



THE EXPEDITIONER

April 2015



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Lessons the Award taught me



Every award holder has a story, some more nail-biting than others, but each one is worth listening to. Local Award supporters heard three very different but equally valuable Award stories at the annual fundraising dinner organised by the trustees in March. See what Kandia, Jamar and Allison had to say on *Pages 4 to 7* and other highlights of the annual anniversary celebrations. Here they are pictured with (from left to right) Sir Trevor Carmichael, Chairman of the Trustees, Yvonne Brewer, winner of the fundraising golf tournament and James Gardiner, trustee and Tournament coordinator.



April

Sat 25

CASC fundraising flea market sale at Plantation Garden Theatre 9am—5pm

May

Sat 9

Experienced Award leader workshop at St. Ann's Fort 9am—5 pm

June

Sat 20

CASC fundraising Carwash at Sheraton Mall 9am to 4 pm.

July

Sat 4—Wed 8

National Qualifying Expedition

Thurs 9

National bronze & Silver Award Ceremony

Local Cadet Corps blazing the trail

On Monday March 2, 2015, the Barbados Cadet Corps made history, when Lt. Col James Bradshaw, the Commandant signed the sub-licence first ever sub-licence agreement with the Award. The signing took place at the headquarters of the Barbados Cadet Corps. The cadet corps is now the first in the region to complete this kind of agreement. Chairman of the National Award Council Lt. Col. (Rtd) Owen Springer said, "We are certain that this partnership will bolster our youth's participation in volunteer activity, provide them with enjoyable, quality and rewarding activities of personal development and challenge them to develop into responsible and active citizens of Barbados."

Perhaps the greatest level of enthusiasm for the restart of the Award within the Barbados Cadet Corps came from Lt. Col. James Bradshaw, Commandant of the Corps. He gave the assurance that all the necessary resources will be available to ensure that the partnership shows results.

The Barbados Cadet Corps' Sea Cadet unit is already benefitting



from the opportunities of the Award through the Sailing Programme. The Commandant highlighted that the training was going well and being enjoyed by all the young cadets. The sailing programme affords local award participants the chance to learn how to sail at a reduced cost. It has already begun to show great promise and is opening doors on alternative career choices.

Director of the Americas region, David Clarke also witnessed the signing of the agreement. In addition to congratulating all involved, he spoke about the other developments in the award. He stated, "I would like to say that this model is going to be used by other cadet corps in the region, so I would like to thank the BCC for leading the charge. I think Jamaica will be the second cadet corps to sign. I believe followed by Trinidad and Tobago. I would like to thank the Barbados

Cadet corps for leading the charge in this way." He also noted that in the last few years, there has been a global re-branding of the Award and increased efforts to conduct ongoing research on its impact on the youth involved.

Witnessing the historic event were young cadets who had positive things to say about the possibilities. Some already taking part in the Sailing programme, also praised what they learnt so far and how much fun they were having. They encouraged others to consider doing the Award as it is a very fun programme.

Captions—(Left) Director of the Americas Region, David Clarke (Above) - Cadets look on as Chairman of the National Award Council, Lt Col (Rtd) Owen Springer shakes hands with Commandant of the Barbados Cadet Corps Lt. Col James Bradshaw after signing the agreement.

Group at Providence Secondary Raises Money to Help School in Ethiopia



Students of the Providence Secondary School who are pursuing other motivated and were tasked with promoting their project within the school. Two of the group handed over a cheque to Educate Ethiopia. The students raised a total of BDS \$5200.00 through various efforts. This was done to complete the community service component of the bronze award. The money will directly support 63 students for one year's attendance at the St. Jacob Primary School. The students were quite pleased to be able to give this essential opportunity to others.

The fundraising efforts included organising a car wash, a movie night at the school and the sale of tomatoes at the school. For the students, there was constant

learning as they had to keep each other motivated and were tasked with promoting their project within the school. Two of the group handed over a cheque to Educate Ethiopia. The students raised a total of BDS \$5200.00 through various efforts. This was done to complete the community service component of the bronze award. The money will directly support 63 students for one year's attendance at the St. Jacob Primary School. The students were quite pleased to be able to give this essential opportunity to others.

period.

During the school's morning assembly, group leader, Guy Berridge delivered a message of

gratitude to all involved from the representatives of the Educate Ethiopia charity. He read from a letter which was sent to the group from the charity that stated, "We are very impressed with your creativity in the ways you raise money; washing cars, tomato sales and movie nights are fabulous ways to raise money. Thank you so much for your hard work and for your very generous donation. When you are in University I hope you will come and visit the children that you helped reach their dreams."

Caption—Providence Secondary School Bronze participants with the leaders, Paulanne Ward, Guy Berridge, Julia Moore and principal Deborah Smith.

The Award—An Adventurous Life Journey

At the recently held fundraising dinner it was the turn of gold award holders to share some of what they have learned from the Award. Dr. Allison Ramsay, Jamar Odwin and Kandia King-Jones in their unique ways highlighted the benefits that the Award provides to those who are daring enough to try

As she reflected on the Adventurous Journey section Allison, said, "*The Award offers participants personal journeys of all kinds which help them to develop character and skills which shape them and come into play at all stages of life.*"

The Award teaches you about team work and that no girl or boy is left behind. Hiking was one way to truly learn Barbados. The journeys across this island built friendships, showed us how to overcome struggles whether it was lighting a fire, pitching a tent, or even trying to run after the only pot that we had that was being washed away in the rain!

My journey with the Award facilitated my community service work with my alma mater Hill Top School. Volunteerism has become part of my life and as an adult I have returned to volunteer with The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Barbados.

I end with thanking the Award for the opportunity to be the Barbados delegate at the International Gold Event in South Korea last year. This training in youth leadership again was part of a journey where I met people from all over the world, for the beginning of the day not the end, worked with them, laughed with them, overcame challenges with them."



Captions—
Allison Ramsay
(top left),
Kandia King-
Jones (top
right), Jamar
Odwin (left)

Today a lawyer, Kandia King-Jones is one of the thousands who learned life lessons in pursuit of her awards. She shared some of the most important

ones with those in attendance at the dinner. One of these was, 'there is no skill acquired that is useless.' She was able to pass on fire lighting taught to her as a participant to members of her church.

Recounting the challenge keeping group members motivated on hikes even when tired and hungry, Kandia highlighted how being a part of the programme helped her to identify and conquer her own weaknesses as she grew in self confidence. She

noted, "*Your group members are relying on you to take them safely to the destination. So my lesson number one, there will always be ups and downs, try to plan the uphill climb end and always give your input during the planning stages.*"

Kandia took the opportunity to extend gratitude to all who would have assisted not only her but all the other award holders and participants as she acknowledge with sacrifices that are made assist the youth in achieving the awards.

It was left to Jamar Odwin to speak from a male perspective. His award journey was really a case of being willing to give something a try. He related that he happened to be in a classroom where a group meeting was about to be held and he opted to stay and find out what it was all about. In his words, "*...sounds harmless you think to yourself, 'why not?' a few years later you're at Government house shaking hands with Prince Edward, the Earl of Wessex...Who would have ever imagined that years of grueling hikes, busted knee caps lost toenails*

To say that Duke was a once in a lifetime experience does not do justice to what the Award is and how it can impact your life. Through the Duke Programme I learned to work with others gained confidence learned new skills, forged bonds with persons, saw people's strengths and weaknesses and discovered my strengths and learned how to work with my weaknesses.

would have landed you in a place only few can imagine."

Jamar pointed out that some might consider the actions of 'dukers' to be foolish but in his view they are rather brave and dedicated and rare individuals. He shared that through the Award he has become a toastmaster and even volunteered at

the Race of Champions event held in Barbados in 2014. This was for him truly a once in a lifetime experience

stating, "The icing on the cake was being able to race around Bushy Park in the Audi R8 LMS with the only female driver Scotland's very own, Susie Wolfe. This all goes to show that being a part of the Duke of Edinburgh's International makes a

better citizen but it can take them further than they could have ever imagined."

Whilst they might have all got there along different paths, Kandia, Jamar and Allison all show the great value of the Award in improving the lives of young people.

Celebrations start with Church service

The anniversary celebrations included attending a church service and the Holy Trinity Church in St. Phillip. The churches grounds are regularly used as a sleepover site for expeditions. The congregation welcomed the Award also had their own representatives and Rev. Michael Maxwell posed with the group for a photo afterwards. Representatives of the Royal

Commonwealth Society also joined with the Award to mark the 52nd year of operations in Barbados.

The groups at Queen's College and Dieghton Griffith in house activities to promote the programme.



Captions—(Top) Queen's College's participants showcased their skills whilst at Deighton Griffith took charge of assembly. (Right) Representatives after church.

Golfers Reap Sweet Success in Award Tournament

A lady will be representing Barbados at The Duke of Edinburgh Cup 2015 World Finals in Windsor. She is Yvonne Brewer who won in the local fundraising tournament in March with 42 points ahead of the runner up Nick Barham. This year the tournament was played at the Royal Westmoreland course. Other winners from the tournament were Elvis Medford and Sally Schofield with the longest drives and Gabriel Kelly and Jill McCutcheon who got the closest pin.

The teams were feted at a dinner at the Fairmont Royal Pavilion Hotel where the prizes were presented. Tournament coordinator Mr. James Gardiner thanked all who contributed and participated in making the event a success. There was encouragement all around for those who weren't winners to keep trying.

Special thanks to Stephen Smith of ProPhoto Studio for the photographs.



Caption—(Top) Winner Yvonne Brewer as she collected her prize. (left) Nick Barham was second overall. (below) Gabriel Kelly and Sally Schofield who had the men's and women's closest pin.



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The team of Mark Kent, Todd Wosminity, Nik Lashly and Jerome Lamontagne.



Award supporters chatting before the start of dinner.



Award supporter Marshall Oran with Trustee Paul Altman.



Ian Wilson and Ken Teslia have all eyes on this swing by Paul Alleyne.



There was keen competition on course at Royal Westmoreland here Jim Brewer gives his full attention.



Magician Michael Gee entertained guests at the dinner.

Special thanks to Stephen Smith of ProPhoto Studio for the photographs.



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S
INTERNATIONAL AWARD



BARBADOS

Flea Market

**IN AID OF CASC 2015—
Grenada**

Plantation Garden Theatre

April 25, 2015

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

GRIME TO SHINE

Fundraising Carwash at Sheraton Mall Car Park

On Saturday 20 June, 2015 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

