

Launch of the Peirson Sculpture Appeal

The Battle of Jersey on 6th January 1781 was a defining moment in Jersey history - the last attempt by French forces to capture the island. Major Peirson, a young English officer, led the British troops, defying orders to surrender, but was killed in the opening phase of the battle. John Singleton Copley's epic painting "The Death of Major Peirson" is an iconic representation familiar to all Jersey people.

Yet more than 200 years later, St Helier's only permanent memorial commemorating the value and sacrifice of Major Peirson is his recently rediscovered burial vault in the Town Church. In September 2009, the Parish of St Helier's Roads Committee decided to change this situation by starting the process of commissioning and erecting a work of public art in a prominent and historically fitting location. A design brief has been published (see www.sthelier.je/peirsonsculptureappeal) and expressions of interest sought from local artists and sculptors in the first instance.

In a recent event at the Town Hall generously supported by the legal firm Le Gallais & Luce, the Constable of St Helier, Simon Crowcroft, launched an appeal for the funding of this new work of public art and for support to make this important project a reality.

If you would like to contribute towards this important development, or feel you could offer practical support with the fund raising effort, get in touch with Constable Crowcroft, c/o the Town Hall.

Photos:	Death of Peirson (lan)
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