



**GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR**  
**MINISTRY FOR SPORTS, CULTURE, HERITAGE & YOUTH**  
310 Main Street  
Gibraltar

**PRESS RELEASE**

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Heritage Department to give impetus to the anthropological study of the Gibraltarians

The Heritage Department, through the Gibraltar Museum, is taking on the initiative of a major anthropological study of the Gibraltarians. To achieve this it has teamed up with the Department of Anthropology of the University of Toronto in Canada and with the Gibraltar Government Archives. The three institutions have been involved in this field of study for a number of years and will now combine the effort with several clear aims in mind. His Worship the Mayor, Julio Alcantara, has accepted the invitation to act as ambassador for the project, helping in its promotion and taking an active participatory role.

The project has two major aims. The first is to give impetus to the work already carried out on oral histories. The project is led by Dr Geraldine Finlayson of the Gibraltar Museum and she is now asking for volunteers to come forward and help in the project. Volunteers may be persons interested in being interviewed and having their testimonies recorded for posterity in an audio library; they may also be persons interested in being trained to assist in the running of the interviews themselves. His Worship the Mayor has already volunteered for both roles. All those wishing to be involved are requested to contact Dr Finlayson at the Gibraltar Museum or on email [gfjmh@gibraltar.gi](mailto:gfjmh@gibraltar.gi).

A second aim is the development of a History of Gibraltar project. The final output is expected to be the first comprehensive history of Gibraltar. It will be written by members of the joint team although specialists will be invited to write guest articles. All articles will be posted on the Gibraltar Museum's web site and will be freely available to the general public. The history is expected to be built up over a number of years.

Part of the activity will be linked to the Diamond Jubilee Programme. A seminar on the social history and anthropology of the Gibraltarians will be organised later this spring and the oral histories project will give emphasis to those Gibraltarians who were born in 1952.