



Oct 2015



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**Recognition for Outstanding efforts.**

In the last few months the achievements of 'dukers' have been in the spotlight with presentations of bronze, silver and gold awards in separate ceremonies. Check out the details on pages 6-9.



**Upcoming Events**

**October**

CASC 2016 Information meeting - **Sat Oct 10**

Pink Ribbon Campaign - **Sat 10**  
AJ Supervisor Training—**Sat 17 - Sun 18**

Vauxhall Senior Citizens Village—**Thurs 29 (and ongoing)**  
Bring ah fren and Come hike—**Sun 25**

**November**

Book Launch at Bagatelle Great House—**Sat 7**  
Council Meeting—**Thurs 19**

**December**

Sheraton Mall Christmas Cheer volunteering—**Sun 6**  
RCS Christmas Trees —**Thurs 10**

## A View From The Inside

By Jade Gibbons



On my first day with the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Barbados, I was given an orientation by the Secretary/Treasurer Nadia Adams who explained the structure of the organisation and systems and technology used. My first duty was sort the filing cabinets and cupboards. This consumed the first week of my internship and left me with a thorough understanding of the organisation's system of documentation and cataloguing.

Barbados sent a contingent of twelve participants and two leaders to the CASC regional camp that was held in Grenada from July 27th to August 7th. To raise funds to finance this venture the Award Office launched a fundraising programme that included the Bring a Fren and Come hike, car washes, flea market sales, in-school activities, a sponsor walk sheet and sponsor request letters to several corporations. As such, after I finished my first duty I was assigned the task of making follow-up calls to organisations that were

solicited for donations for the 2015 Annual General Meeting (AGM) or for sponsorship as part of the CASC 2015 fundraising effort. It often was the case that organisations contacted were not aware of the Award programme and what it entailed, therefore necessitating that I provide them with a brief synopsis of the Award programme and the work the Award in Barbados does.

My next assigned duty was that of developing a functional website for the Award in Barbados. When the website was completed, a presentation/report was made to be presented at the 2015 AGM.

Concurrent with these duties, I also had to log the upcoming hikes and assist in the preparation and posting of permission letters to the overnight locations and their respective police stations. Additionally, I had to manage the distribution of hiking equipment including the collection of backpack and tent rental fees. Thereafter, I was tasked with assisting in the preparation of a press release for a WM Magazine feature.

I believe my experience at the Award in Barbados has been extremely developmental. It has enabled me to gain a better understanding of strategic planning and management and how it is carried out in a non-governmental organisation. It has equipped me with the knowledge of basic office procedures and equipment and allowed by to gain in-sight into how corporate Barbados operates.

## New Council Chairman Elected

Mr. Stephen Smith was appointed as the Chairman of the National Award Council on at the Annual General Meeting in July 2015. He had been the Deputy Chairman for the last three years. As a professional photographer since 1979, he has consistently offered free photographic services to the Award in Barbados for the past thirty years.. As the Managing Director of Photo Dynamics Inc. he is highly respected in field.

Kerron Hamblin was elected as the Deputy Chairman and the ordinary members are: Mr. Garfield Callender, Dawn Medford and Christine Howell; they along with Mr. Smith will be expected to serve as the Executive for the National Award Council over the next year.

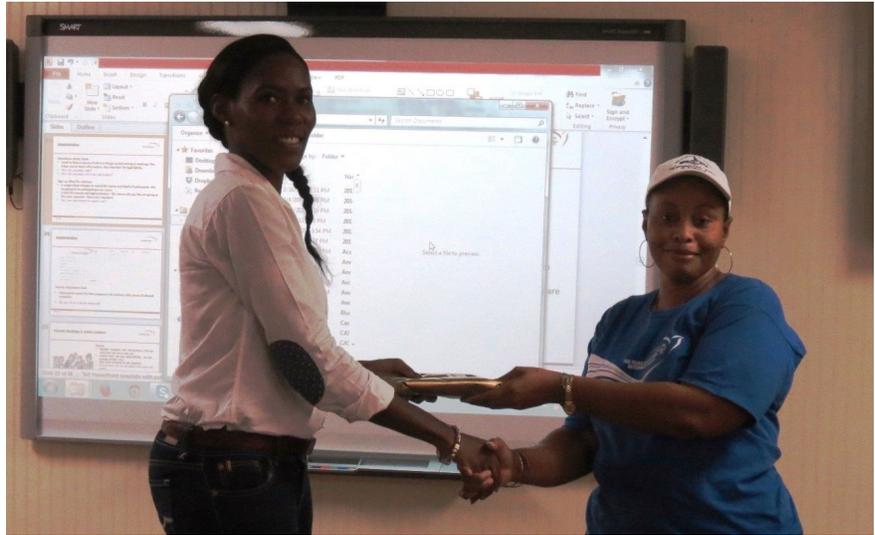
It was also a bitter sweet AGM as Lt. Col. (Rtd) V Owen Springer relinquished the post. He received thanks from the Award family for his service. There were also thanks for Mrs. Sheila Hoad who indicated that she would be taking a break from serving as a Council member after many years. Surely they will still get calls for guidance from other leaders and volunteers. Many thanks to them both for all their hard work and constant support.

## Award leaders update skills



One Saturday in May, volunteer leaders with The Duke of Edinburgh's International Barbados, were exposed to an array of activities to upgrade their Award knowledge of the programme and to assist them to coordinate the award at their various schools and organisations. The training was held at the Hodgson Hall at the headquarters of the Barbados Defence Force. It was a day of experiential learning which included outdoor teambuilding exercises; more than ten leaders attended. Such training forms part of the continuous efforts to maintain the quality of the Award as it is delivered to young people in Barbados. The interactive structure gave leaders the chance to share their experiences and provide each other with solutions to challenges they are facing. Presently, the programme is transitioning to the use of an online network which will embrace modern technology and improve the management structure.

There was also a presentation on time management by Ms. Petra Ramsay of the Westside Toastmasters Club. Many leaders remarked that this session was particularly useful. Carla Alleyne,



Operations Manager of the Award in Barbados indicated that the training programme was set up to offer the leaders skills which they could use in other areas of life as well. She also commended the leaders for their continued dedication to the Award programme as its success is dependent on the sacrifice and support of the many volunteers.



Captions: (L-R Clockwise) - Troy Roach accepting a prize from Carla Alleyne.  
 Petra Ramsay was presented with a small token of appreciation by leader Dawn Medford.  
 Kimita Brnton, Guy Berridge and Karen Bryan were the winning team in the tent pitching challenge.  
 Karen Bryan collecting her prize from Dr. Allison Ramsay.



## Barbados Residential Project 2015 - A facelift for Adams' Home



Ten gold award participants were on board when the Award gave a helping hand to the Barbados National Trust. In September, for the first time in many years a local residential project was organised with the assistance of the Trust. The participants were set a two part task; they were to paint one of the replica chattel houses and provide a promotional plan for the historical site. Officially called the Tyrol Cot Heritage Village the property includes small chattel houses that are used as shops and feature aspects of traditional Barbadian architecture. Of course there is also Tyrol Cot, the home of Barbados' first premier Sir Grantley Adams and the birthplace of his son the late J.M.G.M 'Tom' Adams who later became the island's second Prime Minister.

Over the three weekends the dukers worked to give a fresh look to the building all the while thinking of how the general surroundings could be improved. Michael Gamble even donated four palms to add to the landscaping. As each applied paint to



the wood these dukers also made a contribution to efforts to raise awareness of the island's many important sites. Further to that it was an opportunity for some to learn new skills in painting and get to know



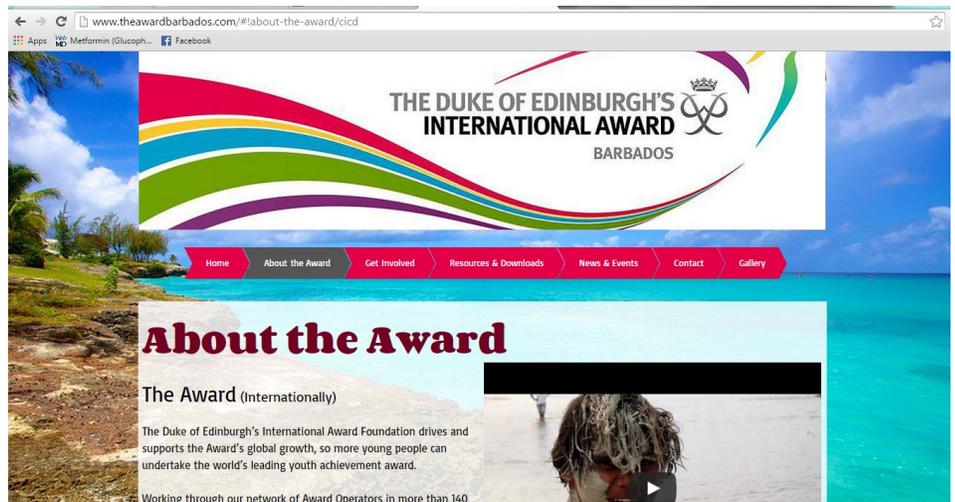
new people. They were from the following groups: The Lodge School, Harrison College, Graydon Sealy Secondary School and Queen's College. In two groups they produced promotional plans which recommended improved and increased signage and advertising, hosting of events such as tea parties and cost saving measures such as inviting corporate sponsors to come on board. Completing this project assisted the young people in getting closer to the gold award and has re-ignited the relationship between the Barbados National Trust and the Award in Barbados.

*Captions: (Top left) The finished freshly painted building. (Top right) Dr. Lennox Honychurch, General Manager of the Barbados National Trust explaining to the group about the different features of the chattel house and Tyrol Cot itself. (Middle) Michael Gamble applying a fresh coat of white paint to the trim at the top of the house. (bottom) Dario Harewood carefully planting one of the four new palms at the site.*

# THE EXPEDITIONER

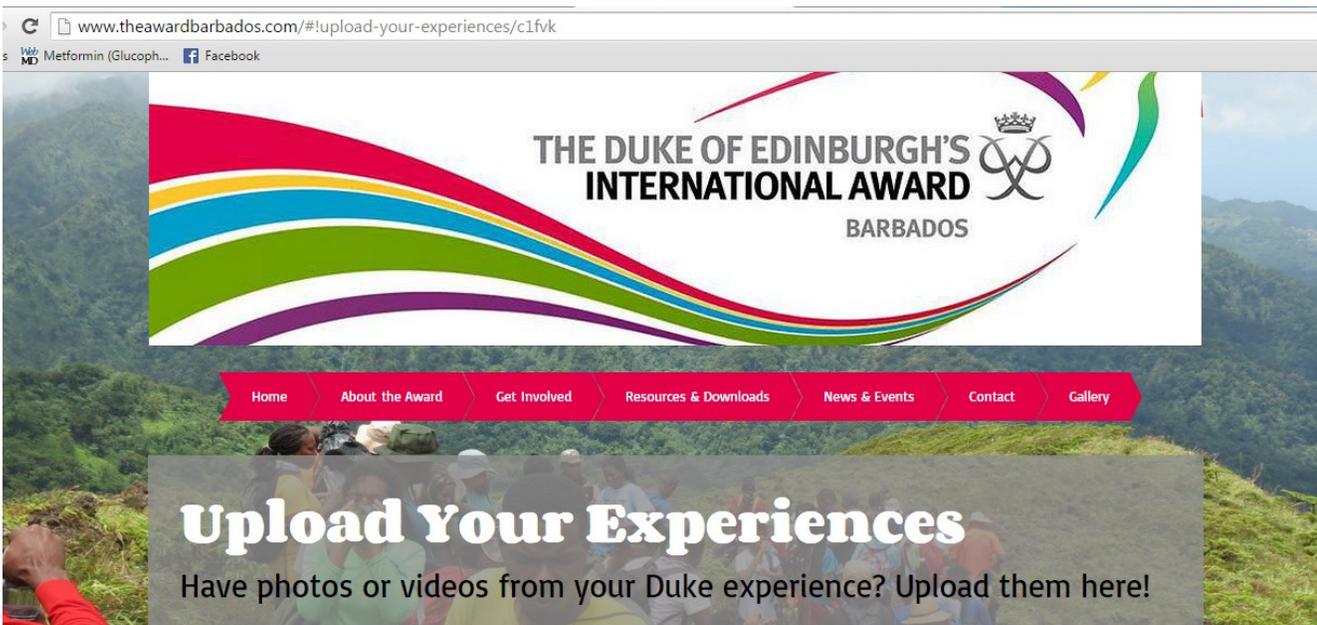
## Local Website Live

Go check it out and see what you can learn about the Award in Barbados. The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Barbados now has its own website with loads of information about activities and how to be a part of the Award family. There's much more on the website, go to [www.theawardbarbados.com](http://www.theawardbarbados.com) and see just what else you can find.



In addition lots of helpful information, and resources for both leaders and participants, there is the Upload your experience tab in the Gallery. There, you can show and tell the world about what you are doing as a member of the Award family.

- ### Features of the new website
- Access to resources for leaders
  - Links to Online Record Book
  - Place orders for renting backpacks and other equipment.
  - Contact information for registered groups
  - Calendar of upcoming events
  - Link to Barbados Gold Award Association Instagram account
  - Upload your photos and experiences



## Seven Reach the Golden Mark



On September 29<sup>th</sup> 2015 Her Royal Highness Princess Anne, the Princess Royal presented Gold Awards for the Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Barbados to seven highly deserving young people. Taking the time from her busy schedule, she congratulated each

participant and spoke with them about their experience of doing the Award. This year's Awardees were: Ajani Daniel, Jeremy Devonish, Ricardo Greenidge, Akeem James, Camille Jones, Chad Larrier and Georgina Trew. Joining The Princess Royal in her commendation were His

Excellency Sir Elliott Belgrave, Sir Trevor Carmichael, Chairman of the Trustees and the Chairman of the National Award Council Mr Stephen Smith.

Mr Smith spoke about the tremendous work and progress the Award in Barbados has been making in its effort to develop the youth of Barbados. "The Award currently has 374 registered participants from 16 groups... Going forward, one of the objectives of the Award in Barbados is to continue to strengthen existing relationships with other youth organisations such as the Barbados Boy Scouts, the Girl Guides Association of Barbados and the Barbados Cadets Corps... The stature and respect for the Award programme in our society and abroad has stood the Awardees in good stead, presenting them in a positive light when applying for placement at universities, jobs and other opportunities."



The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Barbados is a rigorous achievement award with three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold. To achieve their award participants must complete activities in five sections: Skills, Service, Physical Recreation, Adventurous Journey and Residential Project (Gold only). The activities done by this year's Gold Awardees range from coaching track & field to bodybuilding to playing volleyball to conducting an environmental awareness project. Four of the Awardees Ajani, Jeremy, Akeem and Chad offered their services to the Barbados

Heritage Trust Foundation by restoring one of the chattel houses at the Tyrol Cot Heritage Village.

The participants did their Adventurous Journeys, which is a gruelling 50 miles hike over four days, at the annual CASC Regional Camp. This camp is organised by the Caribbean Award Sub-regional Council and held in a different Caribbean country every year. Camille attended the camp in Barbados in 2013, Ricardo attended the camp in St. Vincent in 2014 and Ajani, Jeremy, Akeem and Chad attended the camp this year in Grenada. Georgina, who is known as the 'International Duker', did her Adventurous Journey in Madagascar making a guide on the local animals.



**CAPTIONS**

*(Top left) Ajani, Akeem, Jeremy, Chad on the way into Government House.*

*(Bottom left) HRH The Princess Royal presenting Georgina Trew with her gold certificate.*

*(Top Right) Dr. Lennox Honychurch in conversation Her Royal Highness, Mr. Stephen Smith Chairman of the National Award Council and David Clarke Regional Director.*

*(Middle) Awardees chatting with HRH The Princess Royal about their experiences*

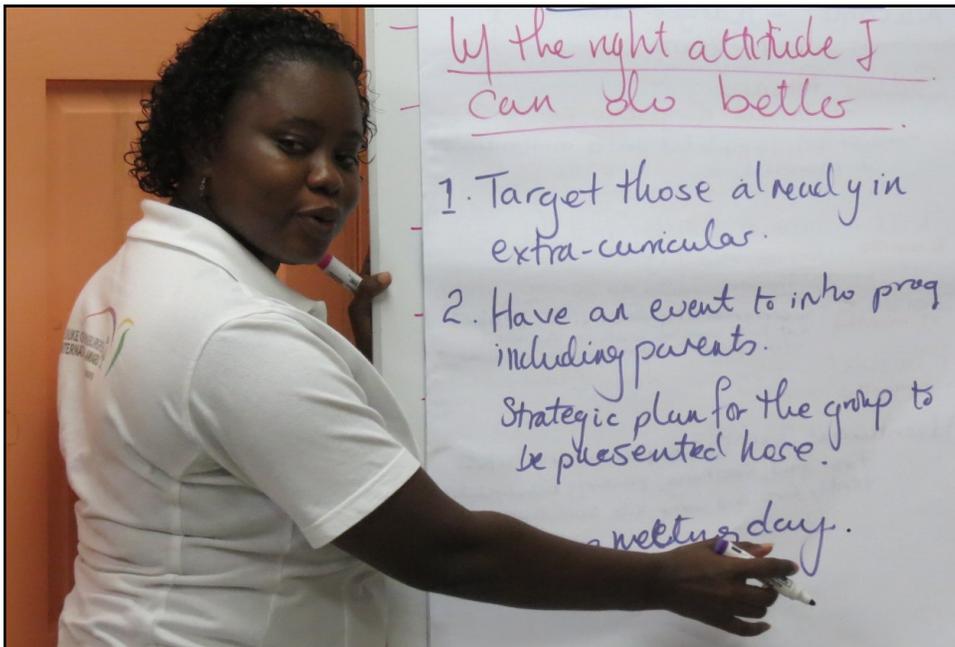
*(Bottom Right) Ricardo Greenidge accepting his certificate.*

## Bronze & Silver award ceremony

Whether it was rushing into the office just days before the award ceremony or calling to confirm that the presentation was still on, Dukers were quite excited to be a part of the annual National Bronze and Silver award presentation in July at the Officer's Mess of the Barbados Defence Force. In attendance were both parents and well-wishers which included members of the National Award Council and Barbados Expedition & Assessment Panel. Chairman of the Barbados Gold Award Association Kerron Hamblin spoke briefly to the newly minted participants. Recounting his own experiences as a participant, he encouraged all of them to continue to challenge themselves to achieve more with the Award. To the parents and sponsors present he made the point of highlighting the



value of the programme in assisting young people as they prepare for the world of work. With this he suggested that as employers they should give extra consideration



In September the annual training for new leaders was offered. In attendance were representatives from Ellerslie Secondary School, Frederick Smith Secondary School St. George Secondary School and the University of the West Indies attended.

This year the training also included exposure to the Online Record book which is now being used for all new award participants. As the day progressed the new leaders shared ideas about how they could introduce the Award in their schools and how it could benefit their students.



to the 'duker' who makes an application. In all there were six bronze recipients and nine persons received their silver certificates. The silver awards were presented by Mr. Stephen Smith, Deputy Chairman of the National Award Council and Mr. James Gardiner member of the Trustees. Chairman Lt. Col. Owen Springer gave a short update on the programme's achievements and also congratulated all the awardees.



**Captions:**

(page 8)- Liesl Brewster received her bronze certificate from Kerron Hamblin

(page 8) - Guests included Major David Clarke and Andrew Skeete of the Barbados Cadet Corps.

(Page 9) Chairman Lt. Col Springer as he delivered his brief remarks.

Charles Sealy and Camille Jones enjoying the refreshments.

Zaria Blackett accepts her silver certificate from Stephen Smith.

Trustee Mr. James Gardiner presents to Joakima Rochester.

## Dukers join island's youth on Relay

When over one hundred of the island's young people took to the streets as part of the Commonwealth Relay on Tuesday 29 September 2015, the were dukers in the mix. Just about 15 participants stepped up to represent the award on this historic occasion. The relay was organised by the Royal Commonwealth Society as part of activities to celebrate Queen Elizabeth II as the longest serving British monarch. The run culminated at the Garrison Savannah where HRH The Princess Royal greeted some of the runners; this included Rivaldo Leacock who won gold in the 400m Hurdles at the Commonwealth Games.



**CASC 2015 - To Grenada and back**



Even though they started out as students of Harrison College, the University of the West Indies, Queen's College and Graydon Sealy Secondary School, when the 12 participants boarded the flight at Grantley Adams International Airport, they were undoubtedly the Barbados contingent. After months of preparation which culminated with a four day hike the group left for Grenada full of excitement. They were accompanied by longstanding gold award holders Karen Bryan and Garfield Callender. Carla Alleyne also joined the group in Grenada.

For each it was an experience to remember. The silver group comprised, Ashley Browne, Chanté Niles, Kamal Wright, Tremaine Weekes and Krisann Reid. They had the opportunity to enjoy a rest day at the disused Pearls Airport which is home to two Russian Antonov planes and learn about Grenada's military history. The expedition was challenging both mentally and physically for all involved. The gold participants followed the trail to Concord Falls from Grand Etang Lake passing by Mount Qua Qua. Along the way both groups were treated to



friendly faces and kind assistance of the majority of the Grenadian population.

As usual there were sad moments as the end arrived and the goodbyes were required but the friendships will live on through Social Media #dukersforlife #CASC. In addition to the preset camp activities the Barbados contingent enjoyed two



extra days in the Spice Isle and were able to sample the local carnival. It included going to the nigh mas with glow-in-the-dark costumes and what is locally referred to as 'Pretty Mas'. The group also did an island tour to sites such as Leepers Hill, Bathway Beach and the famed Grand Anse beach.

First time attendees at CASC, Zaria Blackett and Kamal Wright had some interesting comments about their experiences. "The closing ceremony was a sad time because everyone had

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*gotten so close and now had to leave each other," Kamal Wright, Silver participant*

*"CASC 2015 was quite the experience. All year I was hearing different persons' CASC experience that years later they still remembered like it was yesterday. Each story was either shocking, frightening or absolutely hilarious so I decided that ten years on, I too wanted to have my own stories to tell....In addition CASC felt like a real adventure with the hikes through the hills, tracks up mountains and the uncertainty about what was going to happen. It made me feel stronger and braver for having survived it. CASC also helped to prepare me for adulthood in terms of being independent as it forced me to do more things on my own and be willing to try different foods. The most important lessons for me were around teamwork, sharing and helping others. CASC 2015 was therefore a very bittersweet but unforgettable experience." Zaria Blackett, Gold*

*participant.*

For more of what the participants had to say check out the website [www.theawardbarbados.com](http://www.theawardbarbados.com).



Captions Page 10

The silver participants with Karen Bryan before setting off on their expedition

The Barbados contingent at Concord Falls

Chad Larrier and Zaria Blackett celebrating finishing another day of hiking

Silver participant Kamal Wright

Page 11

(Centre) - Regional Director Americas, David Clarke chatting with fellow Barbadians, Karen Bryan and Garfield Callender

(Below) Ajani Daniel, Ashley Browne and Chad Larrier enjoying one of the beach attractions at





Sun 25th Oct  
2:00-6:00 pm

Mount Tabor

Moravian Ch

St. John

BRING A FREN  
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