

The St Helena Ambassador

... An Extraordinary Place on a Path to Prosperity

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BELIEVE & ACHIEVE ST HELENA

BASH

Believe & Achieve St Helena (BASH) is one of the newest charities on St Helena, created to benefit young people at Prince Andrew School (PAS). At the heart of this, is their mentoring programme.

Mentors are positive role models from the local community who will help to support a range of aspirations including: current and future academic performance, consideration of career paths and assisting with the development of social and life skills.

Previous group activities have included: A Confidence & Self-Esteem workshop that was divided into two parts. The first involved a morning workshop by the Therapeutic Practitioner, Tamara Coleman-Thomas, who looked at self-esteem, perceptions of perfection, personal strengths and overcoming negative thinking. This was followed by a session at 'Essence' where Noleen Fowler discussed skin care and shared beauty tips with the mentees.



A motivational talk over Skype by a speaker called Kim Sutton based in the USA whose teenage years were characterised by abuse. Kim spoke about ways to cope with difficult situations and how it is important to express gratitude and help others.

Afternoon tea at Plantation House was enjoyed by mentees, their parents and mentors, including the Acting Governor, Louise MacMorran.

BASH is nearing the end of their first mentoring round, and the feedback received from those involved has been extremely positive. BASH now seek to recruit new mentors to accommodate a fresh batch of mentees. Should you wish to discuss becoming a mentor, or other ways to get involved, please contact Amira Abdel-Aziz, Fiona Campbell or Nicola Brown tel: 65089 or via email: bash@helanta.co.sh.

BELINDA PIEK JOINS THE PRESS OFFICE TEAM



Judicial Services Officer and Future Leaders Programme participant, Belinda Piek, joined the Press Office Team on Wednesday, 1 August 2018, as Temporary Head of News while the substantive Head of News, Kerisha Stevens, is on overseas leave.

Belinda said:

"When the post of Temporary Head of News was advertised I thought long and hard about it. I decided that this would be a great opportunity to utilise the skills, knowledge and experience acquired from Judicial Services and the Future Leaders Programme. Working in the Press Office is a completely new experience and I have learnt a variety of new things including uploading posts to the website and SharePoint, using a different style of writing for press releases, photography and communications planning. Structurally the Press Office is very similar to that of Judicial Services as they are both small supportive teams in a very busy environment, hence I feel rather at home. I was very fortunate to have had a month with Kerisha. This led to a smooth learning/handover process. I am looking forward to leading the Press Office team and to continue to achieve our strategic and operational objectives."

Belinda can be contacted on tel: 22368 or email: belinda.piek@sainthelena.gov.sh.

SURE KIDZ TECH DAY

The Jamestown Community Centre was transformed into 'Hero City' on Friday, 24 August for the third SURE Kidz Tech Day, under the theme 'Superheroes'.

Chief Executive of Sure South Atlantic Ltd, Christine Thomas, explained:

"The aim of SURE Kids Tech Day is to allow children to learn about technology and how we use it in our everyday lives, but to also just have fun by being creative, getting active, spending time and having fun with our community and, of course, meeting our SURE team."

A range of activities were run throughout the day including Giant Jenga, Nail Art by Essence Beauty Salon, Tattoo Parlour, Face Painting, Lucky Dip, Retro Phone Museum, Selfie Booth, TV Lounge and Cinema, Xbox gaming and the very entertaining Piñata. Children also took part in the Superhero Training Academy and were awarded coveted certificates for completing the awesome obstacle course, making them official Superheroes!

The Shop was well-stocked with a variety of exciting goodies for all ages. The SURE Super Heroes were kept busy throughout the day with parents and children on a shopping spree. Tea and cakes, provided by Helen's Family Kitchen, were on-sale and the popular Ice Cream van was also available.

The Best Dressed Superhero Competition was held at mid-day, which proved to be an impossible task to judge, with so many super heroes showing up in their brilliant costumes (some of which were hand crafted!). Everyone did great and received a gift for their efforts.



ANNUAL SCOUT'S FUN DAY

The annual Scout's Fun Day took place at the Mule Yard, Jamestown, on Sunday, 26 August 2018.

This event, formally called 'Scout Sports Day', has been organised by the 1st Jamestown Scout Group for many years and is one of their major fundraising activities.

Chairman of the 1st Jamestown Scout Group Council, Colin Yon, explained:

"The Scout's Fun Day has always been the main source of income for the 1st Jamestown Scout Group. Funds are required for their yearly insurance subscription to Scout UK Headquarters and for the running of their weekly Scout meetings, normally held at the Scout Hall in Jamestown. Other expenses include transport, camping, badges, and scout equipment."

On this occasion, there were various stalls selling goods and refreshments. There were also fundraising stalls available throughout the day such as football tombola, toy stall, lucky dips, toy tombola and a bottle and can stall.

Other entertainment included a multi and booze raffle, Bingo and a bouncy castle. Music throughout the day was provided by DJ Jeremy Johns, and by live bands - Route 66 and Alex Vanguard and CO.

Colin concluded:

"On behalf of the 1st Jamestown Scout Group I would like to thank everyone for their support, especially those who helped or gave donations and of course those who supported with their attendance on the day."



ST HELENA SPORTS DAY 2018

The 39th St Helena Sports Day took place at Reading Abbey Rugby Football Club between Saturday, 25 August, and Sunday, 26 August 2018.

Despite the wet and rainy weather on Sunday, just under 1000 people attended the event.

Digital Marketing Executive of St Helena Association, James Miller, said:

"Because the weather was characteristically British, the sports events and inflatable arena did have to be cancelled. At the very last minute, both Lisa Duncan and I improvised a series of children's games such as Limbo, musical chairs and a dance battle. Children were awarded the Sports Day medals as a prize which made their day."

Under the marquee, where many people congregated to shelter from the rain, were numerous stalls selling items including 'Saint' food and arts & crafts. There was also a face painting stall.

Richard Jones from ITV Meridian filmed the event and conducted interviews with Candy Moyce, Vilma Clingham-Toms and James Miller.

The highlight of the event was the big prize as part of this year's raffle which was two return flights from Johannesburg to St Helena, kindly donated by SA Airlink.

The results were announced in the Clubhouse, with the lucky winner being Tina Anderson.

The weekend closed with entertainment provided by DJ Phil Thompson and DJ Mark from City Nights Disco.



PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAYS

The Island's three primary schools - Harford, Pilling and St Paul's - held their annual Open Days during the month of August.

Each open day started with an Entertainment & Prize Presentation for parents, guardians, and invited guests. Throughout the schools, the entertainment was performed by students of KS1 and KS2 and comprised of music, drama and dance which amazed the audience from start to finish.

The prizes were awarded for overall performance, best effort and highest achievement in various subjects, the Jean Beadon Art Competition and Reading Champion of the year.

Following the entertainment and prize presentations, invited guests, parents and guardians were invited back to the school for tea and refreshments, after which the school was opened to the public for viewing.



SPCA BIG DOG WALK

The Big Dog Walk, a fundraiser in aid of the St Helena SPCA, was held at Plantation House on the afternoon of Saturday, 18 August.

Participants were able to choose from two routes. The short route took participants around Plantation House and the long route saw participants walk via Bates Branch, Stitches Ridge and W Road.

Due to the unfavourable weather, participation numbers were fewer than hoped but dogs and families that attended won doggy gift prizes. The afternoon included tea and cakes, courtesy of the Plantation House staff and Bertrand's Cottage, and Joe the vet attended to dispense flea and worm treatments. SPCA Merchandise and training notes were also provided by Paul Laban, affectionately known as the 'Dogman', was also available.

The Dog walk continues the tradition of successful fundraising walks organised by committee member, Loretta Coleman. A total of £70.80 was raised for SPCA.

Another Doggy walk will be planned in the warmer months when the weather is more reliable.



PUBLIC LIBRARY HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

The Public Library hosted a number of children's holiday activities during the month of August.

On Tuesday, 14 August, saw the activities hosted under the theme 'Up, Up and Away'. In attendance were 33 children who, keeping with the theme, made decorative kites, aeroplanes, butterflies and bumble bee book markers.

The final round of activities took place on Tuesday, 28 August, and saw 31 children in attendance. The theme for the day was 'The Spirit of the Sea'. The boys produced Shark Hats with matching wrist bands and the girls made Mermaid Tiaras with wrist bands to match. Other activities included sea creature word searches and underwater colouring scenes.

Assistant Librarian, Ivy Williams-Newman, said:

"The Spirit of the Sea activities was inspired by the upcoming Carnival, which is planned for October, to get the children to start thinking creatively, to support this prestigious event."



SAINT HELENA NATIONAL TRUST MARINE ACTIVITIES

The Saint Helena National Trust Community Forests team, together with the Trust Marine Project Team, hosted a kid's activity day at Rupert's Beach on Thursday, 16 August.

Around 25 children turned up on the day to join in with the activities, which included a Beach clean with the Marine Team. 182 items, including 75 pieces of plastic, eight glass bottles, tens pieces of scrap wire, five bottle tops and one glow stick was collected. Children also made fishing rods out of bamboo and attempted to hook plastic bottles, which contained an interesting fact about the marine life of St Helena. The day also allowed children to become creative and make their own raft out of natural material found on the beach as well as making sand sculptures and/or pebble patterns on the beach.

It is hoped that the Trust can continue to provide fun and educational activities for children during the school holidays. Providing children with an opportunity to learn about and contribute to the local environment.

If you would like to make a donation towards the Kids activity days then please contact the Conservation Projects Manager, Martina Peters or Admin Assistant, Amanda Constantine on tel: 22190.

