

The St Helena Ambassador

... An Extraordinary Place on a Path to Prosperity

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St Helena's Grand Ole Opry

St Helena went country and western on Saturday evening 28 June 2014 - in its very first 'Grand Ole Opry' at Prince Andrew School.

Organised by youth centre New Horizons this was the first country show on St Helena since the mid 80s when the 'Ramblers' were a popular annual event at the Paramount Cinema in Jamestown.

Youth Leader Nick Stevens explained the idea behind the event:

"This was the second musical event organised by New Horizons and although our event last year was very successful, the feedback we received was that people wanted a 'real' country concert instead of a mixture of music. Country music is very popular on the Island and so we thought we would put together a show for all the country fans on St Helena."

With the combined efforts of parents, staff and members of New Horizons, Saturday's show was a hit with the Island community and all 450 tickets sold out for the night!

Audience members enjoyed a variety of musical performances from the popular Ray C, Colin Peters, Alex Vanguard, Tracey Thomas and The Big Easy, Megan Peters and Vincent and Vilma March - just a few of the performers on the night. The highlight of the evening was a performance by Leslie Bennett of

Jamestown who played a medley he wrote on the mandolin, behind his neck!

Compere for the evening Ian Rummery kept the audience entertained in between numbers and the crowd joined in by clapping and singing along. Some audience members got into

the spirit of the evening by dressing the part, and prizes for the best dressed were awarded to Brian 'Speedy' Henry of Half Tree Hollow, Maureen Young of the Briars, Patsy Henry from

Longwood and Tatelyn Royales from Ladder Hill. New Horizons members, ushers on the evening, were also in full country and western attire.

Nick added:

"The atmosphere on the night was really good and people are still buzzing from the event. We've had some really good feedback and although we haven't decided on an annual performance we will be looking to have a similar open air concert towards the end of the year in aid of the Family Support Trust."

Total monies raised from the tickets, raffles and refreshments was over £1800 and will be used for the running of New Horizons, including transport for the children and equipment. A DVD of the night is also being produced and will soon be on sale.

"The sound quality was great and the backdrops really set the scene"

"Brilliant - I could have sat and listened all night"

Photos ©New Horizons



Airport Terminal Commemorated

To mark the construction of the Airport Terminal Building, history was made on Saturday 28 June 2014 in a special Commemorative Stone ceremony at the St Helena Airport site.

To over 100 invited guests, and under clear skies, HE Governor Capes unveiled a Commemorative Stone at the front entrance of the Terminal Building, His Lord Bishop Richard Fenwick blessed the building and a Time Capsule was buried by Prince Andrew School students. Below is a photo-gallery of the day's events.

Governor Capes arriving at the event accompanied by BR Island Director Deon De Jager and Chief PR Officer Ian Jones



Guest Speakers (L-R): Governor Capes, Deon De Jager, Bishop Richard Fenwick, Susan O'Bey (ESH), Clare Harris (SHG) and Miles Leask (PMU)

Invited Guests



Governor Capes Unveiling the Commemorative Stone (local basalt)



His Lord Bishop Richard Fenwick Blessing the Terminal Building



Prince Andrew School Students Burying the Time Capsule



Basil Read Sealing the Time Capsule



Mrs Cathy Hopkins MBE, from St Helena Arts and Crafts presenting Governor Capes with a limited edition souvenir.

Success in IT

IT Development and Support Officer Jessica Young has recently returned from Cape Town after an extensive training period with 2KO international, completing her Network+ course, becoming a Microsoft Certified Solutions Associate and finalising her studies to become a Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE). Modules studied for the Network + course included network technologies, installation and configuration, media and topologies, management, and security. For the MCSE Jessica studied Installing and Configuring Windows Server 2012, Administering Windows Server 2012, Configuring Advanced Windows Server 2012 Services, Designing and Implementing a Server Infrastructure and Implementing an Advanced Server Infrastructure. She now needs to sit two more exams to become a Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE).

Jessica commented:

"After I complete my MCSE, I hope to continue further in my training. IT systems change constantly and in order to provide a more efficient, fast and resourceful service to Government it is important to keep up to date. I enjoy what I do as you never know what to expect when you walk through the door, especially if the electricity has been down. Studying for these courses



Jessica at 2KO International

allows me to be effective and react quickly."

David George (Deputy IT Manager), Christine Henry and Craig Williams (IT Development and Support Officers) have all completed the same course. Their success demonstrates St Helena Government's emphasis on training needs and the professional development of its staff.

Women's Issues on St Helena - Giving Women a Voice

Women's Issues St Helena (WISH) is a networking group on the Island allowing people to raise issues that affect them, meet with others with similar problems and lobby for changes where appropriate. WISH has been active now for 15 months and currently has 15 group members. From 20-27 June 2014 WISH held - for the very first time on St Helena - an event called *Women's Week of Action on Wellbeing*. Amongst the various activities taking place during the week were presentations and discussions on issues such as maternal wellbeing, mental health, dating violence/coercion and keeping safe, a series of radio interviews on SAMS Radio 1 and St FM and an Information Stall in front of the Canister in Jamestown. Catherine Turner, Human Rights Facilitator on St Helena, said: *"All the events were well received and really interesting. Many issues were discussed: sexual health, childbirth, breastfeeding, the sexualisation of young girls, stereotyping, domestic violence, equal pay and sexual harassment in the workplace. While these are currently issues for some of the women on St Helena, we try to look for positive ways forward and how we as a group can help each other and women in general to overcome such problems. The idea was not to blame, but to make women the*

agents of change."

Catherine explains:

"We are the only organisation that exists to support rather than intervene.

Sometimes women don't want to go to the authorities until they feel ready. We are there to listen, support and if wanted, to go with that person to the Police or Social Services."

Since its start-up WISH has been involved in various activities and

campaigns including the organisation of White Ribbon Day and events for International Women's Day. There has been a pamper session and coffee mornings at the Salvation Army Hall and all of these were aimed at getting the word out that domestic violence, coercion and threats are not what good relationships are made of. Through these activities WISH has been able to help, support and advise - and above all to give women a public voice.

WISH is looking forward to working with the Police and Social Services in various support roles, which are still at an early stage of development. They are aiming to raise funds to assist women and girls in need - for example for training - to allow the group to work with survivors of assault and domestic abuse to support and assist them in rebuilding their lives.

WISH is open to anyone with a gender related issue on St Helena. If you would like to join the group please get in touch with Catherine or any other group member.



Wish



Pamela Murray and Catherine Turner from WISH

Queen's Honours on St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha

Each year HM Queen Elizabeth II recognises the people of the United Kingdom and her dependencies for their outstanding work and contribution to making a better life for their country.

The Honours System, as it is known, notably recognises people who have made achievements in public life and who have committed themselves to serving and helping Britain. Honours are awarded to people who have: 'made a difference to their community or field of work, for enhancing Britain's reputation, for long term voluntary service, innovation and entrepreneurship, for changing things, improving life for people less able to help themselves and for displaying moral courage and doing difficult things'. Honours are also given to people involved in different activities, such as community work, voluntary and local service, the arts and the media, health, sport, education, science and technology, business and the economy and civil or political service.

On St Helena, Ascension Island and Tristan da Cunha, a number of people have been recognised under the Queen's Birthday Honours System with Order of the British Empire (OBE), Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) and British Empire Medals (BEM). In June 2014, it was announced that two further St Helenians would be recognised. George Thomas JP was awarded an MBE in recognition of his services to the judicial sector on Ascension Island, and Stedson Francis awarded a BEM for his contribution to the community of St Helena.

A full list of people who have received such awards and are still alive can be found opposite.



LIST OF HONOURS ST HELENA, ASCENSION AND TRISTAN DA CUNHA

NAME	AWARD	DATE OF AWARD
Mr John Arthur Corker	MBE	Jan-81
Mrs Eva Rebecca Fowler	BEM	Jan-81
Mr Brian John Joshua	BEM	Oct-82
Mr Arthur Edward David Clarke JP	MBE	Jun-86
Mrs Marjorie May Young	BEM	Jan -91
Mr Harry Bazett Legg JP	OBE	Jun-92
Mr Stanley David Swain	BEM	Jun-92
Mrs Daphne Edith Francis	MBE	Jun-94
Mr Eric Walter George	MBE	Jun-94
Mr Edward Lewis Glass	MBE	Jun-95
Mr Nicholas Hobson	MBE	Jan-96
Mrs Greta Pat Musk, JP	MBE	Jun-00
Mrs Ethel Caroline Yon	MBE	Jun-00
Mrs Cheryl Eileen Anthony	MBE	Jun-01
Mrs Jessica Cavell March	MBE	Jun-01
Mr Brian Patrick Clarke	MBE	Jun-02
Mr Basil Andrew George	OBE	Jan-03
Mr Clive Rederick Duncan	MBE	Jun-03
Miss Jean Christina Peters	MBE	Jan-04
Mrs Sylvia Ivy Ellick	OBE	Jun-04
Mrs Olive Maud Williams	MBE	Jun-04
Mr Stedson Arnold Stroud	MBE	Jan-05
Captain Rodney Ian John Young	MBE	Jun-05
Mr Graham Frank Sim	OBE	Jan-06
Mrs Joyce Angela George	MBE	Jan-06
Mr Rodney James Benjamin	MBE	Jun-06
Mrs Raxa Sukhtanker	MBE	Jun-06
Dr Rebecca Elizabeth Cairns-Wicks	MBE	Jan-07
Mrs Margaret Anne Catherine Hopkins	MBE	Jun-07
Mrs Ethel Caroline Yon MBE	OBE	Jan-08
Miss Jennifer Joan Corker JP	MBE	Jan-08
Mrs Elizabeth Florence Joshua	MBE	Jan-09
Mrs Coral Rose Yon	MBE	Jun-09
Mrs Kedell Melody Worboys	MBE	Jan-10
Mr Conrad Glass	MBE	Jun-10
Mr Donald Eric Peters	MBE	Jun-10
Mrs Lorraine Jennifer Repetto	MBE	Jan-11
Mrs Joan Patsy Flagg JP	MBE	Jun-11
Venerable Dale Arthur Bowers	MBE	Jan-12
Mr Joseph Green	MBE	Jun-12
Mrs Edith May Timm	MBE	Jun-12
Mrs Caroline Jean Yon	MBE	Jan-13
Mrs Gladys M A Lavarello	BEM	Jun-13
Mr George Fredrick Thomas JP	MBE	Jun-14
Mr Stedson Graham Francis	BEM	Jun-14