



FINAL NEWS RELEASE

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Historic anniversary calls for exhibition

To mark the 125 years since the States of Guernsey voted to introduce telephones to the island, Sure is hosting a free public exhibition at the George Crossan Gallery, in the Market building from Monday 21 June.

Titled *Ring Please: 125 years of connecting people*, the exhibition is in the art gallery in the Inner Street of the Market, above the Guernsey Weigh, and highlights the Bailiwick's fascinating telephone and internet history. Islanders can visit the exhibition from Monday 21 June until Saturday 3 July, when it is open from 10am until 5pm every day (except for Sunday 27 June).

Justin Bellinger, chief executive at Sure in Guernsey, said: "What many people do not realise is that Guernsey has been an innovator and leader in the telephony industry for the last 125 years. From creating a telephone network that was affordable for all islanders instead of the wealthy few in 1896, to becoming the first completely digital exchange system in the world in 1994, and finally seeing a 45% increase in home broadband traffic in 2020 during the first lockdown. Our history is unique and this exhibition celebrates that."

Working with Guernsey Museums and local experts, Sure hopes to capture the spirit of the telephone museum by sharing interesting stories and even showcasing old Guernsey telephones.

Justin continues: "As one of the island's largest single employers and a provider of critical national infrastructure, it has been a privilege to delve into the Bailiwick's history of keeping islanders connected and explore our technological developments.

"While this exhibition looks at the last 125 years, this has only reaffirmed our commitment to investing in the Bailiwick, its infrastructure and the community.

"We'd like to thank everyone involved, including Guernsey Museums, for their support and sharing their expert knowledge with us on this fascinating part of Guernsey's history. We would encourage everyone to visit the exhibition. Islanders even have the opportunity to win a Sony Xperia 10 III if they complete our easy quiz that can be found in the Sure store located on the High Street, with all the answers included in the exhibition."

The exhibition is open to the public from Monday 21 June until Saturday 3 July and is open from 10am until 5pm every day (except for Sunday 27 June). For more information on Guernsey's telephone history visit: <https://www.sure.com/guernsey/about-us/company-info/history/>

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Notes to editors:

About Sure

www.sure.com

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/SureGuernsey?lang=en>

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LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/surebusiness>

Headquartered in Guernsey, Sure provides telecommunications and related services across the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man and in the British Overseas Territories of Ascension, Falklands, Saint Helena and Diego Garcia.

Sure provides fixed voice, mobile, broadband and Cloud services in the Channel Islands and Isle of Man. In the British Overseas Territories, Sure operates under exclusive licences with full-feature networks delivering voice, broadband data services and, in certain markets, TV.

The corporate division of the business, Sure International, specialises in offshore connectivity, enabling those companies that operate in the islands to reliably and efficiently connect and transact with their global partners.

Sure's approach to business is based on its values of simplicity, trust, one team and customer-driven. The last of these values has resulted in annual multi-million-pound investments to provide customers with the best and latest services to meet their needs.

Sure is a member of the Batelco Group, a leading telecommunications provider to 13 markets spanning the Middle East & Northern Africa, Europe and the South Atlantic and Indian Ocean.