

# The St Helena Ambassador

... An Extraordinary Place on a Path to Prosperity

Issue: 3 January 2013

Hello!



and welcome to our first edition of 2013. We take this opportunity to wish you a healthy and prosperous New Year. The Governor's Cup Yacht Race has come to a successful conclusion and has received immense international publicity—both good for the Race and for 'putting St Helena on the map'. The next race will take place in 2014 and is hoped to be even bigger and better! Before the Christmas break, the first round of grants under the newly established Community Grant Scheme were awarded. In this issue we catch up with the three awardees to find out how the money will be used.

The Traditional Industries Campaign, designed to revive the Island's industries, is also progressing and we provide an update on page 3.

*A Happy New Year from all at SHG!*

## Successful End to Governor's Cup Yacht Race

The Governor's Cup Yacht Race, 2012 has 'crossed the finishing line' with 19 boats having now made the 1750 nautical mile journey from Simon's Town, South Africa to Jamestown, St Helena. 'Banjo' began the New Year with success by clinching Line Honours on 1 January, but it was the yacht 'Reaction' skippered by Tinus Groenewald, that took the crystal cut trophy for winning the race on overall handicap. St Helena's entry, skippered by Chris 'Hedge' Shuter, took an impressive fourth position in the Racing Monohull category despite the crew having to survive on a rather strange diet of garlic and cucumbers (due to an error in Cape Town)!

The race officially finished with the presentation ceremony at Donny's Bar on the seafront on Wednesday afternoon—9 January—concluding the biggest ever Governor's Cup Yacht Race since it first started in 1996. Congratulations to all participants and everyone who worked to make the race such a success!

### Governor's Cup Yacht Race Final Leader Board

Yacht	Winning Position
Reaction	Mono-hull Racing Handicap
Banjo	Line Honours
JML Rotary Scout	Mono-hull Rally Handicap
Compromise	Multi-hull Rally Handicap



Banjo takes Line Honours on 1 January



Reaction Crew with Governor's Cup



Banjo Crew receiving their prize at Donny's

## Community at Heart

**W**ith the establishment of a new Community Development Organisation in November last year, a Community Grant Scheme was initiated to support Civil Society organisations through training provision and small grants.

Groups with a constitution, bank account and which are not for profit and that bring benefits to the residents of St Helena, were invited to apply to the Grants Scheme with the first round deadline for applications closing on 7 December 2012.

A week later it was announced that the St Helena Golf Club, St Helena Disabled Person's Society and the Sandy Bay Community Centre had been awarded the first round of grants.

We caught up with each organisation to find out why they applied for a grant and how the money will benefit the Island's community.

### Disabled Person's Society

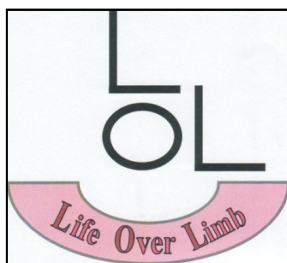
Established in June 1978, the Disabled Person's Society is a registered charity with members representing a wide range of experience and interests.

The society is very important for the welfare of disabled people on the Island and most of its work involves helping individuals. The society has in the past worked with other

institutions ensuring provision for schooling for disabled children, contributing to the setting up of Barn View (residential centre), built from money raised from the public, and recently played a major role in setting up SHAPE. The society continues to receive more requests for help, and applied for a grant under the Community Grant Scheme to improve the quality of life for the disabled here on St Helena. In cooperation with other bodies, it will use the money to install a hoist at the Jamestown Swimming Pool to enable vulnerable members of our society to enjoy a popular and healthy swim with ease.

Chairman of the Society, Basil George commented:

"We are getting more and more requests from individuals, are limited in how much money we can raise and therefore find it more difficult to be able to help. The money from the grant scheme is very important to the Society as it greatly facilitates more people with disabilities having access to the swimming pool."



### St Helena Golf Club

The St Helena Golf Club has been in existence since 1903 when the Governor at the time, Sir Henry Galway, initiated a golf course for people on St Helena to enjoy the sport. The club now has well over 100 members and offers the community a recreation by providing golf at a reasonable price. A whole year's membership to play golf on St Helena is just £24!

Using the money granted from the Community Grant Scheme, the



club will purchase a second hand (but in very good condition) Mower which will cost the Golf Club around £1500. The money is therefore very important to the club because as a charitable organisation they do not have access to regular funding.

### Sandy Bay Community Centre

Sandy Bay Community Centre is one of seven Community Centres on the Island and regularly hosts 'Family Nights Out' and entertainment for special occasions such as Bonfire Night, Halloween and New Year's Eve. The Centre is also available for hire by the general public for parties and other events for all ages. Run by eight Committee Members, the Centre is very important to the community of Sandy Bay and to the Island as a whole, providing a different scene and venue for the public's enjoyment.

The Centre is however in need of repair and the money from the Community Grant Scheme will allow upgrade works to take place that would have not been achieved without the grant.

It is hoped that these renovations will enable the community to better enjoy the service and atmosphere which the Sandy Bay Community Centre provides.



*We would like to congratulate these organisations for their great ideas and for a good use of community funds. Other organisations are now encouraged to come forward and apply for grants. The next deadline for applications is today, 11 January, which means you do have enough time to apply in the third round when applications close on 8 February 2013.*

*Application forms and guidance notes are available from Liz Johnson on email: [Sofficer.cs@sainthelena.gov.sh](mailto:Sofficer.cs@sainthelena.gov.sh) or phone 2470 ext 246, or hard copies can be found at the Library, Customer Service Centre or Human Rights Office in Jamestown.*

*If you are not sure about what you can apply for or if your organisation is eligible, please contact Liz to arrange to meet. You can apply for up to £500 (or maybe more for something exceptional) and it can be for running costs, maintenance or something new.*

*The money should be for activities that haven't already happened, will take place on St Helena and will benefit the Community.*



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**L**aunched at Prince Andrew School in September of last year, the Traditional Industries Campaign (TIC) is an initiative created to inspire young people to think about their future career choices and to raise and revive the profile of St Helena's traditional industries and stimulate students' interest in these professions.

On the launch of the TIC, His Excellency Governor Capes said: "Whilst the advent of air access will create a significant number of new employment opportunities it is essential that we do not lose focus on those traditional industries upon which St Helena has been built. Indeed, we expect the airport and associated developments to stimulate an increasing demand for traditional skills. I welcome and support this joint initiative spearheaded by Enterprise St Helena, designed to inspire young people in particular to think about their career choices and to raise the profile of our traditional industries."

The Campaign involves Enterprise St Helena (ESH), SHG'S Directorate of Education and Employment, the Private Sector, St Helena Government more generally and other non government organisations, and has three objectives, to:

- Inspire our youth back into these industries
- Promote the interests of those who have already taken an element of risk within these industries
- Lead on changing mindsets which will foster economic development.

Longer term goals are to generate interest within the youth to encourage them to seek employment opportunities and learn how to run traditional businesses; encourage stakeholders to transform their industries, embracing change and reform, revolutionise mindsets; transfer knowledge; build strong community relationships; grow the economy as young people realise existing opportunities within traditional industries, and Traditional Industry stakeholders realise they can be more profitable.

Four months into the year-long programme, interest in traditional industries is growing among students - with the fishing and farming industries already being covered in the school curriculum.



**'St Helena's traditional industries are key elements of the economy— enhancing these sectors will provide exciting and rewarding career opportunities for young Saints.'**

***Julian Morris, Chief Executive for Economic Development***

Tammy Williams, Community Liaison Manager at ESH, who is piloting the project, commented:

"The feedback has been very encouraging and we are very grateful to all those in the private sector and SHG who have supported this important venture."

In the new term beginning on Monday 14 January, students will begin a program on Hospitality and Tourism, followed by Construction, Arts and Crafts and finally New Career Opportunities to the end of the school year.







## New Arrivals In January

The month of January is a busy one for personnel arrivals. Arriving recently were **Mark Brumbill**, Commercial Fisheries Development Manager for Enterprise St Helena, and **James Stewart**, Architectural Conservation and Development Officer, based in the Planning Section at Essex House. Later this month, we will see the arrival of **Paul McGinnety**, Social Policy Planner, to work within the Strategic Policy and Planning Unit, Consultant **Roy Sainsbury** who has been working on the Social Benefit Review and will be carrying out further work on Island, **David Woosey**, Corporate Procurement Adviser and **Claire Gannon**, Senior Social Services Manager.

## Bringing Back an Old Tradition on St Helena - New Year's Day Games on Francis Plain

(All photos by Ed Thorpe)



## Congratulations to St Helena's First Ever NVQ Medallists!



Yvonne and Jenny, Medal for Excellence Recipients

Pictured above, St Helenians Yvonne Williams and Jenny Corker, MBE JP, recipients of the City and Guild's Medal for Excellence, for outstanding performance.

Chosen from over 300 nominations across the UK, Yvonne and Jenny are the first ever Saints to have been awarded this medal. Medals for Excellence recognise the achievements of candidates and trainers of NVQ qualifications who produce exceptional work and exceed expectations - and are a great way to reward a job well done!

## Kimberley Yon-Roberts Joins SHG Communications Team

Joining the Public Relations Office of the Secretariat, Corporate Services, is Kimberley Yon-Roberts. Kimberley joins the office as an additional Public Relations Officer and will support the Chief Public Relations Officer with SHG communications.

Kimberley is fresh out of University, having graduated from the University of Bedfordshire last year with a First Class Honours Degree in Media Production. Kimberley is already utilising her skills in the new role and we wish her every success as she settles in.

Kimberley commented:

"Working as a Public Relations Officer is more than I expected it to be — a lot goes on behind the scenes, including preparation and organisation of key events on Island.

"Dealing with Political matters and having to grasp knowledge on areas of the Constitution, alongside community matters like the Governor's Cup Yacht Race, is challenging but also enjoyable and rewarding.

"Progressing within this job, I hope to gain further knowledge of political matters arising within Government to enhance my productivity and understanding of the issues I deal with daily.

"Practically, I also look forward to enhancing my photography skills, which are called upon internally and externally in the job role."

