





# National Trust for the Cayman Islands Annual Report 2011-12





Environmental Conservation Conserving Cayman since 1987





Historic Conservation Conserving Cayman since 1987



The National Trust's purpose is "to preserve natural environments and places of historic significance for present and future generations of the Cayman Islands."

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# National Trust for the Cayman Islands Council Officers 2011-2012

Chairman:	Carla Reid
Vice-Chairman:	Tessa Bodden
Treasurer:	Peter Anderson
Secretary:	Lois Blumenthal
Legal Advisor:	Angelyn Hernandez
Environmental Programmes Committee Chairman:	Patricia Bradley
Education Programmes Committee Chairman:	Jennifer Hunter
Historic Programmes Committee Chairman:	Sonya Carlesso
George Town District Committee Chairman:	Suzan Merren
Bodden Town District Committee Chairman:	Debra Naused
West Bay District Committee Chairman:	Alice Mae Coe
Little Cayman District Committee Chairman:	Betty Bua
Cayman Brac District Committee Chairman:	Estelle Stilling
Elected Member:	Peter Davey
Elected Member:	Tommie Bodden
Elected Member:	Darvin Ebanks
Elected Member:	Wilbur "Bing" Thompson
Elected Member:	John Bothwell
Elected Member:	Janet Walker
Government Representative for Environment:	Gina Ebanks-Petrie
Government Representative for Education:	Clive Baker
Government Representative for Tourism:	Stran Bodden

# **Message from the Chairman**

It is my pleasure to report to you on the challenges and progress of this organization for the period July 2011 to June 2012.

One of our main challenges for the last fiscal year was the loss of staff. Sadly our Education Officer Erica Daniel decided to return to elementary education and left us in August to join the teaching staff at a local Primary School.

Unfortunately, we have not been able to replace her and although certain aspects of our education programme have been put on hold, school visits and field trips have continued to be conducted by other staff members.

Both our General Manager, Frank Balderamos, and our Marketing and Development Officer, Erika Walton, left the Trust to pursue their careers in the private sector. Although it took some time, we were delighted to welcome our new General Manager, Christina McTaggart, and our new Marketing and Development Officer, Basia McGuire, to our team in January 2012. I am happy to say that in six short months much progress has been made and the team is working well together.

Another challenge was, and continues to be, funding. Our general fundraising events were well attended, but did not meet the budgeted return, and there was a further cut in our annual Government grant. As a result, we were forced to make cuts in several areas. In addition to not filling the position of Education Officer, the Mission House coordinator is now a part-time position, and the Cayman Wildlife Rescue programme was suspended in October 2011.

Nevertheless, despite these challenges, we have continued to fulfill our mission and have made significant progress in many areas and I ask that you take the time to read the reports of each programme as I will only be mentioning some of the highlights.

Our Historic Programmes Manager, Denise Bodden, spent several months based at the Mission House and during that time, significant repairs and painting were carried out. We were glad to have her return to the main office in March and, since then, highlights of the programme have included the celebration of the Fifth Anniversary of the Mission House and the completion of a significant renovation of Guard House Park.

In February 2012, we were very pleased to promote Paul Watler to the position of Environmental Programmes Manager. This position had been vacant for



several years and we are very excited to have it filled by a young Caymanian with excellent qualifications. You will see from his report that he and our Field Officer, Stuart Mailer, have been very busy. Highlights of the environmental programme include attending various workshops overseas, and successful applications for several grants (both local and international).

Two very significant land acquisitions in Grand Cayman were made over the past fiscal year. A parcel of 118 acres located in the middle of the Mastic Reserve was purchased, as were 23 acres in the Salina Reserve. We were also very grateful to Mrs. Brigitte Kassa for funding the purchase of a two-acre parcel in Little Cayman, adding to our holdings on the Salt Rocks Nature Trail.

The Blue Iguana Recovery Programme has continued with the business of restoring blue iguanas to the wild, along with other aspects of the programme, including the planning of a trail system in the new Colliers Wilderness Reserve which, thanks to the newly completed road, is now easier to access.

New this year is the creation of a Sister Islands Rock Iguana Species Recovery Plan. Recognizing the need to ensure the population of these special creatures continues to prosper, a stakeholders' meeting was held in August 2011. Attendees included representatives from Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, the International Reptile Conservation Foundation, the Department of Environment, and the Trust, as well as volunteers from Cayman Brac and Little Cayman. Since then, a count has been conducted in Cayman Brac, and the Trust, through our Land Reserve Fund (and the Little Cayman District Committee), has been fundraising to purchase the largest communal nesting site in Little Cayman. Thanks to the International Reptile Conservation Fund, US citizens were able to make tax deductible donations, and as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012, over US\$100,000 had been received in this manner.

Throughout the year we get a number of volunteers who help in so many different ways. Some are volunteer groups from local firms, some are individuals who help on a regular basis throughout the year and some help us on an ad hoc basis. It is particularly gratifying when a high school student enquires as to how they can help.

In July 2011, with the assistance of two young volunteers, we held a two-week long summer camp, while another young volunteer went through the arduous task of updating our Facebook page and our scrapbook of newspaper articles. This year again we have had the pleasure of being assisted by a young college student who has done various tasks from checking our new website for errors to assisting with the Parrot nesting count in Cayman Brac.

Thanks also to an excellent team of volunteers, a very successful History Week was hosted at the Mission House in November 2011. The Year 7 students at Clifton Hunter High School were treated for three days to a series of lessons including baking a traditional cassava cake, making a coconut boat, as well as learning the history of the Goldfield, Cimboco and Lady Slater schooners after which their academies are named.

In honour of our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we are pleased to announce the launch of our 10 x 20 Challenge as part of our Conserve Cayman campaign. Whilst I am pleased to say that as at June 2012 our total land holdings stand at 3,133 acres, this represents a mere 5% of our land mass whilst the internationally recognized standard is 15%. The 10 x 20 Challenge aims to conserve 10% of our islands' land mass by 2020. Whilst it may seem a tall order, simply put, we cannot take another 25 years to attain this goal.

In addition, the historic work of the Trust must continue, and you can look for renovation work to begin at Fort George as well as at the Eldemire House in Cayman Brac.

In the next fiscal year the Trust will face additional challenges as Government funding is cut further, and as the pool of available resources continues to shrink in these tough economic times, but we will continue to fulfill our mandate to the best of our ability. We thank our members, private and corporate donors and the general public for their continued support and ask you all to attend our events, volunteer whenever possible, and urge friends and family to join the Trust and help us conserve Cayman.

Lastly, I must thank our small but dedicated staff for their tireless work as well as our faithful volunteers who show up every week. Your help is sincerely appreciated. I would also like to thank our council members for another year of sitting through long meetings and making some tough decisions. Thanks to those who will continue to serve as well as outgoing council members Bing Thompson and Sonya Carlesso, and a warm welcome to our new council members.

Carla Reid 2011-12 Chairman



Carla in the Trust office



CANARI Working Group: Carla at the Baths - Virgin Gorda, BVI



MPASSE steering committee meeting

# **General Manager's Report**



The GM started 2012 with a running leap into the deep end of her dream job. Nine months later she is still very much enjoying the daily challenges and occasional victories that make not-forprofit work so exciting.

### **Fundraising and Awareness**

During her interview for the post of General Manager, Christina was asked what she thought were the two most important issues facing NGOs to which she quickly responded "Awareness and Funding". The interview panel seemed quite pleased with her answer and she quietly patted herself on the back. Over the past nine months the new GM has become personally acquainted with just how challenging those two issues are for a charity.

It was in fact these twin challenges which prompted a plan to secure the financial sustainability of the Trust as it has become blatantly obvious that the Trust can no longer rely solely on dwindling government subventions or sporadic corporate donations.

Thus, in an effort to secure more sustainable streams of income, the Conserve Cayman campaign was devised to secure multi-year partnerships with corporate sponsors, donors and other civil society organisations. Christina, Basia and the Chairman have given numerous fundraising presentations, which clearly outline the mission of the Conserve Cayman campaign, to potential corporate sponsors and foundations since January 2012.

Christina was invited to address the Cayman Islands Youth Parliament in relation to their debates on the Environment and had an opportunity to share the vital work of the Trust with a tenacious group of young student leaders.

Christina and Basia attended many outreach events including several Musician and Arts showcases at Camana Bay, Earth Day festival also at Camana Bay, Rotary Club of Grand Cayman guest speakers, Daybreak television appearances and various Christina McTaggart, General Manager

radio appearances.

A quarterly lecture series which had not been active for awhile was revived when the Trust hosted a lecture on Important Bird Areas in Cuba by Dr. Arturo Kirkconnell towards the end of the financial year. Working along with Dr. Rosenthal of St. Matthews University the Trust now has several guest lecturers lined up for the next two quarters.

### **Operations and Administration**

Internally, a number of improvements have been made during the last 9 months at the Trust which have increased the effectiveness and efficiency of Trust operations. Such improvements include the remodelling of the physical office, launch of a new Trust website which boasts online membership registration capabilities, online event registration, new server and network infrastructure and a modern member management software programme which helps the Trust to manage members, volunteers and donors more professionally.

### Networking and Development

The GM and the Chairman were invited to attend a working group in British Virgin Islands by CANARI where they had the opportunity to network with other conservationists from the Caribbean region including the Turks and Caicos National Trust, Anguilla National Trust, Montserrat National Trust, British Virgin Islands National Parks Trust and the international arm of the UK Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

The Trust also hosted a week long project steering committee meeting for an EU sponsored Management of Protected Areas to Support Sustainable Economies (MPASSE) project in early June for attendees from Turks and Caicos National Trust, British Virgin Islands National Parks Trust and the UK Overseas Territories Conservation Forum. The delegates had an opportunity to visit the site of the Blue Iguana Recovery Programme's future facility, amongst other things.

#### **Programmes Support**

With respect to the Education programme, the

GM was awarded a small grant from the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) to establish an after school club that she developed called "Guardians of the Environment". This club was designed to help bridge the gap in the Education programme in the absence of an Education Officer.

In regards to the Historic Programme, the GM along with the HPC Chairman met with one of the donors of the Eldemire House site in Cayman Brac in order to discuss possibilities as to the use of the house once the Trust had repaired the structure. The GM also assisted the Historic Programmes Manager with the planning and execution of Historic Programme events such as the Mission House's 5th year anniversary celebration. The GM has been involved in the ongoing planning for the Fort George improvements along with the Historic Programmes Committee.

Regarding the Environmental Programme, a number of volunteers were secured to assist the Environmental Programmes Manager with the Brac Parrot nesting survey for an ongoing period since April 2012 to present. The Trust would like to express gratitude to the following volunteers: Stuart Mailer, Basia McGuire, Fred Burton, Tomas Allen, Doug Bell, Tayvanis Oyog, Thomas Sevik and Sara Gregson.

#### Conclusion

Although the GM has not had the benefit of being at the Trust for the entire financial year, much has been accomplished in the relatively short time since her arrival. She applauds her dedicated staff for being made of the right "stuff" that it takes to make an important organisation like the Trust thrive and is proud to be working alongside each of them.



Historic Programmes Chair Sonya Carlesso and General Manager Christina McTaggart visited Cayman Brac in March.



MPASSE delegates at BIRP breeding facility at Botanic Park



The Chairman and GM along with other attendees of CANARI working group in BVI.



Renovated Trust House office

# **Historic Programmes Report**

# Denise Bodden, Historic Programmes Manager

## Historic Programmes Committee Members

Chairman Sonya Carlesso Denise Bodden John Doak Sue Gibb Andy Gibb Ali Sabti Tommy Bodden Dr. Peggy Leshikar-Denton

### Staff:

Denise Bodden, Historic Programs Manager (HPM) Jennifer King, Mission House Coordinator (MHC)

### Fort George

A presentation by the HPM to Walkers during the summer outlined the needs and desired improvements at this important 1700's historic site, which include boundary protection, a mural, elevation of the "Lookout" and improved landscaping. We are delighted to report that Walkers Foundation very generously donated Cl\$50,000 toward the project. John Broad has been chosen to paint the mural to depict scenes from the WW II era, and the late 1700's when Spaniards from Cuba attacked Grand Cayman.

### Watler Cemetery

Cathy Frazier donated CI\$500 toward the maintenance of the site.

### **Eldemire House**

A site visit to the Brac was conducted by the HPC Chair, Sonya Carlesso and General Manager, Christina McTaggart in early 2012. Due to the economic downturn and the urgent needs of the structure, the decision was made to restore the house as a residence. This will ensure expediency and minimize further damage by the elements. The restoration and repairs will be done to allow for flexibility in future use.

The boundary survey was completed with Government assistance and shows that the property is somewhat smaller on the east side that originally thought. Negotiations with the adjacent property owner to expand our property were unsuccessful. While this was unfortunate, it is manageable. We have requested an estimate revision on site work and a quantity surveyor has agreed to carry out a review of the costing, to ensure the Trust receives good value for its limited funds.

#### **Mission House**

The Mission House Coordinator, Aida D'Angelo, left in August 2011 and was replaced in March 2012 by Jennifer King. As a result, Mission House was closed during the month of September and the HPM spent October to mid-March providing tours, overseeing



repairs and gardening, as well as training Mrs. King. Mission House and the Visitor Center were entirely repainted in October and November by Boosie Arch Builders. However, due to funding restrictions, we are now looking for volunteers to assist with the repainting

of the restroom, cistern and picket fence, as well to help

with heavy-duty gardening around the boundary.

#### **Guard House Park**

A CI\$17,000 donation from the Department of Tourism has enabled much needed repair work and landscaping to this historic site and information center. The roof on the information center was re-thatched by Richard Bodden, the site landscaped by East End Garden and Gifts, Boosie Arch rebuilt cannon carriages, and Vision Marketing created new signage for the site. Picnic benches were acquired from Wood-Works. The site, reopened on June 29<sup>th</sup>, is now a more



Unveiling of new mural at Mission House 5th Anniversary Celebration In photo: Artist Joyce Everhart-Hoff & Denise Bodden

attractive and educational stop for the public to enjoy.

### **General Maintenance**

Historic properties were maintained and cared for throughout the year as funds allowed. Due to a shortfall in funding, only four of our twelve historic sites are maintained.

### Activities:

<u>Spooky Traditions</u> – cancelled the day of the event due to flooding. Thanks to all the volunteers who were willing to assist with this much-anticipated event.

<u>Christmas Bus Tours</u> – tour points of interest included Mission House, private yards, and other festively lit areas along the way. Traditional Christmas fare provided from the kitchen of Joan Barnes. Thanks to volunteers for assisting with the tours and leading the caroling!

<u>Slide Presentations/Cooking Classes &</u> <u>MH Dinner</u> – due to staffing constraints these events all had to be postponed until additional staff or volunteers can be found.

### Events and Collaborative efforts at Mission House:

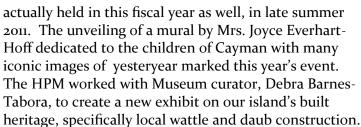
<u>History Week</u> – the second annual co-production between the Education and Historic programmes saw the HPM assisting with the planning stage and conducting tours during the week.

Special thanks to volunteers and food and beverage donors. Activities included a slide presentation on the Cayman-built Cimboco, Lady Slater and Goldfield schooners, tours of the house and grounds, a cooking demonstration, a catboat talk, and toy-making.

<u>Gimistory</u> - this CNCF production was held here for the second consecutive year and was well attended.

<u>Christmas Lighting and Tree Contest</u> – another co-production between Historic and Education programmes with the HPM coordinating lighting and decorating and emcee duties. Special thanks to all the volunteers and Education staff who arranged for school participation and donations of food and drink.

 $5^{th}$  Anniversary Celebrations - were held at MH on the morning of Saturday, 23 June drawing a small and appreciative crowd. The  $4^{th}$  anniversary celebrations were



Thank you to Jennifer Hunter for donating an antique china tea set and Janilee Clifford for an antique basin and ewer.

<u>Ongoing activities</u> - The HPM continues to assist in public and private school education due to the shortage of Education Programme staff at the Trust, as well as responding to questions from the public and providing assistance to local and international media.

If anyone has been shy in coming forward to assist the Historic Programmes, now is the time to break your reserve and boldly step up to the plate! Our Islands'

built heritage is vital to our tourism product, in creating an authentic ambiance and telling our story to both our children and our visitors.

Whether our built heritage is a home, grave sites, stone wall or well, they are all a part of the Caymanian landscape. Built heritage can enrich our lives through lessons learned and the wisdom that comes from our experiences.

However, our historic sites have to be in good repair, well-researched and interpreted, accessible to the public and last but not least, they have to be staffed. The Historic Programme is only as good as we make it, together. We would

appreciate your support in improving and developing the vital Historic Programme by asking: "How can I contribute the success of the Historic Programme?"

# Tour the Historic Mission House 63 Gun Square Road, Bodden Town

OPEN: Monday - Friday, 9am - 1pm Adults: CI\$6.00 Children (under 12): CI\$3.00 Call: 749-1132 or email: mission@nationaltrust.org.ky



# **Environmental Programmes**



The Environmental Programmes Manager has had a very busy and rewarding year.

# Training and development

In July 2011, with kind support from the Governor's Office, Paul

was able to attend the regional conference Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds, held in the Bahamas. The theme of the meeting was "Connecting with Nature through Birds."

Sessions and workshops focused on methods to engage a larger and more diverse audience by inspiring interest in nature. While there, Paul had the opportunity to meet many other conservation professionals from across the Caribbean, and was able to keep abreast of various environmental initiatives being carried out elsewhere.

In April 2012, Paul was fortunate to be chosen for the Caribbean Emerging Wildlife Conservation Leaders programme, and attended a week-long session in Antigua. The programme is funded in part by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and supported by the International Fund for Animal Welfare and aims to provide up-and-coming conservation professionals in the Caribbean with the opportunity to work and learn from proven conservation leaders.

Paul had the opportunity to learn from a variety of experts at the pinnacle of their careers and to interact with young conservationists and environmentalists who work in the Caribbean region. Three training sessions are planned over a two-year period and Paul looks forward to the continuation of the program.

In June 2012, again with funding from the Governor's Office, Paul attended a workshop on seabirds hosted by the Society for Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds, again held in the Bahamas. The workshop taught field identification, honed

# Environmental Programmes Committee Members: Chairman Patricia Bradley Paul Watler Gina Ebanks-Petrie Wallace Platts Peter Davey

Paul Watler, Environmental Programmes Manager

survey planning and execution, and further developed data analysis and grant-writing skills. Some excellent contacts were made in the conservation community, and Paul hopes to submit a small grant for seabird monitoring later in the year.

### **Grand Cayman Parrot Survey**

Field Officer Stuart Mailer and Paul assisted the Department of Environment and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service with the bi-annual distance sampling survey for Grand Cayman Parrots, carrying out fully one-half of the field work. The survey, which took place in July of 2011, is used for estimating and monitoring the size of the parrot population.

## Sister Islands Rock Iguana Species Management Plan

Following on from an initial stakeholders meeting, Paul attended a planning workshop for the Sister Islands Rock Iguanas held on Little Cayman in August of 2011. Workshop Participants assessed the threats to nativeiguanas on the Sister Islands and developed a comprehensive species management plan to address them in an attempt to halt the population's decline. Various responsibilities were delineated and assigned to participating agencies and institutions. The plan was reviewed and formalized in late September 2011.

As a result, Paul spent the latter half of January 2012 participating in the population survey for Sister Islands Rock Iguanas on Cayman Brac. The survey was successful and a total of 81 iguanas were tagged.

### Grant Application - The Threatened Cayman Brac Parrot: a Flagship for Conservation

In partnership with The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Paul applied for a grant from the Darwin Challenge Fund. The application was successful and the Trust was awarded 20,000GBP for a full season nesting survey of the Cayman Brac Parrots.

Field work began in April 2012 and will likely finish in September. A total of nine nests were recorded through the breeding season, and a supplementary survey will soon be completed which assesses the Parrot's favoured habitat against properties across the entire island.

Representatives from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds visited to provide feedback on the survey and to witness firsthand the difficulties presented by traversing the Bluff in the course of performing fieldwork.

While on the Brac Paul received sincere local support and concerted interest from many residents. Special thanks to Wallace and Edna Platts, Bonnnie Scott, Jane and Glen Robertson and Chris Randall for providing accommodation and transportation. Thanks to all the volunteers and Trust staff who have assisted in this challenging task under extremely rugged conditions.

The work currently being done is the first step in safeguarding the Cayman Brac Parrot and establishing the bird as a conservation flagship species for Cayman Brac, much as the Blue Iguana is for Grand Cayman. The final report will be due in December 2012, and will pave the way to applying for further support from the Darwin Initiative. This application will likely be submitted in 2014.



Blood, sweat and smiles during Brac Parrot Survey

Seabird conference practical exercise





Iguana tagging in Cayman Brac



2012-13. Caribbean Emerging Wildlife Conservation Leaders - Class 1

# **Environmental Programmes**

# Stuart Mailer, Field Officer

# **Field Officer Report**

## **Environmental issues**

Stuart made an interesting discovery this year, identifying and publicising a butterfly featured in the Caymanian Compass "Photo of the week" which proved to be a Checkered Swallowtail, an invasive species and a potential threat to agriculture. Stuart also recorded a Clay-colored Sparrow in Grand Cayman, a new species record for the Cayman Islands, Atala Hairstreak butterflies on Little Cayman, a new record for that island, and a Ruff on Cayman Brac, a new species record for the Cayman Islands.

In addition, he identified a Cicada Killer Wasp photographed by a member of the public. Stuart tracked down specimens of this wasp in the British Natural History Museum collected by the 1938 Cayman Oxford Expedition, but which were only recently identified. Stuart also took part in the Grand Cayman parrot survey and parrot nesting fieldwork on Cayman Brac.

# **Educational Projects**

A highlight was hosting an expedition for winners of a National Geographic Hands-on Explorer Challenge on the Mastic Trail. Among other activities, Stuart gave a presentation of Cayman Endemic Birds at Savannah Primary School, and conducted a tree identification field trip for First Baptist School students. He also gave a presentation and field trip on endemic and native birds for Bodden Town Primary School students, and gave an introduction to the Mastic Trail for new school teachers and their Department of Tourism hosts.

# **Public relations**

Stuart was also busy on a number of promotional projects, including assisting the Ritz Carlton, Grand Cayman's Blue Tip Golf Course with obtaining Audubon certification, as well as taking part in the London Bird Fair to promote the Cayman Islands as birding destination.

He contributed to articles for the National Trust

quarterly newsletters and Key to Cayman magazine, as well as providing photos and text for the new What's Hot advertisement and for the Mastic self-guided booklet. He also revised the Mastic Trail rack cards to



promote it as an eco-adventure.

Stuart had the opportunity to host a number of private Mastic Trail visits, with guests including Governor Taylor, visiting naturalist/writer Stewart McPherson, and visiting wildlife photographer Will Burrard-Lucas.

## Site improvement

With an important role in ensuring the Trust sites are well maintained, safe and attractive, Stuart contributed to projects at the Mission House, Governor Gore bird sanctuary, and Heritage Beach. He assisted with the design, production and installation of a new interpretative sign at the southern Mastic trailhead.

Walkers volunteers helped Stuart to fill low spots on the Mastic Trail with rocks collected at the Mission House, and PWC volunteers lent a hand cleaning up and landscaping Heritage Beach. Ongoing maintenance of the Mastic Trail was also greatly aided by assistance from numerous volunteers.

## Tours

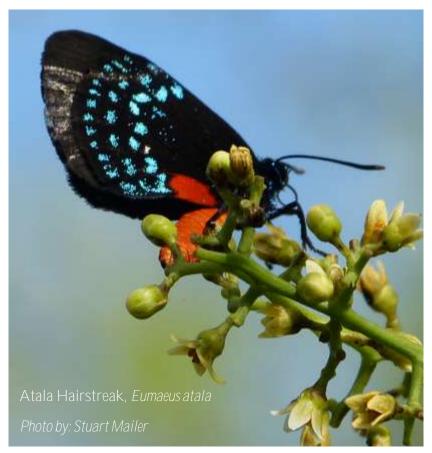
Stuart is an outstanding ambassador for the Trust in terms of our tourism product offerings, as excellent reviews on TripAdvisor and other travel sites attest! Stuart continues to lead weekly Mastic Trail tours for both locals and visitors, along with bespoke birding tours, and has also successfully negotiated a special tour for guests of the Ritz Carlton hotel.



PwC Volunteers assisting at Heritage Beach

# Tropical Forest Eco-Adventure The Mastic Trail

Guided hikes are scheduled in the mornings Tuesdays through Fridays US\$30 adults, US\$15 children 12 and under Email: smailer@nationaltrust.org.ky







Private tour of the Mastic Trail with visiting scientists from UK Royal Society for the Preservation of Birds

# **Development and Outreach**



It's been a real pleasure to take on the role of Development and Marketing Officer in the lead-up to the National Trust's 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Conserving Cayman in October 2012. There have been a lot of exciting fundraising and

awareness happenings at the Trust over the past 12 months, and as we learn from our experiences we are eager to build on our successes in the coming months.

We're focused on ensuring the Trust can continue to build on its accomplishments through such initiatives as the Conserve Cayman fund and the 10 x 20 Challenge. By contributing to our fundraising efforts you will help us get there!

#### Gala Dinner 2011

With past DMO Erika Walton at the helm, the fabulous National Trust Annual Gala Dinner and Auction was held on Saturday, 1 October at Luca. With 140 guests including Governor Duncan Taylor enjoying the lovely Seven Mile Beach setting, the evening featured delicious food and wine and live music from Burman Scott and Sue Horrocks. With live and silent auctions emceed by James Bebarfald it was a great way to celebrate the year's achievements and set the stage for this year's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Dinner at Grand Old House.



# Basia Pioro McGuire, Development and Marketing Officer

#### Christmas Cards

Thanks to Debbie Van der Bol for once again creating the Trust's unique Cayman Christmas greeting cards – look for this year's edition coming soon. These delightful cards have become a treasured National Trust tradition and collector's item. Thanks also to Rawlinson & Hunter and CIBC for choosing them for their corporate cards!

### Land Reserve Fund

This annual initiative continues to gain



*Bill Innes and Janet Walker at the donor appreciation dinner held at the Brasserie on 28 March.* 

momentum. The 2012 campaign kicked off in January spearheaded once again by our very dedicated Council member Janet Walker, with this year's focus on the purchase of an important Cayman Islands Rock Iguana nesting site in Little Cayman. Our Donor Appreciation Dinner was held at the Brasserie and many thanks are due to Lisa and King Flowers for sponsoring the dinner and Blackbeard's for supplying the beverages. Thanks to all our supporters as we continue to make encouraging headway in this very worthy aspect of our work.

#### **Golf Tournament**

Our first ever National Trust Earth Day Golf tournament took place on 13 April with a fantastic turnout, amazing prizes, delicious food and refreshments, and perfect weather. Congratulations to Team Dart on their winning effort! Thanks to all the teams and players for making the event such a tremendous success—

#### we hope to see you at the next one!

#### Earth Day Fun Run

Held on April 22, the 2012 Earth Day 5k Fun Run, generously sponsored once again by PwC, got a last minute break from Mother Nature as a nor'wester threatened rain as at the last moment the skies cleared.

Congratulations to winners Marius Acker and Emily Davies, kudos to all those who took part and thanks to all of our tireless volunteers. See you next year!

#### Out in the Community

The Trust made appearances at a number of community events including Celebrate our Youth Day, Art at Governor's, and the Earth Day Festival at Camana Bay. The Trust also had booths at the GaimOps Hedge Fund conference and at the Oneworld Music and Arts showcase



on the Camana Bay Crescent.

#### Shop makeover

Our reception area and shop received a well-deserved makeover which has been generating great reviews from our friends and visitors. Designer Lori McRae of Frederick & McRae Ltd. generously donated her expertise toward the new design and layout, and AMB Construction completed the work in record speed.

#### Getting the word out

With new eye-catching signs, banners and flyers for our publicity events we are doing well in our efforts to bring our marketing materials up to date. All the hard work in getting these items produced is going to be a great benefit to the Trust in terms of reaching out to the Cayman Islands public.

In an effort to diversify the ways in which we reach out to the Cayman community, we were very grateful for diverse opportunities to make presentations including one by the HPM at a Slow Food heritage-themed dinner, and another to Rotary Grand Cayman. These talks were well received, and we are hoping to reach out to more various community organizations.

In addition, along with the General Manager and Chair, our new "road show" is helping us to forge new relations with the business community. The team has been giving presentations and holding information sessions as a way to introduce ourselves, to talk about our sponsorship opportunities, and our new initiatives to businesses across Cayman. Please let us know if you'd like us to speak to your company or organization!

#### Relationship management

After much research and testing we are thrilled to announce that not only has our new website launched this year, but thanks to the support of the Governor's Office, we have been able to purchase new software that will be a great asset in managing the relationships we have spent so many years cultivating with our donors, our supporters, our members and our volunteers.

This exciting new development brings a number of our administrative functions into the 21st Century and will ensure the accessibility and security of our valuable institutional knowledge.

We have a lot going on and we encourage you to get in touch if you are interested in finding out more about how you can help us achieve our new financial and programme goals—every little bit helps!



# **Statement of Activities**

# Year Ended June 30, 2012

(Stated in Cayman Islands Dollars)

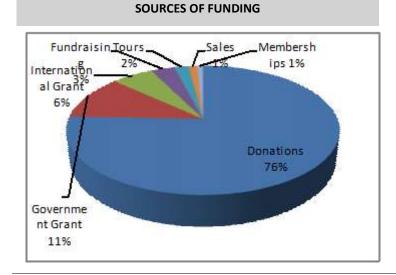
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Revenue and support from operations				
Donations, donated goods and services	140,869	284,623	1,180,000	1,605,492
Government grants	237,877			237,877
EU Grant		124,359		124,359
Fundraising events	62,834	8,189		71,023
Tours	17,910	25,145		43,055
Product sales to public	16,142	8,248		24,390
Membership dues – individuals	9,978	790		10,768
Membership dues – corporate	6,200	650		6,850
Interest income	578	14		592
	492,388	452,018	1,180,000	2,124,406
Programme service expenses				
Environmental preservation	140,225	78,979		219,204
Historic preservation	137,572	25,114		162,686
Educational programmes	19,552			19,552
	297,349	104,093		401,442
Support service expenses				
Operating and administration	206,026	11,809		217,835
Depreciation of fixed assets	50,286			50,286
Cost of fundraising events	33,187	431		33,618
Pension	14,675			14,675
	304,174	12,240		316,414
Increase / (decrease) in fund balances for year	(109,135)	335,685	1,180,000	1,406,550
Fund balances at beginning of year	1,041,143	717,731	8,148,979	9,907,853
Net transfer from temporarily restricted funds	337,155	(337,155)		-
Reclassification of EU Grant as temporarily restricted funds, net of foreign exchange gain Net transfer from permanently restricted funds	2,674,020	297,646	(2,674,020)	297,646
Fund balances at end of year	3,943,183	1,013,907	6,654,959	11,612,049

# **Statement of Financial Position**

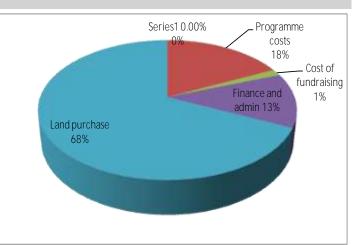
# Year Ended June 30, 2012

(Stated in Cayman Islands Dollars)

Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents:		
Unrestricted (includes time deposit: CI\$75,126)		373,703
Restricted (includes time deposit: CI\$171,700)		1,013,907
Prepaid expenses		97,388
Inventory		47,560
Accounts and other receivables		1,568
		1,534,126
Non-current assets		1,334,120
Fixed assets		408,008
Heritage properties		<u>9,678,139</u>
		10,086,147
Total assets	CI\$	<u>11,620,273</u>
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		8,224
		0.004
Total liabilities	CI\$	8,224
Net assets	CI\$	<u>11,612,049</u>
Net assets comprise:		
Unrestricted		3,943,183
Temporarily restricted		1,013,907
Permanently restricted		6,654,959
	CI\$	<u>11,612,049</u>



#### HOW FUNDS ARE UTILISED



# Volunteers













# **George Town District Committee**

# Suzan Merren, Chairman



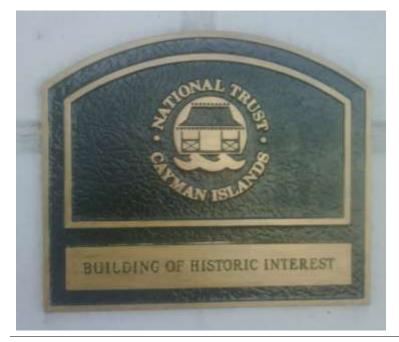
Suzan Merren accepting dress down day cheque from Amy Kilfillen at Kirk Office Equipment Ltd. The funds will be used to repair the Watler Cemetery sign.

### **GTDC MEMBERS**

Suzan Merren
Lana Poldervaart
Roger Davies
Ruthlynn Bodden

#### Dr Roy's Ironshore Site

The ruptured sidewalk was repaired and new pavers laid, with labour and pavers donated by a local company. As the site is a favourite photo op for thousands of tourists, the George Town District Committee would like to raise funds to replace the signage and give the site a facelift before the Christmas season.



#### **Fort George**

A Historic Site Protection and Enhancement Project is underway thanks to the Walkers' Foundation as the primary sponsor and the generous donation of services of John Doak Architecture



Services working with members of the Historic Programmes Committee, namely Peggy Leshikare-Denton, Ali Sabti of APEC, Tommie Bodden, Sue Gibb, Andrew Gibb, Denise Bodden, HPM and Suzan Merren plus Roland Bodden and Chris Evans. The primary objective is to protect and restore the Fort George ruin.

### **Historic Building Plaques**

The worn and damaged plaques on the Town Hall, Old Public Library, Post Office, National Museum and Elmslie Memorial Church were refinished in the original black and gold in time for Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee parade in June. Also, the main blue and white **Watler's Cemetery** sign was repainted in July.

In addition, plans are in place to sell **Eco Friendly Shopping Bags** to raise funds for Historic Projects and General Operations.

Members of the George Town District Committee admire the magnificent mahogany tree on the grounds of Merrendale.



# **Cayman Brac District Committee**

# Estelle Stilling, Chairman

CBDC MEMBERS		
Chairman:	Estelle Stilling	
Secretary:	Chris Randall	
Treasurer:	Thuyi Tin Aung	

The Cayman Brac District Committee has 43 members of whom approximately one third are part-time residents. The Committee held eleven formal meetings during the year with an average attendance of 14. Six members from Cayman Brac attended the Trust AGM in September 2011.



A children's camp was held during the third week of July 2011 with 24 participants. This was organised by two members with volunteer assistance from persons in the community. The charge was kept to a minimum thus enabling children from a wide cross-section of the population to attend. Expenses were small as local businesses kindly donated snacks and transportation for field trips. Response from parents and children was very favourable, the only complaint being that the event should have lasted longer!

The Parrot Reserve Trail was thoroughly cleared by members during September and received minor attention to keep it easily passable throughout the year.

The Committee had actively been pursuing the acquisition of a parcel of wetland on the South side being the remnant of a larger property, the 'solid ground' portions of which were sold decades ago.

Unfortunately, after eventually tracing and contacting the American owners, it was determined that they were unwilling to part with what was left.



Members thereafter spent time

exploring other, similar, land in the area, and identified two contiguous areas of swamp which appear to be worth considering for protection, either by acquisition or other means.

The Committee was pleased to welcome the Environmental Programmes Manager, Paul Watler, on his first visit to the Brac in November. After a tour of the Parrot Reserve, the adjacent 'Bight Road' and other places of interest Paul attended a Committee meeting and was able to share and discuss details of the overall operation and wider activities of the Trust.

The Iguana survey, conducted jointly by the Trust and Department of Environment throughout January 2012 was enthusiastically supported by Members, one of whom acted as overall coordinator. In addition to Trust members, twelve

volunteers from overseas and a number from Cayman Brac, Grand Cayman and Little Cayman participated. The survey was supported by other members of the Committee who provided accommodation and transportation



also Moses Kirkconnell who provided lunch every day for the whole team. The results exceeded expectations with 81 iguanas being caught and tagged; unfortunately a small number of these have since been killed by motor vehicles, alt-



hough a further 6, previously unseen, iguanas have been located and caught.

Following on from this success a Turtle nesting survey was commenced in May and is ongoing at the time of writing. In conjunction with the D.O.E., members and volunteers from the community patrol the beaches looking for nests. These are logged and observed until the hatchlings emerge. The educational value of this exercise has been exploited, with children being invited to witness emergences. As with the iguana survey, co-ordination has been by Trust member Bonnie Edwards.

The Committee operated a booth at the Brac Agriculture Show, selling books. This was very successful financially and good exposure for the Trust. Comments received from members of the public were noted and will be adopted for next which might be ingested by sea-creatures, such as plastic bags. The Committee was assisted in this by a group of 12 students from Eckerd College in Florida who volunteered to travel to the Brac at their own expense as part of the community service component of their courses.

The Committee participated in the

Environmental Fair organised by the Lions Club of Cayman Brac and received an award for best booth. In preparation for this event a semi-permanent display depicting the work and activities of the Committee was compiled, which can readily be erected at short notice wherever it may be required in the future.

Our main fund-raising event, the Queen's Birthday Tea-Party, had a special significance this year in view of the Diamond Jubilee. Organised by a sub-committee of three members, who were unable to obtain co-operation from the weather, the event nevertheless proved a great success. Attendance was good, the silent auction successful and useful funds were accumulated.

Life member Moses Kirkconnell MLA acted as host and gave an inspiring speech about the

year's show.

**Members** undertook foreshore cleanups on several occasions, sometimes in conjunction with another organisation. Although in some ways a futile exercise as more rubbish washes ashore daily, it is generally felt w orthwhile to try and remove, in particular, items



objectives of the Trust as a whole and how these translate into activities at District Committee level. Thanks to the Brac **District Committee** members for their enthusiastic support, and for the many other initiatives not mentioned here throughout the year.

# **Little Cayman District Committee**

Betty Bua-Smith, Chairman

## LCDC MEMBERS

Chairman:	Betty Bua-Smith
Vice Chairs:	Janet Freemantle and Pat Shipman
Secretary:	Rose Spaulding
Treasurer:	Dottie Benjamin

The Trust House in Little Cayman continues to serve as a visitors' center and to host meetings, educational talks and presentations. Many visitors and locals take full advantage of the library.

In March the Trust Council meeting was held in Little Cayman and Debbi Truchan provided a fantastic lunch and for those who stayed Caroline George hosted a most enjoyable evening social. The few members who were able to stay the weekend were treated to an island tour Sunday. Little Cayman Trust members attended in the afternoon which provided a good opportunity for all to mingle and meet. Thanks to Debbi and Caroline for their excellent hospitality.

We were pleased to have Paul Watler, the Environmental



Programmes Manager visit us during the year and the Chairman

enjoyed a tour around the island on one of these visits.

Our Trust House has a new and exciting look inside with our new display cases and displays. Some of the displays are still to be done. We thank Karen and Pete Linn and Pat Shipman and Alan Walker for doing the research to purchase the displays and cases. We also thank Robin Fite and his crew for picking them up from the barge and getting them to the Trust House and uncrated etc. Rose and Matt Spaulding put them together and did a fantastic job and we thank them very much for the many hours they worked.

We are very grateful to the volunteers who work during season to keep the Trust House open, including Janet Freemantle, Rose Spaulding, Pat Shipman, Lynn Lock, Caroline George and Lou Couper.

As many of our volunteers leave the island, Rose has continued to volunteer as well as Mrs. Brigitte Kassa who has come out of retirement to assist me in keeping the Trust House open part-time while everyone is off island. Debbi Truchan continues to do tours for the CCMI groups and also helps with anything requested of her. Debbi also represented Little Cayman District Committee and helped with the Cayman Brac District fundraising Tea and Auction.

Our very special volunteer Mike Vallee continues to lead iguana tours from the Beach Resort as well as keeping track of the iguanas, recording road kills and





nesting information. A big thank you to all our wonderful volunteers.

A Steering Committee made up of representatives from the Department of Environment, the Trust, International Reptile Conservation Fund, Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust and volunteers from the Brac and Little Cayman met in August 2011 in Little Cayman and thanks to this group , a Species Recovery Plan has been created for the Sister Islands Rock Iguanas.

Our Committee prepared a 5-year plan including items we wished to purchase, but voted to put everything on hold and put all our funds towards purchasing the Communal Iguana Nesting Site.

### Fundraising

Our first fundraising event was Mardi Gras which raised approximately US\$3,000. We held a meeting right after and hope to have an even more successful event next year.

The Easter Auction was held on 7<sup>th</sup> of April and was a huge success. Our half-time special project this year was for the purchase of the Communal Nesting site for our Rock Iguanas. Pledges and donations totaled over US\$97,000. Thanks to IRCF for assisting our US donors to make tax deductable donations.

We bought a booth at the Agriculture Show and had a great time participating and made a little extra money as well.

We continued to fundraise after the auction and the National Trust should soon own the Iguana Communal Nesting Site. Thank you everyone for your support and donations!

This year has been a learning experience for the Chair that has proved very enjoyable, and being re-elected was a true honour. As a district we would never accomplish all that we do without the support of so many wonderful members, the resorts and supporters who give most generously of their time and talents.

We sincerely appreciate every contribution and thank you all for helping to make this a successful year for our district, and look forward to another one!

# West Bay District Committee

# Alice Mae Coe, Chairman

# WBDC MEMBERS

Chairman:	Alice Mae Coe
Vice Chairman/Treasurer:	Rob Bennett
Secretary :	Eziethamae Bodden

If the expression that "Time flies when one is having fun!" is true, then, without a doubt, these past 12 months in Cayman must have been a "fun year", not only for individuals, groups and organizations, but especially for the members of the West Bay District Committee of the National Trust for whom the year has whizzed by in a nanosecond – but admittedly very quietly!

However, notwithstanding the reality that it has been a quieter year than usual, the WBDC/NT has certainly not lost sight of the all-encompassing mission of the National Trust for the Cayman I slands, which is "to preserve natural environments and places of historic significance in the Cayman Islands for present and future generations."

In fact, although wearing a different hat, the Chairman and other members have been actively involved in the efforts to preserve not just roads and accesses to the beaches and waterways, but also environmentally important areas.

# **Ongoing projects**

Despite the fact that, for a number of reasons, it has not been possible to fulfil the main objective of restoring Nurse Leila's House, the WBDC/NT remains determined and committed to progress this project as much as possible during the coming year. However, like other such projects, the restoration of Nurse Leila's House cannot come to fruition without the concerted effort of all who genuinely value the few remaining historic buildings and sites scattered throughout the Cayman Islands.

While there is great truth in that most familiar quote that "the love of money is the root of all evil," the WBDC/NT would certainly "love to uproot any and all obstacles, including financial ones, that are preventing this restoration". To this end, fundraising ideas and personal and private sector donations (without strings attached) are more than welcome!



## Connecting with the community

We have long recognized that the members who make up the core group of the WBDC/NT, are, to a great extent, the same persons who are also involved in, and relied upon by, other community and church groups, so their workloads are not light. A vital question therefore, not just for the WBDC/NT, but for the National Trust for the Cayman Islands ("NTCI") as a whole, is, "How can we awaken and foster the interest and skills of the wider Cayman community so as to have them willingly step up to the plate and get involved in the overall mission of the NTCI?" Seems like a brainstorming session may be worthwhile.

### Looking ahead

In the meantime, the executive and other faithful members of the WBDC/NT will renew efforts to encourage others to become, not just members, but active members, so that together we can make the 2012-2013 year a successful one for the WBDC/NT and the NT as a whole.

Thank you to all who also want the WBDC/NT to continue to strive towards its worthy goals – let's move forward together and "get'er done"! Cayman's natural environments and places of historic significance are more than worth the effort!

# **Bodden Town District Committee**



Debra Naused
Sam Small
Lois Blumenthal
Al Goetze

Bodden Town District Committee members have an abiding and deep commitment to preserving our historic first capital and the early history of the district. We recognize a need to act quickly as sites are facing threats from weather as well as lack of funds. In Savannah, Jackson's Wall and the Savannah School House exemplify this.

We support the recognition of important sites in the area, and have provided encouragement for the small businesses on historic Main Street. BTDC members participated in the Earth Day Beach Clean-up, and continue to encourage all BT residents to share in the on-going work that is so important year-round. Members of our committee also attended community meetings of concerned citizens regarding the relocation of the dump to Midland Acres and discussed the ramifications with elected officials.

Membership recruitment is ongoing and BTDC especially welcomes our new Vice Chairman, Mr. Samuel Small. We intend to hold regular quarterly meetings in the Mission House and there is a renewed effort to contact and recruit previous BTNT members, and to note their suggestions and ideas for projects and fundraising. We work with other BT groups in a spirit of cooperation and remain open to new initiatives from them all. Discussions are underway to recognize historically significant homes on Bodden Town's main street and we hope this will

## Debra Naused, Chairman

materialize into a project for the coming year.

This year we attended various events at the Mission House including the Fifth Anniversary Open House and assisted with the Christmas Lights bus tour which offered a tour and refreshments at the Mission House. In the coming year we hope to host a Business After Hours at the Mission House.

BTDC is pleased with the enhancements to the Guard House Park and the Mission House over the past year and thank Historic Programmes Manager, Denise Bodden, who supervised and completed the improvements to these two historic sites.



Guard House Park re-opening ceremony



Mission House 5th Year Anniversary Celebration

# Cayman Sea Sense

# Catherine Childs and Sharon Whitmore

Our seafood choices have a direct impact on the health of ocean habitat and species on a global and even local level. By choosing to eat sustainably harvested seafood it is possible for us to help preserve the diversity of fish that live and breed in our waters for future generations. Cayman Sea Sense (CSS) is a local seafood education program dedicated to helping restaurants and their customers make informed and environmentally positive seafood choices. The project assists local chefs and restaurant owners to reduce the number of nonsustainable seafood items on their menus. The use of a Cayman Sea Sense icon on a menu allows consumers to choose sustainable seafood options as certified by the Cayman Sea Sense Team.

## Cayman Sea Sense primary goals include:

- educating the general public about fisheries and aquaculture issues facing our oceans
- raising awareness about the impact that our seafood choices have on sustainable fisheries management practices.
- lessening the impact of the Cayman Islands restaurant industry on the world's fragile ocean resources as well as the health of our local coral reefs.

While many fisheries around the world are threatened with collapse, some fisheries remain healthy and sustainable because of successful management and responsible harvesting. Clearly some seafood dishes are better for the environment than others, but knowing how to tell the difference can be a real challenge for diners and restaurants alike. Cayman Sea Sense allows diners so



confidently identify and choose restaurants that provide environmentally responsible seafood menu items, and provides restaurants with the information and support to continuously improve menus from an environmental sustainability perspective.

## Nassau Grouper

The Nassau Grouper is a local example of how fishing pressure can devastate a species. These grouper once populated the coral reefs around the Cayman Islands in the thousands. Unfortunately, their populations have dramatically declined leaving these fish very vulnerable to extinction. Over half of their 150 known spawning sites throughout the Caribbean have been fished out of existence.

In 2003, realizing that this was probably the last chance to save local Nassau Grouper populations, the Cayman Islands government passed laws to protect this species from fishing during spawning season. This year the Department of the Environment extended the ban on fishing for Nassau grouper for another eight years. A healthy and growing Nassau Grouper population will not only seed the local reefs surrounding the Cayman Islands but could be at the epicenter for the recovery of the species everywhere in the

## Caribbean.

## The Lionfish challenge

The recent invasion of lionfish has also put added pressure on our dwindling fish stocks. Although many of our local divers are attempting to teach snapper and grouper to eat lionfish, for the most part the local fish have not adapted to the presence of this invasive species leaving lionfish with no natural predators. It has been shown in the Bahamas that lionfish caused significant reduction in the recruitment of native fish by an average of 79% over a 5 week period. While it is clear that we will never remove the entire population, it is important to continue to cull the population in order to give local fish time to recruit and adapt. Lionfish are therefore the perfect choice to make when dining because every lionfish taken off the reef could mean the survival of thousands of local fish that are necessary for a healthy local reef ecosystem.

#### Sea Sense Initiatives

This past year CSS has been busy on a number of initiatives. Every year we publish a seafood guide with the aid of the Department of the Environment and the Monterey Bay Aquarium. This guide outlines which species are the best to choose and which should be avoided in order to help people make informed decisions about their seafood choices. These guides are so popular that this year we printed twice the number as in the past as we've found it difficult to keep up with demand.

The Cayman Islands Tourism Association (CITA) kindly committed to paying for the printing costs at Cathy Church's Photo Centre. As our stickers have also proven to be very popular, the Department of Tourism generously helped us cover the costs of printing these in order to help us promote the organization.

Our Facebook page proved a worthwhile addition as well, enabling us to let our followers

know the latest news about both local and global fisheries issues. We also used our Facebook page to help launch Guy Harvey's films about the Nassau Grouper and shark populations which proved to be hugely popular and educational, as well as being instrumental in helping to obtain continued protection for the Nassau Grouper.

### Partnerships in the Community

We've welcomed new restaurants into our program including Kaibo Beach Bar and Karoo at Camana Bay and continue to reach out to more. It's been a successful year for CSS and we look forward to achieving even more in the future. This year the CSS team will once again collaborate with dive operators to promote local restaurants that have been endorsed by CSS.

Divers see first-hand the destruction of the reefs and the loss of biodiversity that are caused by unsustainable fishing practices and lionfish population pressures.

By asking dive operators to recommend Sea Sense restaurants, we can help both tourists and local divers make the best seafood choices.

Perhaps just as importantly, we help to support local businesses that have made the conscious and often difficult decision to serve only sustainably harvested seafood. With the continued growth of Cayman, it becomes critical that we make informed decisions to help protect the stability of species living in the fragile ecosystems surrounding our beautiful islands.



# **Blue Iguana Recovery Programme**



In another successful year for the Blue Iguana Recovery Programme, the restored wild population of Grand Cayman Blue Iguanas was boosted to 675 by the end of 2011, with stock in the captive breeding facility poised to step this up to

almost 750 by the end of the 2012 calendar year. This brings the programme within ca.3 years of reaching its long-term goal of 1,000 Blue Iguanas in the wild.

Captive breeding and rearing Blue Iguanas for release continues to be carried out to a high standard by the Programme's two Wardens, John Marotta and Alberto Estevanovich. In June 2012 the Wildlife Conservation Society's Dr. Paul Calle led a specialist veterinary team in health screening all the iguanas slated for release, and a sample of the breeders being retained in captivity. This valuable relationship with WCS has been ongoing now for a decade. The St Matthews Veterinary School kindly provide the laboratory space each year for processing and examining the necessary samples.

A purchase by the Trust of a small but key parcel of land for the Salina Reserve has expanded the area available for iguana releases. This was achieved with funding from our EU-EDF9 project "Management of Protected Areas to Support Sustainable Economies" (MPASSE) and funding from Maples Finance. The rough and narrow Salina access trail system was then extended into this area, in preparation for the 2012 releases.

The MPASSE project also underpins management of the Colliers Wilderness Reserve, where work is ongoing to develop a sustainable income stream for the programme and the protected area. Phase 1 of this work has been defined, and plans are being developed for planning submissions with assistance from the Department of Environment, Sandy Urquart, Mike Cowdery and CGMJ architects Robert Johnston and Will Steward. As part of the MPASSE project management we hosted an EU monitoring mission, and participated in quarterly

### Fred Burton, MBE, Director

meetings of the international Project Steering Committee, including hosting the June 2012 meeting in Grand Cayman.

Led by its volunteer Director, Fred Burton, the programme recently added one new paid staff member in addition to the two Wardens. This is a Field Officer position, which was filled in June 2012 by a previous long-term volunteer, Doug Bell. The rest of the programme's ongoing staffing needs is met by volunteers and partnerships.

Locally, work at the captive facility has been boosted by regular help from Graham Seary, Jane Håkonsson, Christina Durango, Su Mander, Clare Dunning, Ollie Dubock and Blanca Bolea. Jane Cowdery has taken on the naming and sponsorship programme for individual Blue Iguanas, and Sarah Burton has been coordinating the international volunteer programme. Eleven international volunteers came to work with the programme during the year, for periods ranging from weeks to months, providing a substantial resource for fieldwork. We were able to house these international volunteers in Bodden Town, thanks to the ongoing generosity of Mary and Roger Bumgarner.

The BIRP's success continues to attract attention both locally and internationally. The BIRP Director was invited to speak about the programme at meetings in Sydney, Australia and Tennessee, USA, while then-volunteer Doug Bell spoke at a Wildlife Expo in London, in association with the CI Department of Tourism. On Grand Cayman the



programme's booth at the Pirate's Week district days was one of the most popular, especially thanks to efforts from volunteer Sue Bell.

Local support is also steadily manifested in corporate funding. Walkers, and Greenlight Re both continued their annual financial sponsorship, and Island Heritage selected the BIRP as one of their three featured organizations for their first "Charity Drive" fundraiser.

Other donations of note included a large pickup truck donated by PC Cast, which will prove especially useful when infrastructure work starts in Colliers Wilderness Reserve. Program funding also comes in part from our Blue Iguana Safari tours in the QE II Botanic Park, led by the BIRP Wardens. These tours are growing in popularity and significantly offset our recurrent staff costs.

### Sister Islands Rock Iguanas

In August 2011 the extensive knowledge and experience amassed over years working to restore the Grand Cayman Blue Iguana, was called on to help



address mounting concerns for the Sister Islands Rock Iguana, a near relative that is unique to Cayman Brac and Little Cayman. Evidence is mounting that the rate adult iguanas are being killed on the roads and by free roaming dogs on the Sister Isles is far beyond what the population can sustain. It appears the Sister Isles iguanas are plunging towards a risk of extinction much faster than is generally recognized.

The Trust and the Cayman Islands Department of Environment held a three-day workshop on Little Cayman, to formulate a three-year plan to deflect the imminent disaster and seek a stable future for these iguanas throughout Little Cayman, and in managed areas on Cayman Brac. The workshop was facilitated by BIRP Director Fred Burton, and attended by



stakeholders from all walks of life on all three of the Cayman Islands. John and Sandy Binns from the International Reptile Conservation Foundation (Arizona, USA) also participated. Janet Walker provided meeting space and accommodation at Casa Cassiopeia, Pirates Point provided additional accommodation, and Debbie Truchan kept spirits up over the long working sessions with splendid meals.

The meeting successfully resulted in a plan, <u>http://www.doe.ky/nbap/?page\_id=461</u> and an agreement to place the overall management of this work under the umbrella of the Department of Environment. The Trust will continue to play a key role within this framework.



# **National Trust Donors and Volunteers**

Over the past financial year, the National Trust has received in-kind donations, donations of time, and monetary donations for all of our events and endeavors. We would like to thank the persons and organizations who have helped us in diverse ways to work toward achieving our goal of Conserving Cayman.

# DONORS

#### Historic Programme Donors:

**Apec Consulting Engineers** Ltd **Bergman Ebanks Cathy Frazier CI** Archive **CI Museum** Cost-U-Less Emilio Watler Flowers Bottled Water Gordon McLaughlin It's Your Party Janilee Clifford Jennifer Hunter Jeremy Superfine of BCQS John Doak Lemmie's Trucking Marnie Laing Michael LeMay Paul Bodden Pizza Hut Progressive Distributors Ltd **Rob Bennett** Rutkowski Baxter Houghton Sonya Carlesso Tommy Bodden Vision Marketing

Historic Programme Grantors: Department of Tourism Walkers

Environmental Programme Donors: Bonnie Scott-Edwards Cathy Church Photography Department of Environment Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust International Reptile Conservation Fund Jane and Glenn Robertson Vision Marketing Wallace and Edna Platts Weststar TV Winston Ford

Environmental Programme Grantors: CANARI Defra Department of Tourism Governor's Office

Blue Iguana Recovery **Programme Donors:** Ambassadors of the Environment Appleby **Benjamin Maxwell** Blue Dragon Tattoos BUGS Campbells **Caribbean Publishing** Cayman Prep and High School Cay-Shred CGMJ Conyers Dill & Pearman Greenlight Re Island Heritage James Bovell

Joanna Small Mary & Roger Bumgarner Michael Levitt Mindy Beth Pistachio Montessori School of Cayman PC Cast Sandy Urquhart Sky Services Ltd Standard Chartered Trust Walkers

### Donors

**Absolutely Fabulous** Adam Andrews Alasdair and Lisa Robertson Couper Family Alice Mae Coe Alphametrix 360 AlphaSoft Andrew Canada Andrew Moon Arch Solar Arden Shaw Arthurlyn Pedley Barbara Billes **Betsy Peyton** Betty Bua-Smith Bill and Judy Innes Blackbeard's Trading Company **Blanchard Family** Blue Tip Golf Course **BNP** Paribas **Bodyworks Bradley Place** Brasserie Restaurant **Brigitte Kassa** Britcay **Browne Family** Caledonian Bank and Trust Camille Davies CARD Carl Campbell Caroline George **Cayman Airways** Cayman Distributors Ltd Cayman Helicopters **Cayman Helicopters** Cayman Islands Brewery Cayman Kayaks

**Cayman Luxury Charters Cayman National** Corporation Cayman National FS Charles Jennings Charles Quin Chris Johnson Christopher & Heather Blair Clair Coleman Clee Family **Ranna Family** Colin Shaw & Co Conyers Dill & Pearman **Corporate Electric** Cotton Tree CUC **Dart Enterprises Darvin Ebanks** David and Susan Brooks David Reubush Deanna Hanson Debbi Truchan Dianne Sherer Divetech dms **Dolly Solomon** Elaine Campbell Electratech **Enno Krebbers** Eurasia Every Bloomin' Thing Foster's BayMarket Foster's Food Fair IGA Frank Roulstone **Funky Monkey** Gary Foster Gay Morse Gaye Randolph Gladys Howard **GT** Automotive Guy Harvey's Island Grill Harris Harlan Havianas Healthcare Pharmacy Helen Panton Hibiscus Spa Higgs and Johnson Highwater Ian Kilpatrick

**Island** Companies Island Supply Co Ltd **Jacques Scott** Janet Walker Janice & Gary Redfern Jennifer Woodford Jeremy Walton Jessie's Juice Bar lim O'Neill Joseph Liberatore Justine McMahon Karen Bennett Kirk Supermarket **KPMG** LAS Development Liza Bowyer Locher Family Lois Blumenthal Luca Restaurant Maples FS Mark Graf Mark Ortner Marlene Kilpatrick Mega Systems Ltd Mercator Finance Mervyn Cumber Michael's Genuine Food and Drink **Michelle Davis** Mike O'Connell Mike Vallee Mise en Place Moore Stephens Decosimo Cayman Nancy Ball Keilty Ned Leroy Neil Van Niekert Nicola Dorrington Ogier Paperman's coffeehouse **Passions Lingerie** Patrick Broderick Photography Penny Cumber Penny Place Peter Hildenbrand Peter Linn Pirate's Point Resort Plantana Polar Bear Air Conditioning Premier wines and spirits **Premier Wines and Spirits** PwC

**Ragmark Family** Raoul Pal Rawlinson and Hunter **Red Sail Sports** Richard and Laura Redman **Ristorante** Pappagallo Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman **Robert Morse** Robert Walker Royal Bank of Canada Trust Connie Bodden Co. **Rugs** Oriental Sangaetha Parwahi Sea Elements Settle Charitable Trust Sharon Roulstone Sharon Van Niekert Sheenagh Mills Sian Harrison Slear Family Sole Solutions Ltd Sotheby's SRS Cayman SteppingStones **Team Maples** Terry Locke Terry Look The Cabana The Javaknights Theo and Elizabeth Payton Thian-Hok Liem Tiki Beach Truman Bodden Water Authority-Cayman Williams Family

# **VOLUNTEERS**

**Office Volunteers:** Katie Moore Karin Hottentot **Catherine Childs** 

Summer 2011: Erin Walton Whitney Foster Hayley Reid

Summer 2012: **Tomas Allen** Heather Harris

History week 2011: Kem Jackson Ola Jackson **Roland Bodden** Jerris Miller Capt Paul Hurlston

**Historic Programmes** Volunteers: Brian Corroyer Arthurlyn Pedley Prep School students Alexis Programme: and Sean Peter Huber Joyce Everhart-Hoff Bryan Corroyer Peter Huber Arthurlyn Pedley Connie Bodden Ron and Gracie Scott Ali Sabti Iohn Doak Danielle Bouchard Christine Rose-Smith Doreen Small Sue Gibb Andy Gibb East End Garden and Gift Tommie Bodden, Lemmie's Trucking Paul Bodden **Rob Bennett** Ron & Gracie Scott Marnie Laing Brian Corroyer Jesse Coe Josh Zimmer Debra Barnes-Tabora Vision Marketing It's Your Party Katie Moore Andy and Sue Gibb **Doreen Small** Lois Blumenthal Marnie Laing Kem and Ola Jackson Mr. A.B. **Roland Bodden** 

Capt. Paul Hurlstone

**Council members** 

Jennifer Hunter

Hannah Reid

Carla Reid CUC Christine Rose Smith Danielle Bouchard Michael LeMay

Environmental **Programmes:** Danielle Bouchard Walkers

**Blue Iguana Recovery** 

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Blanca Bolea Christina Durango Clare Dunning Fred Burton Graham Seary Graham Stout Jane Cowdery Iane Håkonsson Mat Cottam Matt Grunwald Mike Cowdery Olivia Benjamin Ollie Dubock Rita Estevanovich Sarah Burton Su Mander Tansy Maki

#### International:

Deirdre Manion-Fischer Doug Bell Greg Larsen Jill Jollay **Julianne** Felton Katrina Street Lainee Sanders Nicola Mumford Samantha Roberts Sue Bell Theresa Bouchard Zach Chillag Zsuzsanna Kun

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