

NEWS

Coin hoard grant open for applications to fund research projects into its history

By Kelly Frost

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RESEARCHERS, educators and enthusiasts who want to delve into the mysteries of the world's largest Celtic coin hoard – discovered in Grouville – can now apply for up to £50,000 in funding.

The Highlands College Foundation has opened applications for the Le Câtillon II Coin Hoard Fund.

Discovered in 2012 by two metal detectorists, the hoard was acquired by Jersey's government in 2021 for £4.25 million. A total of £250,000 of that figure was specifically allocated to the foundation last September to be used for scientific and educational research into the hoard.

The money is available to staff, students and alumni of Highlands College – as well as for research by any third party in Jersey or from overseas wishing to further investigate the historic discovery.

Anyone interested can apply before 24 March for amounts from £500 to £50,000.

Richard Miles, who unearthed the Le Câtillon II hoard along with fellow Islander Reg Mead, has called the fund "an exciting development" which would help promote both the find and the Island to the wider world.

The foundation's chair, David Lord, said: "This is a unique



■ The Le Câtillon II coin hoard grant is funded by the sale of the hoard. Donations from the grant will help support those undertaking further research into the history behind the coin hoard
Picture: DAVID FERGUSON (37502903)

opportunity for researchers, educators, and enthusiasts to delve into the mysteries of the

Le Câtillon II hoard. We are excited to invite applications from those who can contribute to the

scientific and educational understanding of this significant historical find."

Distributing £250,000

■ Following the world's largest Celtic coin discovery, discussions continue about what might have led people to bury a hoard of some 70,000 coins and jewellery in Jersey 2,000 years ago.

■ The hoard includes Europe's biggest assortment of torque neck rings, along with gold and silver jewellery and ingots, ancient flora and fauna, as well as a rare leather purse, which is the only known Iron Age example of its kind.

■ Early last year, the hoard went on display at the newly refurbished archaeology gallery at La Hougue Bie.

■ Applications are open to staff, students and alumni of Highlands College, as well as any third party in Jersey or from overseas wishing to further investigate the historic discovery.

■ These applications must have public benefit and must promote scientific and educational research into the Le Câtillon II collection.

■ Applicants must be over 18, hold a valid passport and can make one submission per "bid" period.

■ There could be multiple bidding periods until the £250,000 has been distributed.

■ Find out more about eligibility criteria and submission guidelines and apply at: highlands.ac.uk/foundation.

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