

International 8th Reunion of Le Cercel De Carteret
Visit to Caen 13th - 16th September 2013.

Participants from France, England, Channel Islands and America gathered in Caen, Normandy, France, for the 8th Le Cercle De Carteret Reunion.

The hotel chosen for our visit, Hotel du Quatrans, situated close to the Historic part of Caen. We were welcomed by Pierre Carteret ,Jean-Yves Robert-Carteret and the team from the French Branch of Cercle de Carteret.

Pierre immediately informed us of sad news of the passing of Claude Carteret which had happened the previous night. (12/9/2013).

We were very sad to hear that his fight against Cancer was over.

Claude had been at our inaugural meeting in 1999, and also participated in the early reunions.

He had been a keen contributor to the memorable meeting in Dijon 2005.

The meal on Friday evening's gathering, we all paid respects to Claude's memory by observing a minutes silence.

We also sent our condolences to Martine, Matthieu and Jennifer.



This photo of Claude Carteret was taken by Jackie de Carteret when Le Cercle de Carteret visited his and Martine's home in November 2012.

Saturday morning at 9 am we drove by coach to Dives sur Mer.

At Dives sur Mer is the Church of Christ St Saviour.

The Church is in the process of being renovated.

The long list of names on the wall consisted of many from the Channel Islands. We saw the record of our de Carteret connection:- Honfoi, Mauger, and Roger.

Our guide Jacques Cangina and Madame Christine Lacollonec explained the history of the church.



Mwani Carteret (Pierre and Germain's daughter) translated the French into English for us. The photo of all the participants of Le Cercle De Carteret 8th Reunion.

Left to Right. Front row:- Hilda De Carteret, Michele Carteret, Jean Carteret. Second row:- Allain Blancheton, Christine Lacallonec, Jean-Yves Robert-Carteret, Germain Carteret, Mary-Anne Jaeger, Marie-France Nys, Tony de Carteret.

3rd:- row Jennifer Thomas, Christian Gruault, Bob De Carteret Valerie Robert-Carteret, Chantel Boutelilier, Abbey Monkhouse Back row:-Richard De Carteret, Rene Carteret, Pierre Carteret, Jacques Cangina Guide, Mawena Carteret, Jackie de Carteret, Ben de Carteret

Church Notre-Dame de Dives-sur-Mer, The building is classified as historical monuments May 4 1881. The oldest parts date from the 11th century unless we know when the first stone was laid. After the conquest of England the stronghold of Dives part of the Abbaye aux Hommes in Caen whose rights will be shared from 1066 with the Abbey of Saint Martin of Troarn. The Abbot of Caen, collects tithing, captured whales tolls and tariffs on the product salt. The Abbey of Saint-Martin de Troarn owns the relevant rights of the Church Dives, the right to appoint the priest. In the 12th century founded a Priory unknown location. Expansion of Romanesque style of the Church may date from this period. the expansion will be pursued in the 14th and 15th centuries in style Gothic. There is a pilgrimage, taking place twice a year, after Pentecost and in the month of August on the legend of the Saint-Saviour Christ. Pilgrims entering through a gate read the legend of the Saint-Saviour Christ in the vault keys history of the statue of Christ the Savior is attributed to the Huguenots in 1562. The one seen today is a copy of the 17th century.

Description:- This church includes elements of Romanesque style of the 11th century, with capitals with tracery at the level of the transept crossing of the pre-Romanesque part. Enlarged in the 12th century, followed by Gothic flamboyant in the 14th and 15th centuries to the transept and the apse. It is in the course of the reconstruction of the 14th century as the choir nave, the transept and the upper part of the square Tower, as well as the Eastern span were carried out. The first four bays of the nave were completed at the end of the 15th century, as well as their aisles and side chapels, two side porches and the stair Tower. the square tower was used, during the hundred years war, as a watchtower. The path of the gargoyles was formerly protected by a balustrade between the pinnacles between them.

Above the entrance is a list of 475 names of the companions of William the Conqueror, placed by the historian and archaeologist Arcisse de Caumont.

The particularity of this religious building takes in its many more than 400 marine graffiti, its sculptures of sea monsters and its ex-votos of boats. The Church investigated 20 years a major campaign of restoration work. A new campaign has begun in 2012. Without forgetting the hole of lepers in an external opening, allowing Lepers to attend the office from outside.

The Western portal. The list of the Companions de Guillaume on which include Honfroi, Mauger and Roger.

Stained glass windows, the oldest are the Angel musicians from the 14th century. In 1875 the large stained glass windows made by Duhamel - Murette were put in place.





The Roman de Rou

Wrote one hundred years after the battle, the work of the master poet-chronicler Wace, has been long discussed, and his reputation as columnist virtually long reduced to nil. In 2005, a major study by Dr. Elisabeth van Houts demonstrates that criticism towards Wace are not based for the most part are parsimonious, Wace seems to have particularly stressed the contributions made by the families of Bayeux region, so that it is necessary to consider some of these names carefully, and probably eliminate. C. Warren Hollister, Wace seems to have also taken to cash the oral traditions of the Anglo-Norman families of his time.

The poem by Wace mentions 116 persons, identified by a name. These participants, 38 are referred to by their first name and their nickname or name, accompanied by lengthy descriptions of the shares in 21 of them. They are easily identifiable, and the likelihood that they have actually fought is great. The remaining 77 are simply mentioned by the indication of the areas for which they are the Lords. Here is a list of 44 known characters in the novel of Rou based on at least two indications (a name and/or a place name and a nickname): based for the most part.



- , vicomte de Thouars
- [Engenulfe de l'Aigle](#)
- [Alain le Roux](#)
- Gilbert d'Asnières
- [Foulques d'Aunou](#)
- [Richard Goz](#), vicomte d'Avranches
- Robert de Beaufou
- Bernard de Saint-Valery
- Robert Bertran
- [Roger Bigot](#)
- Luce de Bolbec
- [Guillaume Fitz Osbern](#)
- **Mauger de Carteret**
- Guillaume de Colombières
- Gilbert Crespin
- [Errand de Harcourt](#)
- Eustac [Aimery](#)he d'Abbeville
- [Henri de Ferrières](#)
- [Robert Fils-Erneis](#)
- Raoul de Fougères
- [Raoul de Gaël](#)
- [Gautier Giffard](#)
- Hugues de Gournay
- [Hugues de Grandmesnil](#)
- [Geoffroi de Magneville](#)
- [Guillaume Malet](#)
- Roger Marmion
- Martel de Bacqueville
- [Hugues de Montfort](#)
- [Roger II de Montgommery](#)
- [Robert de Mortain](#)
- [Hugues \(II\) de Mortemer](#)
- Guillaume de Moulins[-la-Marche]
- [Guillaume de Mohun](#)
- [Odon de Bayeux](#)
- [Taillefer](#)
- [Richard d'Orbec](#)
- Guillaume de la Lande-Patry
- Rollon le Blanc
- Guillaume de Roumare
- [Raoul II Taisson](#) (ou Tesson)
- [Guillaume \(I\) de Warenne](#)

Onfroi de Bohon

The term companions of the Conqueror is a collective name for all those who planned, organized and joined William the bastard, Duke of Normandy, in the great adventure that was the Norman Conquest of England (1066-1071).

The term is also used to refer specifically to the soldiers who fought at the battle of Hastings. The number of companions of William the Conqueror identified with more or less certainty, and consensus among specialized historians, is very low.

Several lists have emerged over the centuries, but none received any credit whatsoever on the part of specialized historians. The three most famous lists are: list of Battle Abbey, the list of Dives-sur-Mer and the list of Fallaize, a description of each is given below.

The Abbey of Battle, or Abbey of the battle (the actual name is Abbey of Saint Martin), is an Abbey complex partially ruined in the small town of Battle (East Sussex), England.

In 1070 Pope Alexander ii ordered the Normans to do penance for killing so many people in conquering of England. Also William the Conqueror vowed to build an Abbey where the battle of Hastings took place, with the high altar of his church at the very spot where King Harold fell on Saturday, October 14, 1066. He began building and called it Battle Abbey, but he died before the end of the work. His church was completed to 1094 and consecrated during the reign of his son William ii, said Rou. It was redesigned at the end of the 13th century but virtually destroyed during

the dissolution of the monasteries in the reign of King Henry VIII.

List of Dives-sur-Mer

This list of 475 names listed in alphabetical order of surnames, was engraved on the wall of the nave of the Church Romanesque Notre Dame de Dives-sur-Mer (11th century), place of departure of the shipment. It was inaugurated, on August 17, 1862, during an international academic meeting of historians. The list, which covers 24 sq ft, was drawn up by the French society of archaeology. Léopold Delisle, the editor of this list, said that he had not used the English lists the 14th and 15th centuries, nor even the novel Rou, but English charters by the reign of William and especially the Domesday book. Therefore, instead of the list of the Abbey of the battle claiming to identify those who had fought at Hastings, the list of Dives listed all Normans involved in the suites of the conquest and the submission of England.

The list of Falaise.

June 24, 1931, a bronze plaque with 315 names of Knights, supposed to have fought at Hastings, was inaugurated at the initiative of the French Government. It was for a time preserved in the chapel of the Château de Falaise. Mr. J. Crispin and Leonce Macary, Falaise college professor, published a book published in the UK in 1938. Their investigations showed that this compilation of names is based on the Roman de Rou and a list of the battle Abbey. Therefore, this list may be reliable.



St Saint Saviour: on 6 August 1001, some fishermen are said to have caught the figure of a Christ without a cross in their nets. When struck by an unbeliever, the figure is said to have started bleeding. Three years later, a cross, which fitted the Miraculous Christ perfectly was also found in the sea. In the 11th century Christ .Saint Saviour chapel where it was kept then became a pilgrimage site.

Over the years, the chapel soon proved too small for all its visitors and so, thanks to the generosity of William the Conqueror, the Duke of Normandy, a Roman building was erected. The four pillars of its choir, an arch and a dome still remain standing today. In the 14th century, the church was enlarged in Radiant Gothic style and in the 15th and 16th centuries, in the Flamboyant Gothic style. During the holy wars, the figure of Christ was burnt in a fire and pilgrims stopped coming to the site. Today, however, you can admire a reproduction of the Christ Saint Saviour of the 17th century Roman pillar, with its beautiful stained-glass windows dating back to the 14th and 19th centuries, one of which depicts the legend, and under its portal there is a list of William the Conqueror's Knights, which was installed in 1862. The Lepers' hole can be found on the outside.



La légende du Christ Saint Saviour

Un blason et une plaque remis à la ville

Dives-sur-mer réalise un travail sur les descendants de Guillaume le Conquérant et de ses compagnons depuis quelques années. Samedi dernier, un groupe d'une vingtaine de personnes portant toutes le nom de Carteret et toutes descendantes de la famille, sont venues en visite dans la ville et ont remis leur blason.

La famille Carteret est une famille issue des îles Anglo-Normandes, dont trois des fils auraient participé à la bataille d'Hastings en 1066 aux côtés de Guillaume le Conquérant.

La ville de Dives-sur-Mer a mis en avant, sous les halles, les principaux blasons des compagnons de Guillaume le



Le cercle de Carteret en visite à Dives-sur-mer.

Conquérant et, avec l'aide de Vincent Carpentier, historien. Le blason et la plaque des Carteret vont s'y ajouter.

Après avoir remercié le président du Cercle des Carteret, Christine Le Callonec

a présenté avec Arlette Girard les futurs projets de la ville en lien avec Guillaume le Conquérant, notamment la reconstitution du départ des troupes à la bataille d'Hastings, 950 ans après,

prévue pour 2016.

Venus des quatre coins du monde, ces descendants de la famille Carteret ont pu découvrir pour un week-end la Normandie et ont pu marcher sur les traces de leurs aïeux.

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(English translation of West France Newspaper Article)

Dives - sur - Mer The Descendants of the companions of William the Conqueror.

Dives - sur - Mer has carried out work concerning the descendants of the companions of William the Conqueror for some years. Last Saturday a group of a twenty people who are all descendants of one of the families came to visit the Town and place their coat of arms.

The Carteret family was joined by a family of the same name (de Carteret) from the Channel Islands. Three of their ancestors participated in the battle of Hastings alongside William the Conqueror in 1066.

At the Town of Dives - sur - Mer displays on the front of the market buildings the main coat of arms

of the Companions of William the Conqueror and, with the help of Vicent Carpentier Historian, the coat of arms plaque of Carteret are going to be added.

After offering their thanks to the President of Le Cercle de Carteret, Christine Le Callonec also presented Arlette Girard with the future projects of the Town that are linked with William the Conqueror, notably the historical re-enactment of the departure of the troops to the Battle of Hastings 950 years after the event. It is planned for 2016.

From the four corners of the world, these descendants of the Carteret family gathered for a weekend in Normandy and were able to walk on in the footsteps of their ancestors.

A Family Crest and Inscription presented to the Town of Dives - sur - Mer.



Principle people who gave Dives sur Mer our Carteret (De Carteret) Family Crest with an Inscription. Starting with Madame Christine Lacallonec Conseiller Municipal, Jean-Yves Carteret, Pierre Carteret, Michael De Carteret, Jacques Cangina, and Vincent Carpentier author of Guillaume le Conquerant et l'estuaire de la Dives.

La famille Carteret est une famille issue des participe a la bataille d'Hastings in 1066 aux cotes de Guillaume le Conquerant.

La ville de Dives -sur - Mer a Mis en avant sous les halles les principaux blasons de compagnons de Guillaume le Conquerant et, avec l'aide de Vicent Carpentier historien Le blason et la plaque de Carteret vont s'yajouter.

Après avoir remerce le President du Cercles de Carteret Christine Le Callonec a presente avec Arlette Girard les future projets de la ville en lien ave Guillaume le Conquerant, notamment la reconstitution du depart des troupes a la bataille d Hastings, 950 ans apres pre uvie pour 2016.

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week-end La Normandie et ont pu marcher sur lestraces de leurs aieux.



English Translation of the inscription notice presented at Dives sur Mer.

The Lords of Carteret, which are issues of the first Seigneurs of Sark and Bailiff's of Jersey and Guernsey, were a strong part of the Norman aristocracy in the time of Guillaume. We know little of their subject if not otherwise descendent by Guy de Carteret (born. 960 - died in 1004), Lord Carteret and Saint-Ouen of Jersey. To mark the tradition of the Islands, and the list of companions of William the Conqueror served in the Church of Dives-sur - Mer by Léopold Delisle, his three small sons, Humphrey, Mauger and Roger, would participate at the battle of Hastings. After the conquest, they are recurrent in many areas in England and in the region of the Channel.

Les seigneurs de Carteret dont sont issues les premiers siegneurs et baillis de Jersey, Serq et Guernsey, font partie de la moyeine aristocratie normande au temps de Guillaume. On sait peu de chose a leur sujet sinon qu'ils desendent de Guy de Carteret et de Saint -Ouen de Jersey. Selou la tradition des iles et la liste de compagnons de Guillaume le Conquerant dressee dans l'eglise de Dives sur Mer par Leopold Delisle, ses trois petit fils, Onfroy, Mauger et Roger, auraient participe a la bataille d Hastings. Apres la conquete, is recurent de nombreux domaines en Angleterre et dans la region des Anglo-Normandes.



Halles at Dives - sur - Mer. The roof and standing beams are oak wood with isles in which people thronged to buy Meat, cheese, Cider, Calvados, fruit and vegetables, local pastries and savoury pies. This imposing monument is the work of the marine carpenters of the 14th and 15th centuries. It is erected on 66 oak pillars directly pinned to the ground, on a stone base to insulate the wood from damp. This was where Baron Abbé de Saint Etienne de Caen, otherwise known as Sénéchal lived. He would come to Dives to collect funds for the Abbey. A by-law called “Jus mercati” authorised it to take one tenth of the takings from the market. The entire structure appears to be held up by a series of plugs. The Halles was originally thatched, with open sides and a bare floor. Market day on Saturday.

We continued our visit to a small enclosed courtyard where the surrounding buildings are village houses with artists, craftsmen, shops and the Tourist Information Centre.

This inn, once known as the “Auberge de l’Epée Royale” [The Royal Sword Hotel], was once a post house on the route from Rouen to Caen. It is partly from the 15th century. Many famous people have stayed there, including Henri IV and Marie de Medicis, Louis XIII, Madame de Sévigné, Alexandre Dumas, Raymond Poincaré, etc..... It also served as a hospital in 1944.





We then had lunch at a busy restaurant in the main village street, stated as being a typical Bistro – Chez le Bourgnat which had ancient hardware of all types transforming the place into a bustling, friendly place to take lunch, the walls were lined with old posters, photos and amazing bric-a-brac. A wonderful rustic lunch was enjoyed by all.

Then on to the next part of the programme Bayeux Tapestry

At Bayeux we walked to the Tapestry Museum the entrance of which is in a courtyard. We noticed a Scotsman dressed in 17th century costume. We discovered that a group from Scotland had a display of their tapestry "The Battle of Prestonpans" on an upper floor.

The Bayeux tapestry is displayed along a corridor under a glass case. It is very easy to see each individual sewn stitch. The accompanying commentary is very informative for each numbered section. I was surprised at the colours still looking good, also the fine stitches made with time and lots of patience. Everyone walked through the corridor at their own pace, some slower than others. On occasion it was necessary to pause the commentary for closer inspection of the detailed picture. After our visit the coach was waiting to return everyone to Caen.



The restaurant for our evening meal was close by, called Le Boeuf ferre
We were served very efficiently by one lady who managed very well on her own to serve a party of 22 people. Plus customers arriving for their evening meal.

Sunday 15th September 2013, 9am. Our party walked through Caen's almost empty streets to meet our guide for the morning at the Cathedral Abbaye aux Hommes. The grounds have immaculate gardens. We were shown through the spectacular rooms which the monks used when in residence. The gowns they wore for special occasions were beautifully decorated in embroidery.

The wax model of William the Conqueror was easily recognisable as Charlston Heston with a basin hair cut. His cloak and garments was made of individual pieces of leather triangular shaped which were joined together with what looked like pieces of iron nails. He also had a fur trimming at the bottom of the cloak.

The **Abbey of Saint-Etienne**, also known as **Abbaye aux Hommes** ("Men's Abbey"), is a former monestary. It is dedicated to St Stephen ("Saint Étienne"), it is considered, along with the neighbouring Abbaye des Dames ("Ladies' Abbey"), to be one of the most notable Romanesque buildings in Normandy. Like all the major abbeys in Normandy, it was Benedictine Lanfranc before being an Archbishop of Canterbury, was abbot of Saint-Etienne.

Built in Caen stone during the 11th century, the two semi-completed churches stood for many decades in competition. An important feature added to both churches in about 1120 was the ribbed vault, used for the first time in France. The two abbey churches are considered forerunners of the Gothic. The original Romanesque apse was replaced in 1166 by an early Gothic chevet complete with rosette windows and flying buttresses. Nine towers and spires were added in the 13th century. The interior vaulting shows a similar progression, beginning with early sexpartite vaulting (using circular ribs) in the nave and progressing to quadripartite vaults (using pointed ribs) in the sanctuary.

The two monasteries were finally donated by William the Conqueror and his wife, Matilda of Flanders as penalty for their marriage against the Pope's ruling. William was buried here; Matilda was buried in the Abbaye aux Dames. Unfortunately William's original tombstone of black marble, the same kind as Matilda's in the Abbaye aux Dames, was destroyed by the Calvinist iconoclasts in the 16th century and his bones scattered.

As a consequence of the Wars of Religion the high lantern tower in the middle of the church collapsed and was never rebuilt.

The Benedictine abbey was suppressed during the French Revolution and the abbey church became a parish church.

From 1804 to 1961, the abbey buildings accommodated a prestigious high school, the Lycée Malherbe. During the Normandy Landings inhabitants of Caen found refuge in the church; on the rooftop there was a red cross, made with blood on a sheet, to show that it was a hospital (to avoid bombings).

The part of the Abbey where William the Conqueror's grave is, we could not visit. Because it is in the Cathedral. Where Sunday Services are held. The guide explained that through the ages, most of Williams skeleton has been lost, and the only part of his bones that is now in the tomb is his femur.

From the Abbey we walked through Caen which was busier, as people were able to visit some of the museums and art galleries free throughout the weekend. We were shown a church which is now used for artisans to show off their wares, and for interested people to have a try at the trades on display.

We paid a short visit to the Castle archaeological remains.

Our lunch had been organised at the restaurant in the Castle grounds.

The coach collected our party at 2.30pm to transport us to the War Museum, a short distance from Caen city centre.

It was a very large museum, with the main displays of D-Day and how France was affected by the German Nazi Occupation.

I was interested to see the Channel Islands were coloured red as was France to signify we were also Occupied.

As we had a limited amount of time it was difficult to judge how long we were able to linger at some of the information about the history of the period.

On return to the Hotel we all said Au revoir.

