

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020







We would like to thank the following photographers for use of their photos: Will Burrard-Lucas, Ryan Carlo Dumaguing, Asha Charles, John Doak, Nicholas Forari Denney, Annette Gunn, Carl Hawkes, Michelle Kee, Maggie Jackson, Stuart Mailer, Lindsay McGill, Willowdale Photography, Courtney Platt, Omari Rankin and Raybel Robles.

#### **OUR MANDATE**

The National Trust for the Cayman Islands was established in 1987 with the purpose to conserve natural environments, protect native flora and fauna, and preserve places of historic, natural or maritime heritage for present and future generations of the Cayman Islands.

#### **OUR MISSION**

Our primary goal is to ensure that Cayman's unique history and nature are kept alive forever.

#### **OUR VISION**

We envision a community in which the Cayman Islands' historic, cultural and environmental heritage - which enriches the lives of all residents and visitors - is valued, supported and protected.

# CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

It is my pleasure as Chairman of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI) to present, on behalf of Council, the 2020 Annual Report, including the 2020 Auditor's Report on the Financial Accounts of NTCI. This Annual Report outlines the depth and scope of the work done by NTCI in its mission in 2019/2020 to protect, through education and conservation, environmentally sensitive and historically significant sites in the Cayman Islands under what have now become extremely onerous conditions.

I commend the excellent work done by Executive Director Nadia Hardie and her staff in compiling this Report and the input and assistance of the District Committees, the Environmental and Historic Advisory Committees and all those that assisted in this task, and remain grateful to the staff and volunteers of NTCI, to the Steering Committee and staff of Blue Iguana Conservation for their work on the programmes and initiatives that are the core of NTCI's mission. I also thank the other Officers and Members of Trust Council whose cheerful commitment to the tasks of governance was always a source of pleasure.

Once again, we find ourselves reflecting on just what it is that NTCl stands for and what the purpose is for its existence, and appreciating the implication of NTCl's successful challenge to the proposed Cruise Ship Berthing Facility and its potential environmental damage to Hog Sty Bay marine environs.

This is not the first time that NTCI has had cause to challenge a threat to the Cayman Island's natural habitats. It is instructive to recall the public education mission launched by NTCI on the environmentally sensitive Central Mangrove Wetlands (CMW) back in 1994, and I will let NTCI's then Environmental Programme Manager, Fred Burton, tell the tale as he had recounted it at an UKOT-sponsored international conference in 2000.

"The debate on this is rooted back in 1975, when our first development plan was drafted for Grand Cayman. That plan proposed our CMW be set aside as a protected mangrove zone. The government of the time put that draft plan out for public comment at a time when ownership of mangrove areas was still unresolved. There was little attempt to secure acceptance from the people who felt that they might actually have some ownership rights in mangrove wetlands.

"It proved politically explosive. Aspiring landowners marched, the government fell, and in 1977 a drastically revised development plan was adopted. It zoned the CMW for agricultural and residential development. The vast majority of the wetland areas of Grand Cayman were subsequently registered in private ownership. It was a classic example of how environmental policy proposals, pushed forward without regard to public and stakeholder opinion, can backfire catastrophically."

In 1992, the Planning Department began the first successful revision of the Development Plan in 15 years. It took two years to achieve and a broad range of stakeholder and public opinion garnered. The resulting draft Development Plan 1994 as presented to the Central Planning Authority (CPA), included proposals to zone the central mangrve wetlands as environmentally sensitive and to be protected.



"Other, less transparent, forces were evidently at work," noted Burton. "The draft plan disappeared from public view for many months, after which a massively reduced version was presented to the public as the culmination of the twoyear development plan review - all environmental provisions having been systematically stripped from the text and maps."

NTCI saw this as a dismissal of two years' worth of public opinion on environmental issues and decided to launch a major public awareness campaign on the principle that people, given adequate information, can and will make up their own minds about important conservation issues. District meetings were held and presentations made to schools, interested societies, youth groups and community associations. NTCI's message to conserve the CMW was pushed in the news media, debated on radio and featured on television.

"We also met intensively with Government at all levels, suggesting practical steps to fund the protection of the wetland in a way that would be fair to landowners," said burton "The entire staff of our Trust participated, nights, weekends, whenever we got the opportunity to speak. It was a mammoth undertaking for such a tiny group, and it stretched our human resources to the limit. But we didn't aggressively advocate the Trust's point of view- we simply told people to compare the original development plan recommendations with the most recent version. We presented scientific evidence on the importance of the CMW. We explained the process by which any member of the public could make formal representations on the matter. And we encouraged people to act, regardless of whether they agreed or disagreed with our point of view."

This strategy proved effective. A small but influential group of people were galvanised to write letters to the CPA protesting the removal of the environmental zones. A significant number of ordinary citizens appeared before the Development Plan Tribunal a year later, outraged that the environmental zones had been stripped from the draft plan. "When they spoke," commented Burton, "they spoke as independent people with the conviction of their own opinions. The Tribunal heard them, and heard the National Trust at length before recommending that the zones be reinstated. With hindsight, that was a high point, after which the impetus, in public policy terms, faltered."

Part of the problem, according to Burton, has been that the slow machinations of government policy change brought the issue back to the public long after the awareness campaign had faded in people's memories and that NTCI did not have the resources to repeat the public education exercise. As in 1994 when NTCI rose to the challenge of resisting what had been perceived as environmentally insensitive amendments to development policy in the Cayman Islands, so too in 2019 NCTI again challenged what was perceived as an environmentally insensitive infrastructural project and again called for accuracy, clarity and transparency from the project promoters.

"We have learned the importance of staying close to the facts, and presenting the National Trust as a responsible organisation which takes carefully considered positions in the best interests of the people of the Cayman Islands," commented Burton in 2000 on the 1994 CMW issue. Twenty years later and in the face of an increasing threat of substantial eradication of the natural environment of the Cayman Islands, this remains, for NTCI, entirely valid.



Andrew Gibb Chairman

# EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT

2019/2020 has most definitely been a year of two distinct halves. Both halves have been extremely busy and challenging but for obviously differing reasons.

July 2019 through early March 2020 was extraordinarily busy with the onboarding of new staff joining the team, AGM preparation, the Cruise Berthing Port issue coming to a critical point, organising our first Extraordinary General Meeting and ongoing work on the fulfilment of the Darwin Plus Initiative and Disney Conservation Fund Grants.

One word sums up the second half - Covid-19. This was something nobody had envisaged or planned for. Hurricane preparedness is normally the buzz word in the run up to summer but as Executive Director, I had never imagined a global pandemic. Fortunately, having implemented new IT systems in the summer of 2018, the National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI) team was able to move to "working from home" mode with relative ease. All staff have laptops and access to our cloud base data and with Microsoft Teams having been set up by chance a month before, the team stayed well connected and productive throughout the lockdown with twice weekly team calls and daily brainstorming.

#### **STAFF CHANGES**

In July 2019, the NTCI welcomed Stuart Wilson as the new Historic Programme Manager and quickly his energy, creativity and passion brought about positive change. Stuart provided dedicated service to our Historic Advisory Committee, and in turn really stepped up the profile of the Historic arm of the NTCI. With this heightened profile, Stuart was instrumental in helping me drive donations with over \$28,000 raised throughout the year. A record for the Historic Programme!

Nicole Best, who had initially joined the team on a part time basis helping with tour organization and the retail store, made a positive difference due to her commercial "can do" attitude. Nicole quickly had business running smoothly and, as a result, moved to cover additionally one of two maternity leave positions we had during the year. Such was her success that Nicole moved to full time Membership and Tour Manager in January 2020. A promotion well earned!

Nasaria Budal, who had been our amazing and highly creative Marketing Manager for a year and who had overseen the launch of our new website, sadly left to go have her fourth beautiful baby and on completion of her maternity leave, resigned to return to the higher paying corporate world.



January 2020 saw Laura Butz join the NTCI as Nasaria's replacement. Despite the pandemic she quickly became an integral member of the team, working as a solid lynch pin between all her colleagues. Peri Smalldon, a young Caymanian with a passion for the outdoors joined the same month as Assistant Iguana Warden working out at the Blue Iguana Conservation facility.

Stuart Mailer our Environmental Programmes Manager, left in March 2020. Stuart Mailer was a dedicated employee from August 2008 until March 2020. As Field Officer and nature tours leader he gained international recognition for the NTCI's reserves. From 2017 he was Environmental Programmes Manager until his resignation in February of 2020 to pursue other endeavours. Stuart was a respected and valued member of the team during his employment. He continues to be a Life Member of the Trust.

Covid-19 brought real challenges with all funding avenues drying up overnight, and costs having to be closely scrutinised due to the uncertainty of the duration of this pandemic. Like many non-profit organisations and tourism businesses across the island, we were faced with the difficult task of assessing and implementing redundancies and pay cuts. Karie Bounds, our Community Manager, was one such casualty as her role basically evaporated overnight with no community or volunteer activities likely to take place anytime soon. This was a real loss to the team as Karie, a highly creative and cheerful individual, was a long serving member of the team. Two of the newest Trust recruits, Daniella Iverson, Mission House Coordinator, and Lana Bonilla, our Retail Coordinator, also had no roles remaining due to the lockdown. Daniella was instrumental in livening up the cooking classes at Mission House and Lana, in two short months, had brought amazing vitality and positive change to the Nature Store and indeed the entire office organisation. We wish them all the very best in their new endeavours. They are all greatly missed!

Lastly, I would like to offer my sincere thanks to our outgoing chairman, Andrew Gibb who has served the NTCI diligently and tirelessly over the past six years. From a personal perspective, Mr Gibb was always accessible and particularly helpful when I was finding my feet back in April 2018 and I am truly indebted to him for his capable support and indeed for all his efforts over the years in working for the protection and preservation of our environment and historic places.



#### DARWIN PLUS INITIATIVE & DISNEY CONSERVATION FUND – BLUE IGUANA CONSERVATION

Applying for grants is always challenging, but the delivery of these grants and all the required associated reporting is often the trickier and more time-consuming aspect. The grants programme, initially led by Stuart Mailer and subsequently managed by BIC Operations Manager Luke Harding, is thankfully on track. The Disney Conservation Fund administered by RSPB is due to complete in October 2020, and the first year of the Darwin grant has been achieved with all reporting submitted in April 2020. The Covid-19 lockdown created major challenges and a few delays to the building work but I am proud of the amazing work and sheer effort by the entire BIC team. New pathways have been built making the facility more accessible for all and, importantly for the blues iguana's long-term welfare, many new enclosures have been built that will allow more space and a more natural environment for them. More of the BIC accomplishments can be found in the Environmental / BIC report.



#### **CRUISE BERTHING PORT PROPOSAL**

From an advocacy perspective, the NTCI carefully chose its largest battle in many years with the CIG proposed Cruise Berthing Port proposal.

The NTCI successfully issued a Judicial Review application in November 2019 following Council approval. Our case was strictly limited to environmental grounds, based on the fact that the Referendum should not proceed until such time as the necessary environmental impact studies and reports had been carried out and published to allow the public to reach an informed decision. The Judicial Review was granted, and at that time the CPR and NTCI arguments were combined into one single case; Shirley Roulstone of CPR taking the lead and the NTCI acting as Intervener in the matter with the right to attend hearings and make submissions.

The legal position behind the NTCI's challenge was that the constitution requires CIG to balance both the needs of the environment and the Islands' economic development, and weigh those competing elements to arrive at a rational decision; but first had to arm itself with all relevant information and make that available to the public.

Following the Court's granting of a Judicial Review scheduled for the end of January 2020, the Council called its first ever Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) on the 9th of January to ensure its members were fully in support of the motion to proceed with this legal intervention.



The EGM was held at the George Town Yacht Club and many members shared their passionate sentiments at this open forum. The attendance was well over a hundred, with many more members casting their vote via proxy. The resolution to oppose the proposed Cruise Berthing Port and to proceed with the legal intervention was passed unanimously. It will be one of my fondest memories as Executive Director, seeing so many of our dedicated members, young and old, turn up to cast their vote in support of the protection of our environment.

The Judicial Review hearing in late January was successful and the decision to quash the law was handed down at the start of March 2020. Unfortunately, celebrations were short lived as the CIG decided to appeal the decision. The appeal was heard in early May by three UK judges via virtual conference due to Covid-19 restrictions.

The Appeal Court did overrule the initial decision handed down by Justice Owen. However, and importantly for the NTCI, the Government's concession of our main argument - that they have a duty of care to the environment - was not affected by the appeal. Where this matter ends, is uncertain with elections looming in May 2021. The NTCI members' mandate and instruction at the EGM to oppose any environmentally damaging cruise port development remains in place, and the NTCI will take any further action necessary in furtherance of that aim, and in fulfilment of its statutory mandate to protect the environment and places of historic significance.

The NTCI is indebted to the following people for their tireless and often pro bono work on this case. They worked long hours, often after work and on weekends, to assist on the case. Thanks go to Tom Lowe QC, Nelsons law firm (Colm Flanagan, Nicholas Dixey, and Alice Carver), Trust members Anna Peccarino, Linda Clarke and of course our very own Trust Legal Counsel John Harris and Council Member Lisa-Ann Hurlston-McKenzie.

#### **INTERNATIONAL PARTNER ORGANISATIONS**

We continue to work with fellow National Trusts from around the Caribbean region as NTCI is part of a group called the Caribbean Conservation Network (CCN). Sadly our annual meeting slated for June 2020 was postponed but we frequently share ideas and best practices via virtual meetings helping each other where possible. Our collaboration in 2019/20 included a joint letter to the Rt Hon Lord Goldsmith and Baroness Sugg CBE at DEFRA regarding the Darwin Plus Initiative providing critical feedback on key issues such as three-tiered funding and exchange rate challenges.

INTO (International National Trust Organisation) stepped up its efforts this past year and most notably during the pandemic. Never has the NTCI felt more connected to its global family of National Trusts than during these weekly communications, virtual meetings and webinars. We are indebted and grateful for both their moral support and their generous assistance in providing us with a £1,000 grant for PPE supplies and a staff laptop enabling our dispersed team to return to work safely.

RSPB remains a key partner. The support, through their Caribbean Territory Manager, Charlie Butt, remains invaluable. This year we have seen the successful completion of the Rainforest Trust and RSPB Salina land purchase. This land was leased to the NTCI for 99 years in January 2020. The NTCI will ensure the proper management and protection of this land which adjoins other Salina Reserve land. Additional funds of \$6,187.00 were subsequently granted to the NTCI for key fieldwork and importantly, the long-term creation of a Salina-wide management reserve plan. Based on this successful land purchase, there is hope that further land acquisition opportunities can be identified. 2020/2021 will see more support from RSPB in the shape of another grant valued at £30,000 for key personnel. Having access to RSPB's wide network of experienced resources is without doubt a major advantage, and again we are extremely grateful for their ongoing support through all the various challenges 2019/20 has brought.



#### **COVID-19**

What can I say that has not already been said by so many? Who could have anticipated this pandemic? The last four months of the year have been challenging, but I am astounded at how well the team banded together to pull through these tough times, always rigorously supported by our Council and members. The office based team moved almost seamlessly to working from home, coming up tirelessly with innovative ideas for keeping the Trust alive and front of mind via an array of social media platforms. There were several online and interactive concepts to get us through April to celebrate Earth month, and June brought the fun and engaging Walk for Nature campaign. Thankfully, the BIC team and I received Essential Worker status immediately upon lockdown to care for the endangered blue iguanas. The BIC team were shorthanded as they rely heavily on volunteer support, but again the public stepped up and many became Blue Iguana Champions to help provide an abundance of food, and especially mangoes, during the particularly dry months.

It is hard to know what the short term holds and importantly our future fundraising opportunities but I remain sure that with our excellent Council at the helm and the amazing team we have at the NTCI, we can overcome anything this pandemic throws at us.

#### **FUNDRAISING & MEMBERSHIP**

In November 2019, our CIG grant was renewed for a period of two years. We remain extremely grateful to the CIG for this financial support which is essential for the ongoing survival and delivery of the NTCI mandate under the National Trust Law. Unfortunately, this grant has not kept pace with inflation and there is a constant shortfall necessitating constant fundraising, the search for new sponsors, and membership drives like never before. I again commend the team for the way they have constantly come up with new revenue drivers and their attempts to save pennies at every opportunity. The Financials section will go into this in more depth, but we have seen, despite Covid-19, an increase again in memberships, donations and general fundraising, coupled with a careful watch over our budget and expenditure.

#### FAREWELL

So, it is with personal and professional sadness that I sign off my last Executive Director's annual report. December 2020 will see my family leave these beautiful shores, which I have personally called home for over 35 years to pursue new adventures in New Zealand. These three unique islands with their warm and wonderful residents will be in my heart forever. This role has been one of the most rewarding, and at times challenging, that I have ever performed in my 26year career. I would not change a thing as I have met and worked with the most inspirational and dedicated people throughout my time at the NTCI. Together we have fought and won some battles all to preserve the historic culture and natural environment for the generations to come. This is something we can all be proud of but I am sure the coming years will bring many more challenges and threats. Please stay vigilant!



NADIA HARDIE Executive Director



# STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2023 PROGRESS REPORT

Over the months of August through October 2017, staff and Council of the NTCI working with UK-based nature conservation charity RSPB, created and refined a six year Strategic Plan which charted a course in that time to achieving certain defined goals and which was commenced in 2018. There were six areas of interest or themes that were deemed to encompass the mission of the National Trust and its areas of influence.

THEME	GOAL	PERFORMANCE: 2020
ENVIRONMENT	Protect 11% of the Cayman Islands terrestrial environment and selected native species	Approximately 6% of Cayman Islands terrestrial environment under protection. Two new land parcels added in 2020 – "Sylvia's Reef" in the Brac and RSPB/Rainforest Trust Salina parcel leased in perpetuity to NTCI.
BUILT HERITAGE	Promote awareness and appreciation of the Cayman Islands' built heritage and to preserve and maintain on a sustainable basis the NTCI's places of historic significance so they may be enjoyed by current and future generations.	Continue to build awareness and appreciation of historic built heritage through education and social media. Maintenance of NTCI's places of historic significance still not self-sustaining and require significant funding from general revenues.
GOVERNANCE	To ensure the NTCI is professionally governed and shows effective leadership, direction and supervision as it undertakes the work it has been established to do.	Good Governance guidelines were created and distributed to all members of Council in October 2019. Declarations of Interest forms are also now required.
ENGAGEMENT	To have the NTCI recognized as being essential for the Cayman Islands and that its supporters are inspired to understand and champion its Mission.	Lack of advocacy was identified and addressed most evidently in the recent Judicial Review challenge of 2019/20 regarding the proposed Cruise Port Berthing proposal.
FUNDING	Ensure the NTCI's funding from independent sources are diverse and sustainable.	Fundraising was trending well until Covid-19 which cancelled our final events including the Little Cayman Easter Auction which normally raises over \$50,000.
MEMBERSHIP	Grow the NTCI's membership base and to increase the proportion of which are long term and actively involved in the work of the Trust.	2018/19 saw a 36% increase in memberships which was a significant jump. 2019/20 netted a further 3% increase with more lifetime memberships driving higher revenue.

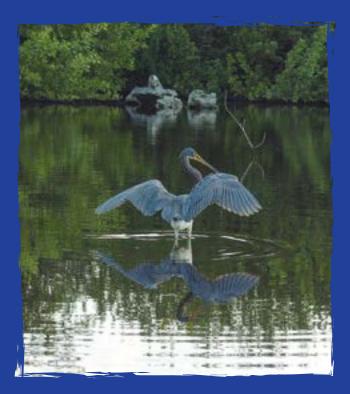
# ENVRONNENTAL PROGRAMME

The Environmental Programme focuses on preserving nature sites which are essential for the survival of native plant and animal species across all three Cayman Islands.

Our long-term goal is to protect 11% of the Cayman Islands' terrestrial environment and select native species.

### **NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Two new land parcels are now protected in perpetuity for the people of the Cayman Islands.
- The Land Reserve Fund for mangroves grew to almost \$200,000 despite being unable to hold a fundraiser due to Covid-19 restrictions.
- Biodiversity surveys of the Salina Reserve began in an effort to catalogue the species that exist in the region so that they may be successfully managed.



# LAND ACQUISITION AND PROTECTION

This past year we added two new parcels of land to our protected land holdings. The first was a 0.32-acre parcel, referred to by all as Sylvia's Reef, in Cayman Brac which was a generous legacy donation. The NTCI are extremely grateful to the Caymanian family for their donation and will ensure the land, through our Brac District Committee, is well cared for. In February 2020 it was declared inalienable under Section 21 of the National Trust Law, ensuring its protection in perpetuity for the people of the Cayman Islands.

The second parcel situated in the Salina Reserve was purchased in 2019 by the Rainforest Trust in partnership with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and subsequently leased in perpetuity to the NTCI. This 9.5-acre property adjoins other NTCI Salina Reserve land and increases our foothold in the area to 656 acres. A management agreement is now in place between the NTCI and the RSPB, and critical field work under a separate grant is currently ongoing. The NTCI Council and Membership are grateful to both the Rainforest Trust and RSPB's continued support of our endeavours to protect and preserve critical habitat in the Cayman Islands.

### HERBARIUM AND INSECTARIUM

The Insectarium shelters specimens of our endemic insects. The Cayman Islands are rich in insect species, many of which are unique to the region. By acquiring a standard entomological cabinet designed to store and protect preserved insects, we encourage visiting scientists to lodge reference material in our Insectarium, rather than taking it away to other institutions around the world. Local scientists and amateur naturalists have ready access to our labelled collection of Cayman's native insect life. Our Insectarium has also become a popular field trip destination for school outings, allowing us to educate the next generation about the importance of protecting our native flora and fauna.

The Herbarium is like a plant library, housing 1,100+ plant specimens and representing 75% of Cayman's wild plants, with more being added annually. Sadly, it remains at the Department of Environment's offices for safekeeping from potential flooding and hurricanes. A proposal was submitted to a Corporate Donor in February 2020 in the hopes of securing funding to create a purpose-built room at the NTCl office in Dart Park, to securely accommodate both the Herbarium and Insectarium. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, this proposal was deferred by the Corporate Partner. The securing of both the Insectarium and Herbarium under one roof remains a priority for NTCI.

Kind thanks go to volunteer Christine Rose-Smyth for her assistance in maintaining the Insectarium, and to volunteer Joanne Mercille for her continued support in updating the Herbarium on behalf of the NTCI. This assistance is invaluable.

### LAND RESERVE FUND

The NTCI is the only local organisation committed to the stewardship of undeveloped land with a focus on establishing a system of protected areas in the Cayman Islands. Our Land Reserve Fund launched in 2010 with the goal of acquiring designated high priority environmental areas for protection under the National Trust Law. The land purchased through this programme is deemed ecologically important and is often under threat of rapid urban development. Our Mastic Reserve and Salina Reserve are two key environmental sites that have been largely acquired through the Land Reserve Fund. Without these areas, the ecosystems and the species contained within them would be lost forever; and without the generous donations of our members, corporate partners and members of the public, we would not be able to continue our work to preserve our biodiversity and native habitats.

Sadly, due to Covid-19 lockdown, the annual Land Reserve Fund cocktail party, which was so successful last year was unable to be held. The NTCI hopes that this can be rescheduled for the end of 2020, restrictions permitting.

The good news, however, is that the NTCI set up a specific fund this year with the express intent to protect valuable mangroves. A Charitable Trust, the Luijten family, and ReFuel all very generously donated to this dedicated mangrove account to ensure that critical natural wetlands are protected for the people of the Cayman Islands.

Over the years, Grand Cayman has seen significant destruction of this critical ecosystem. The western side of Grand Cayman has already lost more than 70% of its mangroves and this deforestation is spreading rapidly eastward. We cannot afford to lose our mangroves as they play an important role in maintaining an intricate balance within our local environment.

The balance of this account now stands at an impressive Cl\$193,000 and more efforts are being made to increase this through other corporate donors. We are very grateful to our generous community partners, as well as to all our members whose smaller donations make a real difference in the effort to save Cayman's natural world. Suitable Central Mangrove Wetland land purchases are currently being considered.

### **RESERVES MANAGEMENT**

#### **SALINA RESERVE**

In 2019 the RSPB acquired a land parcel within the Salina in partnership with the Rainforest Trust. This land was kindly leased in perpetuity to the NTCI, and a grant was then awarded to monitor and survey this parcel of land within the Salina Reserve. The monitoring within the reserve focuses on identifying invasive species such as green iguanas, feral cats and dogs. The aim is to identify and monitor the numbers of invasive species and employ strategies to manage and remove them from this area. The partnership with the RSPB remains integral to the NTCI.

Biodiversity surveys have also been started to map the plants, birds and reptiles which are found within the reserve. This information will help to look at overall health and status of the wildlife within the reserve.

Regular monitoring of the reserve is also carried out to identify any signs of human activity or encroachment. Some encroachment has been seen, and the threat damage to this habitat or theft of iguanas is present and monitoring is on-going.



#### **COLLIERS WILDERNESS RESERVE**

Continued and regular management of the trails within Colliers is necessary to create access to monitor the Blue Iguana population. The trail clearing activity over the past year has also provided opportunities for regular monitoring of the reserve itself, including species population and habitat studies and human encroachment etc. In addition, general maintenance of the car park area is being undertaken to ensure safe access.

#### **GOVERNOR MICHAEL GORE'S BIRD SANCTUARY**

Regular checks continue at this site and general maintenance is conducted on a regular basis to ensure the quality of site for visitor experience. The boardwalk is still in need of repairs due to ongoing deterioration, and this work will hopefully be conducted as soon as the finance can be secured.



#### **MASTIC RESERVE**

The Mastic Trail continues to be a priority site for the Environmental Programme team, and regular maintenance and monitoring of the trail continues to ensure that it remains a safe and enjoyable experience. Due to Covid-19 we have not been conducting Mastic Trail tours since early 2020 but the trail continues to be used and enjoyed by residents.

New signage has been created for the northern end of the trail and will be installed to help highlight important information about the route and the Biodiversity found along the trail.



### TOURS

With the introduction of Nicole Best in a newly created Tour Coordinator position to support the Environmental Programmes Manager, our premier Nature Tours were revamped and set-up as regularly scheduled tours to maximize participant sizes and make efficient use of the guide's time. The tour rates were also increased to be more in-line with on-island industry tour rates.

By utilizing Formstack (an on-line form building tool) we were able to make reservations and payment for tours more convenient and secure for our customers. Nature Tours which include both the Mastic Trail and Birding sales were strong in the first half of the 2019/20 fiscal year. They were however cut short as most revenue streams in March 2020 (notably peak tour season) due to the Covid-19 lockdown. This resulted in the Nature tours combined revenue being down approximately 22% from the previous period which is disappointing.

2019/20 saw the introduction of several new excursions to diversify our line of tour products as well as the reintroduction of the Paradise Discovered tour. Updated with both the onisland and cruise tourism logistics in-mind, this round-trip half day bus tour departing from Dart Park includes stops at BIC as well as Mission House. This tour is also easily customized for school and corporate groups.

Two new experiences introduced this year focus on increasing footfall at the Blue Iguana Conservation (BIC) facility. The Warden for the Day and Colliers Wilderness Safari are offered for those seeking wildlife encounters. The Warden experience gives participants a chance to get up-close and personal with the blue iguanas, and spend the morning shadowing the BIC wardens whilst they collect food and care for the animals on site. The Wilderness Safari is for the more adventurous and requires fit participants as they explore deep into the Colliers Reserve in search of wild blue iguanas in their natural habitat.

Another new addition to the BIC tour offerings was The Reef Resort Shuttle which is a combined QEII Botanic Park and BIC facility tour in which the guests are picked up from the resort in East End and bused directly to the park. This tour was a popular weekly excursion for the guests.

The BIC facility tour numbers unfortunately also took a significant hit due to the Covid-19 lockdown. With the cancellation of numerous school groups for their end of year field trips as well as the lack of tourist visitors for over 3 months, revenue from tours was down considerably from the same period last year.







# GONSERVATION PROGRAMME

The primary goal of our conservation programme is to protect Cayman's native species and the habitats in which they live. Our work with Grand Cayman's endemic Blue Iguana and the conservation of this once-critically endangered species is the most well-known venture that falls under this programme. We are, however, also deeply involved in the conservation of our Sister Islands Rock Iguana – a cousin species to the Blue Iguana – as well as the preservation of Cayman's native bat species.



## BLUE IGUANA CONSERVATION

#### **NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Successful rebranding from Blue Iguana Recovery Programme (BIRP) to Blue Iguana Conservation (BIC)
- · Improved infrastructure at captive breeding facility
- Securing Cl\$ 32,000 towards facility improvements at BIC from generous donor
- Successful increase in iguana breeding and rearing
- Successful Species Strategy meeting held in SEPT 2019



#### **REBRANDING MILESTONE**

The NTCI made the decision to rebrand the Blue Iguana Recovery Programme (BIRP) to Blue Iguana Conservation (BIC) in August 2019. This decision was made in conjunction with the 2017 Strategic Species Action Plan for the Grand Cayman blue iguana, in which it was mentioned that the programme was transitioning from recovery to conservation. The new branding provides clarity that BIC is a NTCI conservation programme and, importantly, provides a consistent brand look and feel across all platforms. The new branding has been particularly well received and it has further increased public awareness of our conservation programme, in turn helping drive tour interest, revenue and donations.

#### **GRANT FUNDING**

It was recognised that there is a requirement for long-term sustainability of the captive facility to maintain the breeding programme for the future survival of the species. Therefore, crucial work on updating semi-wild habitats and holding cages was deemed essential.



The Darwin Plus Initiative, a three-year grant of \$200,000, has seen the successful completion of year one. The repair of ageing cages and the construction of new large semiwild habitats for adult iguanas is well underway despite the challenges of lockdown. Another facility improvement made possible by this grant includes alterations to the facility perimeter fence, to increase security and prevent invasive alien species entering the facility.

The Darwin Grant also focused on research of captive iguana nutrition, food plant diversity, and the implementation of cultivation plots for supplemental food plants. Additional food collection sites have been identified and are being utilised before apparent development. Through these efforts, BIC has developed community partnerships with Fosters Food Fair, along with generous residents, NTCI members, and agreements with local farmers for iguana food donations, along with food plant seedlings to be cultivated at the facility. This has stimulated community spirit for the species, resulting in the 'Blue Iguana Champions' initiative which has gained considerable momentum on BIC social media platforms (Facebook and Instagram).

Work towards the updated Grand Cayman blue iguana Strategic Species Action Plan commenced with a workshop held in September 2019, drawing together local and overseas partners and key stakeholders to propose strategies and objectives for 2020 - 2025. Key issues were highlighted, and the final plan is due at the start of 2021 as work has been delayed by staff changes and Covid-19.

The second grant, the Disney Conservation Fund, administered through the RSPB, awarded \$50,000 to work towards BIC becoming a sustainable business model,

through enhancing the visitor experience. This funding has been used towards necessary facility improvements for husbandry and conservation breeding, including enclosure refurbishment and the purchase of new equipment. The quality of tours has been improved to ensure a high standard of team professionalism and visitor comfort through several means including: introducing a highly educational and interactive tour script; updated signage; the purchase of new uniform for staff and volunteers; the acquisition of a branded mini-bus for transportation of visitors; increased accessibility with wheelchair-friendly paths and shade structures. The funding also went towards the project rebrand (to Blue Iguana Conservation), marketing and field kits.

Following on from RSPB and The Rainforest Trust land acquisition, the NTCI was awarded a grant to monitor and survey this land within the Salina Reserve. This has included BIC staff monitoring land use, iguana populations and bird surveys, along with being trained in the use of drones for surveying.

#### **ANIMAL MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENTS**

In 2019, project partners and stakeholders agreed on the implementation of Species360, sponsored by Mazuri Zoo Foods, enabling the facility to improve husbandry standards by using an internationally renowned record keeping database. The benefits of this key tool are to centralise current and historic records of individual iguanas and thereby allowing data to be more effectively evaluated by BIC, the Blue Iguana Steering Committee and International partners.

#### **FACILITY UPDATE**

Between March and June 2020, the BIC facility was affected by Covid-19 due to the closure of the QEIIBP and lockdown of island activities and tourism. This meant that tours could not take place. However, the BIC team were exempted and worked hard to continue caring for the iguanas during this time and continuously engaged with our public through social media platforms and carried out online virtual tours and Facebook Live Q & As.

One of the key focuses of the project moving forward is to identify sustainable models for the successful continuance of BIC. With this in mind, we have pursued new ways to increase revenue for the facility. Due to the low tourist numbers experienced this year and likely into 2021, we are seeking new ways to excite and engage residents by offering new experiences, such as Warden for the Day and Blue Iguana Reserve tours. Our hope is that these new experiences will provide a unique offering for tourists but also encourage Caymanians to become more involved with the programme. New protocols and procedures have been implemented at the facility to help ensure the highest standards of animal husbandry, security and all other working practices. A key aim has been to provide clarity for staff on all procedures and practices across the facility through training, guidance and new written protocols. A new Disaster Preparedness Plan is being reviewed in collaboration with the QEIIBP and BIC Steering Committee. This will allow for greater clarity and communication should major events occur, such as hurricanes or earthquakes.

#### **STAFFING CHANGES**

Our vision at BIC is to help to train and promote conservation skills within young Caymanians. In line with this, we have employed a new Assistant Iguana Warden, Mr. Peri Smalldon, and we also promoted Mr. Joseph Jamieson to Assistant Operations Manager. This development will help ensure that the skills required to successfully and sustainably manage the project long term are being developed.

#### **CAPTIVE BREEDING**

All 2019 hatchlings survived and have continued to grow well over the past year.

Breeding animals were paired in February 2020 to ensure desired genetic diversity, these pairings were decided between the NTCI and project partner Tandora Grant (San Diego Zoo). All pairs highlighted for breeding successfully laid clutches between April and June, with one clutch reaching a new species record, with 20 eggs. Clutches from additional females were also collected for incubation to increase head-starting, with a grand total of over 50 eggs and the first of these hatchlings started to emerge in the first week of July. We are confident that 2020 will be the highest hatchling year for several years.



#### **VOLUNTEERS**

BIC is grateful for the continued support from local and international volunteers. In 2019/2020, we have, once again, had tremendous support from volunteers who continue to be an integral part of the day-to-day running of the programme. Thank you to the following Volunteers – Laura Hardman, Shelly White, Christina Spratt, Jessica Singh, Dan Baker, Lucy Baker and Robyn Tourle.

Volunteers work with us on the front line to conserve the blue iguanas, and this exciting opportunity to play a part in protecting Cayman's endemic wildlife has seen a rise in individual volunteers committing to weekly assistance across all aspects of our work.

We have also had several overseas volunteers who came to Cayman to be part of our recent field survey. Some of these attendees have committed long periods of time to the programme, ranging from several weeks to months. We have greatly valued their experience and enthusiasm, and their input has greatly enhanced the work and outcomes of the project over the last year.

A special thank you goes to volunteer Jacob Oldie for his extremely generous donation towards the building of further juvenile and adult enclosures. His kind financial support and volunteer hours are much appreciated.

Also, a special thanks goes to Annette Gunn who came to Cayman to volunteer on the 2020 field survey and got stuck in Cayman during the Covid-19 lock down. Annette's help during those months, with all aspects of the programme ranging from field work to the day to day care of iguanas at the facility was truly invaluable. We are all incredibly grateful for all her hard work and dedication during this time.

#### DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY REHABILTATION

The Department of Community Rehabilitation has expressed an appreciation for the working relationship shared with the NTCl as a community service provider.

Clients of the Department were happy to assist with several labour-intensive projects at the BIC facility.

Plans are in place to continue the growth of this relationship with the introduction of additional project sites and initiatives.

#### WILD POPULATION MONITORING/RESEARCH

The management of the annual blue iguana census survey was passed from DoE to NTCI in late 2019. The 2020 field survey, funded by the Darwin Plus Initiative grant, was conducted in March 2020 in Colliers Wilderness Reserve, using a team of international and local herpetologists and conservationists working alongside NTCI and DoE staff. The results are kindly being compiled by DoE staff and will be published shortly, though preliminary results show a decrease of concentrations of blue iguanas within the core survey area, and an increase in the surrounding areas.

In addition, BIC has been conducting reserve monitoring, using camera traps in the Salina Reserve, to determine estimations of the feral cat population and wild blue iguana population in this area.

#### **BIC SPONSORS**

BIC would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to corporate and individual supporters who have generously sponsored our programme.

#### KING BLUE PACKAGE

Iggy Stardust sponsored by Walkers

#### **BABY BLUE PACKAGE**

Pat and Peter Too sponsored by Peter and Pat Cunningham

#### **CAPTIVE BLUE PACKAGE**

Petra sponsored by David and Melisa Eldien

#### WILD BLUE PACKAGE

Tattoo sponsored by Blue Dragon Tattoos Bob sponsored by Cayman International School Daphne sponsored by Cayman Prep and High School Shreddie sponsored by CayShred Medzadoor sponsored in memory of Richard Kizirian Phoebe, Chloe, Justin, Evan and Chris sponsored by the Luijten family Lady Pink sponsored by Pink Ladies Volunteer Corps Leon sponsored by Greg Shepherd

Yello Paige sponsored by Yello (Cayman) Ltd



LUKE HARDING Operations Manager

## BAT CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

#### **NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS**

- 13 jobs were carefully carried out to humanely relocate bat colonies from residences and business properties across the island before the close of season 30th May 2020.
- The NTCI's Bat Conservation Programme erected six bat houses this year.
- The NTCI's Bat Conservation Programme earned over \$7,000 during the 2019/20 fiscal year.



After having been tabled for some time, the Bat Conservation Programme was revived during the 2019/20 fiscal year under the administration of Nicole Best, who was supported in the field by Joe Jamison. The team got started at the beginning of November 2019 with the usual long summer wait list of bat exclusions. The bat exclusion booking process was streamlined this year making scheduling the jobs, invoicing, and client payment more efficient. Despite most of Joe's time being dedicated to the BIC facility expansion and a stall during Covid-19 lockdown, a total of 13 jobs were carefully carried out to humanely relocate bat colonies from residences and business properties across the island before the close of season on May 30th, 2020.

This year the NTCI team regularly updated the membership and public via social media of the importance of bat conservation, as well as reminded the public of pup season and bat exclusions not being permitted under the National Conservation Law during the summer months. Bat houses remain a popular item on property owners' wish lists. We sold out of the remaining stock of houses, and, with a renewed commitment from CUC to assist with Bat House installations, we managed to erect six bat houses this financial year.

The NTCI's Bat Conservation Programme earned a total of \$7,137 during the 2019/20 fiscal year which included both bat house sales, installations as well as bat exclusion work. Essentially this was a 100% increase over the previous year which is a notable achievement since this is a critical conservation programme.

During lockdown our Bat Conservation work focused on securing both a grant from a private sector foundation and the help of volunteer carpenters to assist with bat house building workshops. Going forward, the goal is to start the summer by replenishing the bat house stock and fulfilling the demand of property owners waiting to provide new habitats for the Cayman bat population.



### **BAT CONSERVATION 2019/20**

#### **BAT EXCLUSIONS**



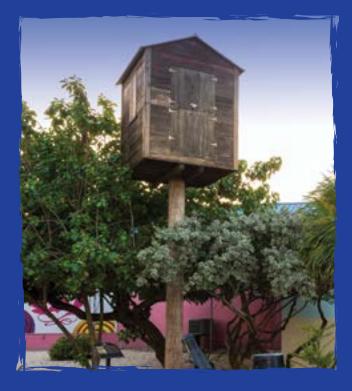




# HISTORIC PROGRAMME

### **NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Most successful fundraising year for the Historic
  Programme
- The centuries old Clayton Nixon House was relocated from Goring Avenue in George Town to the Mission House site in Bodden Town.
- The Paradise Tour was relaunched, allowing visitors and residents to enjoy a tour of the Heritage Sites, with emphasis out East. The George Town Walking tour was also offered to schools as part of the Historic Programme's educational outreach.
- Several Cultural events were held during the year, including a sunset Happy Hour Lecture at the Catboat Club, and a Tiny Desk Performance at the Mission House by the Swanky Kitchen Band, featuring Cayman's indigenous music along with a question and answer segment.
- Cooking classes continued to perform extremely well at the Mission House, with classes such as Cassava Cake and Traditional Cayman style beef.





The Historic Programme of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands (NTCI) seeks to preserve and promote the built heritage of the Cayman Islands for present and future generations. The programme focuses on educational initiatives and activities which encapsulate and highlight the distinct and unique way of life enjoyed by Caymanians for centuries.

Fundraising was extremely successful this financial year, with over CI\$28,000 raised for the Historic Programme. These funds are critical to the long-term success of the programme as they help in the preservation of the properties across all three islands. We are extremely grateful to all those companies and individuals who helped throughout the year.

- CI\$10,000 Donated by the DART Sponsorship Committee
- CI\$5,000 Donated for Mission House by Ogier Law Firm
- **CI\$5,000** Donated by Lifetime National Trust members Mike and Beth Pilling
- **CI\$4,000** Donated by the owners of the Great House Condominiums
- US\$4,000 Donated in memory of the late Waltraud Stradling

#### **CLAYTON NIXON HOUSE MOVED TO MISSION HOUSE**

One of the biggest successes of the year was the partnership between the NTCI Historic Programme and the Ministry of Culture, which resulted in the relocation of the historic Clayton Nixon House from George Town to the Mission House site in Bodden Town.

On Sunday, 5 January, 2020, starting at 4.00 am in the morning, all of the 'moving parts' came together for the historic journey, which was greatly assisted by a full escort from the Royal Cayman Islands Police (RCIPS) and Caribbean Utilities Company (CUC), who were absolutely exceptional in their professionalism and execution.

The traditional Caymanian home, which was located on Goring Avenue, across the street from the Citrus Grove Building in George Town, is not only a reminder of the past but also a testament to the soundness of craftsmanship and ingenuity of the Caymanian people. Built in the 1800s, the home is said to have been owned by the son of a former slave.

The house was hoisted on to the back of a lowboy trailer in order to make what would be a historic five-hour journey from George Town to Bodden Town. Crowds of onlookers marvelled and gathered to watch the historical building slowly making its way through the Districts to its final resting place at Mission House.

Special thanks and acknowledgement should be given to the Historic Advisory Committee for all of their hard work, the Ministry of Culture as well as to Nancy Bernard for her determination and steadfastness in getting the project completed.

A vote of thanks should also be extended to Ms. Ally McRae of the NCB Group for bringing the home to the Ministry and The National Trust's attention and to NCB for allowing us the time to get this project to a successful conclusion.

Caribbean Utilities Company (CUC) and the Royal Cayman Islands Police (RCIPS) were also crucial in the journey being made possible by clearing power lines and low hanging trees and ensuring the flow of traffic. The relocation was carried out by Miguel Brown of Green Iguana Construction Company, who did an extraordinary job getting the house moved safely and installed in its new site.



#### **MISSION HOUSE**

The Mission House was once again at the centre of much of the NTCI's cultural exchange and promotional endeavours. Cooking, arts and craft classes continued at the house, and tours have been steady and consistent, with corporate groups and individuals enjoying the history of Cayman's early settlers.

- The House has undergone repairs and restoration work to the railings around the property during the course of the year, as part of the upkeep of its aesthetics.
- A new purpose-built storage shed was added, in addition to an Old Time Caymanian Caboose, which is being prepared for the creation of cultural dishes and cooking demonstrations, which will add to the uniqueness and authenticity of the site.
- Additionally, new road signage, directing vehicles coming to Bodden Town from the Eastern Districts toward the Mission House were installed.
- A new Ring Alarm system with 'real time' surveillance capabilities was installed at Mission House to ensure the site is secure, in addition to the entire alarm system being upgraded. Furthermore, a Fire Action Plan was created for the property.
- Arts and Crafts classes at the Mission House have continued to thrive, featuring activities such as interpretive art by Local Artist Kara Julian and a 'Tiny Desk Performance' by Swanky Kitchen Band.
- ZOOM Tours for Year two school students were conducted at the Mission House during the lockdown and regular social media updates and activities regarding the sites (such as trivia and interactive video) were used to engage the public.
- Video interviews of workers at the Mission House site from the 1940's were conducted, and a SoundCloud channel was developed for podcasts and audio to be distributed via social media.
- Notable visits included His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Martyn Roper who toured the facility with his wife and the Minister of Health, Environment, Culture and Housing, the Honourable Dwayne Seymour, whose Ministry rented the site for his 50th birthday celebration brunch.
- Volunteer work at the Mission House included a gardening session with Mourant Ozannes, whose employees assisted in beautifying the grounds.

As a result of the Covid-19 lockdown, all tours ceased and the house was closed and secured to ensure its safety. This closure sadly meant that our Mission House Coordinator, Daniella Iverson was made redundant. During her time at the Mission House, Daniella brought an amazing amount of enthusiasm and creativity to her role and she is greatly missed.



#### **GUARD HOUSE PARK**

During the year, the Guard House in Bodden Town has seen the installation of new and improved interpretative signage. The landscaping at the site was repaired and upgraded after a traffic accident damaged trees and foliage at the property.

#### **JACKSON'S WALL**

The Jackson's Wall NTCI Heritage Site has seen a vast improvement over the past year, with the addition of new interpretive signage, as well as fencing that encompasses the entire property. Signage has also been added around the perimeter of the site to deter persons from littering

#### LIVE QUESTION AND ANSWER SEGMENTS

A series of LIVE Q&A Facebook sessions have been held throughout the year at Guard House Hill, Fort George and the Old Savannah Schoolhouse to inform the public about the importance of the sites and the activities that would have taken place there. These live events have proven to be a very successful way of interacting with the public, especially during Covid-19 lockdown.

#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS & EVENTS**

Several informative educational events were put on for NTCI members and the public throughout the year. Several radio appearances, interviews and press releases for these events have helped increased the profile of the NTCI's Historic Programme.

#### **ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LIGHTS BUS TOUR**

The Christmas Lights Bus Tour held in early December was another community success giving residents, as well as visitors an opportunity to sing some Christmas carols, and enjoying the yearly display of lights. The guests also enjoyed some festive drinks and nibbles at the National Trust Nature Store prior to boarding the buses. Over 70 guests filled three large buses, kindly provided by Webster's Tours for this annually sold out event.



#### **CATBOAT LECTURE AND HAPPY HOUR EVENT**

The Historic Programme worked along with the Catboat Club to host an event at their unique clubhouse, which featured a lecture about catboats in addition to a tour of the Catboat Club's Museum on November 22nd.

The event was a celebration of Cayman's seafaring history and featured guest speaker, Mr. Jerris Miller, who is also a catboat builder and sailor. Guests were given an opportunity to learn about Cayman's world-renowned Catboat and its relationship to Caymanian life through the years. As part of the Happy Hour styled event, guests enjoyed drinks and finger food, kindly provided by Kirk Market. Proceeds from the event went directly to benefiting activities, upkeep, awareness and educational initiatives for the Historic Programme.

#### **HERITAGE REGISTER**

The heritage register is still being maintained and updated with new sites and information. Special thanks to Mr. Jerry Frazier for his continued assistance in updating the historic register's database and training staff to use the system.

#### **VIDEO PRODUCTION/ORAL HISTORY**

The Historic Programme has added a video creation component, which will facilitate the development of documentaries and general content for the enjoyment of members.

Projects over the course of the year included a mini documentary on the different types/styles of Caymanian homes, produced in conjunction with Mr. John Doak, who provided the drawings and illustrations from "Cayman Style Book" by John Doak.

Other notable video projects include a Celebrate our Islands submission discussing the Cayman Islands' Covid-19 response efforts and some of the best practices that had been instituted. This was a collaboration with the International National Trusts Organisation (INTO) and was followed by a webinar in which the Historic Programme Manager was part of a panel that presented on the resilience in the face of the Covid-19 crisis, managing expectations and implementing correct measures to ensure safety, success and sustainability.

#### **PARADISE TOUR**

This popular and unique tour was revamped in the summer of 2019 and brought in good revenue for the Historic Programme. Walkers law firm continues to support the NTCI and the Historic Programme by sending their new employees on this educational tour to learn first-hand about Cayman's unique sites and culture.

Special thanks is given to our 2019/20 Historic Advisory Committee: Catherine Frazier (Chair), Alice Mae Coe, John Doak, Carmen Damaso-Doucette, Jerry Frazier, Andrew Gibb, Sue Gibb, Peggy Leshikar-Denton, Suzan Merren, Justin Miller, Robert Wood.



STUART WILSON Historic Programme Manager

# EDUCATION PROGRAMME

The National Trust works to engage the hearts and minds of the community, inspiring them to care for the things that make Cayman special and to take action to preserve them. We are committed to inspiring students through targeted, Cayman-based educational experiences and hands-on opportunities that enrich the curriculum and student learning. We endeavour to build knowledge and skills using community outreach opportunities to create a legacy of national pride in our historic and natural heritage

#### **NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Developed new educational resources for teachers including videos and interactive online content about key National Trust programmes.
- Organised speaking event on climate change featuring experts from the National Trust, the Department of Environment (DoE) and the National Conservation Council.
- Created the opportunity for three local students to attend COP25 UN Climate Conference in Madrid, Spain.



The most valuable gift we can give future generations is an appreciation of the inherent value of our unique island home. Our education programme performs outreach to the local community and reaches students across all phases of learning from preschool through university in both public and private schools. We pass on our pride in Cayman's treasured heritage through class memberships, presentations, field trips, monthly educational newsletters, innovative digital resources, community events and summer camps. The NTCI works to connect children and community members with local nature and history, partnering with educators to get kids outdoors to our important sites, helping parents find new ways to engage with their children outside, and inviting members to join us in educational events.

#### **SUMMER CAMP 2019**

The National Trust Summer Camp is an annual fundraiser whose goal is to teach children about our heritage in a fun and engaging way. Butterfield sponsors the camp which allows the revenue generated to fund our important community programmes. Last summer we hosted 21 students and raised almost CI\$9,000 in net income which goes straight back into supporting our educational mandate. Our "Heritage Heroes" went on a field trip every day to a place of historic or environmental importance to the Cayman Islands, including:

- The Mission House, Pedro St. James and a working farm to teach the children about Cayman's colourful past and its resourceful people.
- George Town Harbour and Smith's Barcadere where we discussed local geology, coral reefs and endangered species to educate the campers about our beautiful natural heritage.
- Lessons by Dream Chasers on our historic dance, the Quadrille, while listening to a recording of Swanky performing traditional music. Learning about Cayman's intangible heritage instills pride in Cayman culture in the next generation.
- The Turtle Centre to learn about Cayman's turtling heritage and what we're doing to rebuild the wild population. The children were also treated to a private release of a young turtle that will be monitored to learn more about sea turtle ecology.
- The Botanic Park where we went birding and spotted 11 out of the 13 endemic bird species on Grand Cayman.
- A behind-the-scenes tour of the Blue Iguana Conservation facility to see these amazing endemic blue dragons firsthand. Being able to have a personal experience with an animal like this gives children a passion for conservation that can last a lifetime.

We are very grateful to Butterfield for sponsoring the camp and to the vendors that supported our work with price discounts or by donating their time. We must also thank our dedicated camp volunteers Andrea Roach and Llianne Tyson, as well as our much-loved student helpers, Abbie Graham, Sabine Ellison, Alejandro Brown, Dillon Harper, Joshua McField, Connor Childs and Gianna Rankin.



#### **DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TEACHING RESOURCES**

This year we created new educational resources to assist teachers in sharing important information about Cayman's historic and natural history. This effort proved very useful for the home learning necessary when schools closed during the Covid-19 lockdown. Feedback from teachers indicated that these resources are appreciated and are instrumental in conveying a message of local conservation that would be missing without the NTCI's involvement. We created:

- A new poster about bats and shared that poster and more with teachers at the beginning of the school year to hang in their classrooms for educational and engaging visual displays.
- Detailed interactive content on Blue Iguanas and Cayman's bats (thanks to volunteer, Laura Wilson) using a web-based tool for building engaging multimedia presentations.
- Short videos for students of specific age groups on the three mangrove species, why mangroves are important, key native animal species, Blue Iguanas, and how to tell the difference between Blue and Green Iguanas.

The NTCI is also part of the new Environmental Education Steering Committee working with other organisations in the community that provide science content to government schools. The purpose of this focus group is to collaborate and expand locally based lessons in support of the National Curriculum. The NTCI has been assisting the public schools for years and it is hoped that this initiative will further augment and enrich the curriculum with local information about Cayman's natural and historic heritage.

#### **STUDENT ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVISM**



Educating and empowering students and helping them find their voice is an important part of our effort to protect what makes Cayman special. The NTCI created a once-in-a lifetime opportunity for local students to attend COP25 UN Climate Conference in Madrid. We persuaded the International National Trust Organisation (INTO) to secure passes to the event for youth ambassadors from the Cayman Islands. The selected students attended talks by leaders in the field including Greta Thunberg, Al Gore and John Kerry and took part in youth demonstrations with young people from around the world. The students were inspired to bring their newfound knowledge home to Cayman and upon their return they set up meetings with CUC, OfReg, DoE and GreenTech to discuss our local challenges and urged our leaders to address climate change as guickly as possible. Thanks to CUC, the Flowers Group, the Lodge and CIS teachers for sponsoring the students and to the Luijten family for donating funds for the purchase of mangroves to be protected with the National Trust as compensation for the carbon emissions associated with the travel.

The NTCI also helped organise a local climate protest to coincide with a worldwide youth event for international Climate Week. Cayman's protest included a local focus on the George Town Port expansion project. Many members of the community attended to support the protection of Cayman's natural areas. Participants met on the waterfront in George Town and pictures of the event were featured in news articles. The Cayman Islands Government passed a resolution to address climate change just a few months later.

#### **SCHOOL VISITS**

The National Trust enjoys a close relationship with schools across the Cayman Islands. We are known as an important resource and teachers have learned that they can rely on us to add colour and depth to their science and history curricula. This year we made a special effort to reach students in Cayman Brac and succeeded in visiting all the schools – Spot Bay and Creek Primary Schools, as well as Layman Scott High School. The NTCI is in a unique position to bring together conservation efforts across all three Cayman Islands to preserve our natural and historic heritage.

We visit schools to discuss topics as diverse as climate change, bats, plastic pollution, and Blue Iguanas, as well as traditional architecture and past and present industries in the Cayman Islands. We also have close community partners that we bring into the classroom to add additional knowledge and experience to certain lessons. Ellen Cuylaerts, wildlife photographer and ocean advocate, visited schools to discuss ocean conservation. Favorite local guests included experts in catboats and Cayman's nautical history, traditional games and pastimes, thatching, traditional cooking, herbal remedies, storytelling and traditional dance. The students and the older members of the community appreciate being brought together so that oral history and knowledge can be passed down to the next generation. This year, records were kept of the interactions, and transcripts made that were delivered to the National Archive for preservation purposes.



The schools often give back to the NTCl by sponsoring their own Blue Iguana or by holding fundraisers through civvy days, t-shirt purchases or bake sales. Unfortunately, this year's Earth Month contributions did not occur due to the Covid-19 school shutdown, but CIS succeeded in raising \$998 specifically for the Blues just before lockdown began. We are very grateful for the schools' contributions.

#### **FIELD TRIPS**

The NTCI organises impactful field trips to take students out of the classrooms and into the natural world. Of course, one of our most popular school trips is a visit to the see Grand Cayman's iconic Blue Iguanas and almost all the schools have participated in this activity. We also do an annual walk with Edna Moyle North Side Primary's Year 6 class to help the children appreciate the Mastic Forest, one of the last remaining examples of this ecosystem in the Caribbean, and right in their backyard. Many classrooms visited our Insectarium to learn about Cayman's endemic insect species, including students from CIS, Montessori by the Sea, the YMCA and the Cayman Islands Homeschooler Association. CIS kindergartners even expand upon the visit to hold an annual Insect Fair that includes a large outdoor display and acts as a fundraiser for the National Trust. This was the third year of the Fair and the children raised \$105 specifically for the Insectarium. It is inspiring to open children's eyes to the beauty of our natural world - including insects!

This year we also created a new geologic expedition for students in which we visited Hell and North West Point to discuss Cayman's interesting geologic history. Students from CIS and Wesleyan Christian Academy took advantage of this new field trip experience. We created a Dart Park tree identification exercise for high school biology students with St. Ignatius. We led mangrove walks with Montessori by the Sea and CIS to learn about this critical ecosystem, and invited classrooms to tour the solar farm in Bodden Town to understand renewable energy use in the Cayman Islands. The solar tour was well-attended by Cayman Prep's primary and high school, CIS, St. Ignatius, Clifton Hunter High School and Bodden Town Primary.

Learning about Cayman's fascinating history is also a goal of our field trip experiences. Mission House tours are popular for all the schools as visits to this beautiful historic home show what life was like for our early settlers. For Heroes Day, CIS took part in tours of Heroes Square in George Town to raise awareness of our past, and the great men and women that built this country. We also created a new field trip to the Wreck of the Ten Sails and East End Lighthouse Park to learn about Cayman's colourful nautical history and Wesleyan Christian Academy took part. A knowledge of our unique history is necessary to appreciate our national heroes and to build a desire to protect our rapidly disappearing built heritage in the next generation.







#### HERITAGE HEROES YOUTH CONSERVATION CLUB

Heritage Heroes continues to be a very popular conservation club in the schools. This year, 1395 students from 61 classrooms in 10 schools joined Heritage Heroes, contributing CI\$1,830, up from CI\$720 and 24 classrooms in 2018 at the start of the programme. The entire primary school at St. Ignatius, all of Montessori del Sol, the upper elementary class at Montessori by the Sea, the whole school at Edna Moyle Primary in North Side, twelve classes at CIS, the entire high school of Cayman Prep, five classes at Bodden Town Primary, one at Prospect Primary, two at Wesleyan Christian School, and even the afterschool club in Cayman Brac joined the programme. The diversity of these schools and students is truly encouraging. The NTCI is clearly succeeding at reaching nearly every child in the Cayman Islands. The resulting effect on future conservation efforts makes us very hopeful for the future of these beautiful islands.

Participating classrooms enjoyed special experiences created just for them, including a trip to see the solar farm in Bodden Town, a personalised tour at the Blue Iguana Conservation facility and a live video call with the young Caymanians who participated in the UN Climate Conference with the National Trust in Madrid. Heritage Heroes feel connected to our work and learn that they can make a real difference in the world around them.



#### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Community outreach is a key part of the NTCI's mandate to educate on the preservation of the natural environments and places of historic significance for present and future generations of the Cayman Islands. Some of our key accomplishments were:



#### EARTH MONTH 2020

This year was the 50th anniversary of the first Earth Day, the world's largest annual civic event. Every year, the NTCI plays a leading role in local community engagement during Earth Month. In April of this year, Covid-19 caused public health lockdowns around the world, forcing Earth Day to go entirely digital and we therefore encouraged school participation in global online events. We organised a series of local activities that could be completed while at home. To celebrate Earth Day, we asked students to wear a NTCI t-shirt to their online classes on April 22. We maintained our Earth Day clean-up tradition, but instead of our big annual roadside clean-up, we encouraged participants to take a bag along on their daily walks and clean their neighborhoods. To help families reconnect with nature while at home, we suggested planting seeds and birdwatching as great ways to become more familiar with local flora and fauna.

#### SPEAKER SERIES

I led a Speaker Series event about climate change in partnership with Wendy Williams (DoE) and Lisa-Ann Hurlston-McKenzie (National Conservation Council) to increase public awareness on this subject. I also spoke at a Lunch and Learn for Butterfield on the science behind climate change, what we can expect locally and how we can prepare now to meet future challenges. This led to an invitation to speak to Rotary Sunrise where I received a warm reception. There is clearly a need for public engagement about climate change and we intend to organise additional educational events to discuss this subject further.

#### EXPLORER PASSPORT

The "Explorer Passport to Grand Cayman" is a powerful tool that encourages families to discover littleknown heritage sites around the island. This year we began expanding it to include locations in Little Cayman and Cayman Brac. NTCI district members submitted lists of locations that have an historic or environmental significance that will be added to future editions of the guide. It is critical that resources like

Grand Cayman

this are created to build an awareness and appreciation of heritage sites that might otherwise be forgotten.

#### **CAYMAN SEA SENSE (CSS)**

CSS is a NTCI programme to educate the community about the sustainability of seafood choices. Many local restaurants participate in the initiative and serve only sustainably harvested seafood. This year a new and updated card was prepared with input and assistance from the DoE and Cathy Church's Photo Centre. The Covid-19 lockdown and subsequent difficulty of finding financial sponsorship has delayed printing of the new card but we expect that it will be out in the community soon.



rassper

Adventure is Calling

Adventure is Calling!

CATHERINE CHILDS Education Programme Manager

# NARKETING & COMMUNITY EVEN

### **NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Hatitude Tea by the Sea was a huge success with a profit of just over CI\$12,000 and a record attendance of over 130 guests.
- 900+ social media posts with over 700,000 impressions and over 35,000 unique engagements accumulated across our social media platforms. We have established a strong online presence and steady engagement with our audience.
- 8,762 new followers accumulated across all NTCI social media channels. This is a testament to our efforts to raise the profile of the NTCI through online platforms, especially important during Covid-19 lockdown.



#### **MARKETING STRATEGY**

Our primary marketing objectives this year have been to ensure brand consistency across all platforms, to increase the profile of the NTCI across social media, and generally to remind the public that the heart of what we do is to safeguard our natural and built heritage for present and future generations.

It is important to note, that the NTCI was able to adapt to the challenges presented by Covid-19 lockdown. Our social media platforms and newsletter were our only means of communication to maintain our connection with our members, supporters and donors. Social media was instrumental in keeping the NTCI at the forefront of people's minds during these unprecedented times.

#### **NTCI NEW BRANDING & WEBSITE**

The newly designed and rebranded NTCI website was officially launched in September 2019 at the AGM. The innovative aesthetic is eye-catching and has elevated the NTCI brand. We have progressively increased content on our website through our news & blog section with curated content to promote the NTCI, BIC, environmental topics, general news and educational videos. This year we had a total of 71 posts on our news & blog section. These posts are reshared on our social media platforms to increase our reach. Lastly, our Tours page has been revamped to entice visitors to our website to embark on any one of our customizable tours. New tours such as Warden for the Day, and Blue Iguana Safari Experience – Collier's Reserve Trek have been added to our website.

#### SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH

Our social media platforms include Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube. We have seen a healthy progression of engagement and sharing of content. We have gained over 8,000 new followers across all of our online platforms. We continue to see a steady growth daily, particularly for Facebook and Instagram. Our YouTube followers had a sudden increase this year as we introduced more video content. Our increase in followers is nearly all organic, which is impressive. Paid boosted posts have been minimal to none - only used if needed for major fundraising events. The best performing content on Facebook that produced the most engagement was our Wildlife Wednesday posts. There was also avid interest in video content of the Blues that was uploaded to Facebook.



#### NATIONAL TRUST NEW VAN WRAP

The NTCI van, purchased with the Disney Conservation Fund grant in March 2019, has a new look. The van wrap was designed by local artist Marc Laurenson from Stoak'd. The design captures the essence of the NTCI with vibrant imagery, perfectly blending environmental and historic conservation.

#### **BLUE IGUANA CONSERVATION (BIC) REBRANDING**

As noted, brand consistency was a key focus for the year and this needed to encompass our Blue Iguana Conservation programme and facility. We ensured that elements of the new website design were incorporated in all print advertisements for our tours, new BIC facility signage and pop up banner at the QEII Park Visitor Centre.

BIC revamped their social media accounts for both Facebook and Instagram. BIC Facebook had a massive increase of 5,691 followers in a short period of time. Previously, BIC had an Instagram account 'Blue Iguana Recovery Programme' and due to rebranding, created an entirely new Instagram account "Blue Iguana Conservation." The account gained 1,000 followers. Notably, for a single reptile species to have such a vast audience with high engagement on social media is a testament to the blue iguana capturing the hearts of both locals and international fans.

Furthermore, we utilised social media to support our fundraising efforts during Covid-19 lockdown. BIC did especially well with direct donation requests and community engagement via Facebook and Instagram. In particular, the launch of our 'Blue Iguana Champion' campaign had a massive response and BIC was overwhelmed by the support. The campaign prompted new adoptions of blues as well as adoption renewals.

#### **VIDEO CONTENT**

More emphasis has also been put into creating video content. In September 2019, the NTCI launched a video campaign "I Am A National Trust Member" featuring local members of our community with a passion for conservation. The series features Miss Cayman Islands Universe 2019, Kadejah Bodden, Hannah Reid, Shirley Roulstone and employee Stuart Wilson. The aim was to promote NTCI pride and increase memberships.

To keep the public informed of the wellbeing of the blues during lockdown BIC hosted their inaugural Facebook Live Q&A session. Luke Harding, Operations Manager Blue Iguana Conservation, answered questions about the blues in real time. It received over 3.2K views on Facebook.

Stuart Wilson, Historic Programme Manager, and Catherine Childs, Education Programme Manager, both contributed new and fascinating video content for our social media and YouTube channel. A positive benefit of offering more video content was increased engagement with our audience and providing value for our members, community and schools. Videos were added to our website to increase our reach of viewers and website content.

Some of the top performing videos on Facebook included:

- Peter's Morning Routine: 18.5K views
- Future Wish (BIC): 9.2K views
- · First Facebook Live Q&A with BIC: 3.2K views
- Old Caymanian Homes a collaboration with John Doak: 2.2K views
- NTCI Membership featuring Shirley Roulstone: 1K views.

#### **PUBLICITY & PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Throughout the year the NTCI has had excellent coverage across print, digital and radio media, promoting NTCI tours, fundraisers and events.

Understandably, there was plenty of coverage surrounding the Cruise Port debate and ensuing legal matter. Notably, the NTCI had great international coverage with our own Executive Director, Nadia Hardie, being interviewed by the BBC which made the front page of the online business section.

Locally, the NTCI was featured in The Cayman Compass, The Weekender, Loop Cayman, Destination Cayman, and Cayman ieyenews.

BIC had great coverage throughout the year both in local and international media. BIC International coverage included Atlas Obscura and filming of the blues by Department of Tourism, London.

#### **EVENTS & FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES**

Our community events increase our involvement with our members and the general public. Community events are a wonderful platform to promote education of environmental conservation and the importance of preserving our unique historic sites.

#### HATITUDE

On 1st February 2020 we celebrated our 7th annual Hatitude event. Our theme this year was 'Tea by the Sea' and guests were encouraged to wear ocean inspired or nautical themed hats. As always, Hatitude is the social calendar event of the year and one of our largest fundraisers. The family-friendly occasion was held at Grand Old House and included a lovely afternoon of tea, bubbles, sweet and savory bites, a kids' craft corner, and prize raffle. Guests had a grand time posing with fun props at the Cayman Party Booth. Photos were printed on the spot and made lovely souvenirs commemorating Hatitude Tea by the Sea.



Special guests included Miss World Cayman Islands 2019, Jaci Patrick and Miss Cayman Islands Universe 2019, Kadejah Bodden.

Our sincere gratitude goes to Mercedes Benz as our headline sponsor, Prosecco provided by Jacques Scott, Tea Time in Cayman sponsored by CI Shipping Registry, the craft kiddie corner by Tweenage Dreams, and floral centerpieces provided by Flowers by Dell and the Garden Club. Special thanks to photographers Maggie Jackson, Jade Parker, and Emcee Lloyd Barker.

Hatitude 'Tea by the Sea' was a roaring success! Our decision to switch things up this year and offer afternoon tea rather than a typical brunch was well received by attendees. We were also able to lower the cost of our ticket entry making the event more inclusive, which helped increase our attendance. The event raised a profit of Cl\$12,603.



#### JAMES HENDRY LIVE, AN AFRICAN ADVENTURE

In early February the Royal Palms Beach Club graciously hosted a fantastic night of conservation with all proceeds benefitting the NTCI. The event featured National Geographic Wildlife Presenter and Author James Hendry who regaled the audience with tales of his travels and experiences in the wild. Operations Manager Blue Iguana Conservation, Luke Harding and Eco Drivers' Coral Reef Foundation founder, Aaron Hunt gave presentations about local conservation efforts. The event was a wonderful success.

Huge thanks to event sponsors Safari Live, Royal Palms Beach Club and the Ritz-Carlton Grand Cayman. The event raised \$5,025.

#### **2020 CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST**

In the summer of 2019 we held a photo contest inviting amateur and professional photographers to submit photos capturing the best of Cayman's flora and fauna and built heritage. Winning submissions were used in our 2020 Calendar 'Wild Places and Special Places.' Photos were also used for content on our website and social media. We are extremely grateful to all those photographers (amateur and professional) who participated. The photographs are fantastic!

#### **CAR BOOT SALE**

A Car Boot sale was organized in November to help generate a little revenue and promote the sale of NTCI T-shirts. For a small fee of \$25 Trust members and the general public had the opportunity to participate in the Car Boot sale at Dart Park with the trunks of their car filled with items they wished to sell.

#### NTCI CHRISTMAS CARD SALE

Each year the NTCI produces its own Christmas cards. Our Christmas card for 2019 was designed by local artist Shane Aquârt, also known as 'Dready' and was highly popular. The Christmas card was one of our bestsellers. It completely sold out and two reorders were needed to keep up with the demand.

#### **FAMILIES IN THE WILD**

Our Families in the Wild community events are a great way to encourage our members and the general public to spend some time outdoors reconnecting with nature and appreciating local wildlife. Unfortunately, some of our annual Families in the Wild events including Bats & Bonfire, Snorkel Clinic and Birding Tour were cancelled. However, we were able to host the following events:

#### **REEFS & WRECKS**

With the Government's suggested cruise port plans, we thought it important to offer members and the general public an opportunity to learn about and see first-hand the amazing marine life and historic wrecks which exist in the George Town harbour.



NTCI Members and the general public were treated to an underwater lecture on board the Nautilus Semi-Submersible. The informative talk was given by Aaron Hunt, founder of Eco Divers Reef Foundation. Attendees saw firsthand the abundance of coral reef and marine life that exists in our harbour. Highlights included the Wreck of the Cali, the Wreck of the Balboa, Soto's Wall, Devil's Grotto and Eden Rock. Overall, this excursion was an excellent opportunity for the NTCI to remind the general public what the NTCI stands for as guardians of Cayman's delicate environment, and maritime heritage.



#### **BREAKFAST WITH THE BLUES**

In December, 2019, we held another one of our popular 'Breakfast with the Blues' events with special guest Miss World Cayman Islands 2019, Jaci Patrick. Due to the popularity of the event, we hosted another Breakfast with the Blues in February 2020 and this hugely popular event will resume on a regular basis once Covid-19 lockdown ends.

#### **VIRTUAL EVENTS**

Despite Covid-19 lockdown restrictions the NTCI made a smooth transition into offering virtual tours, virtual events and online campaigns.

#### EARTH MONTH

This year Earth Day was held as a digital event across our social media platforms due to the island wide lockdown. We created an online campaign encouraging NTCI members and the community to take a selfie holding a sign stating "#Istandwiththenationaltrust." The aim was to remind the public that the NTCI is a key player in protecting Cayman's delicate environment. We were pleased by the positive response. NTCI members and the general public were proudly wearing NTCI T-shirts with their signs and 'standing with the National Trust' in spirit via online posts. The NTCI team took a virtual group photo to show our solidarity for celebrating Earth Day and shared on our social media channels.

Given the restrictions of lockdown we felt it best to celebrate Arbour Day by offering online sales of this year's selected native tree, the Smoke Wood Tree. We partnered with Caribbean Blooms who kindly provided the trees.

Earth Month Clean-Up was held as a virtual event to comply with lockdown restrictions. The NTCI asked our members and the general public to do their part in helping keep Cayman clean by picking up plastic and litter found in their neighborhood. Some participants tagged us on social media to show their involvement in helping keep Cayman clean.

#### **BIC FATHER'S DAY VIRTUAL TOUR**

A first of its kind, BIC held a special event on Father's Day offering a virtual tour of the Blue Iguana Conservation facility. This event was available to both our local and international audience. Viewers were able to see the blues at the facility from the comfort of their own home and ask our expert wardens questions about the blues.



#### WALK FOR NATURE

In June 2020 we held a virtual Walk for Nature which invited our members and the public to reconnect with nature in support of the NTCI during 12th-19th June. Participants were encouraged to walk around their neighborhood or run their favorite running route and take notice of the beauty of nature surrounding them. Iggy, the NTCI mascot was spotted in various locations around the island which boosted interest in the event. In addition, participants had an opportunity to win a prize for the best photo capturing the beauty of nature they encountered on their walk. The small fundraising event brought in additional retail sales and renewal of memberships.



LAURA BUTZ Marketing Manager



### MEMBERSHIP & COMMUNITY

#### **NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS**

- New on-line Customer Relationship Management database-Sheep CRM was introduced and simplified membership contact data.
- In January 2020 we signed the International National Trust Organisation (INTO) Reciprocal Visiting Programme (RVP) agreement. The RVP is where National Trust and similar heritage organisations welcome the members of the other societies to their sites and properties on the same basis as their own members.
- An increase in the registration of new Lifetime Memberships as well as a membership sign-up surge at the beginning of January when we held the EGM.



The NTCl is a membership organization and therefore our members, donors, and corporate sponsors are a vital support network when it comes to generating the income we need to preserve our natural environments and places of historic significance for present and future generations.

Membership administration was completely revamped in the summer of 2019 as we transitioned from GiftWorks software to a new on-line Customer Relationship Management database – SheepCRM. This proved to be a formidable task as numerous weeks were spent with the data migration process to ensure the membership and contact data we started with was accurate and relevant in preparation for the AGM in September. The new CRM system not only made simple work of the important task of GDPR compliance, but it also easily integrated with our MailChimp marketing platform which importantly helps communication with our members.

The 2019/2020 fiscal period was a challenging year to say the least. Despite these hurdles our small team united to tackle these challenges to come up with enticing concepts to engage with the public and get them to join the NTCI.

Special events such the George Town Harbour Tour Lecture in December and our Extraordinary General Meeting in January not only helped increase public awareness to a pertinent topic regarding the future of a unique marine ecosystem, but also gave way to additional means to build on our base of like-minded members. Other marketing strategies that have been used this year to increase membership included scheduled posts and specific campaigns, such as inviting resident "Influencers" to become members to share their National Trust experience on social media platforms, as well as monthly newsletters, reminders, and direct mailing renewal notices.



The NTCI is always looking for ways to improve membership benefits and perks. In January 2020 we signed the International National Trust Organisation Reciprocal (INTO) Visiting Programme (RVP) agreement. The RVP is where National Trust and similar heritage organisations welcome the members of the other societies to their sites and properties on the same basis as their own members. With this agreement

we now display the INTO logo on our membership cards for our members to easily gain access to participating INTO properties across participating countries. In exchange, we have included free entry to the Mission House as a benefit to overseas INTO members when visiting the Cayman Islands. To enable us to participate in this reciprocal arrangement, we had to create a new "Overseas" membership category. Set at a price point more on par with the UK Membership rates, this category will discourage overseas residents from signing up for a lower priced NTCI membership solely for the purpose of reaping the benefits of their local Trust without ever visiting the Cayman Islands.

During the Covid-19 shut down we reminded the public, with a heartfelt campaign, that becoming a National Trust member is an affordable way to assist us in bridging the gap until we are back up and running our day to day tours and fundraising events. All membership revenue goes directly to supporting our Blue Iguana Conservation facility, upkeeping our Historic properties and maintaining our nature trails and parks for the enjoyment of the general public.

Whilst overall member numbers were down slightly from last year which was likely a reflection of the result of the data clean up, earnings for 2019/20 totaled \$21, 250 which was a 3% increase on the earnings from last year. This was attributed to an increase in the registration of new Lifetime Memberships, as well as a membership sign-up surge at the beginning of January when we held the EGM. We consider this increase a massive achievement considering the Covid-19 lockdown with limited membership drive opportunities, as well many individuals losing their jobs or having to watch their finances.

With the uncertainty of what lies ahead in terms of international travel for the near future, the NTCI now has a unique opportunity to engage with an untapped sector of the community who are searching for alternate leisure pursuits, by way of their exploration of local natural spaces and heritage sites. Future plans for such engagement include focusing on forging reciprocal reward agreements with likeminded organisations to enhance NTCI member benefits, with the spin-off of supporting local businesses.

A special thank you to Katie Moore for helping process memberships and general admin.



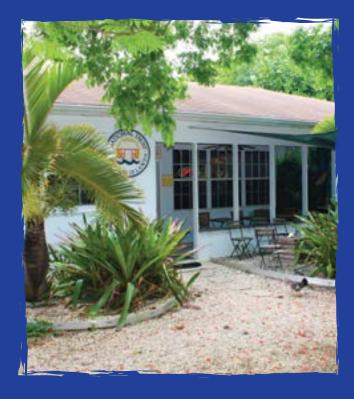
NICHOLE BEST Membership & Tours Manager

### CAYMAN NATURE STORE

this is our

The Nature Store was established to offer a variety of products that were naturally-made, sustainably-sourced and reusable. The store focuses on offering eco-friendly alternatives and reduce dependency on single-use plastics. Lastly, we have a wonderful and diverse collection of books on local flora and fauna, and Cayman history available for purchase.

During lockdown we launched our Nature Store online via our Facebook page. This allowed us to increase awareness of our retail items and make shopping convenient for our members and the general public.



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#### NATIONAL TRUST BRANDED ITEMS

To promote the National Trust to our members and create awareness, we have several branded items available for purchase at our store:

- · Stainless steel water bottles (20oz)
- Mission House coffee mugs
- A Variety of NT Earth Day Shirts
- Explorer Passport to Grand Cayman
- Golf Cap
- Golf Umbrellas
- Calendar
- Notebook
- Bookmark
- Pencil

Annual revenue generated by the Retail Store was \$30,943.23 A special thank you to Julia Armitage for all of her help with our retail store.





### THE Clubhouse

The National Trust Clubhouse continues to be popular for NTCI members to hire as a venue to host a variety of small gatherings, meetings and celebrations. Twenty-five new blue chairs were generously donated by Workplace Environments. This last donation was secured by the wonderful Ms Lana Bonilla who was for a brief time our amazing Retail Coordinator. Clubhouse revenue for the year was \$ 4,483.22

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### DISTRICT COMMITTEE CAYNAR BRAC

The Cayman Brac District Committee held nine meetings during the 2019-20 Trust year with April 2020 omitted and a Zoom meeting in May due to the Covid-19 restrictions. A substantial number of members remain trapped abroad at the time of writing. Attendance at the meetings averaged 16, the maximum being 31.

As usual the formal meetings were interspersed with hikes and work parties each month until these were likewise constrained. Our hikes are now graded, the degree of difficulty being decided by a consensus of those members having particularly detailed knowledge of a given route. With this in mind we operate two hikes, easy and difficult, simultaneously.



Matters of continuing interest remain:

a) The West End quarry which is getting ever closer to Saltwater Pond Trail, and from casual aerial observation may well be encroaching into the last buffer zone decreed by the Development Control Board in 2016;

b) Tracing the owners of the mass grave site adjacent to the Trust's Brac H.Q. with a view to acquiring this, the most significant historic site on the Brac;

c) Monitoring the Vanilla Orchid which is only found in one area of Bluff woodland and whose method of propagation remains a mystery. In co-operation with Christine Rose-Smyth, a rare inflorescence was observed and seeds collected for further scientific study. Members carry out frequent checks on this most unusual species of orchid whose growing area happens to be frequented by a colony of Rock Iguanas.

The Committee receives frequent representation from members of the public over the apparent proliferation of rock-climbing routes on the face of the Bluff with consequent disruption to nesting birds, in particular Boobies, Frigatebirds, owls and migratory Long-tailed Tropic-birds. As the Bluff face is Crown Land the Trust has no control over the issue and, so far as can be determined, the activity is completely unregulated. In this respect the outbreak of Covid-19 may be adjudged a blessing as the absence of tourists has led to a cessation of climbing for the time being.

Another activity curtailed by Covid-19 has been turtle patrols which are popular participatory activities for some members. The Trust-owned 400 feet of sandy beach, part of the 'Herrman Land' parcel has proved a popular nesting site for more than one species of turtle. Members undertaking the patrols have welcomed the addition of one of the Brac D.O.E. staff to the ranks of this joint Trust/D.O.E exercise.

Unfortunately, the Herrman Land continues to suffer encroachment from the adjacent public landfill, whose height is now well above the Bluff so that plastic, paper and other lightweight materials are blown into the Trust property. In addition, general waste, construction rubbish and old vehicles are frequently dumped on Trust property by members of the public who are not aware of the location of the land intervals.

Early this year the Committee entered four teams in the Lions Club 'Corporate Cup'; a total of 16 walkers, who received the 'Team Spirit' award, enhancing the Trust's profile in the process.

The Committee normally undertakes two fund-raising efforts each year, in the New Year and on the June long weekend. The Queen's Birthday Tea-party in June had to be cancelled due to Covid-19 but on the unusual date of 29th February the grounds of the Trust House were decorated and illuminated for 'The Roaring 20s'. Following our tried and tested format of member-provided food and soft drinks with a BYOB policy, together with live and silent auctions and period music for entertainment, the evening was a resounding success; the Brac Committee's 'Habitat Protection Fund' benefitting significantly.



Snorkelling and diving being popular member activities, the Committee was particularly delighted to recommend that Trust Council accept the offer of the gift of 'Sylvia's Reef' from the estate of the late Sylvia Goldstein. This is a narrow piece of land in N.E. Bay with a cut in the iron-shore and access ladder facilitating entry to the sea. It is a very popular recreation spot for Brackers, and it is known that Sylvia wished it to be preserved for their enjoyment in perpetuity.

The Cayman Brac District Committee depends for its success upon the active participation of the individual members. Any member can suggest anything relevant to the Trust's mandate or objectives and he or she will receive support and encouragement to 'give it a try'. The Chairman and Executive Committee wish to thank everyone who participates in this way.

#### **Cayman Brac District Committee Members**

Chairman: Chris Randall Secretary: Helen LeRoy Treasurer: Edna Platts

# DISTRICT COMMITTEE LITTLE CAYMAN

The Little Cayman District Committee is committed to preserving the natural beauty and special creatures of Little Cayman, the smallest and least developed of the three Cayman Islands. Much of the flora and fauna found on Little Cayman is critically endangered and unique to the island.

#### **NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS**

- A successful 2019 nesting season for the Sister Islands Rock Iguanas, resulting in 54 observed nests in 11 locations and 156 hatchlings tagged.
- Continued proactive and preventative measures to reduce the number of invasive green iguanas on the island, a collaborative effort between the Little Cayman District Committee and the Department of Environment.
- Veterinary first aid and injury training by Dr. John Sallaway for DoE staff and Trust volunteers.



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- Four Full Moon Plastic Pickups resulting in hundreds of pounds of ocean plastic removed from Little Cayman's coastline. In addition, another grassroots group has formed to complement our efforts which held a number of pickups. For 2020 so far 5,449.1 lbs, (two and three quarter tons) of trash has been removed. (photos: Brenda pickup and Plastic free pickup)
- Another successful Christmas Bazaar that raised \$1,805.
- Repainted the exterior of the Gladys Howard Visitors' Centre.

#### SISTER ISLANDS ROCK IGUANA

#### **RESEARCH, DATA COLLECTION & THE NESTING SEASON**

Research and data collection for the Sister Islands Rock Iguana (SIRI) continued by Tanja Laaser as part of her role as a DoE intern for terrestrial matters.

Tanja led SIRI conservation efforts as well over the last 12 months assisted by Tamara Doyle, Greg McTaggart and many other Trust members, volunteers and members of the community.

During the 2019 nesting and hatching season (May -September), Tanja and her volunteers monitored 54 observed nests at 11 different sites. 156 hatchlings were caught, tagged, measured and blood samples taken.

At the start of the 2020 nesting season, 65 prospective nests have been recorded across 11 sites and will be monitored for hatchlings. More nests will likely be identified during the hatching season.



#### **SIRI CARE, INJURIES & DEATHS**

Tanja and volunteers responded to three reports of injured iguanas and 37 roadkill incidences of SIRI. They greatly benefitted in providing care from training they received from visiting veterinarian Dr. John Sallaway in July 2019.

Knobs the iguana was known to have a mandible injury for quite a while and had managed for some time with it. However in October 2019 he was found by Trust member Peter Hillenbrand on the road and unresponsive. He was taken in by Tanja Laaser and care was begun as he was emaciated and dehydrated. He eventually refused food and tube feeding was devised by Tanya while arrangements were made for a veterinary examination. This was done in Grand Cayman by Dr. Andrew Bitmead of Island Vets in January 2020 and surgery was done in early February. He has since recovered from successful surgery but remains in the care of DoE and Trust volunteers while a determination is made whether he can be released back into the wild.

Iggy the iguana was injured in a territorial fight with another male in April 2020. While he probably would have survived, he likely would have lost his right front leg. While territorial fighting is natural, it was determined that intervention in this instance would be beneficial and justified given all the negative pressures from human activity on the SIRI population. Iggy has since fully recovered but has lost his territory to the interloper.

A SIRI was observed to be injured in the Blossom Village area and was badly limping. It was evaluated and monitored and seems to have recovered.

#### **SPECIAL PROJECT**

2019's Easter Auction Special Project raised Cl\$36,200 for SIRI conservation and the project progressed during the year. All SIRI road signs were upgraded with new wording indicating, "Give Way to Rock Iguanas. Native Endangered Protected."

Veterinary training for SIRI first aid and injury treatment was held in July 2019. Longtime visitor Dr. John Sallaway of Ontario, Canada provided hands on instruction free of charge to six volunteers and donated a cache of medical supplies and instruments. This training and the supplies proved invaluable in administering the care noted above.

Procurement of radar speed signs and a rental car initiative to inform visitor drivers about SIRI continue.

#### GREEN IGUANA B'GONNA INITIATIVE Green Iguana sightings

There were numerous reported sightings of green iguanas over the past 12 months. All reports were investigated by DoE staff and/or GIB'G volunteers. Three reports resulted in confirmed invasive species, two green iguanas and one hybrid.

#### **CAPTURED GREEN/HYBRID IGUANAS**

Following a report in October 2019 from a member of the public a hybrid iguana was found to have been killed. The carcass was collected and sent to Grand Cayman where it was positively identified by DoE as a hybrid animal. Further genetic testing will done to absolutely confirm it was a hybrid.

Following a report in February 2020 from a member of the public a green iguana was found and captured by a team from DoE and GIB'G during a night search. The capture proved very dangerous and illustrated the great need for a firearm to dispatch greens in a safe manner.

A green iguana that has been seen from time to time over the last year and a half at the west end of the airstrip was netted in May 2020 but escaped once again illustrating the need for a more efficient and effective method to deal with these invasive animals.



#### **PREVENTION MEASURES**

Tanja has spearheaded our GIB'G prevention efforts with barge inspections, searching for green iguanas and other invasive species as part of her intern responsibilities with DoE. She has been supported by GIB'G volunteers.

There were 65 barge arrivals. Of these 59 barges or 91% were met at the port and the offloaded containers and other items inspected. No green iguanas were found. GIB'G volunteers assisted in 19 checks for the year.

#### **PUBLIC EDUCATION**

Tanja continued her weekly SIRI/GIB'G talks at three resorts on Little Cayman up until the Covid-19 closures. These talks have proven extremely popular with guests.

Tanja promotes the sale of GIB'G T-shirts and donations to GIB'G at the talks and this has resulted in several thousands of dollars in donations and profits to the GIB'G programme. A new T-shirt order for some 300 shirts was placed and received in October 2019 as the previous order was almost completely sold out.

#### **CONFERENCES AND TRAINING**

With support from the NTCI, Tanja once again attended the IUCN SSC Iguana Specialist Group Conference held on Roatán, Honduras (November 2019).

This is the premier event in the field of iguana study. It provides an invaluable networking opportunity with iguana experts from various backgrounds and geographic areas around the world who are dedicated to the study and conservation of iguana species and their habitats. Tanja was exposed to the very latest information on iguana conservation which will help in our efforts to preserve one of the most endangered iguana species in the world.

She also attended the Blue Iguana Workshop on Grand Cayman in September 2019.

As noted above, six volunteers received veterinary training on iguana first aid and injury treatment from longtime visitor Dr. John Sallaway in July 2019. This training has proven invaluable in the response to injured SIRI.

#### **PUBLIC TOURS & VISITING SCIENTISTS**

We hosted numerous tours to students, resort visitors and visiting scientists during the year, including university student groups from CCMI and high school and primary school student groups from Grand Cayman.



#### **COMMUNITY CLEAN-UPS**

#### THE FULL MOON PLASTIC PICK-UP

The Little Cayman District Committee organised and sponsored four beach clean-up events under the banner of the Full Moon Plastic Pickup. These cleanups focus on four beaches frequented by visitors and attempt to ensure that these targeted beaches are cleaned at least once a quarter. They have been extremely successful so much so, that at times the primary beaches are clean enough to allow efforts to be focused on new areas.

This year the highlight was the December pickup on Owen Island when 38 bags of trash were collected by 18 volunteers, totalling 428.9lbs. Southern Cross Club provided their party barge to transport volunteers over and bring back the collected trash, and our regular sponsors provided refreshments and supplies. (photo: Owen Island clean)

In addition, another grassroots group has come together under Tamara Doyle, "Just a LITTLE cleanup crew...but better," which targets difficult to access or extremely heavily debris covered areas. These two efforts complement each other with large sections of Little Cayman's coastline being cleaned and kept clean of ocean plastic. (photos: Joe P pickup, Preston Bay pickup group)

Sponsors on both Little Cayman and Grand Cayman supplied everything from biodegradable trash bags to pizza and beer to ensure our success. The sponsors were: Iguana Crossing Spirits Little Cayman Beach Resort Village Square General Store Paradise Villas / The Hungry Iguana Southern Cross Club Resort Pirates Point Resort Island Supply Grand Cayman Central Caribbean Marine Institute

#### FUNDRAISING EFFORTS CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The only fundraiser this year was the Christmas Bazaar, which raised \$1,805.

Jen Mills-Gough and Renita Schouten organised the set-up of the Christmas tree, decorations and lights; Brigitte Kassa and Greg McTaggart hung the exterior lights: Betty Bua spearheaded the donations drive; Brigitte Kassa handled most of the sales with the help of a few other volunteers; Susan Howard, treasurer, handled sales cash-out; Peter Quilliam and Douglas Christoffers manned the Sorrel punch bowl donated by Southern Cross; and cookies and fudge were compliments of Pirates Point Resort. An enjoyable evening was had by all.

#### **EASTER AUCTION**

Unfortunately, the 28th Annual Easter Auction scheduled for 11 April was postponed due to Covid-19. It is hoped that the event can be rescheduled with the November Remembrance Day long weekend the likely date.

#### **DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING**

On February 15, the Little Cayman District Committee hosted the NTCI Council meeting at the Gladys Howard visitors centre. Debbi Truchan donated her usual arrival continental breakfast and a fantastic lunch spread was enjoyed by all.

Afterwards a nice meet-and-greet social for Trust members was enjoyed by all with snacks provided by Debbi, cookies by Pirates Point and wine and beer donated by Southern Cross Club and Pirates Point.

#### **GLADYS B. HOWARD VISITORS' CENTRE REPAINTING**

Under the coordination of Joe Poplys, the Gladys B. Howard Little Cayman National Trust Visitors' Centre was repainted in June/July 2019 and looks wonderful.

#### **RETAIL SALES**

The Little Cayman community and visitors continue to support the NTCI though retail merchandise purchases which not only pay the Trust House bills and routine maintenance but also contribute to NTCI mission initiatives. The Trust House is staffed entirely by volunteers so every penny in retail sales' profit goes to the LCDC. We greatly appreciate those Trust members and volunteers who freely give of their time to keep the doors open and this important revenue stream coming in.

#### **ENCYCLIA KINGSII**

Trust volunteers and DoE staff monitored the blooming of the very rare Encyclia Kingsii orchid. This orchid is endemic to the Cayman Islands and conservation and protection of the very few specimens that are known is critical.



#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

The Little Cayman District Committee Facebook page continues to be very popular and is well-maintained by Susan Ploplys assisted by Greg McTaggart.

#### **COVID HOURS**

The Gladys Howard Visitors' Centre is currently open between 3pm and 5pm on Fridays. During this time, arrangements for tours can be made with advance notice.

Regular hours of 3pm to 5pm Monday through Friday will, we hope, resume in October when the resorts reopen.



#### **CAYMAN BRAC PARROTS**

Trust members Joy Mulholland and Enno Krebbers have had a Cayman Brac parrot take up residence around their home. Parrot sightings are extremely rare on Little Cayman. This is of keen interest to the DoE, and it has requested regular reports on parrot activity that Joy and Enno may see to try and determine if the bird is now a permanent resident of Little Cayman or simply on staycation.

#### **TURTLE NESTING SEASON**

At the time of this report there were 11 turtle nests being monitored with Trust members participating in the DoE turtle monitoring programme, regularly walking designated beaches to report nesting activity to the DoE for data gathering. Of these, 5 have already hatched. A further 40 or so potential nesting activities have been observed and reported, but the Covid-19 constraints on personnel and travel have limited the ability to confirm these reports.

#### **GENERAL ELECTIONS**

Election of officers on 13 July resulted in the following appointments: Chairman: Gregory S. McTaggart Vice-Chair: Betty Bua-Smith Secretary: Peter Hillenbrand Treasurer: Susan Howard

#### **SPECIAL THANKS**

Tanja Laaser, Joe and Susan Ploplys, Tamara Doyle, Maisey Fuller, Brigitte Kassa, Meredith Guederian, Janet and Bob Freemantle, Doug Christophers, Faye Harrington, Caroline George, Nancy Keilty, Emmanuela Quesada, Betty Bua-Smith, Chairperson Gregory McTaggart, Vice Chair Peter Hillenbrand, Secretary Susan Howard, Treasurer



### DISTRICT COMMITTEE WESTEDAY

When the West Bay District Committee of the National Trust for the Cayman Islands ("WBDC/ NT") stepped into the new Trust year 2019-2020, it did so with enthusiasm and ambitious goals including planning events to raise funds for the Phase 3 repair and restoration of the interior of Nurse Leila's House, as well as progressing our plans for the interpretation and development of the House and its garden as a museum chronicling the growth and advancement of medicine, nursing and midwifery in the Cayman Islands.

Following intense planning meetings and engaging the willing assistance of many of West Bay's great bakers, cooks and sweet treat makers, the WBDC/NT organized a fundraiser in the format of a Dessert Station at the West Bay Heritage Day during Pirates Week on 13th November 2019.



This Dessert Station was very successful and was patronized by young and old and locals and visitors. We were serving customers almost non-stop all day and by the end of the evening virtually all of the delicious items such as the cassava, corn, yam, and potato heavy cakes, coconut drops, pineapple upside-down and other light cakes, bread puddings, cupcakes, banana bread and hominy ('trash corn') had been sold - we could have sold even more cassava cakes to the late evening crowd, and they were surely disappointed to be told they were too late! The total proceeds from our Dessert Station, including donations of CI\$547, amounted to CI\$1,767.80 – which made it all worth the efforts of the many who made it happen.

Although 2019 was coming to a close, there were various ideas in mind for another fundraiser by the WBDC/NT in the first quarter of 2020. Like any other New Year, for most of us, 2020 began not only with celebrations and resolutions but with lists of things to do and goals to achieve. Then as if that earthquake on 28th January was not enough to remind us to "Write our plans in pencil, and give God the eraser" – along came Covid-19 and, as they say, the rest is history. Life in the Cayman Islands as we knew it was disrupted and various plans shelved or at least placed on the back burner, and for the past four months we have become accustomed to our borders being locked down, abiding by strict curfews, social distancing and masks!

While there appears to be a bit of light at the end of the tunnel, no one knows how many more months may elapse before anyone can be sure that Covid-19 is no longer lurking around in the Cayman Islands, therefore it might be more prudent to make haste slowly rather than trying to dance to everybody's fiddle and ending up with two broken legs!

Over the past four months Zoom meetings have become the order of the day for many in the public and private sectors but as restrictions are gradually being lifted, normalcy is slowly returning. The WBDC/NT was therefore able to have a face to face meeting (6 ft. apart and masked, of course) on 25th June at which we made arrangements for a meeting at Nurse Leila's House the afternoon of Monday, 13th July 2020, for the purpose of interviewing Mrs. Nettie Bush who had been an assistant to Nurse Leila Yates. As such, she was responsible for carrying out specific tasks associated with Nurse Leila's profession of Midwifery, including providing before- and after-delivery nursing care of many mothers who were safely delivered in Nurse Leila's House. Mr. Stuart Wilson, HPM was also invited to participate in that meeting to capture Mrs. Nettie's reminiscences, both verbally and on video, and we anticipate doing more on-site interviews with Mrs. Nettie, with a view to gathering historical information for sharing in the not too distant future.



Although the restoration and maintenance of Nurse Leila's House is the primary project of the WBDC/NT, its other properties include Miss Izzie's Schoolhouse Site at the end of Farrington Lane off Town Hall Road; and Uncle Sammy's Pond at the junction of Mt. Pleasant Road and Meadow Avenue. While interpretation and development of these two sites are goals of the WBDC/NT, it is not possible to set a timeframe for either at this time.

#### **MOVING FORWARD IN 2020-2021 AND BEYOND**

The WBDC/NT is planning to hold its AGM and elect Officers for 2020-2021 not later than mid-August in order to comply with a minimum of three weeks before the AGM of the NTCI which is scheduled for 16th September 2020.

Subject always to circumstances beyond members' control, the WBDC/NT will be obtaining quotes for Phase 3 of Nurse Leila's House and, if all goes well, including securing sufficient funds. The intention is to complete the restoration and be well on the way with its interpretation and development as planned.

Even though one never knows what the future holds, the faithful members of the WBDC/NT will continue to persevere, and like the little engine that could, will keep chugging away and doing what we can to help preserve the historical buildings and sites as well as the natural environment of the Cayman Islands for present and future generations.

My thanks to everyone, especially the WBDC/NT core group, for all you do to keep the WBDC/NT alive and kicking – we never say die!

#### West Bay District Committee Members

Chair: Alice Mae Coe, Cert Hon Vice Chair: Erna Jane Ebanks Treasurer: Robert Bennett Secretary: Eziethamae Bodden



During the past year, The Bodden Town District Committee has held meetings to assist plans for developing the Mission House in the District.

The group has also been instrumental in advocating for the development of new activities at the Mission House in addition to giving guidance on litter clean-up, as well as providing important contact information and other resources.

There was also great cooperation between the Historic Programmes Manager and the Bodden Town District Committee Chairperson, Mr. Robert Wood, who guided many undertakings, even whilst not being in the best of health.

Bodden Town District Committee Members Chairman: Robert Wood Secretary: Karie Bounds Treasurer: Dan Peterson Committee Members Jennifer Martinez Sean Martinez Stafford Berry Pam Douglas Ondine Bult Tom Zerhusen



### DISTRICT COMMITTEE GEORGE TOWN

The George Town District Committee focuses on the care of the NTCI's existing historic sites within George Town, namely Fort George, Dr. Roy's Ironshore and Watlers Cemetery in Prospect. Notably, as the heart of Grand Cayman, George Town is home to a collection of historic gems. Beautiful historic buildings include Elmslie Memorial United Church, the Public Library, the George Town Post Office all built by Captain Rayal Bodden and Roland Bodden. Their notable signature design being the inside of the roofs constructed in the design reminiscent of the hull of a ship.

Plans for next year include sprucing up our iconic Fort George. This national treasure holds an immense amount of historical significance and is one of the NTCI's most beloved protected historic sites. The continued maintenance and preservation of Fort George is fitting with the revitalisation of George Town. In addition, the committee will continue to seek out and identify potential historic properties within the district that have been deemed culturally significant. The committee looks forward to organising vital fundraising initiatives to support the care and upkeep of the District historic properties.

NITED CHERCE

#### **George Town District Committee Members**

Chairman: Suzan Merren Vice Chairman: Suzanne Bothwell Secretary: Karen Perkins Treasurer: Tim O'Sullivan

#### **Committee Members**

Gerardo Ochoa, John Harris, Evette Burnelle Petronella Kotze, Darvin Ebanks, Gina Powell John Bothwell, Roger Davies

## FINANCIALS

Despite a difficult year the net income saw a 41% increase from the previous year due to careful management of the finances. Cash balances increased by \$119,365 during the year. We have adequate cash balances on hand to ensure we can meet our monthly operational expenditure, but we remain reliant on timely receipts from our primary funding source – the Cayman Islands Government.

#### DONATIONS

Donation income saw a reassuring 23% increase this year thanks to several generous benefactors who have anonymously donated funds to the NTCI for general or specific uses. Notable donations totaled \$30,300 towards Historic Programmes and \$200,500 towards securing Mangrove land as part of the NTCI Land Acquisition Fund. We would like to thank those individuals and Corporate Partners who continue to donate to the Trust. These funds help us carry out our mandate under the National Trust Law.

#### GRANTS

Despite the Covid-19 lockdown, this fiscal year has been an active year for independent grant work. There are currently two projects being conducted side by side focusing on transitioning the Blue Iguana Recovery Programme to one of sustained conservation success. The Disney Wildlife Fund grant of US\$50,00 nears completion in 2020. The Darwin Plus Initiative has received £138,042 from a total value of £197,902 over the three years 2019-2021. A further grant was agreed with RSPB/Rainforest Trust for work on the Salina Reserve in February 2020 for a further \$9,937. We remain grateful for RSPB's continued support.

#### **OTHER REVENUE SOURCES**

Unfortunately, the Covid-19 lockdown negatively affected other income streams as it impacted during peak tourism season. Blue Iguana Tour income was down 30% from last year to \$32,605. Other environmental tours generated income of \$8,474 and Mission House/Historic at \$4,004. On the positive side, bat exclusion work saw a good increase and generated \$7,137.

Education Programmes, including summer camp, lectures, Little Explorers Club, the Mangrove Education Project and Clubhouse rentals generated income for the year of \$14,823, a decrease of 31% from the prior year.

Membership income remained roughly in line with that of the previous year. Corporate memberships were \$30,500 and general membership \$22,256.

Retail income from the NTCI Nature Store was down 44% to \$30,943.

#### **EVENTS & FUNDRAISING**

Despite best efforts during the pandemic, fundraising was down 49% compared to the previous year. This decrease is largely represented by the cancellation of the Little Cayman Easter auction. This key District fundraising event will hopefully be held in quarter four of 2020, Covid-19 restrictions permitting.

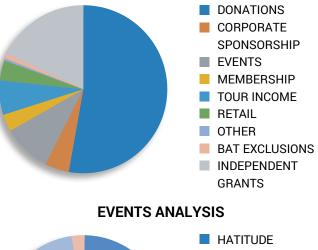
Fortunately, the Hatitude Tea party took place early this year; this is a key event and generated a net profit of \$12,603 which was a good increase on previous years.

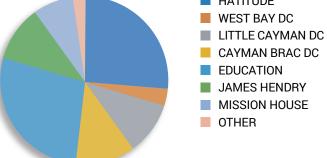
#### **EXPENDITURE**

Expenditure was down 9.8% on the year. Tight control was exerted across all expenditure in response to the pandemic. The independent grant work provided much needed repair, maintenance and capital investment in the BIC facility. This has a natural effect of reducing our annual budgeted costs for repair and maintenance (\$56k this year).

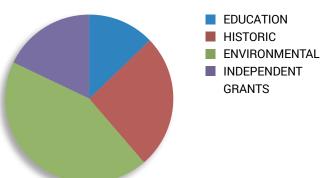
43% of the annual programme expenditure is focused on environmental conservation which includes the Blue Iguana Conservation programme.

#### **INCOME ANALYSIS**





#### ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE





SAMMY MURPHY Finance Manager

#### **BALANCE SHEETS AS OF JUNE 30, 2020**

(Expressed in Cayman Islands dollars)		Unrestricted 2020	Temporarily Restricted 2020	Permanently Restricted 2020	Total 2020
	Note	CI\$	CI\$	CI\$	CI\$
ASSETS					
Current assets		<b>53</b> 0 00 <b>5</b>	1 0 5 1 0 5 0		1 (11 0 10
Cash and cash equivalents Accounts receivable	3	539,895	1,071,353	-	1,611,248
Inventory		150,038 23,354	-	-	150,038 23,354
Prepaid expenses		24,639	-	-	24,639
		737,926	1,071,353		1,809,279
Non-current assets					
Fixed assets	4	153,699	-	-	153,699
Heritage properties	5	3,140,800	-	9,367,283	12,508,083
		3,294,499	-	9,367,283	12,661,782
Total Assets		CI\$ 4,032,425	CI\$ 1,071,353	CI\$ 9,367,283	CI\$ 14,471,061
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable and accrued ex	kpense	(20,502)	-	-	(20,502)
Total Liabilities		(20,502)	-	-	(20,502)
NET ASSETS		CI\$ 4,011,923	CI\$ 1,071,353	CI\$ 9,367,283	CI\$ 14,450,559

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Authorized and approved for issue on behalf of the Board:

Chairman

10 August 2020

Neil Sherlock

Executive Member

10 August 2020 Date

Date

#### STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENEDED JUNE 30, 2020

(Expressed in Cayman Islands dollars)	Note	Unrestricted 2020 CI\$	Temporarily Restricted 2020 CI\$	Permanently Restricted 2020 CI\$	Total 2020 CI\$
Revenue and support					
Government grants		570,000	-	_	570,000
Donations, donated goods and services		156,140	205,735	-	361,875
Independent grants			123,304	-	123,304
Fundraising events		54,695	8,619	-	63,314
Tours		45,081	-	-	45,081
Product sales to the public		41,189	-	-	41,189
Membership dues - corporate		30,500	-	-	30,500
Membership dues - individuals		22,257	-	-	22,257
Exchange gain		3,163	-	-	3,163
Interest income		1,445	147	-	1,592
Total revenue and support		024 470	227 805		1 262 275
Total revenue and support		924,470	337,805		1,262,275
Expenses					
Programme service expenses					
Environmental preservation		215,037	93,454	-	308,491
Historic preservation		130,100	110	-	130,210
Educational programmes		64,800	-	-	64,800
		409,937	93,564	-	503,501
Support service expenses		400.840	21.069		421 909
Operating and administration Depreciation of fixed assets	4	409,840 26,782	21,968	-	431,808 26,782
Cost of fundraising events	4	23,764	-	-	23,764
Pension	7	18,369	-	-	18,369
Cost of sales to public	1	8,008	-	-	8,008
		486,763	21,968		508,731
Total expenses		896,700	115,532	-	1,012,232
Increase in net assets		27,770	222,273	-	250,043
Net assets, beginning of year		4,017,299	815,934	9,367,283	14,200,516
Net transfer between funds		(33,146)	33,146	-	-
Net assets, end of year	5,6	CI\$ 4,011,923	CI\$ 1,071,353	CI\$ 9,367,283	CI\$ 14,450,559

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

Neil Sherlock

### **CORPORATE PARTNERS**

Preserving our built and natural heritage would not be possible without the support of our corporate partners.

By choosing to support the NTCI, our corporate partners have:

- Aided in the purchase and protection of wild environments and the flora and fauna which live within;
- Enabled the careful preservation and ongoing maintenance of iconic historic buildings;
- Facilitated public education of our environments and heritage; and
- Provided the means for us to offer guided tours at minimal cost for all to enjoy.



#### **PLATINUM PARTNERS**



#### **FOUNDING MEMBERS**

Adams, Susan Andreas, Lowell Andreas. Nadine Avlen, Cilla Aylen, Roger Barwick, Margaret Bodden, Bobby Bodden, Naul Boxall, Ian Boxall, Mary Bradley, Patricia Campbell, Desmond Denton, Dennis Denton, Peggy Drummond, Deborah Ebanks, Alson Ebanks, Anita Ebanks-Petrie, Gina Farrington, Charlie Gill, Casey Gill, Ursula Glasgow, Corinne Gomez, Kearney Harquail, Helen Heavener. Joe Hubbell, Timmy Hunter, Arthur Hunter, Karen Hurlstone, John Jackson, Vernon Knights, Jill Martin, James W. McCoy, Craig McCoy Ground, Dace McLaughlin, Rushbrook Miller, Mary Nixon, Kirkland Nixon, Reginald Pennelli, Ingrid Pierson, Linford Pierson, Sharon Propper, Henry Propper, Nadia Rea, John Scott, Audley Scott, Joan Scott, Paula Scott, Stanley Thompson, George Bing Thompson, Peter Watler, Ladner Westmoreland, Don

#### LIFETIME MEMBERS

Adams, Charles Adams, Lori Ahearn, Jennifer Alberga, Michael Anderson, Olson Andrews, Yolande Apt. Jerome Apt. Joan Arguropoulos, Sarah Aronfeld, Lee Austin, Michael Avlen, Priscilla Badenhausen, Gerri Bailey, Sarah Banks, Loxley Baraud, Dominique Barwick, Simon Basdeo, Brett Basdeo, Peggy Beaumont, Charles Beaumont, Heidi Belden, Barbara Belden, Henry Beswick, Richard **Bierley**, Jack Bierley, Tifi Bird, Álastair Bird, David Bird, Graham Bird, Jane Bissell, Edna Bisset, Sheila Bodden, Denise Bodden, Norman Bodden, Robert Bodden, Tessa Bodden, Truman Borden. Robert Bothwell, Amber Bothwell, Andrea Bothwell, Bryan Bothwell, Dalkeith Bothwell, John Bould, Martyn Bould, Vivian Bowring, Chris Bowring, Kate Branch, Minnie Brazelton, Diane Brazelton, Roy Brenton, Jeanne Briggs, Adrian Briggs, Bonnie Broderick, Celeste Broderick, Patrick Brooks, Alan Brooks, Phyllis Brown, Terrence Brown, Tove Bulmer, Clare Bulmer, Darcy

Burton, Frederic Burton, Sarah Bush, Phil Butler, Brian Campbell, Bruce Campbell, Elaine Chisholm, Elsie Chisholm, Harry Church, Cathy Clark. Barbara Ann Clark. Linda Coe. Alice Cole. Dennis Cole, Elizabeth Collins, John Couper, Colin Cowan, Myra Crocker, Gayle Crowley, Tabitha Cruickshank, Lucinda Cruickshank, Neil Crutchley, Cindy Cumber, Mervyn Cumber. Pennv Davey, Peter Dean. Joel Delapenha, Cicily Dettling, Doris Dibben, David Dise, Mikol Doak, Jackie Doak. John Doak. Susan Drummond. Valerie Ebanks, Benson Ebanks, Bessie Ebanks, Betty Ebanks. Deborah Farrington, Charles Farrington, Jacqui Farrington, Ray Flowers, Frank Foster, Fiona Foster, John Fraser, Donald Frazier, Cathy Frazier, Jerry French, Brian French, Julie Freytag, Gil Furer, Judith George, Caroline Gerard, George Gerard, Jacqueline Gibbs. Marla Gibbs, Mike Gibbs, Peter Gibson, John Gillooly, Ben Godfrey, Jennifer Godfrey, Michael Good, Albert Goodwin, Amanda

Gore, Michael Gore, Monica Gray, Sharon Grimes, Teresa Ground, Dace Guettler, Lucille Gunby, Christopher Gunby, Jesse Hamblen. Ted Hardie, Nadia Harding, John Harrigan, Patrick Harris, Antonia Harris, Clive Harris, John Harris, Richard Hartwell, Anita Hasson, Anne Hayball-Clarke, Lilian Heavener, J.C.F. Hecimovic, Kim Hersfeldt, Kimberly Hillenbrand, Joan Hillenbrand, John Hillenbrand, Peter Hislop, Sallie Hollander, Jacobus Hunter, Jane Hurlston, Thomas Innes. Bill Innes, Judy Jackman, Joseph Janca, Robyn Joekel, Gwendolyn Johnson, Johnny Jollay, Jill Jones, Andrew Jones, Felicity Joseph, Arek Joseph. Sandra Kandiah, Julia Kandiah, Peter Kassa, Brigitte Kaufman, Jennifer Keilty, Nancy Keilty, Tim Kilpatrick, Ian Kirk, Kevin Kirkconnell, Kathryn Kirkconnell, Moses Kirkpatrick, Irena Knowlton, Harold Koechlin, Hartmann Koechlin, Thomas Laemmle, Engen Laemmle, Wilma Levy, Harold Linn, Karen Lock, Lynne Lock, Terry Longbottom, Mark Lowe (QC), Tom Macdonald, Aileen

Mailer, Stuart Mairs, Judith Masterton, Rachel McCain, Wesley McCoy, Marsha McCubbin, Jim McCubbin, Lorna McGinness, Suzanne McLaughlin, Christina McLaughlin, Gordon McLaughlin, Heather McLean, Donald McLean, Rod McTaggart, Bonnie McTaggart, Greg McTaggart, Rick Merren, Edlin Merren, Helen Merren, Suzan Milburn, Peter Miller, Ezzard Miller, Justin Monsen, Erik Moon. Andrew Moon. Jane Morehouse, Andrew Moss. Grea Murphy, Bryan Niles, Thomas Noegel, Ramon Norman, David Olde, Susan Orrett, Daphne Palmer, Barbara Palmer, John Panton, Helen Parker, Caroline Parsons, Gene Passman. Bette Paterson. Alastair Pedley, Arthurlyn Peters, James Philip, Catherine Phillips, Hal Phillips, Penny Phillips, Peter Pilling, Elizabeth Pilling, Michael Platt, Courtney Poldervaart, Lana Fay Pratt, Diana Radford, Elizabeth Ramsay, Ann Randolph, Gaye Rankine. Tiffanv Reid, Carla Ridley, Elizabeth **Ridley**, Timothy **Rivers**, Dexter Rocereta, Michael Roffey, Annie Mae Rose, Christopher

Rose-Smyth, Christine Ross, Lee Rowlandson, Christopher Rowlandson, Mary Rutkowski, Rosemary Ryan, James Schmid, Peter Scott, Anthony Scott, Jim Shaw. Arden Shea, Mary Shield, Joann Smith, John Socolow, Nan Sorensen, Ole Soto, Suzy Stass, Evan Stone, Jillian Storrie, Noreene Stout, Alice Suresh, Prassad Taylor, Rick Teelina. Heidi Thompson, A.L. Thompson, Darvl Thompson, Gene Thompson, Graham Thompson, Michele Thompson, Wilbur (Bing) Tibbetts, Kurt Timms. Neil Tomkins. Peter Torchinsky, Benjamin Travers, Anthony Truchan, Bob Truchan, Debrorah Uzzell. Diana van der Bol. Debbie Wagnon, Ken Walker, Janet Walker, Michaela Walton, Jeremy Watler, Trevor Watler, Vernicia Welds, Lovesa Whitelock, Mary Wight, lan Wilkinson, Crystal Wilkinson, Deborah Wilson, Herman Wimberly, Rick Winker, Carol Wood, Betty Wood, Catherine Wood, Keena Wood, Ormann Wood Gage, Amy Works, Ann Works, Robert Wright, Alfonso Wright, Debbie Wright, Petrina

#### **CURRENT MEMBERS**

Adam, Cindy Adams, Carol Addlestone, Richard Addlestone, Roisin Anderson, Margaret Anderson, Peter Anderson, Valerie Andrews. Shirlev Armitage, Julia Armitage, Nigel Austin, Juliet Austin. Tim Baker, Ralph L. Baker, Sharon Bampfylde, Caroline Basdeo, Joy Bell. Pat Benbow, Christine Benbow, John Benjamin, Maureen Bennett, Dean Bennett, John Bennett, Katva Bennett, Rob Bentley, Don Berquist, Marilyn Bertran, Juan Bertran, Sarah Best, Nicole Biega, Beth Black, Doris Blake, Abigail Boccuti, David Boczkowska, Jack Bodden, Kadejah Bodden, Lyn Bodden, Rayal Bolton, Andrew Bolton, Sarah Bontie, Catherine Bontje, Glenn Bouchard, Danielle Bovell, Jeri Bowen, Kennon Bowen, Roger Bowyer, Lisa Boxall, Joanna Bricker, Donald L. Broadbridge, Lisa Broadhurst, Kyle Broadhurst, Nikki Broderick, Sean Brodlie, Lisa Brogan, Debra Brookman, Amanada Brown, Carl Brown, Djon Brown, Erin Brown, Isabelle Brown, Philip

Bryan, Constance Andrea T. **Bua-Smith**, Betty Bullmore, Judith Bult. Ondine Burton, John Burton, Susan Butcher, Ivor Butterworth, Francis Carini, Simona Carmichael, David Carmichael. Melanie Carvell. Tracv Castelo, Sandra Catlin, James Cellier, Corinne Cellier, Grant Childs, Catherine Childs, Jeff Christian, Aliyah Clark, Alexandra Clark, David Clarke-Randall, Seddia Cloete, Marique Clyne, Frances Coleman, Claire Coleman. Hollie Coleman, Svdnev Colman, Nicholas Cook, Eleanor Coote, Lonny Corkish, Alan Corkish, Darlene Creamer. Brvan "Scott" Crocker. Ian Crowley, Linda Crowley, Maurice Crysler, Pamela Crysler, Robert Cuff, Hilary Cumber Roddam. Melanie Cuvlaerts-Maes. Ellen Dacosta, Joy Dailey, Sandra Daly, John Daly, Judith Damasco-Doucette, Carmen Μ Davies. Mavis Davies, Roger Davis, Alex Davis, Ashleigh Dawkins, Patricia Day, Sue De Borda, Quitterie Delahaye, Rene Destro, Federico Dombowsky, Lauren Donaldson-Gamble, Sarah Dors, Shona Dougan, Jane Dougan, Kenneth Douglas, Pam

Douie, Marylou Douie, William Doyle, Tamara Drake, Nicola Drebenstedt, Tania Drews, Marco Dulay Bolaya Belaras, Ladilyn Dunford, Elina Dunkley, Dalton Dunkley, Venessa Ebanks. Deon Ebanks, Donovan Ebanks, Helen Ebanks, Richard Edwards, Bonnie Scott Edwards, Wallace Egglinshaw, Aimee Egglishaw, Laura Elphinstone, Kaitlyn Elphinstone, Kathryn Elphinstone, Scott Elverson, Anna Engelder, Carole Enright, Brian Enright, Georgia Essi. Brian Fairchild, Kathey Fairchild, Melissa Felderhof, John Ferguson-Sage, Lynn Fernandez Frago, Dexter Ferrao, Isadora Finnigan, Barnabas Fisher, Emma-Jane Fitzgerald, Ceili Fitzgibbons, Gaela Foster, John Michael Foster. Sabrina Foster. Teresa Foster. Zoe Fraser, Laurice Freifeld, Lora Fuller, Maisy Gallagher, Paige Galletly, Ray Galletly, Sara Gamble, Stanley Gardner, Janet Gardner, Matthew Garnett, Maggie Garnett, Simon Garrett, Ben Gawkowski, Chris Gibb. Andrew Gibb, Sue Girard, Janet Girard, Lianne Glanfield, Helen Godfrey, Carmin Godfrey, Helen Godfrey, Nikoloz

Golaszewski, Jan Gooding-Michelin, Juliette Gore, Lawrence Gowen, Vanessa Gowrie, Barnaby Graham-Taylor, Emma Grandinetti, Gino Grant-James, Cora Grassie-Smith, Briony Green. Deborah Green. Kent Groome, Brian Groome, Jennifer Groucutt, Verna Susan Grover, Charles Gustafsson, Chris Haines, Heather Hardie, Damon Hardman, Laura Hare, Stephen Hargrave, Lana Hargrave, Ron Harlowe, Christopher Harlowe, Rebecca Harrington, Fave Harrington, Robert Harris. Evette Harrison, Emily Harrison, Richard Harrison, Shan Harvey, Jessica Harvey, Sherrilyn Hastings Campbell, Denise Hawkes, Jonathan Hawkes, Sian Healy, Tia Heather, Lynn Heather, Mike Hermiston, Sandy Hernandez, Francisco Hernandez, Gabriella Hicks, Charlotte Houser, Kathy Houser, Mike Howard, Marion Howard, Susan Hughes, Andrea Hulse, Amalia Humphries, Christopher Humphries, Joanna Hurlston, Judy Hurlston-McKenzie, Lisa-Ann Imhoff. Claudia Inose. Donald Ireland, Jackie James, Ceri James, Paul Janssen, Carolyn Joe, Cindy Joels, Lisa Johnson, Adam

Johnson, Beth Johnson, Bruce Johnson, Janet Johnson, Katherine Johnson, Michael Johnson, Nick Jones, Alan Jones. Barbara Jones, Carole Jones, Kimberley Jones. Peter Jubb, Martin Judister, Anita Jurn, Katrina Kader, Michael Kapuscinski, Jill Kapuscinski, Scott Kedney, Chloe Kellow, Nigel Kellow, Ruth Kelly, Colleen E Kelly, Jeff Kennedy, Jenny Kennedy, Micah Kilpatrick, Marlene Kirkconnell, Joni Kirkham, Philip Kirkpatrick, Patricia G Knight, Katrice Korosi, Lili Kotze. Petro Krebbers, Enno Krumsiek, Virginia Lamb, Lorri Lamont, Eric Lamonte, William Lancaster. Steven Lastrina, Mark Laurenson. Emma Lawson, Natalie Lawson, Shona Lawson, Simon Leblond, Helen Leblond, Jess Leblond, Ron Leitch, Ann Marilyn Leitch, Peggy LeRoy, Helen LeRoy, Robert Leseberg, Paul Lewis, Dewey Lewis, Kerry Lewis, Patti Lickrish, David Lill. Steven Lindley, Alys Lindley, Robert Linton, Josephine Linton, Norman Locher, Gregory Locke, Emma Locke, Guy

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Environmental Advisory Committee Chair Peter Davey

Bodden Town District Committee Chair Robert Wood

Cayman Brac District Committee Chair Chris Randall

George Town District Committee Chair Suzan Merren

Little Cayman District Committee Chair Betty Bua West Bay District Committee Chair Alice Mae Coe

Gov't Representative, Education Clive Baker

Gov't Representative, Tourism Peri Powell

Gov't Representative, Environment NA

**Co-Opted Member** Carmen Damaso-Doucette Cora Grant James William Innes Gregory McTaggart Justin Miller Dan Peterson





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