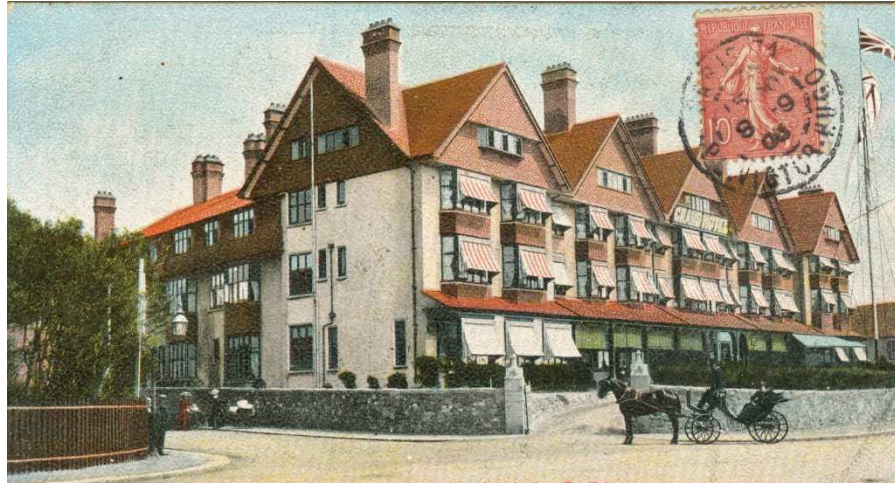


**ETTORE ARCELLI – AN ITALIAN IN THE WRONG PLACE AT THE WRONG TIME** by Ron Brown.



In 1935 Ettore Arcelli, like many Italians at that time, left his village near Pavia in northern Italy, aged 26, to seek employment in the hotel industry in Jersey. Ettore was a waiter at the Grand Hotel, St Helier, from 25 May 1935 until 11 June 1940 (one day after Italy declared war on Britain) by which time he had become head waiter. Figure 1 is a passport photo of Ettore taken in Milan in 1939.



Until Italy declared war on Britain on 10 June 1940 letters from Italy to the Channel Islands were sent via England and such letters were not censored en route because they were either routed overland via France or via Spain to Lisbon. However letters were subject to censorship in England. Below is an example of such a letter dated 15 March 1940 which was censored in England where it received a gummed censor label '**P.C. 66/OPENED BY/CENSOR/1192**'. The letter is postmarked Milan 16 March 1940 which was less than three months prior to the German Occupation of the Channel Islands.

