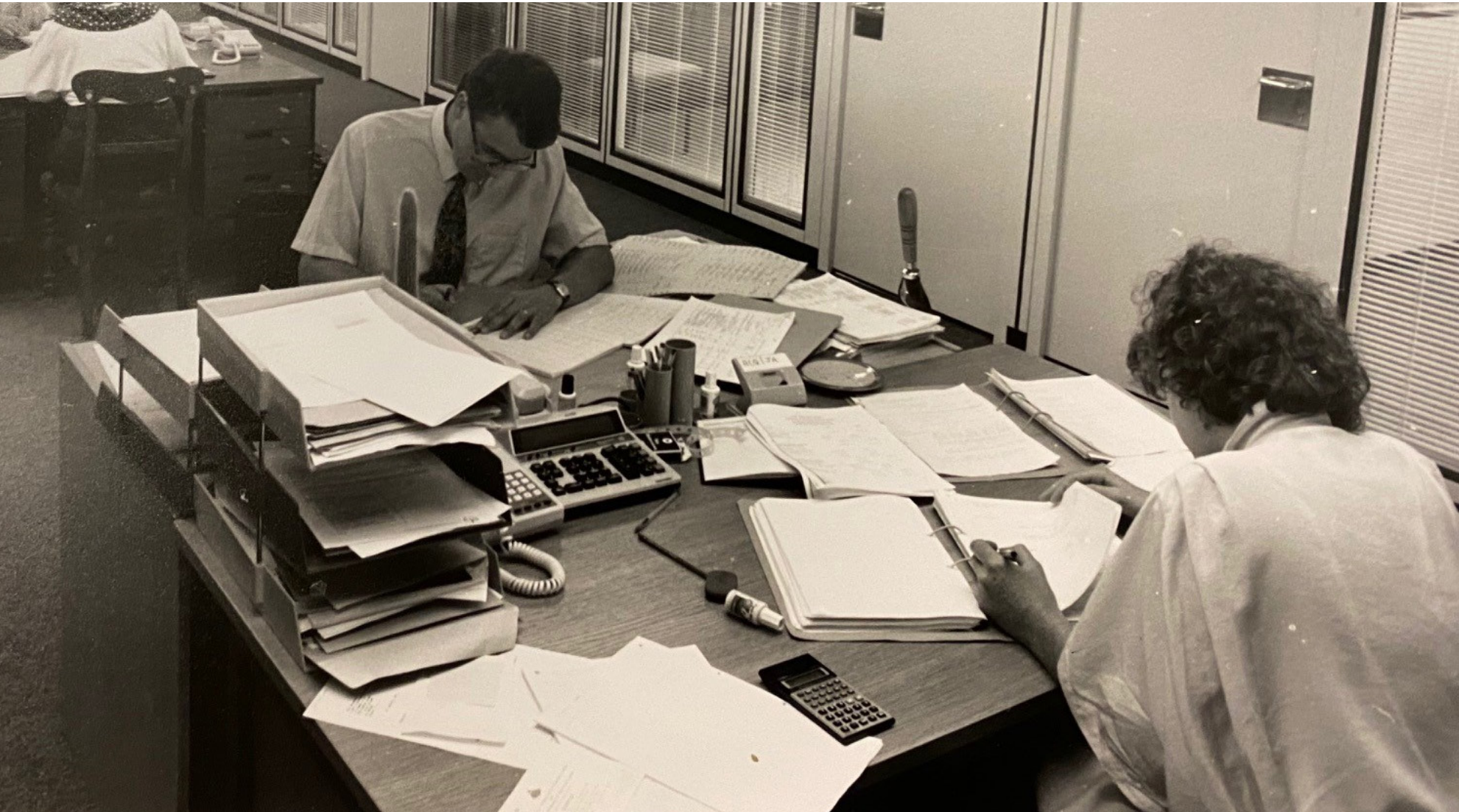


Working through the Occupation years: The Alex Picot Trust story



■ The story of Alex Picot Trust begins in 1885

ALEX Picot Trust has been a part of the Jersey community for 140 years and our rich local heritage is something we are extremely proud of to this day and reflect on as we mark the 80th year of Liberation.

Our history began in 1885 when Charles G Roberts established a firm of “agents for commission” at 12 Hill Street.

Retiring in 1904 and entrusting the firm to Charles H Brockhurst, our history took shape when Alex E Picot joined as a trainee in 1901, when the office moved to 26 Hill Street.

Placing 11th in the Society of Incorporated Accountants finals of 1913, he went on to dedicate his life, and that of his family, to the firm, helping shape its future for generations.

The firm became Alex E Picot & Co in 1926 and undertook its first trust work in 1932.

In June 1940, the German Occupation of

Jersey disrupted the Island’s way of life, forcing many local businesses to close and brought imminent disruption to the Picot firm.

Sensing the increasing threat, he gave his staff, including his two sons, their final pay and urged them to “do what you think best”.

Refusing to accept defeat, Alex Picot decided to brave it out and keep the firm afloat. Alex was joined by colleague Lilian du Feu, who became the longest-serving team member, dedicating almost 50 years to the company before retiring.

In the months that followed, while other local businesses unfortunately closed, they made the best of the situation and even sought to expand by hiring a couple of additional employees.

One significant contribution during the Occupation was the formation of the Jersey Insurance Pool, in which Alex and Hedley Luce played a prominent part.

Local insurance policyholders were maintained and premiums collected, resulting in a sizeable insurance pool ready to be turned over to the appropriate insur-

ance companies. This preserved a feeling of normality in the Island and enhanced the firm’s reputation for trust and reliability.

The Liberation of 1945 brought a very welcome end to the Island’s Occupation and set in motion the healing process of Jersey, and of the Picot firm. Alex’s sons Donald and Leslie returned home and took over the firm when Alex died in 1948.

The firm continued to grow as a family-orientated business, with more members of the Picot family joining over the years.

Donald’s second-eldest son, Anthony, joined in 1957, followed by his third-eldest son, Rodney, in 1959. Their cousin, David Picot, became part of the practice in 1976.

With deep gratitude to Alex Picot and his team for their resilience during the Occupation years, we proudly celebrate our heritage on this 80th anniversary of Liberation.

Honouring 140 years of dedicated service to clients, we look forward to continuing this trusted relationship for generations to come.



■ The firm moved to 26 Hill Street in 1901



■ Alexander E Picot

1885

We trace our roots to an accountancy firm established at 12 Hill Street, St Helier

1901

Alexander E Picot joins the firm as a trainee

1926

Alexander E Picot takes control and establishes Alex E Picot & Co

1927

Alex Picot’s eldest son, Donald E Picot, is indentured

1931

Alex Picot’s younger son, Leslie A Picot, begins his training

1932

Records show the first trust work undertaken

1940-1945

German occupation of Jersey

1948

Alex Picot dies and his sons, carry on the practice under the name Alex Picot & Co

2018

Formal separation of Alex Picot Trust Company Ltd and Alex Picot Chartered Accountants

2021

After 31 years at Halkett Place, Alex Picot Trust relocates to new offices at 6 Esplanade