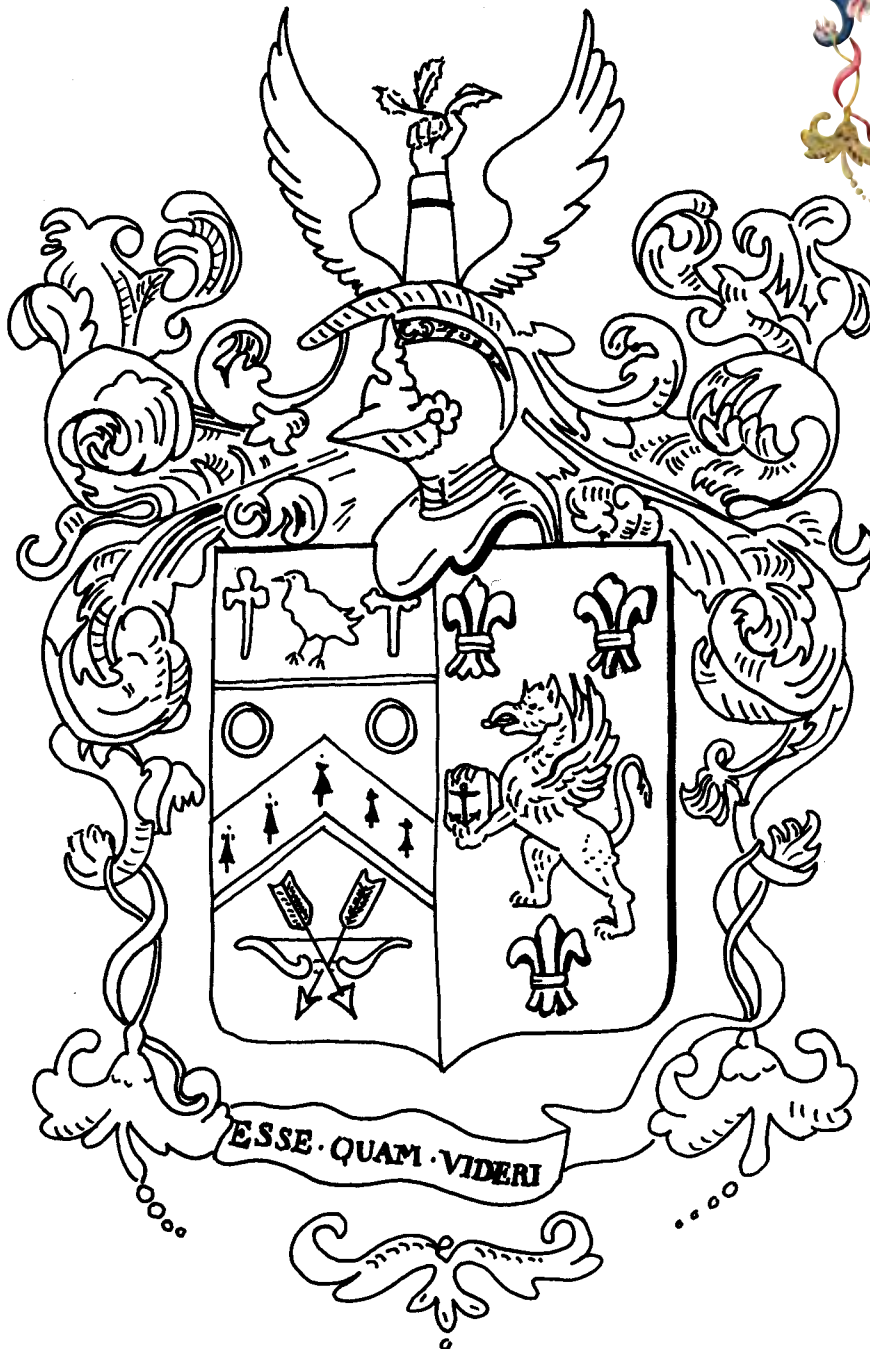


# Heraldry

Many wealthy people had a coat of arms. Different parts of it had a special meaning to the family

The Lukis Family had a beautiful Coat of Arms

**activity 1:** colour in the Lukis coat of arms

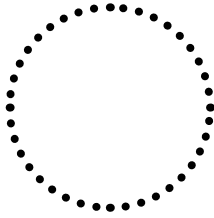




# Houses & Homes

Frederick Corbin Lukis and his family were quite rich. His father was a successful wine merchant who built a big house in the Grange Road.

How many windows can you see?



Lukis House

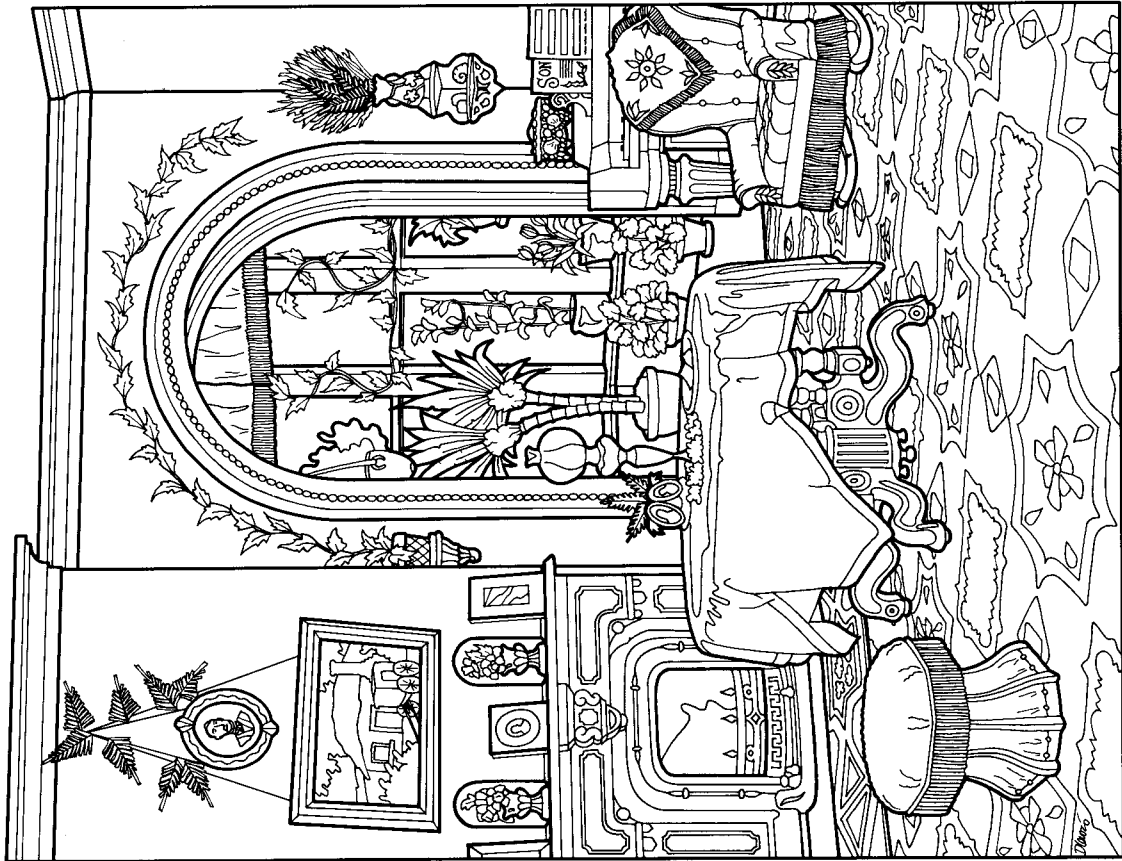
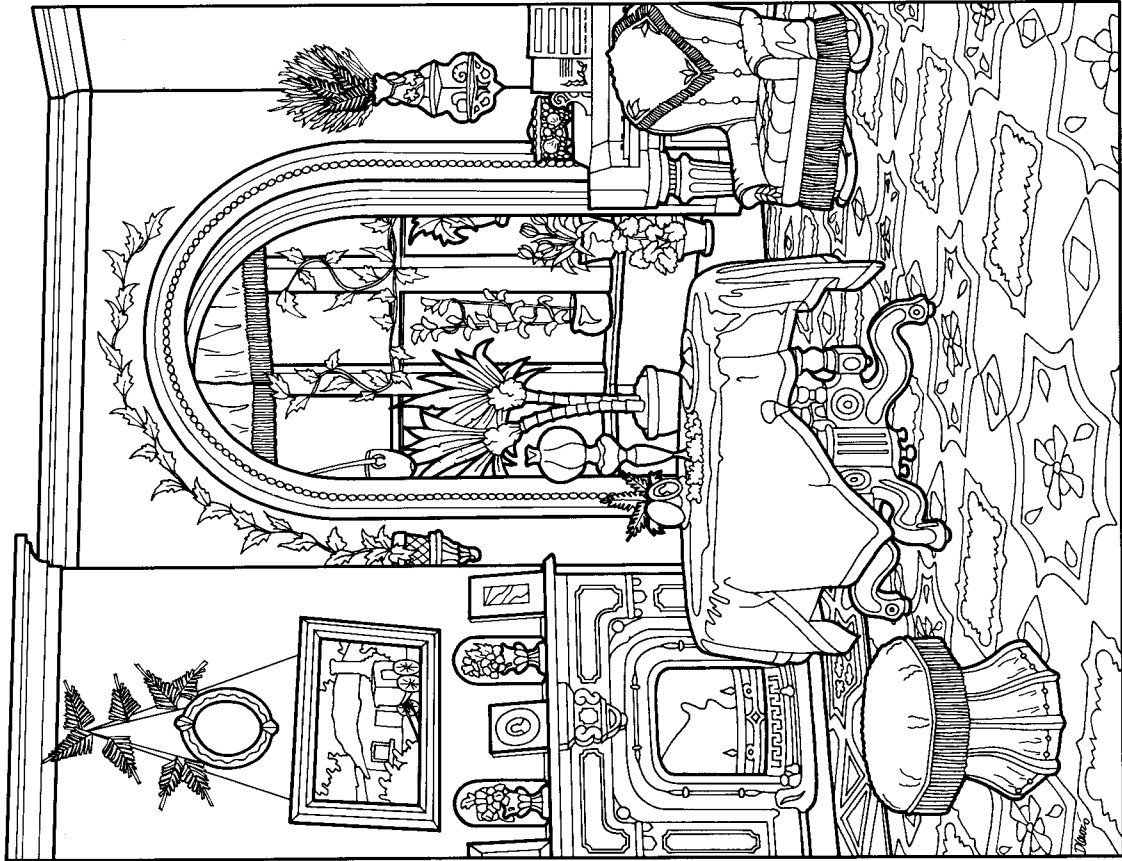


Old Fountain Street - P. le Lievre

Many people lived in the old medieval houses in St Peter Port. They were very close together.



**activity:** can you spot the 12 differences in this parlour



The poorer country people lived in a one roomed cottage like this:

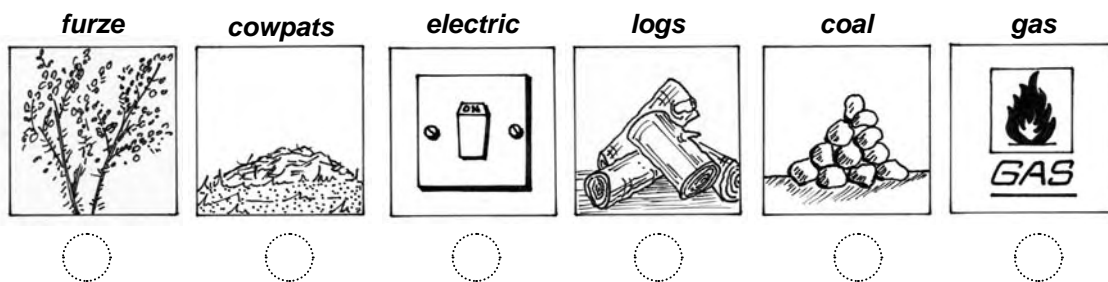


*Sark cottage interior. P. le Lieve*

Find the spade, two brass 'Bashins' used for washing or making jam, the broom for sweeping, the kettle.

What do you think the lady is doing?

**activity:** which of these were used to make you warm in Victorian times?



# Victorian Toys

Many toys helped children to learn. Boys and girls played with dolls' houses. Girls sewed dolls' clothes, curtains and bed covers, and boys made furniture. They stuck any pictures they found in scrapbooks



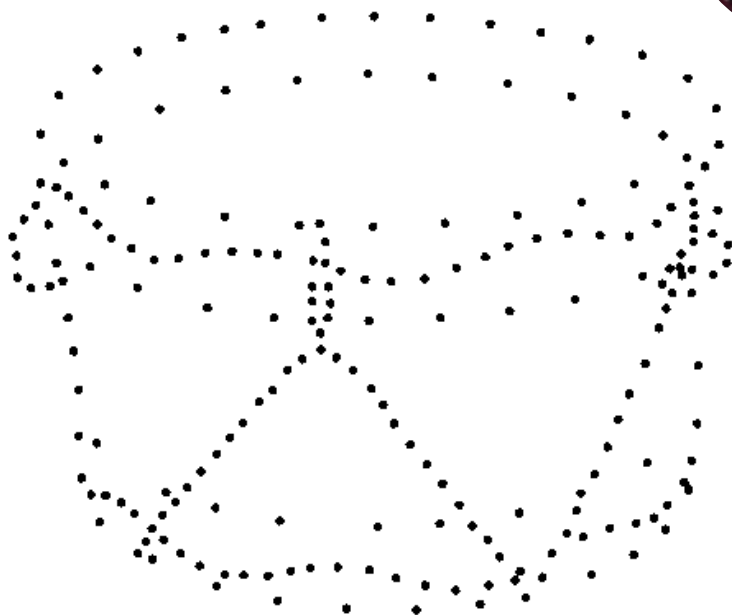
A favourite doll in Guernsey was Cobo Alice. She was made by a lady called Alice who lived at Cobo Bay. Her husband was a fisherman and when he mended his sails she used the offcuts to make the doll's body. She stuffed the doll with sawdust and dressed her.



Later in Victorian times when people began making machines, toys which moved were fashionable



This toy drum has a steam ship on it so it is probably Victorian.



**activity:** join up the dots to make your own drum.



# The Militia

All Guernsey men had to serve in the Guernsey Militia. Their job was to protect the island from invasion. In the 1800s Sir John Doyle built new roads and many forts around the coast to strengthen the island against French invasion. Frederick Corbin Lukis became Lieutenant Colonel of the 2nd Regiment.



*Major General Sir John Doyle*

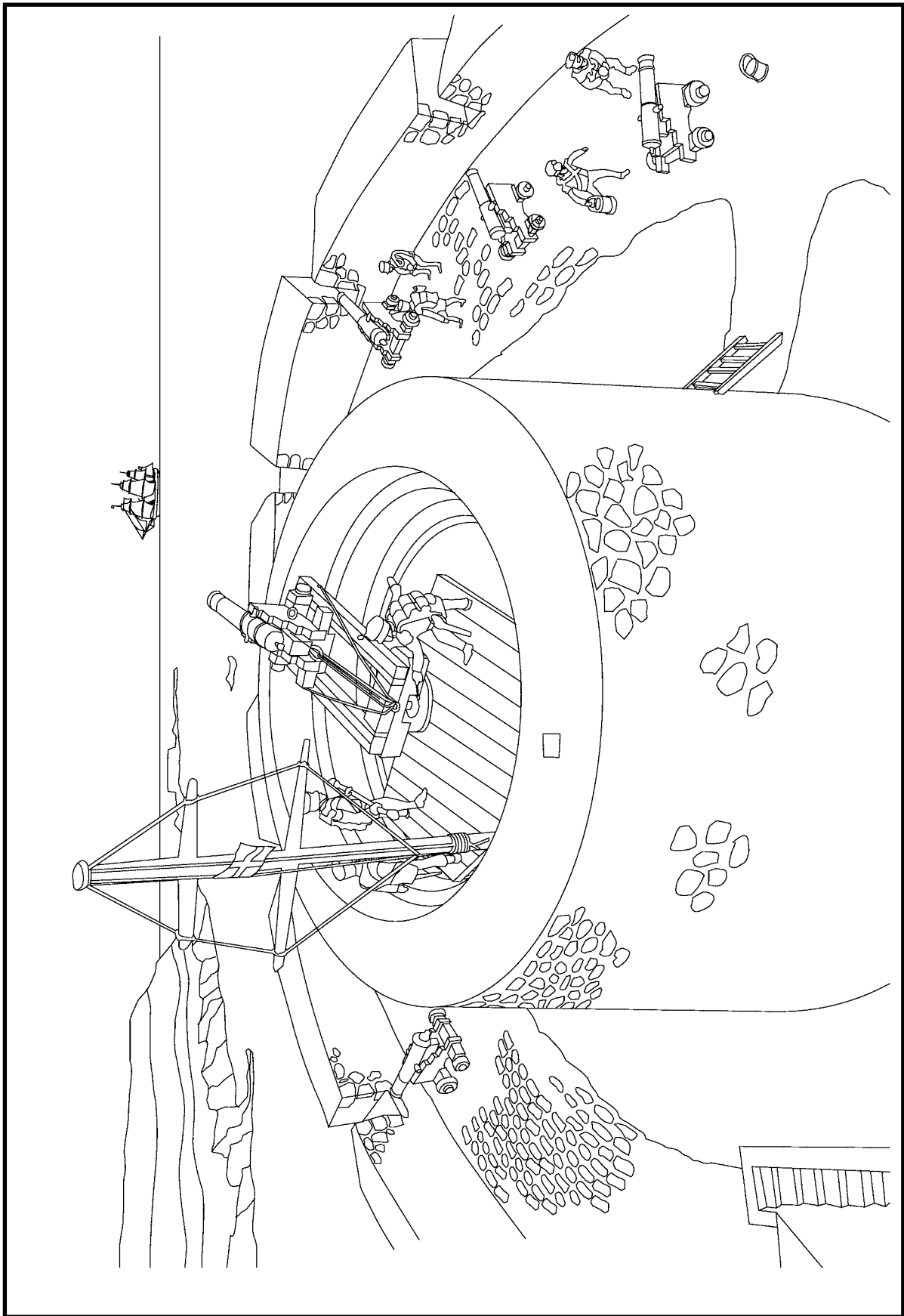


*Militia uniform  
worn by F.C. Lukis.  
Displayed at Guernsey  
Museum & Art Gallery*

*Militia at Fort Pezerie. B. Byron (detail)*



**activity:** colour this picture of the Militia at Fort Grey.



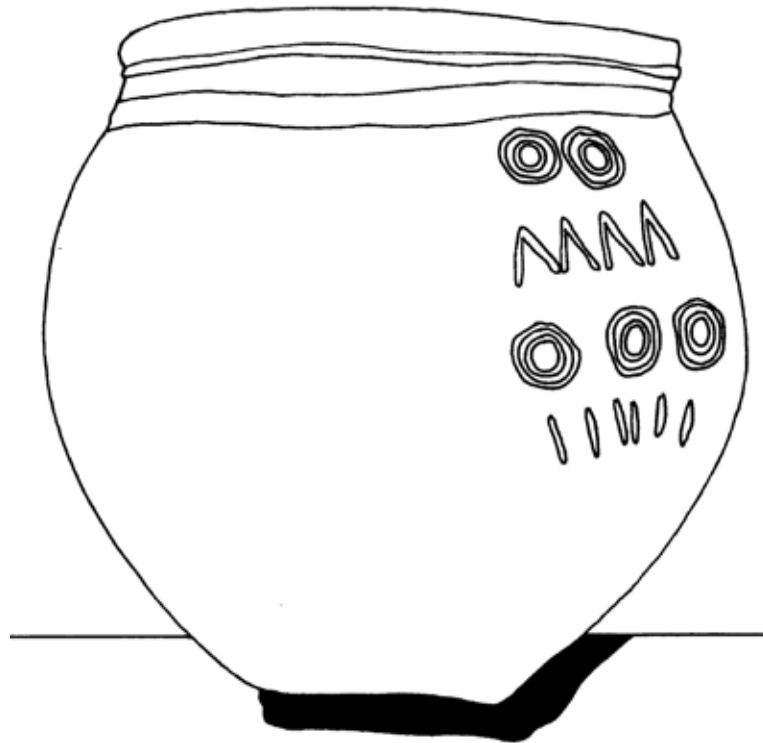
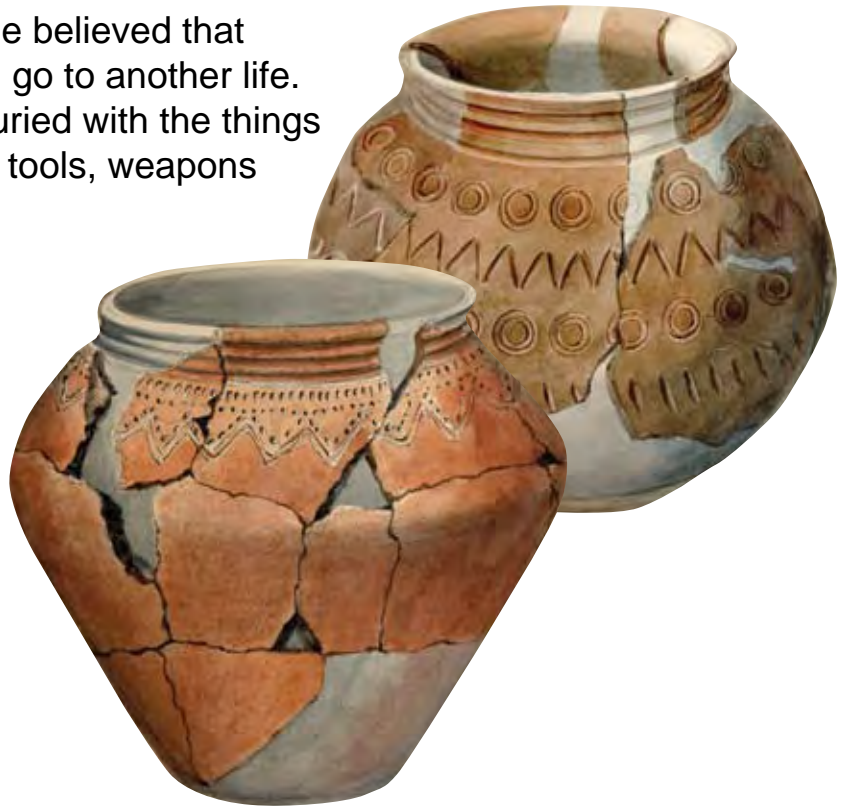
# Death & Dolmens

Frederick Corbin Lukis and his sons were archaeologists. They explored and excavated many Dolmens to find out how people lived thousands of years ago.

In prehistoric times people believed that after you died, you would go to another life. Important people were buried with the things they would need such as tools, weapons and food.

Archaeologists often only find sherds (pieces) of pottery and they have to glue them back together.

Lukis drew pictures of these pots.

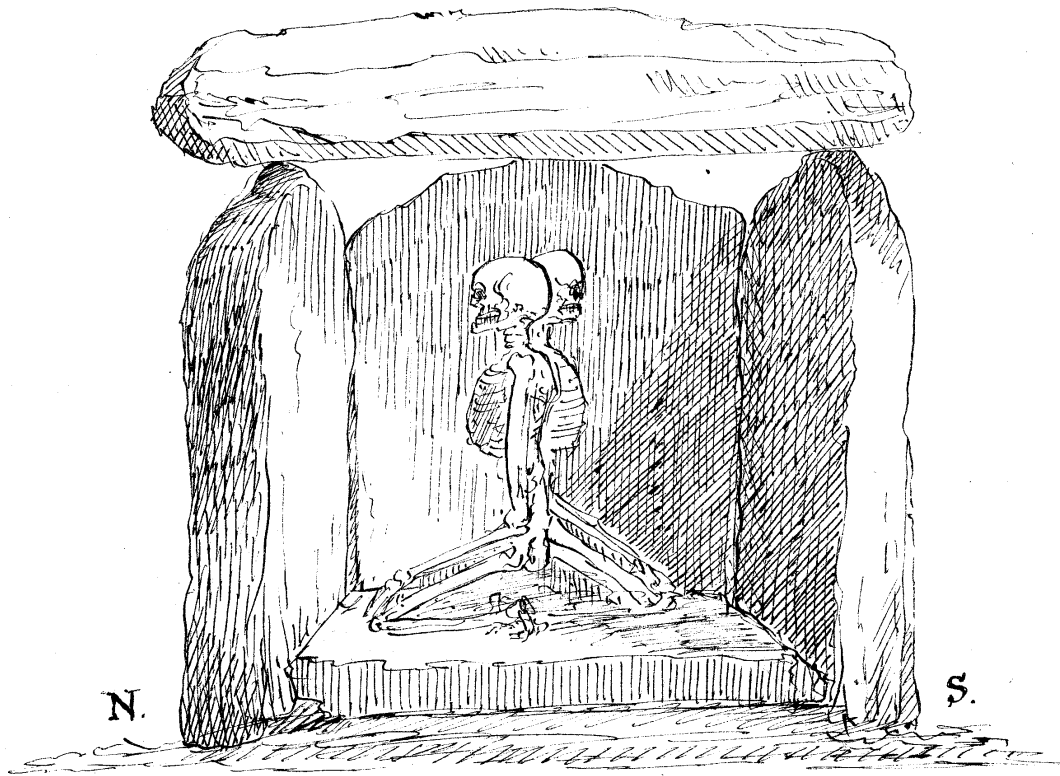


**activity:** can you finish the pattern on this pot?





Lukis and his son drew this picture of the skeletons they found in the Dehus Dolmen. They were buried about 5000 years ago



Who do you think they could have been?

**activity:** can you make up a story about them?

Use these words to help you:.

Tribe	Weapons	Happy
Village	Tools	Frightened
Chieftain	Shellfish	Kneeling
Stones	Food	
Dolmen	Dangerous	

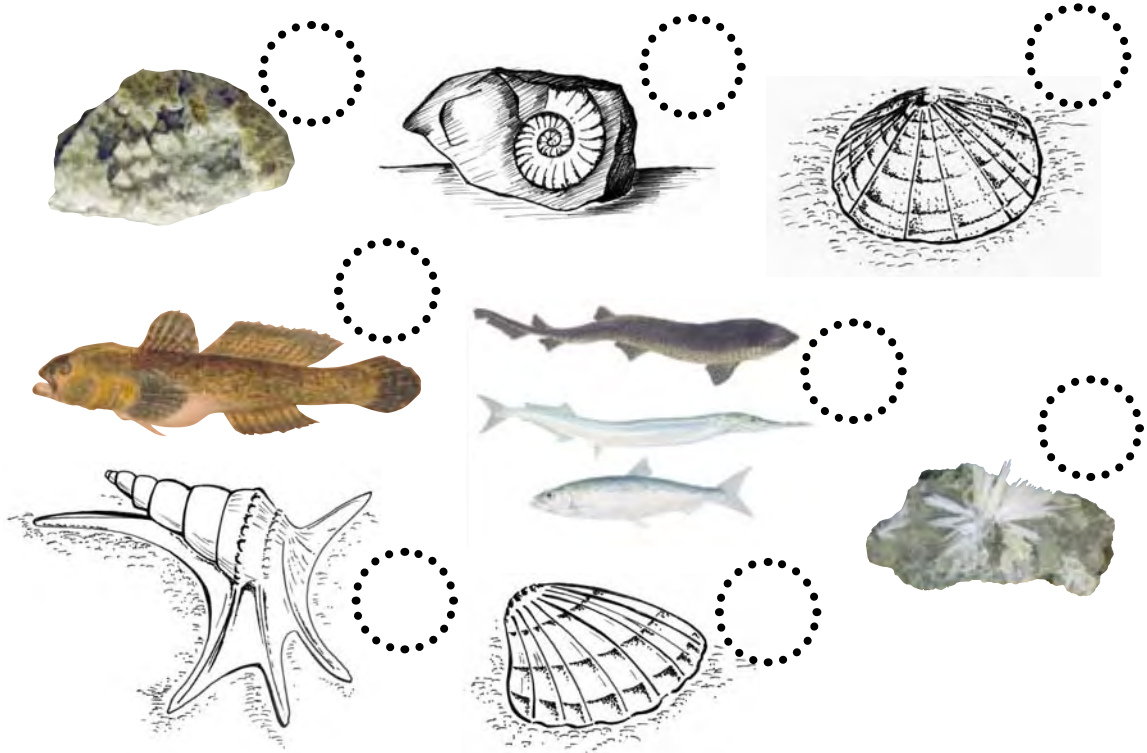
**email your stories to:** [Lynne.Ashton@cultureleisure.gov.gg](mailto:Lynne.Ashton@cultureleisure.gov.gg) or send them to:  
Guernsey Museum & Art Gallery, Candie Gardens, St Peter Port, Guernsey GY1 1UG



# Collections & Collecting

Frederick Corbin Lukis and his family collected many things.

They classified the things that they found in groups.



**activity:** put a letter next to each item to show its classification group.

Shells = a

Rocks and Minerals = b

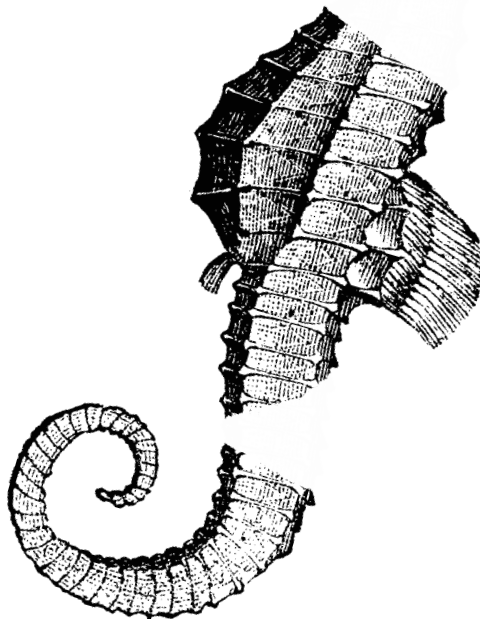
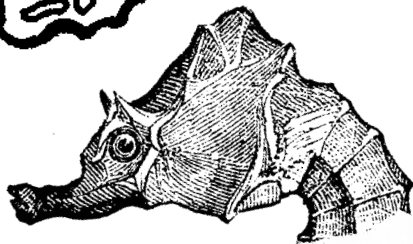
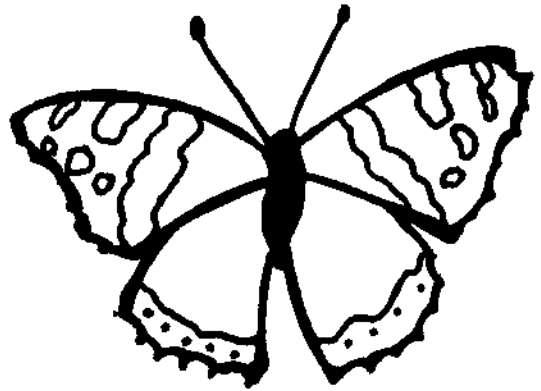
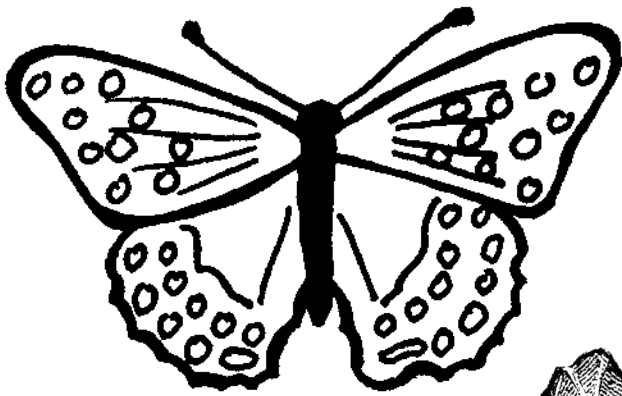
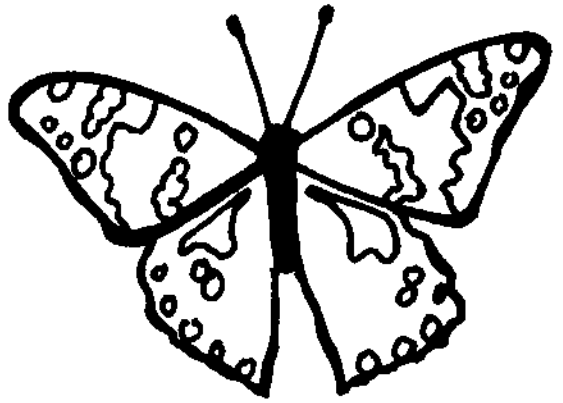
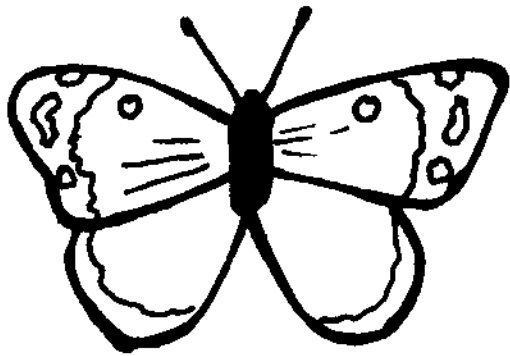
Fish = c



The Lukis family drew and painted pictures of the things they were interested in to record what they looked like.



**activity:** colour in these Butterflies and finish the Seahorse



# Letters & Letter Writing

William Corbin Lukis, his father and his family wrote many letters to each other and people who were interested in archaeology and collecting.

Letters were closed with a wax seal.

This is the Lukis family seal.



Can you design a seal for your family?



In 1840 stamps were invented. The first ones were called Penny Red and Penny Black

Can you find out who invented them?

The first post box used in Britain can still be found in Guernsey.

Do you know which street it is in?



# Victorians at Work

Mr Lukis and his family employed people to help in the house. Here is a picture of some of them.

The Cook, the Coachman and servants

**activity:** can you guess who does which job?



These are some other jobs people in Guernsey did:



- Quarryman
- Washerwoman
- Grower
- Knitter
- Shipbuilder
- Farmer
- Market trader
- Fisherman

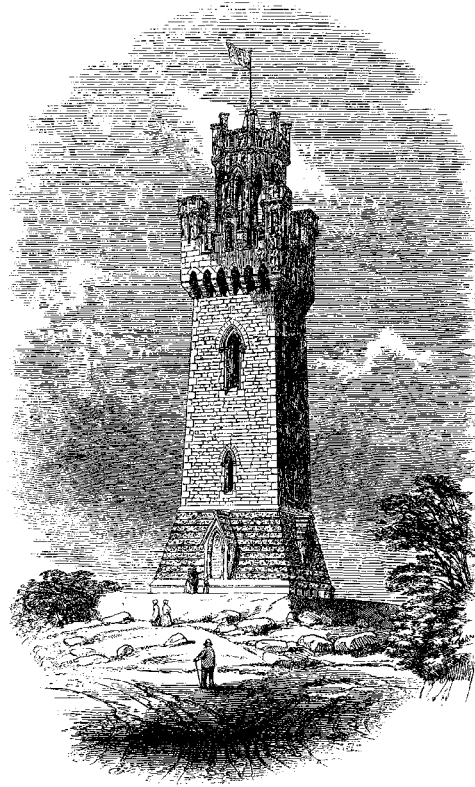


**activity:** draw a line to match the job to the picture



# Victoria Tower

In 1851 George S Reynolds drew a Panorama of Guernsey from the top of Victoria Tower as a gift for Queen Victoria. You can see how the town looked on the pictures opposite.



Can you find the places on the picture opposite and match them to the correct number?

Castle Cornet



Herm



Elizabeth College



Monument Road



Fort George



Candie Cemetery

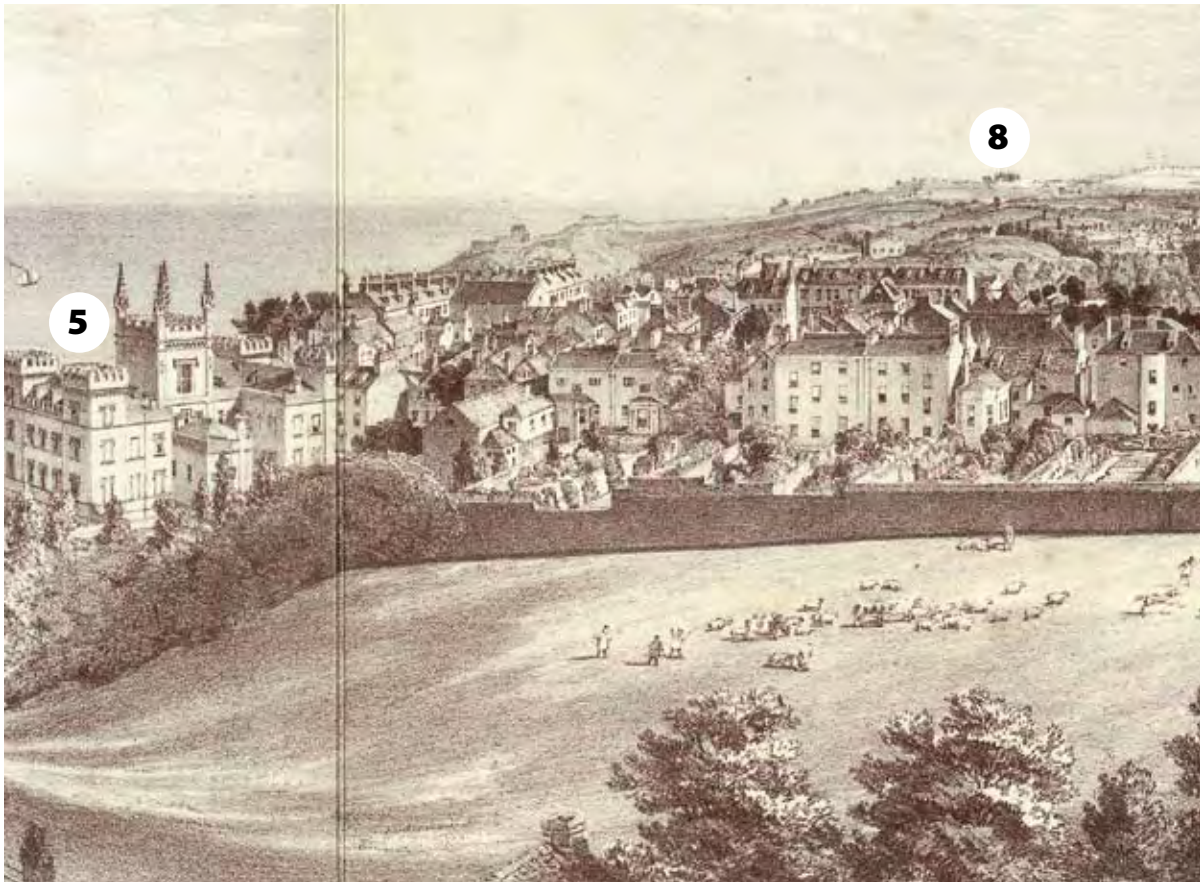


St James the Less Church



Sark





# Fashions

Ladies in town wore crinolines and men in their best clothes wore top hats. Little boys wore dresses until they were about five and sailor suits were very fashionable. Girls dressed like their mothers.



Later in the Victorian era fashions changed.

Ladies wore bustles and many men wore bowler hats or boaters.

Many country people in Guernsey were farmers or fishermen.



Fishermen wore Guernsey shirts or 'Guernsey's' – a jumper knitted with oiled wool to keep out the wet.

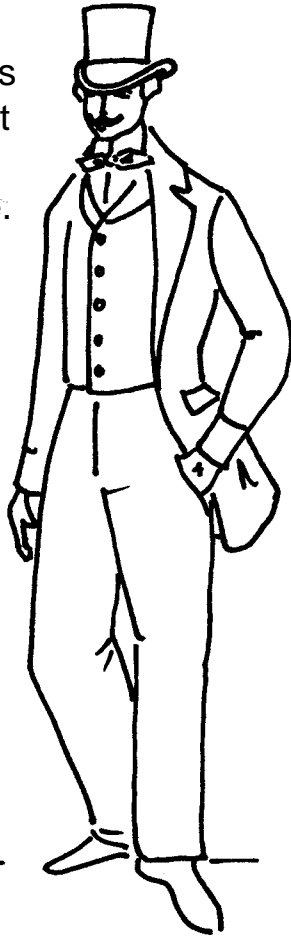
Ladies wore bonnets to protect their neck from the sun when they were bending down to pull up parsnips or milking the cows.





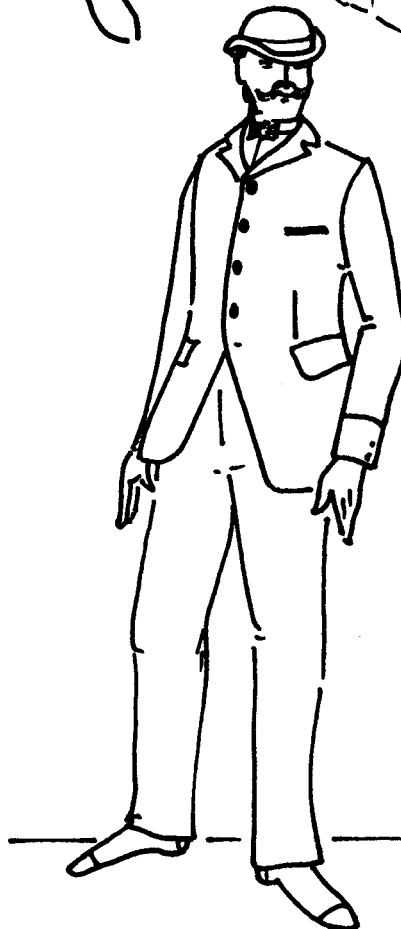
**activity:** colour in these pictures and put a tick in the correct year.

This gentleman is wearing a top hat and the lady's dress is crinoline.



1850s

1890s



This gentleman is wearing a bowler hat and the lady is wearing a bustle. Do you know what a bustle is?.

1850s

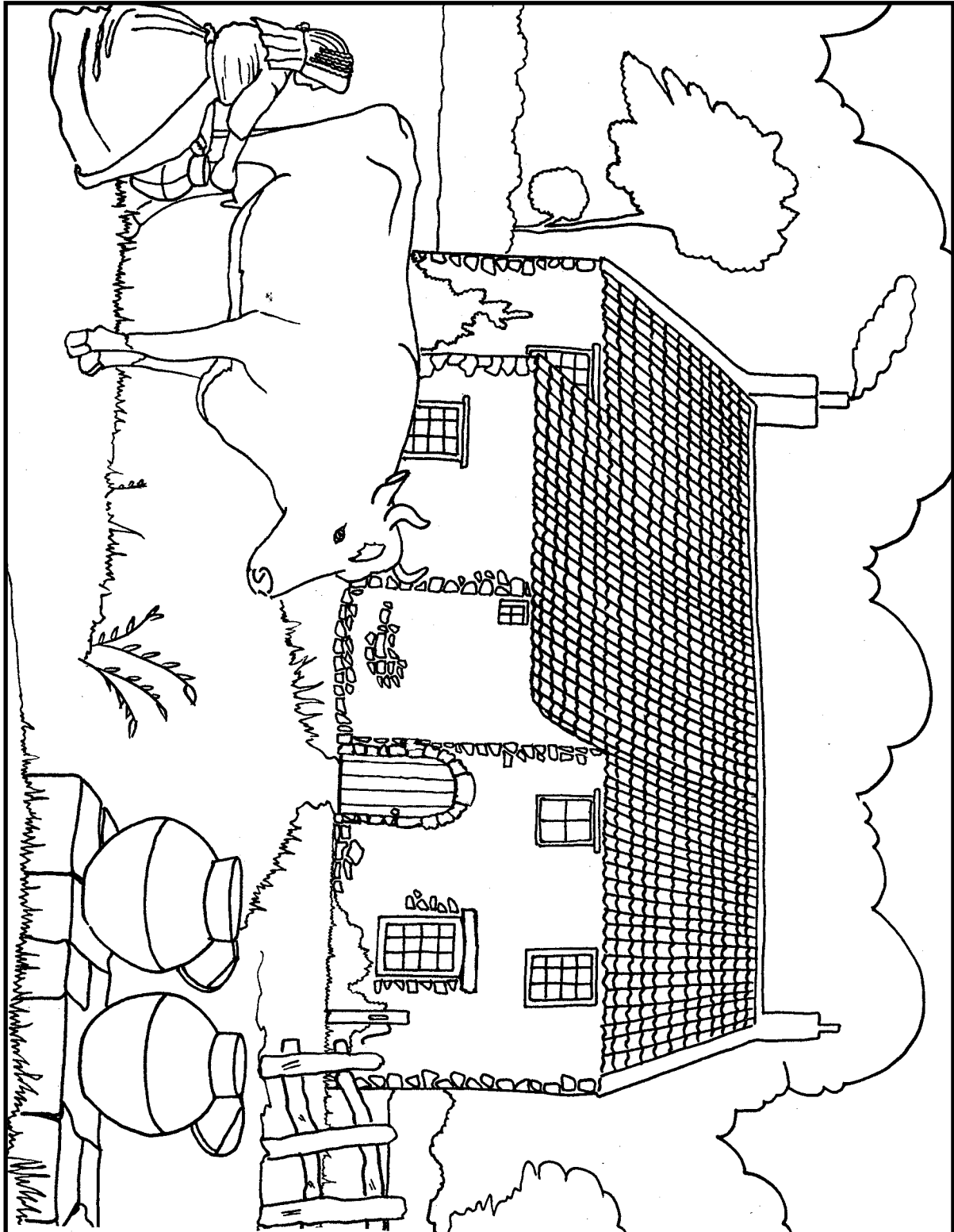
1890s



# Country Life

Study this picture. What do you think the two cans were used for?

**activity:** colour this picture.



# Insurance Companies

The first insurance companies were set up to protect homes and businesses if there was a fire.

They attached their special 'mark' to buildings to show they were insured. These are some of the designs they used:



*Phoenix Assurance Company*

*Atlas Assurance Company*



*Sun Life Assurance Company*

**activity 1:** An actuary is:

- (a) a character from star-trek      (b) a person who works out insurance risks and costs.      (c) an architect who designs children's playgrounds

**activity 2:** design your own Fire Mark and give your insurance company a name.

**activity 3:** design a Firemark for BWCI Actuaries & Consultants



# School in Victorian Times

In the country parishes, school children did their lessons in French and many children spoke the Guernsey 'patois' (Norman-French) as their first language. Here are some common words:

<i>Word</i>	<i>Patois</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>
School	ecole	ecoll
Farm	la ferme	La fem
Toys	le jouets	le jouatts
Animal	un bete	un bait
Boy	un garcon	un garsan
Girl	une fille	un fil

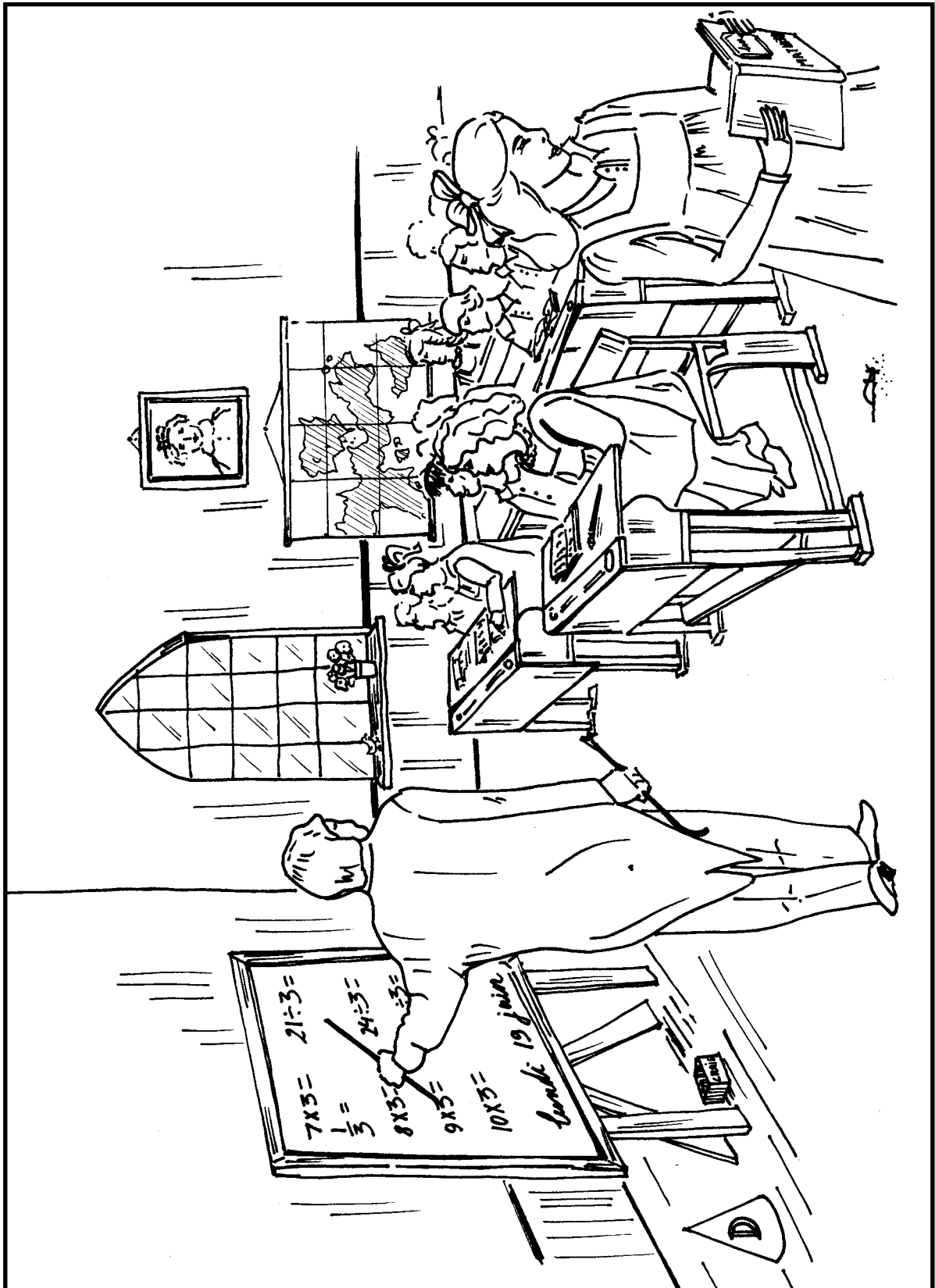
In the town, schools like Elizabeth College taught their lessons in English. English was the language spoken by most of the richer people.

Important men like Frederick Corbin Lukis set up places like the Guernsey Mechanic's Institute to encourage employers to teach the poor a trade.



# Victorian Schoolroom

**activity:** colour this picture.



# Travel

In the 1840s most people went around on foot or in a horse and cart. Richer people had carriages. Later, trams and bicycles were used. Sailing ships were replaced by steamships in the late Victorian period.

*The Quay*  
Paul Jacob Naftel



*Guernsey view* - Henry Wimbush



*HMS Alberta* - Gilbert Holliday

**activity:** match the artist to his picture. Who drew the one with:

- the horse & cart?
- the steam ship?
- the phaeton carriage?

Gilbert Holliday  
Henry Wimbush  
Paul Jacob Naftel

Steam Trams and Electric Trams used to run between St Sampson and St Peter Port.



In the 1890s Penny Farthing bicycles and tricycles encouraged ladies to wear divided skirts.



# Shipbuilding

Many people in St Peter Port and St Sampson were involved in shipbuilding. Guernsey - built ships travelled all over the world.

Hemp was twisted into ropes for rigging along lanes called 'Rope Walks'

Find the one in St Peter Port (near St Johns) on a map of Guernsey.

Sails were made in sail lofts.

The 'Golden Spur' had half an acre of sail.



*The Golden Spur*

**activity:** How many sails can you see  
How many flags can you see

William Le Lacheur sent his ships to Costa Rica and started the coffee trade with London. More about Maritime Guernsey can be found in the Maritime Museum in Castle Cornet



[www.williamlelacheur.com](http://www.williamlelacheur.com)



## Men of note from the period

**Major-General Sir John Doyle**, (1756-1834), was Governor of Guernsey from 1803-1816. Alongside re-organising the Guernsey Militia and the island's defences, he set about improving the roads on the island and draining the Braye du Valle. Guernsey was in fact two islands, with an area of land to the north cut off by a shallow channel. This flooded at high tide and so he set about draining the Braye in 1806, which he considered made the larger part of Guernsey vulnerable to attack from the French.



France's great literary figure, **Victor Hugo**, (1802-1885), spent a period of exile in Guernsey from 1855 to 1870 as a political refugee from Louis Napoleon. He lived in Hauteville House in St Peter Port until 1870, when he returned to France. He returned to Guernsey occasionally after that time. While he lived in Guernsey, Hugo completed many of his greatest works including *Les Misérables*, *Les Travailleurs de la mer* and *L'Homme qui rit*.

**Captain William Le Lacheur**, (1802-1863), founded a shipping company in 1836 and was the first to bring coffee directly from Costa Rica to Europe. He became a national hero in Costa Rica and is credited with transforming the country from being the poorest in Central America to the wealthiest, in less than a quarter of a century.



**George Metivier**, (1790-1881), was not only Guernsey's great romantic poet but was also an outstanding poet of the Norman tongue. He was born in St Peter Port but was from an old French family. His works include 'Rhymes guernesaises' in 1831 and a French-Norman dictionary which was used by Victor Hugo. His poetry is sensitive, and often of pastoral inspiration as he was interested in nature, folk-lore, history and archaeology.





# Things to Do

**activity:** how many words can you make from ARCHAEOLOGIST?

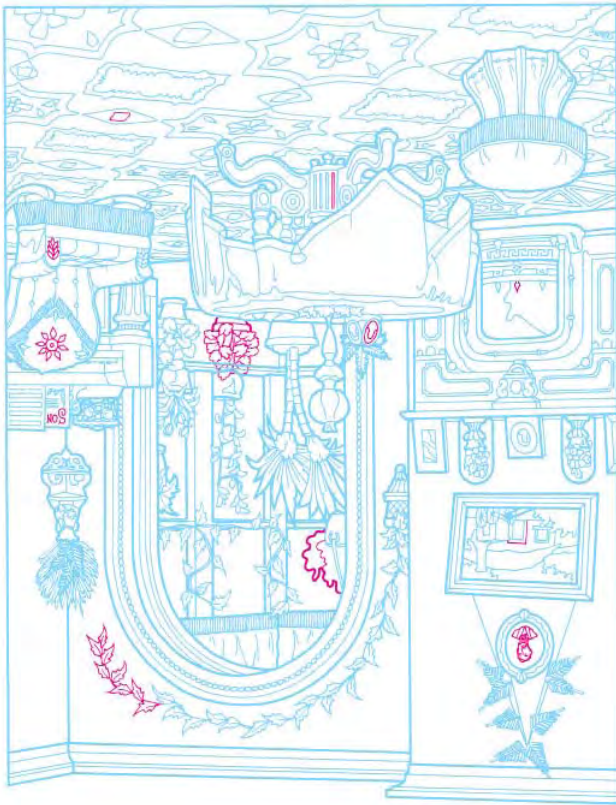
**activity:** can you do the Word Search



LUKIS  
BUSTLE  
ARCHAEOLOGIST  
BUTTERFLY  
CARRIAGE  
PISTOL  
MILITIA  
COLLECTION  
BONNET  
DOLMAN

PREHISTORIC  
SKELETON  
SAILOR  
SHELL  
FISH  
ROCK  
SHIP  
GUERNSEY  
VICTORIAN  
MUSEUM





p2 (a) SE, (b) N, (c) E, (d) W  
 p7 11 windows  
 p9 knitting  
 p9 ynyynn  
 p18 Rowland Hill, Union Street  
 p20 3,6,5,1,8,2,4,7  
 p23 top=1850s bottom=1890s  
 p24 milk  
 p29 a bustle is underwear  
 p29 8 flags & 27 sails

## Answers

# Acknowledgements

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This activity book complements the Guernsey Museum & Art Gallery

2006 exhibition ‘Pursuits and Joys’ and accompanies the book

‘Frederick Corbin Lukis and his Family’ by Heather Sebire,

available from the museum for £4.99 (ISBN 1-871560-07-1)





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