

The St Helena Ambassador

... An Extraordinary Place on a Path to Prosperity

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Reopening of Jamestown Market Marks New Business Support

Friday 30 September 2016 saw the official opening of the Jamestown Market building by Governor Lisa Phillips, in the company of Enterprise St Helena (ESH) staff, SHG officials, Tourism staff, invited guests and the general public.

The ceremony began at 11am with, Councillor Lawson Henry, welcoming and thanking all for attending.

Councillor Henry said:

"It is a great pleasure for me, as the ESH Chairman, to welcome you all here today to the re-opening of the market. What a fine building it is after the recent refurbishment and the great workmanship that is on display, completed by local people."

"ESH works for the community and the people of the Island. This renovation of the Jamestown market is just one of the projects supported by Elected Members and the community. Work is also nearing completion at Bertrand's Cottage, High Knoll, and Longwood Enterprise Park."

Also at the event, Governor Lisa Phillips announced the launch of a new Business Support Initiative. She said:

"The Business Support Initiative is a menu of ways in which we will provide interim support to local businesses which have made investments in the expectation of incoming tourists to St Helena. This demonstrate that we are committed to supporting businesses on the Island, as we all work towards economic development that everyone can benefit from."

Further details on the Business Support Initiative and the help available for local businesses can be provided by ESH.

Her Excellency, Governor Lisa Phillips continued:

"I am delighted to be in this beautiful building which has a splendid heritage, history and style. It's good to know that I am not the first Governor to recognise the importance of a market for economic development."

"This new refurbished market has already become the hub of Jamestown, but also a sign of change and progress on St Helena."

Lord Bishop Fenwick then blessed the Market, followed by the revealing of a new plaque by students Raylisha Piek and Harry Lockley.

Gifts were then presented to the tenants in the market by the Chief Executive for Economic Development, Dr Niall O'Keeffe, who wished them well with their new endeavors.

In his closing words, ESH, Tourism Projects Manager, Merrill Joshua, said:

"There are too many people to thank for this feat but I would like to briefly name a few, which displays only a fraction of our gratitude - to ProArc, Ambledale and to the tenants and the general public - thank you for your patience and understanding, whilst work progressed. And thank you to everyone here, for sharing this occasion with us."

'Deiouss' owner, Sophie Crowie commented:

"I am hoping that by opening full time from next week, it will give members of the public a chance to explore my products and help to develop my business for the longer term."



A photo-gallery of the Markets reopening event, can be found on page 5.

Reception for Girl Guide Trainer

Three weeks ago, Girl Guide Trainer Helen Smith, arrived on Island to support and train Guide Leaders, and to support Betty Joshua and Rosemarie Mittens to become Guide Trainers in their own right - to continue to train leaders on St Helena.

A reception was held at Plantation House on Wednesday 14 September 2016, to celebrate and recognise the good work of Guides, Brownies, Rainbows, and their leaders across St Helena.

In his opening speech, Head of the Governor's Office, Sean Burns, said:

"It has been good to hear from Helen just how well our Guiding team are doing on the Island, and that membership remains so strong."

"I recall the occasion when Marina and I were guests at the wonderful event, put on by the Guides, Brownies and Rainbows, for the Queen's 90th Birthday Party in April - which showcased their skills and commitment as an organisation."

At the reception, two members of the Girl Guiding Association were presented with Service Awards - Mrs Sylvia (Ivy) Ellick OBE, for 30 years of committed service, and Mrs Christine Scipio-O'dean for 10 years of dedicated service.

Guide Trainer, Helen Smith, concluded:

"Girl Guiding on St Helena is very strong and will only get stronger as it moves forward under the guidance of Alice Phillips, the Guiding Council and our two new Trainers."

"Thank you to all the Guiding team on St Helena for making me feel so welcome."

Branch Commissioner for St Helena & Ascension Island Guiding, Mrs Alice Phillips, commented:

"I would just like to say congratulations to both of our Service Awardees for their commitment to the Association. Also a big thank you goes to Helen Smith for taking the time to train our future leaders."



Charity Fun Walk

In conjunction with the Longwood and Alarm Forest District Clean-up teams, a 'Charity Fun Walk' was organised by Loretta Coleman, to raise funds for St Helena's Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA).

The walk took place on Saturday, 3 September 2016, beginning at 11am with 37 people taking part as well as two dogs.

Two routes were available for the walkers. The short route, which started from Longwood Avenue bus stop, proceeded to Foxy's Garage via Longwood Gate, continuing along the Haul Road to Colt Sheds road, up past Longwood Supermarket and finishing at Harford Community Centre.

The longer route started from Longwood Avenue bus stop, proceeded to Foxy's Garage via Longwood Gate, continuing along the Haul Road to Reggie's takeaway at Bottom Woods, and then back to the finish at Harford Community Centre, where all participants enjoyed refreshments.

Four prizes were given on the day, with first place going to Delia Du Preez (short route) and Loretta Coleman (long route). Although Loretta did come first for the long route, she chose not to take first prize and instead to present it to Patsy Henry for her participation.

Other prizes were given to the oldest walker, Mrs Lorraine Johnson, and to the youngest walker, Charlotte Leask.

Organiser of the event, Loretta Coleman, said:

"The day turned out perfect. Miss St Helena, Kimley Yon, and runner up Jodie Scipio Constantine both attended, which was an extra bonus. Everything went smoothly and everyone was happy."

The event raised £886.45, all going to the SPCA.

Loretta concluded:

"This event was a good opportunity for me to raise more money for my choice of charity (SPCA), which I do annually.

"If all goes to plan, I hope to organise other events to help raise funds for a few other charities on St Helena".



'Know Your Numbers' Month

The Health Promotion Team visited SHG during September 2016, to help promote 'Know Your Numbers'.

The team, which consists of Health Promotion Trainer, Marian Kanés, and Health Promotion Co-ordinator, Marian Yon, conducted various tests to help people understand where they are on the health chart.

Tests included blood pressure readings, sugar readings, height, weight and waist measurement.

Marian Kanés said:

"Knowing Your Numbers is important. For example, high blood pressure often has no symptoms, but can put people at risk of having strokes and heart attacks."

"We have also extended this campaign to include height, weight, and waist circumference, as we know that there is an obesity problem on the Island and we need to have a better understanding of this."

"We are also asking for smoking status. This will give us the opportunity to offer individual interventions which are known to have a greater impact than education alone. We

have also included a blood sugar reading in order to screen for any undiagnosed diabetics."

The Health Promotion Team now offers these checks to every workplace - and they have now been contacted by several more businesses following publication of their recent Health Matters article.



Tree Surgery In Castle Gardens

Tree pruning has been taking place in the Castle Gardens as part of an annual and important tree maintenance programme, carried out by the Agriculture & Natural Resources Department, in conjunction with Crown Estates.

This is necessary to address any issues or problems that may have arisen over the previous year, and to address any potential problems that may arise in the future. Unmanaged trees can cause damage or injury to property or to individuals using the area.



Forestry Officer, Myra Young, explained:

"This work is only one part of the planned works for 2016/17. Tree surgery is also scheduled to take place at Brick House, AVEC and the Grand Parade, with works already completed at Moores Flats and The Salvation Army."

"Each year, an assessment and report is completed prior to the tree surgery being undertaken, and recommendations are made. These are submitted to the Planning Section for prior approval, as Jamestown is a Conservation Area and a number of individual trees are protected under Tree Preservation Orders."

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