



PRESS RELEASE

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# La Fête du Jèrriais

The first ever Fête du Jèrriais will take place this Autumn from Monday 24th - Sunday 30th September 2018. The festival will be a celebration of Jersey's native language and will bring together people from across the local community.

It is hoped the festival will become an annual occurrence with a programme of quality events that aim to raise the profile of Jèrriais and make the language more visible around the island.

The festival is organised by the Jèrriais Teaching Team alongside L'Office du Jèrriais. The group describe their objectives as follows:

1. To stimulate curiosity and interest in Jèrriais amongst a wider and more varied audience.
2. To attract new learners of all ages to Jèrriais.
3. To create a celebratory atmosphere surrounding Jèrriais and encourage positive attitudes towards the language.
4. To promote an image of Jèrriais as a living language with a contemporary relevance and dynamic future.

Events will include a Badlabecques gig, a concert as part of the Jèrriais Song Project, dancing, a scavenger hunt, talks, story and poetry reading, a conversation with Cambridge University Professor Mari Jones and much more. The final event of the festival, due to take place at Jersey Arts Centre, will be the launch of a Jèrriais translation of Michael Rosen's classic children's book, 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' in conjunction with Jersey Festival of Words.

'We're going' translates as 'J'allons' in Jèrriais and festival goers are invited to tweet their favourite Jèrriais word or phrase using the hash tag #Jallons (without the apostrophe!). The most popular word or phrase will be revealed during the festival.

**For more information contact  
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**Jèrriais**