

The Link



St John

Sharing news from the Order of St John

St John Canada in Haiti – A Success Story



In March, St John Ambulance Canada successfully handed over management of the First Aid and Emergency Preparedness programmes to the Haitian National Police.

Over the past 2 years, the Haitian National Police, supported by St John Ambulance Canada, have trained 4500 police officers in basic First Aid and another 350 officers in Emergency Preparedness. St John also focussed on building the capacity of a project team of leaders and coordinators in the police force, who will continue the programme.

Officers came from the Presidential Palace Police, Narcotics Trafficking Brigade volunteer fire fighters, the Coast Guard and many other different units of the Haitian National Police. Also, over 100 Haitian Scouts were certified to conduct emergency scene management, First Aid, and administer CPR.

Jean-Marie Vincent, an officer from the Controlling of Narcotics Trafficking Brigade, said; "The Brigade intervenes primarily on the road. We have had several

Mairi Arthur, Chancellor, St John Ambulance Canada, says: "We would like to congratulate the Haitian National Police.

Taking over the management of the programmes will ensure their sustainability, the benefits of which, will be seen in the years to come"

operations with the police, but with the training, we can reinforce each other and bring needed support. We would like to thank the support of the international community, especially Canada, to have conceived of such a wonderful project, to assist Haiti, and first and foremost the Haitian National Police."

There are now 200 St John trained instructors and 17 instructor-trainers certified within Haiti, while a select few will continue to train their fellow cadets and officers on Haitian National Police Academy grounds. Under a new division called Police Secours, directed by Jean-Claude Benjamin, First Aid and Emergency Preparedness training will be incorporated into

the standard law enforcement course given to all members of the police force.

"St John Ambulance Canada is extremely appreciative of the contributions of the Haitian National Police coordinators and volunteers who were instrumental to the success of the project." says Dawn Roach, Director of Outreach, St John Ambulance Canada.

visit: www.sja.ca



Project Sunshine in Barbados



In April the St John Association of Barbados joined with a group from The University of The West Indies and Nature Care Barbados to implement "Project Sunshine". This initiative by the students, who are all studying Social Work, was to assist in the beautification of the Spooner's Hill senior citizen's home in St. Michael. The yard was paved, benches were built and painted and gardens were created to improve the ambiance for the seniors.

Rosita Farrell, the Officer in charge of the Cadet Division says: "The project was truly a worthwhile effort as we assisted in giving back to our community. All in all we made new friends and interacted with the seniors of the home and made their home a little brighter".

Building foundations for Growth

Are you ready to grow? The Development Team at the International Office holds the growth and strengthening of St John as its number one priority over the next 5 years. This year we are building the foundations - this is how:

1. St John in Action

'One St John' will be strengthened with St John in Action (SJIA). SJIA is a system of support for St John Establishments to gain access to the great variety of skills within the wide network of St John. Harnessing existing schemes such as STAPLE and Regional Support Hubs, we are developing new tools and procedures to link skills to needs. We are being innovative in our approach, exploring cost free opportunities such as webinars and distance mentoring, as well as building systems for successful voluntary placements where needed.

2. Regional Strategies for Growth

We see the potential in St John working regionally and will be building the foundations for coordinated strategies for growth at regional level. We are committed to work with you all in the best way to invest in each region and will enter into consultations later this year and facilitate new strategic thinking about the future.

3. International Development Programmes

We realise that building internationally recognised programmes is a great achievement for any St John organisation. We believe that going through the process of developing and implementing programmes is essential for the holistic development of Associations into strong, growing and innovative organisations. Thanks to Mama na Mwana, 5 Associations are now gaining expertise in assessing needs of communities, developing knowledge in service delivery at global standards, strengthening systems for maintaining sustainable programmes and reporting to donors. Associations are also working well together to collectively solve problems and support each other through challenges. We will soon be seeing this learning in action in the Caribbean, as we build the foundations for a new Disaster Preparedness Programme and a regional youth programme.

4. Fundraising

Growth relies on investment and external funding and we've got the skills and expertise to support this. We aim to bring in hundreds of thousands of pounds in the next 3 years to support Associations in implementing their International Development Programmes. We're also building partnerships with the right people and organisations to mobilise resources for the growth of all our projects.

Welcome Louisa

The fifth member of the Development Team joined the International Office on the 20th May, making the team complete. A huge welcome to Louisa Boyle, our new Fundraising & Communications Manager. Born in Scotland, Louisa brings skills in journalism, communications and funding. Louisa joins us after two years in Nairobi, where she raised over 1 million Kenyan Shillings (GBP £ 80,000) within Kenya – no mean feat for a start up project! Louisa says, "I'm delighted to be joining St John and the Development Team at this exciting time of change in the organisation. I can't wait to get started on working with the Associations around the world to support the incredible, life changing work that they and their volunteers do for their local communities every day".



Left to Right: Sherona Parkinson, Sally O'Neill, Pippa Hoyland, Louisa Boyle, Saffi Jones

Goodbye Villis - Thank you

On St John's Day, 24 June, we say goodbye to our Sub Prior, Professor Villis Marshall, who will be handing over the Sub Prior baton to Stuart Shilson after a very successful 6 year term.

A word from the Sub Prior: "I have enjoyed enormously my time as the Sub Prior. It has been an inspiration for me to see the work that our Association volunteers undertake often under very difficult circumstances"

Here's what members of St John have to say..

Lord Prior: "Professor Marshall, who became Sub Prior after having been the Chancellor of the Priory in Australia and having been recognised by being appointed to the highest Grade in the Order of Australia, will be thought of particularly for having led the process which resulted in the adoption of the Maternal and New-Born Child Health initiative. He will complete his term with his reputation enhanced as a visionary leader. St John has, indeed, been most fortunate in having benefitted from his immense contribution as Sub Prior."



An Association: "The St John Association of Saint Lucia would not be doing as well as it is today without all the interest Villis has shown in our development. He truly understands the challenges small Associations face and has been a great champion for the Caribbean. We are sincerely grateful for all his help and support and he will be sorely missed."

Welcome Stuart and John

Stuart Shilson will take the reins of Sub Prior on 24th June, St John's Day. John Mah will assist the Sub Prior in a newly established position of Deputy Sub Prior. Together both Stuart and John will lead the Order in its support of St John Associations around the world.

A poster for the International Cadet Camp Sydney 2014. It features the St John logo at the top left. The main text reads "Will you be a part of history?" in a handwritten style. Below this is a map of Australia with the Australian flag colors. The dates "2 - 11 January 2014" are written in red. At the bottom, it says "INTERNATIONAL CADET CAMP SYDNEY 2014" and "Register now to secure your place www.stjohn.org.au/ICC2014". There is also a Facebook logo and the text "Join Sydney 2014 - InterNatCamp".

International Cadet Camp 2014

Registration is now open for the International Cadet Camp 2014, this time hosted by St John Australia from 2nd-11th January 2014, in Sydney.

The Camp aims to bring together 500 young people and leaders from St John Establishments around the world in an exciting and action packed program that will allow campers to be involved in some unique Australian experiences. It will include many opportunities for physical, social, emotional and cultural development plus the ability to have many new life experiences.

St John International Cadet Camp is held every 4 years in a different country around the world and is for Cadets, Cadet Leaders, Cadet Officers and other Cadet associated personnel.

Visit the website www.stjohn.org.au/ICC2014 for details of the camp and to register your place online.

Also join the Facebook group: **Sydney 2014 - InterNatCamp**

News in brief....

St John Malaysia: Chivalry in Action

In March, Dato' Yeo Kim Thong of St John Malaysia was promoted to a Knight of Grace of the Order



Dato' Yeo first joined St John in 1977. His honour highlights the contribution, foresight and vision he has demonstrated within what now stands as a remarkable St John Association of Malaysia, vital to the community it serves.

Dato' Yeo started the a Haemodialysis centre in 1993 to meet a need in the community for people experiencing serious

problems with their kidneys. This is usually caused by diabetes and high blood pressure – two of the fastest growing non-communicable diseases manifesting in every corner of the world. The Haemodialysis service filters out harmful substances in the blood when the

kidney is unable to. Today, St John Malaysia manages 16 dialysis centres with more than 200 machines and currently more than 500 patients under care. These are only a few of Dato' Yeo's achievements during his time at St John. In honouring Dato' Yeo, the Order is giving back to an outstanding member of St John, leading in an outstanding Association.

The Investiture Ceremony was conducted in London in the historic Chapter Hall at St John's Gate on 25 March.

If you are thinking of nominating an outstanding staff member or volunteer to the Order, please contact Rob Millington at the International Office who will give you information about criteria and the process of nominations - email rob.millington@orderofstjohn.org

Wales hosts the Grand Council meeting

The Grand Council met for three days from 13th May in Newport, Wales

32 delegates met for the annual meeting which discussed the Order's Strategic plan, the new Maternal, Newborn and Child Health programme and key governance issues. Grand Council also welcomed representatives from the Associations of Malaysia, Hong Kong, Singapore and Kenya as Standing Observers. Minutes of the meeting will be available on the member's area of the website later in the year.



Did you know...

..that about 50% of all maternal deaths occur in Sub-Saharan Africa? Support your fellow St John Associations in Africa to save the lives of mothers and babies in the most vulnerable communities - please give to the Mama na Mwana programme on: www.justgiving.com/orderofstjohn/donate or contact the International Office for more information



Are you logging on for all the best resources?

Log onto the private area of the Order's website and you can download useful reports, minutes and documents from St John. Log on today by visiting www.orderofstjohn.org/members-area. Contact saffi.jones@orderofstjohn.org if you need the username and password.



Dates for the Diary....

14th June - OHAC Submission deadline for the quarter

24th June - St John's Day

15th July - International Development Advisory Board

16-17th July - Steering Committee

For all the latest news and resources from the Order go to the website www.orderofstjohn.org

If you have any stories you would like to be covered in The Link or you would like any information on any of the news featured in this edition, please contact Saffi Jones at the St John International Office at saffi.jones@orderofstjohn.org or 0044 (0)20 7251 3292