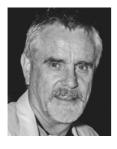
# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



The National Trust for the Cayman Islands was established in 1987 due to concerns that the natural and historic environments of the Cayman Islands were vulnerable to loss caused by development pressure. Thirty years later, we are sharply reminded of our core mission and raison d'etre in these times of rapid social and economic evolutionthe preservation of the Islands' historic, natural and maritime heritage, the conservation of those lands and areas of natural beauty, historic and environmental significance with which we have been entrusted on behalf of the people of the Cayman Islands, and the protection of the Islands' flora and fauna.

Today, the Trust engages with a wide range of stakeholder interests in pursuit of its mandate and to advocate for a greater awareness of the cultural importance and value of these assets. A strategic partnership with the Royal Society for Protection of Birds, the UK's largest nature conservation charity allows us to be a significant contributor to the UK's engagement with its Overseas Territories' conservation programmes. We place great value on maintaining an excellent collaboration with the International Reptile Conservation Foundation in its work with the Blue Iguana Recovery Programme. Our seat on the National Conservation Council has given the Trust an effective advocacy lever with which to engage community participation in conservation matters.

The National Heritage Register was upgraded significantly this year to provide an authoritative record of the Islands' historic properties in an engaging and accessible digital format with work on the digitisation of the National Herbarium also progressing.

The Trust cannot stand still- its Council and excellent Staff must continue to engage with an evolving and sophisticated community which demands effective advocacy of its mission. The future will challenge the Cayman Islands as degradation of environment quality and loss of cultural awareness threaten the integrity of its community. The Trust will deploy, in its 31st Year, a Strategic Vision to guide it more effectively and to define execution of its mission as a mature and responsible agency for the conservation of the historical and environmental legacy of the Cayman Islands for future generations.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DIRECTOR'S REPORT CHRISTINA PINEDA



Do you love the Cayman Islands? I mean, really and truly love the place you call home?

Over the past 30 years thanks to the support of corporate and individual donors, we have been able to acquire 5% of Cayman's land mass, establish 9 nature reserves and protect 12 historic sites.

That may not sound like a lot to some, but when you consider the millions of dollars that we have raised to acquire expensive property in the Cayman Islands you should hopefully get a clearer picture of exactly how hard we've been hustling to protect pockets of paradise across all three Cayman Islands.

On our 10th year anniversary, then Chairman Rev. Alson Ebanks wrote "What I see are degraded beaches, silted waters, and overstressed, road-weary, debt-loaded Caymanians who no longer enjoy the "prosperity" that "development" brought us. Isn't it time we slowed down, if not stop, and consider just where we want to be in the next 20 years?"

Fast forward 20 years and development in our tiny islands is showing no signs of slowing down, on the contrary development has exponentially exploded in our once sleepy little islands.

Thankfully the National Trust has been diligently working to try to balance the economic progress with the need for wild spaces and historic places. Our mandate is more urgent than ever as we simply cannot take another 30 years to acquire another 5% under protection. It's no time to rest on our laurels, but to double our efforts by attracting, expanding and developing our support base.

Current membership is almost 1800 which is a 31% increase over 2016 levels. Our five-year aim is to have 5% of the population as members of the National Trust.

Sir Vassel Johnson envisaged this great organisation as one who would be run by the people of the Cayman Islands. We need you to join with us to help us to continue to safeguard the things that make Cayman as special and unique as it is. I dare you to really love Cayman, by becoming a guardian of Cayman's natural and historic beauty.

# SAVING SPECIAL PLACES



**Richard Mileham** Historic Programmes Manager



### LOOKING FORWARD

The online National Heritage Register was launched in November 2016 bringing nearly 30 years of research and information to the public for the first time. The register continues to be updated on an ongoing basis and volunteers and members of the public are invited to assist us with this.

In the coming year attention will turn towards our historic restoration projects as we look to carry out the necessary works to bring properties such as Nurse Leila's House in West Bay and Savannah Schoolhouse back into active use.

## We continue to enhance our built heritage so that it may be enjoyed by residents and visitors alike.

This year saw a major change in the Trust's Historic Programmes with the appointment of Richard Mileham as Historic Programmes Manager in July 2016. This appointment came after a period of the position being vacant and has enabled the Trust to press ahead with the programme's various site management, fundraising and community projects.

### SITE MANAGEMENT

#### **Mission House**

Thanks to a generous donation from the Prize Charitable Trust in January 2017 a number of improvements were made to the Mission House including completely re-painting the exterior of the house and visitor centre. Also, with the help of Sue Gibb and Joanne Mercille the flower beds adjacent to the house were re-planted with carefully selected native plants. Further improvements to the car park and walkway are also planned in the near future.

In April 2017 audio tours voiced by Pastor Alson Ebanks, were made available to allow visitors to explore the house at their own pace. Also, thanks to support from IRG – International Realty Group, the Trust has launched an online virtual walkthrough of Mission House. This highresolution, 360-degree panoramic imagery offers online viewers a glimpse of the house and its history and is available through the Trust's website.

Mission House continues to be popular with both residents and visitors and we had the pleasure of providing 530 children and adults with tours this year. Local residents Iris and Malcolm Saunders have been a great help with tours of the house, particularly for larger school groups.

#### Savannah Schoolhouse

The old schoolhouse was 'dressed' for Christmas with the help of Bodden Town District Committee members Susan Goetze and Patty Rohleder. A traditional sand pathway, lined with conch shells, was created and Christmas lights were hung on the front of the building. Thanks to Savannah Primary School for providing the electricity connection over the Christmas period.

#### Watler's Cemetery

Major landscaping work was carried out in September 2016 to protect the cemetery's perimeter walls from surrounding plants and shrubs. This involved the creation of a 4ft buffer which has since been maintained on a regular basis.

### **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

In March 2017 we welcomed eight members of the Caribbean Volunteers Expedition (CVE) to Grand Cayman. This group of architects, historians and engineers spent a week with us sharing their expertise on a range of historic projects. The volunteers produced some excellent work including a set of detailed architectural drawings of a historic George Town home, and completed a thorough inventory of Watler's Cemetery in Prospect. The group also undertook a considerable amount of research work in North Side as part of the National Heritage Register. We are very grateful to Cathy and Jerry Frazier for hosting the group at their Merrendale home.

We continue to work with local schools on their heritage events and class projects and we were delighted to be involved in Caymanian history days at both Cayman Prep and First Baptist Christian School.

#### FUNDRAISING

In June 2017 the Trust hosted the first Home & Garden Tour event, which was a significant fundraiser for our historic programmes. The tour led a group of 20 guests around 5 properties and celebrated Caymanian history, contemporary design and beautiful landscaping. The tour was a great success and proved to be very popular. Additional tours, visiting different properties, are proposed for August and October 2017.

We are very excited to be hosting 'Who You Fa'; a genealogy lecture event and major fundraiser for historic programmes in November 2017. Offering guests an opportunity to explore their ancestry, the event will feature the world renowned specialist Blaine Bettinger, along with a number of local experts.







# FOREVER FOR EVERYONE



Stuart Mailer Environmental Programmes Manager



### LOOKING FORWARD

Trust volunteer Jerry Frazier has uploaded much of the environmental section of the Heritage Register. He and herbarium volunteer curator, Joanne Mercille, have also done an admirable job in creating a searchable database of the Cayman Islands herbarium (CAYM), and have begun the lengthy process of uploading the records.

The Register and herbarium is now accessible at

http://caymanislandsnationaltrust.pastperfec tonline.com . Over the last two years, Joanne has also created a Virtual Herbarium for the Botanic Park with current Cayman Islands flora list from RBG Kew, at

http://www.caymanflora.org/QEIIflora/alpha\_ a\_z\_list.html With the aid of international and local partners, the Environmental team advanced the goals of projects that fall under the programme's remit.

A generous donation of wetlands in the Cayman Brac marshes to the Trust was progressed with the assistance of the International Reptile Conservation Foundation (IRCF). Potential land purchases and available funding were reviewed to prioritize an acquisition strategy. A plan by the Royal Society of Birds (RSPB) Overseas Territories initiative to purchase conservation land, either alone or in partnership with the Trust, was refocused on property within the Mastic Reserve ideal footprint, aided by a synopsis of significant land for conservation prepared by the team.

### **RESERVE MANAGEMENT**

The south end of the Mastic Trail benefited from outstanding volunteer work to lay gravel in the rocky, flood-prone terrain north of the Boardwalk, improved signage, and repairs to the old wooden bridge. At Colliers Wilderness Reserve a large entrance sign and interpretative signage on the nature trail serve the growing number of visitors. Management of Governor Gore's Pond continues to require periodic culling of Green Iguanas. Repair of the boardwalk was scoped and will start at the beginning of the next dry season. The Mission House pond was cleared of reeds using an excavator making it more visible but retaining some waterbird cover.

#### **BAT CONSERVATION**

A formal protocol document for the Bat programme was drawn up, and a visit made to Little Cayman to assess the need for extending this programme to the Sister Islands. Humane exclusion work recommenced on November 15, following the end of the annual pup season and the rate of construction of bat houses was ramped up in response to an increased public demand.

#### INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES CONTROL

The first year of a three year project - Securing Pockets of Paradise in the Caribbean – funded by EU BEST, a collaboration among RSBP, NTCI and equivalent bodies in the BVI, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands, commenced during 2016. Work began on our focus species, Haematoxylum campechianum, better known as Logwood, to map the extent of infestation of Logwood at key Trust sites. Fixed point photography was conducted for monitoring purposes, and we then began Logwood removal in the Mastic Reserve, Governor Gore's and Mission House, ably assisted by volunteers. Stuart learned new skills and contributed to a weeklong vegetation monitoring workshop in Tortola led by Kew's Martin Hamilton in June. Read more about this important collaboration at http://www.rspb.org.uk/Images/Carribbean\_Newsletter\_tcm9-443305.pdf

### **RESEARCH IN TRUST RESERVES**

The second year of a Darwin Plus funded study of the red-footed boobies (Sula sula) on Little Cayman continued at the Booby Pond Reserve staffed by researchers from the Universities of Liverpool and Exeter, Rhiannon Meier, Jonathan Green, and Stephen Votier, working together with the DoE. Electronic GPS tagging has revealed important new information about the boobies foraging behavior. Also in Little Cayman, the Preston Bay Reserve SIRI nesting site was a primary focus of Jen Moss's (Mississippi State) PhD research activity. Pollinators of the Banana Orchid are now under observation at Colliers Wilderness Reserve as Christine Rose-Smyth extends her multi-season project to the eastern district for comparison with data collected in Lower Valley.

#### TOURS

Stuart led a total of 60 tours of the Mastic Trail, accommodating over 300 guests, and generating nearly \$9k in revenue in the year. An additional \$2.6k was generated from bespoke birding tours, including two large groups of Carefree Birding cruise clients.

66 Environmental Programmes continue to work with DoT. Cayman Airways and the media to promote eco-tourism and conservation. The Manager of Pico Bonito, a Honduran luxury nature lodge, returned to further assess the potential for developing combination Cayman /Honduras birding holidays for the UK market. The first trip, scheduled for early next year, has already sold out. The Trust will be providing an allday birding tour for the Grand Cayman segment.



### **BLUE IGUANA RECOVERY PROGRAMME**

It was another busy year of Trust participation in the Blue Iguana Recovery Programme. This year fertile eggs were placed in incubators housed at the Trust offices. The first clutch of eggs hatched in July and were transferred to the head starting section of the BIRP facility. Results of the annual population survey led by DOE in March were released and reviewed. They showed no major changes since the survey conducted two years previously.

Vets from the Wildlife Conservation Society were on hand again this year to perform pre-release health assessments. A new test to detect the mystery illness that killed several iguanas last year was introduced. In preparation for recommencing of iguana releases into the reserves, Karen developed a quarantine procedure which received approval from the vets at the Wildlife Conservation Society and a permit was obtained from the National Conservation Council allowing animals scheduled for release to undergo quarantine at the home of a volunteer. Facility tours led by Alberto and Karen were resumed following an extensive period with no new cases of iguana illness reported in over a year.

A German film crew produced a behind-the-scenes documentary of the activities of the breeding and head start facilities, including egg incubation and food collection. The programme aired in spring 2017 in both Germany and France. Fencing of the Botanic Park perimeter by contractors continued, and BIRP staff assisted Park employees in improving the dog-proofing.

Project partner, IRCF, were provided with a briefing document updating on the programme's progress and plans. Funding was obtained through the IRCF for a study by a MSc. student on the Helicobacter thought to be responsible for illness and some deaths among the Park Blue Iguana population.

#### **PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES**

The Mastic Trail was the star of a feature in Pinnacle Media's glossy Grand Cayman Magazine which was lavishly illustrated with Stuart's photographs. We guided UK based wildlife photographer / journalist team Luke Massey and Katie Stacey as they shot material for two nature films that will be distributed in Leica stores globally. The films feature Blue Iguanas at the BIRP facility and in the Salina reserve, wildlife on the Mastic Trail, Brown Boobies nesting on the Bluff in Cayman Brac, and Red-footed Boobies and Frigate Birds on Little Cayman.

## ENGAGEMENT IN NATIONAL CONSERVATION ISSUES

The Environmental Programmes team actively participated in numerous meetings held at DOE to formulate an objective scoring system for evaluating land, for use by the Department of the Environment in making recommendations to the National Conservation Council (NCC) for Protected Area designation.



# MOULDING THE FUTURE



Catherine Childs Education Programmes Manager



### LOOKING FORWARD

The National Trust is now reaching Cayman's youth from preschoolers to university students, passing on our pride in Cayman's unique historic and natural heritage through class memberships, presentations and field trips, as well as club and summer camp opportunities. Through our leadership, the young people of Cayman will be prepared to help shape the future with an appreciation of our past.

### We introduced a new class membership programme this year and signed up 575 students from 4 schools!

Last year we interacted with 2523 schoolchildren, from kindergarteners to university students, engaging them in group discussions about more than 20 topics including Blue Iguana Conservation, Past and Present Livelihoods of Cayman, Mangroves and Ecosystem Services, Bats and their importance, Endemic Species, Sustainable Tourism, Land Use Considerations in Protected Areas, and Climate Change.

#### SUMMER CAMP SUCCESS

The National Trust Summer Camp was once again a huge success. Parents booked in their children months in advance for a chance to join this popular two-week camp, which included a field trip every day to a place of historic or environmental importance to the Cayman Islands.

Approximately 25 children, aged six through 12, attended each week. Campers had great fun while learning important aspects of Cayman's heritage. Field trips included a visit to an organic farm to learn about living sustainably, the National Gallery to view an exhibition of local art focusing on natural areas, Pedro St. James to explore Cayman's built-heritage, as well as many other adventures.

The children also learned about Cayman's natural heritage by assisting the Department of Environment with a sea turtle nest excavation, looking for wild turtles at Spotts beach, and exploring the mangroves of North Sound.

Special thanks to Butterfield Bank for sponsoring the camp, and to the vendors that supported it with price discounts or giving their free time. These generous community partners included Webster's Tours, DiveTech, the DoE, Subway, Sea Elements, and Dart.

#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

Getting outside the classroom is critical in creating a deeper impression, a greater understanding, and a lasting impact on a young mind. This year more than 500 children visited the Blue Iguana breeding facility at the Botanic Park, where they learned first-hand the status of Cayman's flagship species directly from the caretakers, their dedication and passion passing on to the next generation.

More than 530 people toured the Mission House to learn about the history of the property and what life was like for our early settlers. School groups visited the Trust's Insectarium, educating children about Cayman's native insect species.

The National Trust continued the 15th annual Year 5 mangrove lesson in all the local schools, including a boat tour thanks to CUC, Sea Elements and Caribbean Marine Services, enabling the children to experience the ecosystem firsthand.

Students were also given the opportunity to hike the Mastic Trail, an adventure that is often the first time many have walked through an ecosystem of this type, creating a new appreciation of Cayman's endemic flora and fauna.

### LITTLE EXPLORERS

Little Explorers Playgroup has become a popular National Trust offering for the island's youngest learners. Children aged three months to three years old are invited to interact in a small group with access to an outdoor setting.

Over the past year, Little Explorers was pleased to host 227 visits by our youngest residents, opening up a world of outdoor, quality play experiences to many who would otherwise not have the opportunity to simply play in nature.

The Trust offers an antidote to the plugged-in lives of today's generation, sharing an appreciation of our unique heritage. Through our leadership, the young people of Cayman will be prepared to help shape the future of Cayman with an appreciation of our past.



# ENGAGING THE MASSES



Karie Bounds Community Development Manager



### LOOKING FORWARD

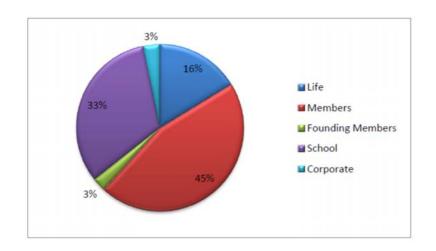
This year our driving force has been to continue membership growth and retention by diversifying and innovating. We have focussed on enhancing membership satisfaction and reaching out to new target markets.

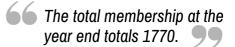
Programmes such as Little Explorers have attracted a new demographic of young mothers and grandparents; the introduction of school class memberships has proven very popular; and the establishment of the use of the clubhouse as a membership perk has drawn new members to the Trust. International membership applications remain steady, given the amazing reciprocal agreements with National Trust establishments overseas.

## Membership makes up the foundation that strengthens and guides the work and mission of the National Trust.

Our members benefit from discounts on our programmes, tours, events and merchandise along with intangible perquisites such as: • Being part of a dedicated group of individuals who are committed to protecting and preserving Cayman: learning insights into the major issues, problems and opportunities facing our environment and heritage locally as well as regionally, networking with the leaders and advocates of sustainable development, and gaining access to a wide range of resources and reference materials.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**





With 30 years under our belt, the National Trust has found an eclectic variety of ways to appeal to the wider community.

We aim to ensure that our supporters remain actively involved and committed to the preservation of Cayman's environment and built heritage. Many of our events and activities are family oriented making it ideal for everyone to get involved.

This year our Earth Hour celebration in the Dart Part was very successful, with over 80 persons in attendance. The Earth Day Blitz, now in its second year attracted the support of various businesses, volunteers and members.

We offered engaging historic lectures, put on a concert for the environmentally conscious, and reintroduced traditional cooking classes for those with an appreciation for good ol' Caymanian cooking. Members with a more technical focus were invited to sit on an Environmental Advisory Committee, which meets regularly to discuss and make recommendations for pressing environmental matters.

### VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME

Over the past year the National Trust Volunteer Programme has focused on evaluating internal processes and strengthening relationships. With this focus in mind, we worked hard to streamline large volunteer efforts, and connect with businesses to strengthen our mission.

Volunteering with the Trust generates ambassadors and loyal supporters and we are delighted that this year we have 150 registered volunteers together with requests from over 20 companies for staff volunteer initiatives.

This overwhelming support has allowed us to assist fellow cultural organisations by providing volunteers in times of need. These partnerships work to strengthen and build community.





# CHANGING THE LANGUAGE



Danielle Watler Marketing Manager



### LOOKING FORWARD

Storytelling is one of the most powerful ways to breathe life into your brand. By giving Trust products an identity that resonates in the hearts of members and the public then we can take our target audience on a journey they yearn to experience. The Trust marketing approach going forward will be to form a personal connection with stories that are authentic, creative and inspirational.

### Speaking the language and changing the image to resonate with a wider audience.

Finalists and distinguished guests gathered at Her Excellency the Governor's Residence on November 8th for the biennial Governor's Conservation Awards. Judges sought candidates who have implemented or significantly contributed to a conservation project or activity aimed at protecting biodiversity, wildlife, endangered species and places of environmental significance. Patricia Bradley won the prestigious title of 'Conservationist of the Year', with over 30 years of tireless devotion to the birds and environment of the Cayman Islands.

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The National Trust held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Members Evening on September 29 at the George Town Yacht Club. Trust members voted in 2016-17 Trust Council. Following a recent amendment to the National Trust by-laws, members who were unable to attend were invited to vote by proxy. In addition to voting in a new Trust Council, attendees received the annual report of the Trust's work for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016 and the financial report for the same period. Volunteers, donors and programmes were recognised for the work accomplished over the past year. The launch of the online Heritage Registrar, Corporate Membership Scheme and the newly opened Nature Store were amongst the scheduled announcements for the evening. We are happy to announce 2016-17 Trust Council: Andrew Gibb, Sarah Bolton, John Bothwell, Charles Neil Brown, Christina Kish, Wendy Moore, Deborah Drummond, Peter Davey, Joannah Bodden Small, Neil Sherlock, Tommie Bodden, Cathy Frazier, and Guy Locke. Betty Bua Smith, Chris Randall, Susan Goetz, Suzan Merren and Alice Mae Coe were elected at an earlier date as Chairs of District Committees, all of whom have a seat on the 2016-17 Trust Council.

#### **REACHING THE COMMUNITY**

The National Trust held its 4th annual Hatitude Gala under the theme 'Gone Wild' at Grand Old House on January 29th. Patrons were encouraged to draw inspiration from wildlife, flora or fauna whether in full regalia or just highlighted by choice of hat. Highlights included the 'Most Hatitude' competition, beautiful centerpieces thanks to The Flower Dell decor courtesy of The Poppet Studio, wildlife face painting by Bella Arscott and a 'Little Hatitude' kids hat making corner.

With a total of 530 registered runners, the National Trust held the 4th annual Glow Run 5K on June 3rd. Celebrating 30 years of conservation, participants of all ages and fitness levels, dressed in 80s attire, ran for Cayman's unique history, heritage and environment. Additional highlights included a glow foam pit, Powder Bomb photo station, Gatorade pool, beautiful Squirrelly Studio event signage and Best Glow Costume competition.

### SHARING A PIECE OF CAYMAN

In celebration of Earth Day 2017, National Trust volunteers and staff, along with schools and companies, took part in raising awareness and collecting funds for the Trust's important Environmental Programmes and Nature Reserves through the purchase of limited edition 2017 'Homeland' t-shirts and gifting of generous donations. Thank you to all involved for reminding the community of the importance of this internationally celebrated day.

The first of its kind 'Wild Spaces, Special Places' Engagement Calendar, generously sponsored by Walkers Law Firm, was available for purchase as of December 2016. Cayman's treasures were captured close up by local photographers as part of a one-month competition. Congratulations to Lucy Janes, whose submission 'Blue Iguana' was selected as the cover image!

Every year local artists allow the Trust the opportunity to share a piece of Cayman with supporters at Christmas time. Our 2016 Christmas Card design "Smith Barcadere" was taken by local photographer Adonis Prado, contestant in our "Wild Places, Special Places" photography competition. In a market that has so many competitive options on the social calendar, the Trust is always reinventing the creative wheel to ensure that we keep the interest of our supporters and the general public who make it possible for us to expand and enrich the important services we provide to the community.





# LITTLE ISLAND WITH A BIG IMPACT



Betty Bua-Smith Little Cayman District Committee



### NOT SO LITTLE ACHIEVEMENTS

The 25th annual Easter Auction raised CI \$96K to purchase two parcels of land that provide critical habitat for both red footed boobies and sister island rock iguanas. Over time, the boobies have been shifting their nesting sites to the west end of the Little Cayman Booby Pond, and the new parcels of land will protect this nesting area. The purchase completes protection of essentially all land surrounding the Booby Pond, which is an internationally recognized Ramsar protected wetland habitat. The formal closing of the purchase will take place in September 2017.

## Purchase of land that provides critical habitat for both red footed boobies and sister island rock iguanas.

In March, the National Trust Council meeting was held at the Gladys B. Howard National Trust Visitors Centre on Little Cayman. Debbi Truchan prepared and donated breakfast and lunch. After the meeting, a cocktail party for council representatives and Little Cayman District Trust members was generously hosted by Southern Cross Club.

### GREEN IGUANA B'GONNA (GIBG)

The Green Iguana B'Gonna (GIBG) programmes, under the leadership of Mike Vallee and Ed Houlcroft, had a busy year. Four Green Iguanas, most probably arriving by barge from Grand Cayman, were captured and removed. Over the summer of 2016, five hybrid offspring resulting from Green Iguana and Sister Islands Rock Iguana matings were discovered. This news was biologically exciting but threatening, as these species had previously been considered separate genera and species. DNA from the hybrid offspring was sequenced to confirm parentage. This was spearheaded by Jen Moss of Mississippi State University. Whether the hybrids are capable of reproduction will not be known until they mature into adult iguanas, which takes approximately 3 years. Public awareness programmes are very important for tracking and capturing the Green Iguanas. In January, a well-attended community meeting was held at the Gladys B. Howard National Trust Visitor Centre. Ed and Mike delivered a video presentation on the extent of the Green Iguana problem on the three islands and the potential threat of the hybrid iguanas. The presentation was followed by a lively discussion with community residents and tourists.

The GIBC team has also been busy creating and distributing T-shirts, literature, bumper stickers, and signs to inform and educate Little Cayman and Cayman Brac residents and visitors about the problem. In May, Mike and Ed attended IguanaFest , an international meeting of iguana researchers held in Florida, and discussed the issues around Green and hybrid iguanas on the Sister Islands. Jen Moss gave a community seminar and presented the latest results from her studies on rock iguana mating and nesting behaviour on Little Cayman. She also provided a poster describing her research, which is on display at the Trust Visitors Centre. Vehicles continue to pose a major threat to rock iguana survival on Little Cayman. In February, the LC District Officer, Roger Scott, with Victor Lopez erected signposts to which 15 new iguana caution road signs were attached by Greg Locher and Enno Krebbers. This extended signage protection of iguanas to the east end of Little Cayman.

#### **RED-FOOTED BOOBIES**

Rhiannon Meier conducted flight tracking studies of the red-footed boobies on the Booby Pond throughout the year. She has mapped over 40 flight tracks and presented her results at a meeting of the LCDNT. Rhiannon has also placed camera traps in trees around the Pond to study booby nesting and breeding behaviour. In April, members of the Royal Society for Protection of Birds visited the Visitors Centre and the Booby Pond. They spoke with members of LCDNT and toured the Preston Bay sanctuary. They expressed admiration at the amount of land protected by the LCDNT and are looking forward to visiting again.

### VISITORS CENTRE

The Trust Visitors Centre was updated over the past year to enhance the educational and heritage goals of the LCDNT, as well as the building structure: Fire safety equipment and signage along with SeeCoast telescopic viewers were installed overlooking the Booby Pond. The updated maps of Little Cayman were obtained from the Department of Tourism. All new roads on the island are included as well as the location and description of all the LCDNT nature boardwalks and overlooks, making it easier for visitors to find and enjoy these sites. A video "smart screen" system will be installed for showing educational videos on local wildlife, as well as historical and cultural topics. The LCDNT merchandising committee will be introducing new lines of merchandise that are representative of the Cayman Islands.

**All volunteers are sincerely** thanked for their hard work and many contributions. Finally, as the year ended. elections for next year's LCDNT officers were held. Susan Ploplys retired as secretary after years of dedicated service, for which we are grateful. Mary Shea was elected secretary and will also manage the Facebook page. Joy Mulholland, Enno Krebbers and Betty Bua-Smith were re-elected as treasurer. vice chair and chair respectively.





# BEST OF THE BRAC



Chris Randall Cayman Brac District Committee



### PURCHASING LAND FOR PROTECTION

Our committee's biggest push is to raise funds towards purchase of habitat. Cayman Brac currently has only 4% of the land area protected by Trust ownership. The goal is at least 10%. To this end we held two fundraising events again this year, a Sock Hop in January and the Queen's Birthday Tea in June. Both events were very successful. The Brac Committee takes note of the Conservation Council's drive to protect land and several members have submitted suggestions of areas for consideration. The Trust's immediate goal is to extend our Southside wetland protection by acquiring nearby properties.

## Brac Trust House allows access to the Mass Grave of the '32 Storm, the Brac's most historic site.

Our biggest challenge this year was to re-open Brac Trust House in White Bay, which had been destroyed in Hurricane Paloma. A large number of volunteer members did most of the work and professionals were hired to complete tiling and build cupboards. The house was rebuilt from the slab up with the intention that it be used not only for meetings but also as accommodation for visiting scientists.

### PRESERVING AND PROTECTING NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS AND HISTORY

Protecting habitat starts with protecting the land and the continuing West End Quarry expansion into native forest is a significant cause for concern. At a meeting of the Development Control Board (DCB) to discuss an application for expansion of the quarry the Trust, as a national body, lodged a formal objection and we were grateful for the presence of the Executive Director and Environmental Programmes Manager who both spoke eloquently in that behalf.

Unfortunately the DCB, whilst fully accepting the arguments put forward by the N.T. experts, still granted permission for half of the requested area to be quarried. A number of conditions were attached which the Brac Committee is actively monitoring in an attempt to ensure compliance. It is regrettable that the last remaining undisturbed natural forest in the West End of the Brac should be destroyed for the purpose of exporting rock to Grand Cayman.

From a historical perspective the Brac Committee continues to research ancient trails and footpaths, particularly those which ran from shore-toshore across the Bluff. Before dirt roads existed people used to travel from point to point by boat along the coast, land and traverse the lowlands, climb the Bluff, cross the Island, climb down and make their way to the sea on the other side. Many of these routes are in danger of disappearing, particularly on the South Side where coastal land has been divided and new owners are not aware of the history.

### ACTIVITIES

Our activities for members averaged two each month and included hikes on traditional trails, clean-ups of beaches and underwater areas, snorkeling, rediscovering a 'lost site', cleaning the Mass Grave site and an "ideas" drop-in day for members, held at Brac Trust House.

Members maintain Trust trails and lands, assist with Turtle patrols, Iguana protection and other counts and tallies, both of native creatures and native plants.

Researcher Rhiannon Meier revisited the Brac in February 2017 and presented her current findings on our Brown Boobies (Sula leucogaster). Charlie Kitchin of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) visited the Brac from March 15 to April 5, 2017. His was the first formal survey of the Brac population of the White-tailed Tropic-bird (Phaethon lepturus). He reported to the Brac District Committee and his results strongly support permanent protection of our cliff face for these birds, and the countless other species including bats and plants that use it.

#### HISTORIC VISIT TO THE BRAC

The Rt Hon Baroness Anelay, the UK Minister responsible for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Overseas Territories made a historic visit to the National Trust's Little Cayman visitor centre and then on to Cayman Brac. This is the first time a UK Minister has ever been to the Sister Islands. Baroness Anelay, along with government officials, visited the Brac's Parrot Reserve and enjoyed a nature trail through part of the reserve. **6** Thanks are due to the Brac community for their support and participation in our fund raising and other community activities. A special thank you to our enthusiastic Brac membership. Our Trust members are most desirous of advancing scientific, historical and educational knowledge of Cayman Brac by assisting authorised visiting researchers. Membership continued to grow and we now have 80 members.



# THE WISE WEST



Alice-Mae Coe West Bay District Committee



## Continued efforts to energize existing members as well as recruit new ones

Although the past year has been rather eventful for many of its Members (certainly from their personal perspectives), the 2016-2017 year for the West Bay District Committee of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands can in fact be better described as having been rather quiet on the Western Front! Nevertheless, we are still on board and, God willing, will be working to make healthy, significant and effective strides forward towards our goals during the 2017-2018 year.

### **PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND ACTIVITIES**

For a number of reasons beyond our control, the WBDNT had to postpone our major fundraiser 'Where the Wild Billows Roll' the purpose of which was to raise more funds towards the restoration of Nurse Leila's House. However, like the old saying goes, 'not every disappointment is a misfortune' because by delaying this event, our in-house playwright has had the opportunity to further develop the story and so when we are able to actually present it in early 2018, we feel sure that the audience will find it well worth the wait!

In the meantime, Miss Izzy's Schoolhouse site has continued to receive attention from the cleaning/landscaping and fencing aspects, although strengthening/stabilization of a few posts may be required. This property will need attention on an ongoing basis and the WBDC Members are encouraged to give input and assist whenever called upon as there is much to be done in order to achieve the goal of turning Miss Izzy's schoolhouse site into an attractive educational tour for locals and visitors.

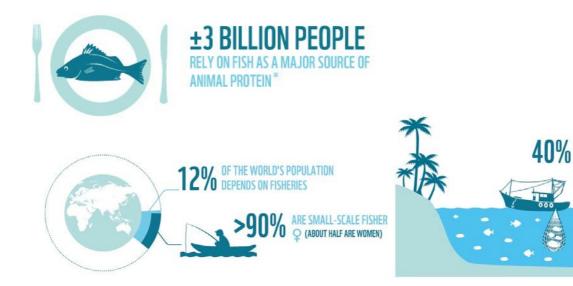
Our flagship historic property, Nurse Leila's House, has been kept secure and has also benefited from scheduled cleaning/landscaping work. Restoration of this property remains the top priority of the WBDNT and therefore creative and renewed efforts will be essential in order to raise sufficient funds to fulfil this goal.

From the environmental aspect, Uncle Sammy's Pond has remained under watchful eyes. As regards the idea of entering into a partnership with a Canadian group whereby a Nutraponics farm could be developed on this property, it appears this idea is still simmering on the backburner and we therefore await the outcome of discussions with them so that, one way or the other, a final decision will be forthcoming sooner rather than later.

# MAKING BETTER CHOICES



Catherine Childs Cayman Sea Sense



COASTAL FISHERIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR NEARLY **40%** OF THE WORLD'S WILD-CAUGHT SEAFOOD

#### CAYMAN SEA SENSE PROGRAMME

Nearly a third of commercial fisheries globally have already collapsed. Scientists around the world agree that we are taking too many fish from our oceans and that this is having a detrimental impact on marine life. Overfishing harms the ecology of the ocean, while also reducing the long-term potential of fish stocks to provide food and jobs for the future. Harmful fishing practices also have unintended impacts on species of birds, marine mammals, sea turtles and non-target fish stocks.

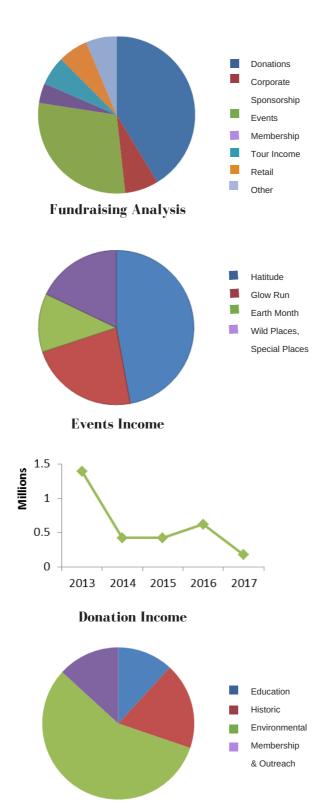
The National Trust's Cayman Sea Sense programme (CSS) promotes the use of sustainable seafood - that which has been caught or farmed in ways that protect the long-term viability of the harvested species as well as that of the oceans. Overfishing and our own consumption habits are contributing to a decline in fish populations, but the good news is that there is much we can do, just by making informed choices about what's for dinner. Simply by purchasing sustainably-harvested seafood when at the grocery store or restaurant, we can each help shape the demand for fish that's caught and sold, and thereby play an important role in shaping ocean health. This popular progamme was developed in response to growing public concern about overfishing and its impact on our oceans and is designed to help consumers, restaurants, and seafood vendors make informed seafood choices and play a part in increasing the demand for sustainable seafood in Cayman. The project assists local chefs and restaurant owners in reducing the number of non sustainable seafood items on their menus.

The Cayman Sea Sense "Best Choice Seafood Guide" provides an easy way for concerned consumers to make the most sustainable seafood choices while at the grocery store or eating out. It also contains a list of participating local restaurants so that diners can easily choose a restaurant committed to the health of our oceans. Monterey Bay Aquarium provides the worldwide data while the Department of Environment makes sure any local issues are addressed. Cathy Church's Photo Centre then lays out and designs the cards free of charge.

# PEARLS OF WISDOM



Deputy Director, Finance



Analysis of Programme Expenditure

30 years of investing in cayman's natural & built heritage has honed, nay polished, our financial strategy to enable us to build a strong framework for future growth.

#### FUNDRAISING

The continued strong backing we receive from our Ministry, members and supporters results in robust and diverse income streams. This gives us the financial stability to extend our conservation and education work whilst holding our revenue expenditure at 2016 levels.

#### EVENTS

The Little Cayman Easter Auction generated an astounding \$96k as residents and supporters donated generously towards future purchases of environmentally important land in Little Cayman.

Other fundraisers showcased Cayman's beautiful built and natural heritage whilst providing healthy income to further our preservation work.

### DONATIONS

Donation income is being adversely affected by the number of charities in Cayman competing for the same funds and the National Trust is constantly innovating to provide products and services that will be attractive to supporters, members and the general public.

We are hugely grateful for the generous loyal support from many corporate donors and sponsors, without whom we could not have achieved all our environmental and heritage goals this year. We extend our profound gratitude to:

BNP Paribas, Pestkil, Maples FS, Cayman National Bank, Butterfield Bank, Greenlight Re, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, Travers Thorp Alberga, Yello Media Group, Caribbean Publishing Co., Water Authority, Fidelity, Carey Olsen

#### NATIONAL TRUST FOR THE CAYMAN ISLANDS BALANCE SHEETS AS AT JUNE 30, 2017

(Expressed in Cayman Islands dollars)

	Note	Unrestricted 2017 CI\$	Temporarily Restricted 2017 CI\$	Permanently Restricted 2017 CI\$	Total 2017 CI\$
ASSETS					
Current assets Cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivable Inventory Prepaid expenses	3	672,752 9,100 24,236 30,731	705,056 - - -	- - -	1,377,808 9,100 24,236 30,731
		736,891	705,056	-	1,441,875
Non-current assets					
Fixed assets Heritage properties	4 5	200,871 3,040,800	-	8,986,883	200,871 12,027,683
		3,241,671	-	8,986,883	12,228,554
Total Assets		CI\$ 3,978,490	CI\$ 705,056	CI\$ 8,986,883	CI\$ 13,670,429
<b>LIABILITIES</b> Accounts payable and accrued exp	oense	(8,199)		-	(8,199)
Total Liabilities		(8,199)		-	(8,199)
NET ASSETS		CI\$ 3,970,291	CI\$ 705,056	CI\$ 8,986,883	CI\$ 13,662,230

#### NATIONAL TRUST FOR THE CAYMAN ISLANDS STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

(Expressed in Cayman Islands dollars)

 $\eta d^2$ 

Note	Unrestricted 2017 CI\$	Temporarily Restricted 2017 CIS	Permanently Restricted 2017 CI\$	Total 2017
Revenue and support				
Government grants	570,000	2 -	-	570,000
Donations, donated goods and services	119,951	55,452	-	175,403
Fundraising events	67,398	95,716	-	163,114
Product sales to the public	82,551	8,221	-	90,772
Membership dues - individuals	28,550	-	-	28,550
Tours Membership dues - corporate	24,716 16,712	-	-	24,716
Interest income	601	23	-	16,712 624
Total revenue and support	910,479	159,412	-	1,069,891
Expenses Programme service expenses Environmental preservation Historic preservation	261,069 88,444	17,337 1,875		278,406 90,319
Educational programmes	54,768	3,595	-	58,363
	404,281	22,807		427,088
Support service expenses Operating and administration Cost of sales to public	392,069 40,530	25,255	-	417,324 40,530
Depreciation of fixed assets	37,807	-	-	37,807
Cost of fundraising events	36,608	-	-	36,608
Pension 7	21,359	-		21,359
	528,373	25,255	-	553,628
Total expenses	932,654	48,062	-	980,716
(Decrease) / Increase in net assets	(22,175)	111,350	-	89,175
Net assets, beginning of year	3,975,122	611,050	8,986,883	13,573,055
Net transfer from temporarily restricted funds	17,344	(17,344)	-	-
Net assets, end of year 8, 9	CI\$ 3,970,291	CI\$ 705,056	CI\$ 8,986,883	CI\$ 13,662,230

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

FOUNDING MEMBERS

# BUILT ON A SOLID FOUNDATION

Founder Members were appointed by the Governor pursuant to powers vested in him by section 6 of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands Law, 1987, Law 22 of 1987. These Founder Members, who had the same powers, functions, and responsibilities of the Council, held office from 29th November, 1987, when the Trust Law received the Assent of the Governor, until the election of the first Trust Council at the first Annual General Meeting which was held on the 13th October, 1988.

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CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

# TOGETHER WE ARE STRONGER

<image><image>

Image: bound boun

Water Authority - Cayman

### WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

OUEENSGATE

Thank you to our 2016-17 Corporate Members for highlighting your commitment to protect Cayman's unique history and environment for future generations. We really appreciate your support! Our newly redesigned corporate membership packages offers wider value to employees in addition to corporate recognition and branding opportunities. This includes individual Trust memberships for staff members along with a very popular Cayman orientation tour for new hires, tickets to many of the Trust's prestigious events and nature excursions, among other things. To find out how your company can become a corporate member, please email community@nationaltrust.org.ky or call 749-1121.

## LEADING THE WAY

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General Elected Member Co-opted Member Co-opted Member Co-opted Member

Govt Representative Environment Govt Representative Education Govt Representative Tourism Andrew Gibb Peter Davey Neil Sherlock Sarah Bolton John Harris

Seth Thomas (Tommie) Bodden, MBE, JP John Bothwell Catherine Frazier Guy Locke Joannah Bodden Small Deborah Drummond Charles Neil Brown Christina Kish Wendy Moore Emma Drysdale Patricia Bradley Darvin Ebanks Janet Walker

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Protecting the future of Cayman's heritage Science - Education - Conservation