

2015





# FOR EVERYONE, FOREVER

The Bermuda National Trust is an independent, membership-based registered charity created by an Act of Parliament in 1970 to preserve Bermuda's natural, architectural and historic treasures and to encourage public appreciation of them. The Trust's programmes and activities are focused in the key areas of preservation, education and advocacy.

The BNT is Bermuda's largest environmental conservation group in Bermuda, protecting through its ownership, management and covenants, 77 properties covering over 250 acres of land of outstanding natural beauty. These properties represent much of the best of Bermuda's heritage – a variety of traditional houses, nature reserves, islands, gardens, cemeteries, farmland and coastline.

The Trust's portfolio of architecturally significant properties display an unmatched collection of artefacts, including cedar furniture, silver, maps and paintings, all contributing to Bermuda's cultural history.

The open spaces held by the Trust provide green breathing space for Bermuda and her present and future generations.

The Trust has a strong education programme, focused on encouraging appreciation of our unique culture and history. Its vision is to inspire present and future generations with understanding and enjoyment of the historic and natural environment through exemplary and innovative work in conservation, education and preservation.

Our mission is to protect and promote Bermuda's unique natural and cultural heritage forever, by acquiring and conserving land, buildings and artefacts; inspiring appreciation and stewardship through advocacy, research, education and participation.



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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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I commend the pages of this annual report to you, the reader, as you will see highlights of the tremendous range and depth of activities that the Bermuda National Trust, its members, staff and volunteers have undertaken over the past year.

**W**e started the year with a mountain of work carried over from storm damage as a result of the two hurricanes Fay and Gonzalo in late 2014. With the help of our insurer Kitson, donations from supporters, and the dedicated work crews of staff and volunteers we have managed to clean up and repair the majority of the damage to our buildings and properties. On top of all this, our dedicated team has ensured that the ongoing cycle of maintenance and repair of our fantastic collection of historic properties has not suffered as a result.

Outreach and education, with students and teachers on lessons, field trips and BNT camps, and adult programming through our Museum Chats and Trust Talks, has had a most successful year.

The publishing of all 12 of the Teacher Resource Guides developed by the Trust was a crowning achievement, as these guides embed local history and science lessons in creative and authentic settings outside the classroom but within the school curriculum.

Advocacy has been active. We commented on the new City of Hamilton plan and congratulate the Department of Planning on this well considered and balanced approach to development within the City boundaries. However, given the America's Cup presence in Bermuda we are saddened that opportunities to rehabilitate more historic buildings were not advanced.

Many fine buildings have suffered from years of neglect. There have been some successes in adaptive reuse, but unfortunately some buildings have been delisted, some torn down completely, and many still languish in a decrepit and deteriorating state.

Our annual cycle of public events continues to engage the community. Years of tradition have made many of the Trust's fundraising efforts fantastic "friend-raisers". Examples are the Christmas Walkabout, the Palm Sunday Walk, the Auction and

Jumble Sale, and our summer dinner and dance at one of our historic properties. I hope that if you enjoy these activities you will encourage your friends to join you, and thereby engage them in learning more about the Trust and its work in our island home.

On a personal note I represented the Trust at two conventions. The Caribbean Conference of National Trusts was held in Port of Spain, Trinidad, and the conference of the International National Trusts Organisation was held in Cambridge, England. I hope Bermuda and the Bermuda National Trust will host one of these in the future, perhaps as a fitting marker of our 50th Anniversary, which is fast approaching in 2019!

There are many more notable events in the body of this report. But the Trust could not continue to be the capable custodian of so many of Bermuda's environmental and historic treasures without the inspired efforts of our Council, committees, staff and volunteers. I encourage you to read on and reflect on what has been done, and also encourage you to journey with us as the Trust goes forward in continuing success with its mission to protect and promote our unique natural and cultural heritage forever.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William K White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

**William White**  
**President**



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# DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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As Bermuda, and likewise the Bermuda National Trust, anticipates a genuine recovery from an economic crisis we can reflect on many remarkable achievements despite resource constraints. Such continued success is a testimony to a diligent and persevering staff and outstanding Council, volunteers, members and donors who make all that we do possible.

While the last decade has seen historically significant built heritage across the island fall into a state of decay with some lost forever, despite our crusading to save them, the Trust has maintained, renovated and restored its own extensive collection of historic buildings in a continuing and successful effort to increase rental revenue and safeguard these historic icons for future generations. Restoring Palmetto House, acquiring and renovating Devondale and taking back Springfield were enormous projects executed with the usual standard of excellence by our team.

Our advocacy, much of which takes place behind the scenes and without public accolades, remains powerful and our desire to save precious dwindling open spaces is paramount. In the past eight years alone the Trust has acquired an additional 36 acres of farmland, woodland and nature reserve, ensuring Bermuda's children will always be able to enjoy the great outdoors and the benefits of ecosystem services and home-grown food. I am pleased to report that Buy Back Bermuda is alive and well with two acquisitions in process.

Educating the future ambassadors of our island continues to be core to our mission and since our first part-time educator was hired in 2000 the education programme has expanded exponentially from serving 339 students in its first year to delivering a national curriculum-integrated education to nearly 5,000 children and 600 adults annually. In addition, we guide Bermuda's teachers and provide valued classroom resources. This is sure to have far-reaching implications for Bermuda's preservation in the years to come.

The Trust went through a process of rebranding itself which resulted in a new mission statement and identity standards to ensure our ongoing clarity and recognition. Our governance has been strengthened through terms of reference across our committees, new regulations have been endorsed and our Act of Parliament has been reviewed for proposed legislative change.

The introduction of a volunteer programme for youth, the

annual Earth Day Video Competition and an art programme for teenagers allows the Trust to truly invest in the human capital of Bermuda, giving the next generation a voice while providing constructive outlets and development opportunities in an era that is seeing many of our children undervalued and lost in the system.

Engaging new friends and supporters is a challenge we have undertaken with creativity and hard work through enhancements of our annual cycle of events as well as additions to our events and programmes. The Trust Chats, FarmFest, Christmas Cocktail Fundraiser, Pop-Up art shows, new exhibits and partnerships all assist in the cultivation of an appreciation for and support of all that is unique to Bermuda and in the Trust's care. We continue to meet our annual budget and are pleased to see our membership numbers increasing every year.

We supplement all we do by sharing knowledge through an incredible collection of publications. Our Calendar inspires both visitors and residents, the Climate Change reports tell of a changing world and opportunities to mitigate against man's negative impact, our nature reserve and museum guides tell stories from the past, illuminate treasured collections of both man-made and nature-provided wonders and our Architectural Heritage Series is just simply...outstanding.

Through roughly a decade of financial turmoil and uncertainty the Trust has been exceptionally accomplished and managed to do more with less. At the onset of the economic downturn we operated with 21 full-time and 8 part-time staff and were forced to make painful redundancies and implement cost-saving tactics across our operations.

Today we have achieved success and compensated for loss of Government support with only 16 full-time and two part-time positions which has undeniably put a strain on our human resources. Moving forward, the Trust will have to carefully consider its long-term sustainability, how much more it can take on and how it can fittingly acknowledge and retain an effective and productive team.



After a busy six months and five years of hard work during which we came to depend on his unwavering reliability and uplifting spirit, William White turned the Presidency of the Trust over to Tim Marshall in June of 2015 though he stayed on board to take over the chair of the Preservation Committee. Tim hit the ground running with such exuberance it was hard to keep up with him. A true visionary, Tim's focus was to grow the Trust's relevancy in the community, be a strong advocate for the environment and promote an organisation that truly cared about the well-being of all. He was instrumental in the Trust's participation in the Christmas Boat Parade and lit Waterville with Christmas lights for all to enjoy. Tim's professional background as a lawyer proved to be most beneficial and his plans for "vision workshops" would set the stage for our progress in 2016.

Change is good and the future is riding on new technology. So in 2015 the Trust launched a new interactive website with online services. Filled with beautiful pictures and layers of information in a state-of-the-art design, the site has a calendar of events, an interactive map of our properties and allows our customers to purchase items from our shop, buy tickets for events, memberships and make donations. It was only fitting to follow this with a stronger on-line presence in the form of Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and we are thankful for the younger members of our team who have guided us through the social media world. As they say... "please follow us!"

It is indeed clear that Bermuda would not be the same without the Bermuda National Trust and if you ever question its worth I challenge you to imagine a Bermuda without it. From historic properties and green spaces that span the island from St. George's to the outer islands of Somerset, our landscape would be the worse without the Trust's care.

The work of the Trust spurs creativity and imagination, generating significant cognitive, emotional and social benefits and contributes in a huge way to building identity and pride of place for Bermudians. As you reflect upon a year of accomplishment in the pages of this report I appeal to you to encourage everyone you know to support the Bermuda National Trust where together we all get more for less while sharing a common love of Bermuda and the desire that its special aspects be safeguarded for everyone to enjoy, now and always.



**Jennifer Gray**  
**Executive Director**



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# PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

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## Historic Properties

2015 was taken up predominantly by three mammoth tasks: the continued clean-up following hurricanes Fay and Gonzalo in 2014, the renovation of Devondale and, most importantly, the restoration of Springfield, which we were finally able to concentrate on at the end of the year.

The beginning of the year was taken up by ongoing repair of hurricane damage resulting from Fay and Gonzalo which hit the island within a week of each other in October 2014.

The roof of one of the historic porches at Bridge House was repaired and new shutters, to replace ones that were lost, were milled and installed at the Globe Hotel. The seawall at our property Ship's Inn on Harbour Road was rebuilt, as were portions of Bermuda stone walls here at our offices, Waterville, and at Stewart Hall.

Our greatest damage was suffered at Tivoli. Tivoli is a large 11-acre property off Middle Road in Warwick. The main house is recognisable as a fine large yellow Victorian house, which is currently occupied by a children's nursery school. One of the buildings, a former cattle barn, used by the nursery as a classroom, lost its roof in Gonzalo. The roof was rebuilt in its entirety and the interior, which was significantly damaged, redecorated and refitted.

In total, our costs for the repairs to buildings alone was \$147,123. Fortunately, our insurance company, Kitson, covered around 80% of these costs.

Our buildings staff should get medals for what they accomplished at Devondale with only limited resources. Devondale is a beautiful large 18th century Grade II listed house. It and the 10 acres of woodland and farmland it sits in were given to the Bermuda National Trust from the estate of Mrs Jean Cox Spence in 2014.

The original house on the property was built some time before 1678 and re-built over the years. In 1953 there was a serious fire which severely damaged the south wing of the house. The stone arches of the West Indian-influenced verandah survived the fire and great care was taken when sections of the house were rebuilt. The north wings of the house were comparatively untouched by the fire.

The house was in good repair when we received it, but its layout and finishes needed to be modernised. Our staff improved

Devondale's services, refinishing the bathrooms, kitchen, laundry and the extensive basement. All fixtures and fittings were updated. The verandah, wood floors and millwork were repaired and refinished, as were all interior and exterior surfaces. We were happy in June to find a tenant for the house and in October the property was open to the public as we hosted our FarmFest celebrations.

The grounds of Devondale are home to the ship's bell from the *Pollokshields*, a steamer which sank off the reefs of Elbow Beach in early September 1915. Our Collections Committee is in the process of researching and determining the provenance of the bell and why it came to be so carefully mounted on the grounds of Devondale. In 2015, it was restored by Ornamental Ironworks. The bell itself was cleaned and polished; the cast iron pin holding it and the clapper in place were adjusted so that the bell could swing freely once again and the cast iron surround which was corroding slightly was cleaned of loose material and sealed to ensure its durability.

Toward the end of the year the Trust turned its focus to Springfield, an exceptionally important historic property with buildings that are exemplary examples of Bermuda's domestic architecture. The estate tells us a lot about our past as it descended in an unbroken line from its first owner in the 1600s until it was acquired by our predecessor, the Historical Monuments Trust, in 1966.

In the 18th century, the main house was a landowner's residence. In the courtyard were slave houses, a kitchen and the buttery for which Springfield is known. In the early 19th century, 19 slaves, including a stonemason, a ship's carpenter, labourers, house servants and three children, all lived in the outbuildings that can be seen through the arch. The adjoining 5-acre Gilbert Nature Reserve was part of the same estate.

Sadly, due to an unsuccessful tenancy dating from the late 1990s, several of Springfield's buildings, including the historic verandah, required significant structural repair.

We are very fortunate to have on staff many of the skills needed to restore the property. This helps to keep costs down but adds to the time it takes, as our buildings crew is still required for the repair and maintenance of all our 56 historic buildings. For a large part of 2015, time was taken up by hurricane repairs and the refurbishment of Devondale.



With staff on site, and with the generous help of carpenters from BCM McAlpine, we have begun the much needed restoration of Springfield's historic verandah.

When the property was rented to the Government, they made repairs that included shoring up weakened sections of the verandah floor. However, these stop-gap fixes were ultimately substandard and soon began to fail. The safety of the verandah was one of the major matters that prompted our intervention in the property.

Unfortunately, due to water ingress, the verandah's floor joists had rotted at the ends, meaning they could no longer safely support the load of the verandah floor. The floor boards themselves were extremely compromised from termites and rot. Most alarmingly, the structural support posts were rotting at their bases, causing the posts, and therefore the roof and balustrades, to sink, putting the whole structure at risk.

We are happy to report that our repairs, while painstaking, will be long-lasting. The inferior earlier repairs have been removed as have the rotten floor boards and joists. The cedar joists removed will be repurposed for other restoration projects. We have repaired the stone support walls and replaced the floor. The rotten sections of the support posts have been carefully removed and replaced with new Bermuda cedar inserts. The cause of the water ingress has been mitigated through the use of moisture barriers and pitching certain structural elements to ensure adequate drainage going forward.

Next will be to attach new balustrades and shutters and to replace the garden railings, all of which have been milled to replicate exactly what existed previously. The use of the main building is commercial and we will be looking for a business or like-minded partner to find a sustainable, adaptable use for the building which we hope will include public access.

In addition to the verandah, our crew have also refitted two apartments at the property which will be available for rent in 2016. The income will help to support the property's upkeep. Following completion, our crew will move on to refit the rear cottage back into a residence.

In 2015 we were happy to welcome two new owners of our long-lease properties, Cluster Cottage on St Mary's Road in Warwick and Samaritans' Cottages on Water Street, St George's. Both properties are now receiving the much needed TLC they deserve. They are both exceptionally important early Bermuda houses, and Cluster Cottage is remarkably unaltered. Parts of both properties' structures could date from as early as the 1600s. We are so pleased that the new owners of both leases have embraced the historic importance of the properties and are bringing them back to good condition.

Of course, as always, our scheduled repairs and maintenance don't stop and 2015 was no different. One of our biggest



*Lancashire Re lending a hand to paint at Devonshire Marsh*



*Belvin Hendrickson rebuilding the sea wall at Ship's Inn, damaged during hurricane Fay*



*Interior painting at Verdmont*



*Tokio Re hurricane clean-up at Gilbert Nature Reserve & Springfield*





*BHS helping to clear invasives at Tivoli*



*The Trust's Duane Symonds removing a modern balcony that was not in-keeping with Springfield's history*



*Aspen staff feeding the chipper at Scaur Lodge*



*IWC volunteers helping out at Prospect Garrison Cemetery*

is maintaining the exteriors of all our buildings to protect them from our harsh environment. We cleaned, patched and painted a total of 12 roofs, including Vermont Museum, Vermont Cottage, Palmetto House and its water catchment, Stewart Hall and cottage, Waterville, Tivoli South, Locust Hall Farm, Devondale, Tucker House, Buckingham, Old Rectory and Stokes Point Mews. The major task of repairing and painting the exterior masonry and millwork was carried out at Davenport, Old Rectory, Mangroville, the Globe, Fanny Fox, Lemon Moor and Tivoli South. Vermont Museum also had its interior painted, which was no small task, especially as the painters had to navigate with great care around our priceless collection of furniture.

And that's not all. The water tanks at Waterville, Springfield, Buckingham, Locust Hall Cottage and Locust Hall Farmhouse, 12 in total, were all repaired and cleaned. Vermont Cottage was fumigated and, lastly, Tivoli South was redecorated and relet after a 20-year tenancy. Phew!

## Our Natural Environment

The worst damage and disruption felt by the Trust from the 2014 hurricanes was in our nature reserves and open spaces.

At the beginning of the year we were still carrying out a major clean-up of large trees felled at Paget Marsh, Devondale and Tivoli where volunteers helped us clear hurricane debris and remove invasive plants. Damage at Gilbert Nature Reserve in Somerset was extensive and the work there is still ongoing.

It goes without saying that the Trust could not operate without the hands-on assistance of our countless volunteers.

In 2015 we benefitted from a lot of help from the International Women's Club. They assisted us to clear the boardwalk and pick up rubbish at Paget Marsh and also to cull invasive plants at Garrison Military Cemetery, Prospect. In February they helped remove invasive Elephant-ear and Balloon vines at Lemon Moor, our little farm cottage at the Paget traffic lights. In March the ladies volunteered at Reeve Court in the edible garden where they weeded, pruned and raked.

We also had help planting in Devonshire Marsh from the staff at Lancashire Re and a significant contribution clearing invasives at Scaur Lodge Nature Reserve from Aspen Bermuda Limited who have sponsored this nature reserve for a second year.

In March, our attention turned to planning and organising the Palm Sunday Walk. The annual walk aims to take the public to interesting places they would not normally visit and to highlight places of natural beauty or historical interest. This year, the walk returned to St David's for the third time since 1999. That is because the last two times, the walk was plagued

by rain. We are happy to report that 2015 provided a wonderful sunny yet cool day for the walk and we had an excellent turnout. The route took in Cooper's Island Nature Reserve, St David's Lighthouse, St David's Battery, Great Head Park, Fort Popple, the Old Pilot Station and the colourful wooden houses of St David's.

Earth Day in April was celebrated with the help of volunteers from Tokio Millennium at Gilbert Nature Reserve in Sandys and Springfield, which was in much need of care following the ravages of hurricanes Fay and Gonzalo. The team effort on a felled giant ficus tree alone was a monumental task and Tokio's efforts have saved the Trust considerable funds by volunteering. The cleaning and beautification of the front entrance to Springfield, the weeding of the edges of the buildings and flower beds along with all the removal of trash and raking transformed a mess into an estate more reminiscent of its former glory. The day culminated with the planting of Olivewood trees

In May, with help of Dr David Wingate, the interior of the fragile marsh at Higgs Nature Reserve at Tivoli in Warwick was selectively culled of damaging invasives.

In June, staff from Bacardi helped us build bat boxes for our reserves and accompanied Dr David Wingate and Trust staff in erecting several bat boxes within the Devonshire marshlands bordering Jubilee Road. In the heat of June, 30 brave students from BHS's IB class helped us cull invasive plants in Tivoli's woodlands.

In October, we were very fortunate to have the help of staff from ACE who assisted in clearing overgrowth and felled trees from the Butterfield Nature Reserve in Pembroke.

In November we removed Brazil pepper from the viewpoint of South Shore at Verdmont.

A conservation management plan was submitted to the

Planning Department for our Scaur Lodge Nature Reserve. The plan includes the maintenance of the reserve but also the restoration of some arable land.

At Paget Marsh, a Bermuda Cedar tree was planted by the Association of Fundraising Professionals in honour of our long term supporter and friend, Jim Butterfield.

## Historic Cemeteries

During Hurricane Gonzalo, 23ft of the perimeter wall at Prospect Garrison Cemetery in Devonshire collapsed. The wall and its cast iron railings were repaired at the beginning of 2015.

The mammoth task of surveying all of the sheadtones in the cemeteries that we care for was carried out to record any that had been damaged so that we can best plan cemetery repairs with the limited resources we have. The largest cemetery of course is the Royal Naval Cemetery on Ireland Island and repairs for this were put out to tender at the end of the year. The gazebo in the cemetery, destroyed during Hurricane Fay, was also refabricated and is on its way to us now for installation.

In April, preparation work was carried out at the grave of Bermuda's only Victoria Cross recipient, Petty Officer George Samson, in St George's Cemetery (Military), Secretary Road. A ceremony was held on April 25th, also known as Anzac Day, and commemorated the 100th anniversary of this awardee and the landing at Gallipoli, (now in modern day Turkey), during WWI. Five sailors from HMS *Lancaster* and members of the Parks Department helped cut the grass, trim the hedges and weed the cemetery.

With the help of WEDCO, in November we cleared the entire Watford Island Cemetery of creeping casuarina trees, an especially damaging invasive, particularly in cemeteries.

Gardens Manager, Saleem Madyun, accepting the keys for a new Mitsubishi Fuso dump truck from David Lang of the Bank of Bermuda Foundation. The Foundation generously donated the funds for the purchase of the vehicle which replaced the garden crew's previous 15-year-old truck.







# ADVOCACY

Part of the Bermuda National Trust's mission is to promote the preservation of the island's natural and historic environments and so we advocate for this when a potential development or policy change has the capacity to have a negative impact on a national level.

Since 2006, the Bermuda National Trust has advocated and fought hard for the preservation of the Southlands property in Warwick. Southlands is a beautiful unspoiled 37-acre property which came under threat from hotel development. We were extremely relieved when the Government entered into a land swap agreement with the developer in 2012, exchanging the property for the brownfield Morgan's Point peninsula and promising to grant National Park status for Southlands. The swap meant that the historic ground pollution of Morgan's Point would finally be treated and that pristine green space at Southlands would be preserved, an enormously successful result.

Three years have passed since the land exchange document was signed in June 2012. Southlands has still not been designated a National Park and therefore not afforded protection under the Bermuda National Parks Act of 1986, putting it at risk of future development.

In 2015 we wrote to the Minister of the Environment in relation to safeguarding the Southlands property as we became aware of a potential proposal to provide the neighbouring Bermudiana Beach Resort with a portion of the property on a long-term lease for the resort's private use, including parking. After such a lengthy battle to protect Southlands, the smallest suggestion that the property may still be under threat from development or sub-division is extremely alarming to us and is a matter of huge public interest.

Therefore, we are seeking reassurance that Southlands is still to be designated a National Park, and that development proposals will not be considered for the property's beautiful coastline.

Amendments to the Bermuda Archives Amendment Act were passed by the Senate in December 2015. While we applauded some of the amendments and support all efforts to incorporate best practice and new technology in the operation of the Archives, we were taken aback to learn that the Archives Advisory Council was repealed by the amendments.

In February 2015, a letter was sent to the Ministry of Community, Culture and Sports from the Trust and other bodies that rely heavily on the Archives because their collections are housed there for safekeeping. The signatories included the National Museum of Bermuda, the Bermuda Historical Society and the St George's Historical Society. This letter lamented that the Archives Advisory Council had not been gazetted for 2015 and expressed concern that the body may be done away with.

As a longstanding and well-established stakeholder in the Archives, it would be have been valuable for the National Trust alongside other stakeholders to be involved in any review of the Act and/or provide input on any considered amendments. The Advisory Council's primary role was to ensure that the Archives remained in tune with and responsive to public needs. The fact that we were not involved almost points to the need for such a Council.

Plans for the redevelopment of Morgan's Point were submitted to the Planning Department in late March. The important historic buildings on the site were delisted as part of the land swap agreement and, despite assurances, have since been demolished. This saddened us extremely.

One building, listed Grade I, was very special and, in our opinion, could and should have been saved. The house was called Sound View, The Other End or Quarters B and was used in the 20th century as the residence of the Captain of N.O.B. (US Naval Operating Base). It was an early 1700s single-storey hall-chamber house beautifully built in the old Bermuda tradition. Sadly, it was allowed to deteriorate when the U.S. Navy left the property in 1995. The interior of Sound View exhibited half-timbering (exposed timber framework) that, along with other evidence, strongly indicated that sections of the house may have had 17th century (1600s) origins. There were even indications the original house had a thatched roof at one time!

We appreciate that the restoration would have been expensive but not prohibitively so and, we believe, it would have been well worthwhile to save it.

The loss of historic buildings continued through 2015. Early in the year, a notice was published to delist the Machine Shop, 9 Freeport Drive, in Dockyard. At the time, it was a perfectly good building, structurally sound and in use. The building was the only remaining historic structure in the South Basin still listed and protected under Section 30 of the Development and Planning Act, the rest having had their protections removed. It would appear that the agreement to host the America's Cup included the deeply shocking to us demolition of structures in this area regardless of their historic importance. This is the area where the ship crests were located.

On the heels of this, we were very distressed in May to find out that the Royal Naval Club (28 Pender Road) had been delisted. The Trust submitted a formal objection to the application to delist the building to the Minister of Home Affairs. The Royal Naval Club and its neighbour to the north, the former Moresby House (26 Pender Road) are both fine buildings, regardless of their condition through neglect. We had sincerely hoped that the America's Cup would have provided the ideal opportunity to renovate and find a new use for historic buildings, such as these in the Dockyard area that have been long neglected, rather than

to tear them down. Indeed, we have submitted that a lasting legacy of the event would be the reuse and restoration of many of the neglected historic buildings in the area, in particular the Parsonage, Skittles Alley, Moresby House and the stabilisation (at least) of the Victualling Yard.


The Royal Naval Dockyard has had a considerable role in shaping the island's history over the last 200 or more years. The Royal Naval Club was built in the early 1880s and served as an officers' club and then as a naval ratings' club (canteen). It was an excellent example of British naval architecture of the period in a different style from the earlier buildings further to the north and should have been treasured for this reason. It had a similar appearance and scale to many British and American railway stations and provided diversity to Bermuda's architectural heritage.

The Dockyard has been the focus of a heroic restoration and preservation effort in the past three decades and now is not a good time to turn away from this conscious effort. Other than the merits of this particular building, the Trust strongly objects to the de-listing of buildings which have been allowed to deteriorate – it negates the entire principle of listing. "Demolition by neglect" is something which should not be encouraged. The best thing to do is not always the easiest.

In April, we objected to an application seeking to build a warehouse at 79 Middle Road, Devonshire, 16 feet from the boundary of our Barker's Hill property. The proposed warehouse and its use was not a permitted form of development within an open space reserve which the property is designated. Our objection was that the warehouse would not be sensitive to, or compatible with, the environmental characteristics of the site and surrounding nature reserve and open space areas. The application was refused.

The Bermuda National Trust was approach by WEDCO about the fate of Albert Row on Pender Road in Ireland Island South. It is one of the terraces on Ireland Island built to accommodate civilian workers at the Dockyard. Over the years, the terrace, along with others in the area, has deteriorated and would need major investment (WEDCO advise in the order of \$10-18 million) to bring it back into use. The site is spectacular and the buildings, if rehabilitated, would be wonderful.

Much of the terrace is strongly built and there are charming little courtyards behind each house. WEDCO had been unable to fund the restoration of the terrace and approached the Bermuda National Trust, knowing that it has long been an advocate of preserving the terrace and other Ireland Island buildings of the period. The Trust is extremely sympathetic but, with a small and a much reduced income, is struggling even to maintain the buildings it owns and is in no position to take on such a large project, particularly as current legislation means that it would



only be granted a 21-year lease. We have not given up hope of saving this terrace, and also Victoria Terrace, and will certainly provide support to any person or body that wishes to take on such a project. So much has already been lost and the Dockyard and these subsidiary buildings are such an important part of Bermuda's history.

During the summer, we reviewed the Draft City of Hamilton Plan. The Department of Planning is to be congratulated for all its hard work in putting it together. We provided input including our opinion that northeast Hamilton (no longer included in the Plan) needed its own local plan without delay, and, as it has the highest density of buildings of historic and architectural significance, special attention needed to be given to conserving the area's unique character. We have exhaustively researched the history and architecture of northeast Hamilton and offered our assistance.

The Plan included a new provision for community benefits, which will provide bonuses (floors/height) for developments that incorporate community benefits that would normally be located within the public realm e.g. amenity areas, parks and open spaces, sidewalks, landscaping, pedestrian links, street furniture, awnings and signage. We thought this was a great idea.

The Plan also aims to attract more residential use in the City and this we applaud. It would include allowing the repurposing of vacant commercial office and retail floor space for residential use, reflecting the impact of the 2008 economic downturn and online retail.

The Plan includes Special Study Areas. One is the City Hall car park where the aim is for it to be transformed into a civic square (with public parking underground). This would undoubtedly improve the amenity of the area and enhance the setting of the adjacent City Hall (listed Grade I). However, experience from the 2001 Plan and the Bermuda Development Plan suggests

that Special Study Areas have not been successful in securing either long-term beneficial use of these areas or maintaining them to an acceptable standard. Meaning that they languish. We reiterated that the Trust believes that the waterfront should be used in its entirety as public amenity space with a minimum of development necessary only for public and visitor enjoyment of the area.

With regard to the City's historic environment, the Plan supports the conversion, rehabilitation or adaptive reuse of listed buildings within the City, which is positive. If there were many listed buildings in the city such a clause could help to retain them. We also welcome the new Listed Building Grant Scheme whereby discretion to permit bonus development is given in return for contributing towards the scheme to a value of 1% of the proposal's development costs. This is different from the interest free loan scheme and would provide grants to owners of listed buildings to make repairs. A Historic Protection Area has been extended along Queen Street and upper Burnaby Street to conserve their historic character and interesting streetscapes.

Along Front Street the development rules are less prescriptive and provide more discretion to approve landmark development. It is hoped that architects will have more artistic freedom encouraging new development on Front Street to incorporate architecturally interesting upper storey design in order to retain the architecturally diverse collection of facades.

Sadly, only nine buildings are currently listed in the City so we of course asked that this process be extended to all notable buildings in the municipality.

In the new Plan, proposals are expected to demonstrate how energy conservation measures are incorporated into a building. We recommended that the Plan should provide more incentives for the incorporation of energy conservation measures, similar to the Public Amenity Provision and Listed Building Grant Scheme.



# KNOWLEDGE AND EDUCATION

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*"No one will protect what they don't care about; and no one will care about what they have never experienced".*

David Attenborough

## Education Programmes

The Trust's unique and well-established education programme had another fabulous year providing interesting and engaging lessons and field trips to students, teachers and other adults in creative and authentic settings. Our Three-Part Learning programme with pre-lessons at schools, field trips and follow-up activity offered by our education team is compatible with the school curricula. It boosts classroom work, is inspiring to young explorers and creates lasting memories. Through our programme the students have the chance to appreciate and connect to their surroundings with all their senses and it is easier for them to learn, focus and interact with each other. We have seen these improvements consistently throughout the year and have continued to further develop and promote our programme to an increasing number of schools. It comes as no surprise that we have seen a rise in enrollment over the previous years and were chosen by so many different teachers and schools to enhance their classroom work. A total of 4,878 children and 602 adults enjoyed our programme in 2015 and learnt about our historic houses, nature reserves, art and environmental advocacy.



*Students from Mount Saint Agnes Academy enjoying a field trip at Spittal Pond*



*Somersfield Academy students at Portuguese Rock, Spittal Pond*

## Outreach

The Children's Nature Walk, held in February, provided 254 children and adults the opportunity to discover the 'wonders of nature' at Spittal Pond.

The Earth Day Video Competition, celebrated on Earth Day 2015, involved 92 students and 27 adults and produced 10 short videos. The competition was kindly sponsored by Marshall, Diel and Myers.

We continued the fun and creative Masterart Programme for 14-18 year old students in partnership with Masterworks and sponsored by AXIS Capital Holding. Three ten-week sessions were held at National Trust sites and Masterworks, during which students received instruction in history and painting techniques and met local and visiting artists. Their work was displayed at two mini art shows and enjoyed by the friends and families of the students.

The education team was invited to judge science fairs held at East End Primary, Elliot Primary and Purvis Primary School.

The survey to determine the environmental impact of marine plastic debris on the mangroves at Waterville was continued with the help of Biology students from Cedarbridge Academy.

Together with Bermuda Educational Network, Kaleidoscope Arts Foundation and the Continental Society, our Education Director continued to assist in the development of supporting activities for at risk students at Prospect Primary School, branching out to provide the same support to students and teachers at Northlands Primary School.

## Holiday Camps

Camps for 8 – 11 year old children with authentic outdoor experiences and arts and crafts were offered during the school breaks. 100 children experienced interesting field trips to historic sites and nature reserves. They explored beaches, the BUEI, Tucker House, Verdmont, the National Museum and Fort St. Catherine. They learned about the lifestyle of the first settlers and how life changed in Bermuda over the past 400 years. They learned hands-on about animals and plants at Spittal Pond Nature Reserve and became more appreciative of the value of open space. In particular campers enjoyed their time at the AXIS classroom where they built Bermuda kites, painted Easter eggs, created art from marine litter, played board games or LEGO, baked and had creative fun with arts and crafts. Waterville's garden became the perfect playground for tag, football and jump rope. Partnering with KBB, our campers created quirky art pieces made from marine plastic debris which were entered into the Bermuda Society of Arts "Extended Life Exhibit". We were delighted to welcome



*Summer holiday camp at Waterville*

## Teacher Resource Guides

The complete set of Teacher Resource Guides covering relevant science and history material and student activities linked directly to the school curriculum was launched in April. Twelve guides have been produced to provide teachers with current, accurate local history and science information with additional suggestions, instructions and activities. All public schools receive a complete set of guides. School Principals are encouraged to schedule an information session for their staff to learn how these resources are linked to the curriculum and can be used in conjunction with our Three-Part Learning. Copies of the guides are available for all to download for free from the Trust's website and Ministry of Education website ([www.moed.bm](http://www.moed.bm)). Copies of guides were given to educators who attended our teacher workshops held earlier at Verdmont, Spittal Pond and St. George's. Our attendees were excited to obtain these resources, which they feel are very useful in their lesson planning.



*Teacher resource guides launch*

## Adult Learners

Opportunities for adult learners were offered at our historic sites through tours that brought art, architecture, furniture and important events of the old days back to life. Twenty-eight members of the International Women's Club enjoyed an engaging tour of Verdmont. A further 231 adults were reached during Trust Talks.

We are very grateful for the outstanding support for our programme from AXIS Capital Holding and the Bank of Bermuda Foundation.

With generous support from AXIS Capital Holdings Limited, the Ministry of Education and the Bank of Bermuda Foundation our education team continues to broaden the access to our programmes that are age appropriate, curriculum linked and relevant for ALL.



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# SHOWCASING OUR HERITAGE

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## Historic Homes and Collections

The Trust's historic houses continue to be prime landmarks in Bermuda for locals and visitors alike. They offer a wonderful insight into the past life of Bermudians, and their remarkable collections of unique furniture, silver, paintings and porcelain tell many stories which are brought alive by our knowledgeable and dedicated museum docents. In 2015 many events, guided tours, book signings and concerts were held at Verdmont, Tucker House and the Globe Hotel, and a total of 5,142 adults, students and children walked through their doors.

In March the Globe Hotel and Tucker House were opened during a special commemoration held in honour of pilot James "Jemmy" Darrell. A slave for most of his life, James Darrell was granted his freedom at the age of 47 because of his outstanding skills as a pilot. He was one of Bermuda's first King's pilots, as well as the first black person known to have purchased a house in St. George's.

Following the footsteps of last year's popular series of Trust talks, the 2015 Chats continued to provide a venue where local historians, researchers and authors were able to share their knowledge with interested locals and visitors.

Lisa Greene talked about Bermuda's botanical history on a walk through the charming streets of old St. George's. Trudy Snaith talked about her *Bermudian Girl* books and participants learned about Sarah Catherine who lived in St. George's in 1650 and Rebecca who lived at Tucker House in 1775. In the third talk Dr. Brent Fortenberry traced the evolution of St George's urban form from its origins in the early 17th century until 1815 when it lost



*New acquisition for the Boer War exhibit at the Globe Hotel*

its capital status to Hamilton. Horst Augustinovic the author of *What You May Not Know about Bermuda* delivered a new look at Bermuda's history and world events with emphasis on how Bermudians and tourists communicated before e-mail. Historian and author William Zuill Sr. provided an amusing and informative story about the pirate raid from the *Amity* back in 1694 during a presentation at Verdmont. John Cox talked about his personal journey with porcelain, beginning with a Chinese bowl whose makers kept the art of producing porcelain a secret for many centuries. Fascinating new discoveries made at this year's Smith's Island Archaeology Project were presented by Dr. Michael Jarvis during a field trip to the island. During a Haunted History Tour of Verdmont John Cox and the Museums Manager talked about ghosts in old Bermuda houses and Josie DeBraga acted her part as the ghost of Catherine Trott who died in the house 1858.

The renovation of the Archaeology Exhibit in Tucker House was completed in the spring under the management of the Education team and with assistance from Stephen Copeland and Linda Abend, and since then visitors have enjoyed the refreshed look of the exhibit with its new panels, display cases and informative signage.

Our splendid silver exhibit at Tucker House was enhanced by a few new items. A set of six English silver table spoons with feathered edges and a silver punch ladle, all bearing the Tucker family crest, were accepted on loan from Andrew St. George Tucker, a family relative living in Rhode Island, and Nea Willits kindly donated a Bermuda-made silver fork, butter knife and table spoon.

The Boer War Exhibit at the Globe Hotel was rearranged and enriched with new additions. A small cedar stamp box made by one of the prisoners in 1903 while being held in Bermuda was donated by David Mitchell and a book by Rev. J. A. Blerk of South Africa was donated by Mrs. Joan Rossouw of Ladysmith. Reverend Blerk spent time in Bermuda tending the spiritual needs of the Boer prisoners.



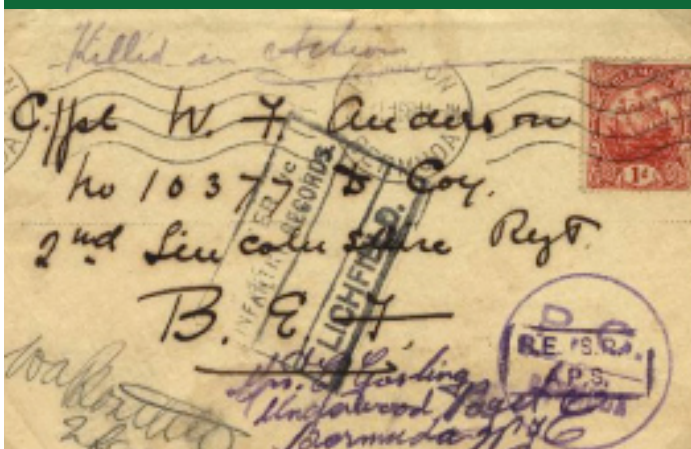
*Tea set at Verdmont*



Restored bell from the Pollokshields at Devondale



Historian and author William Zuill Sr.



Horst letter

The Trust is always seeking ways to showcase our priceless collections and we were thrilled that the Bermuda Philatelic Bureau released a series of ten stamps featuring a selection of our stunning botanical paintings and drawings called 'Flowers of Bermuda 1871-1877' by Charlotte Anna Lefroy. The artwork was created while she was living in Bermuda with her husband, Major-General John Henry Lefroy, Governor of Bermuda from 1871 to 1877.

Throughout the year the Museums Manager collaborated with other organisations who were interested in the Trust's documents stored in the Bermuda Archives. The Director of the National Museum of Bermuda, Dr. Edward Harris requested the use of the images of the watercolours done by Alice Fanshawe. Permission was granted for 11 prints to be put together in a future publication of the National Museum of Bermuda Press. The arduous task of cataloguing the Allen Papers and images of Mark Twain in our collection in the Bermuda Archives got under way in 2015. Eleven pages of letters from this collection were loaned to the Bermuda National Library for an exhibit celebrating Mark Twain's first visit to Bermuda in November 1867.

Author Michael Marsh approached the Museums Manager and was granted permission for reproduction of photographs by Ann Spurling of the portraits of Gov. George Bruere, Col. Henry Tucker, St George Tucker, and Thomas Tudor Tucker along with the Tucker Genealogical Chart for his book *The Defining Story of Bermuda's Great Gunpowder Plot 1775*. The portraits of Col. Henry and Mrs Tucker painted by Joseph Blackburn and displayed at Tucker House were used in Jennifer Van Horn's essay titled "Regional Tastes in a Transatlantic Market: Joseph Blackburn in New England and Bermuda". Mrs Horn is an Assistant Professor in the Department of History and Art History at George Mason University.

## Elegant settings

In the spring of 2015 Verdmont was used for a beautiful wedding dinner, a wedding photo shoot and for a very special event hosted by the Alliance Francaise with a first class violin and harpsicord performance by Ann Robert from Montreal and Laure Morabito from Paris. The Board of Directors of Tokio Millenium gathered at Verdmont for a private dinner in November and Hiscox Ltd. were treated to a unique corporate dinner and tour at Mr John Cox's house Orange Valley in March.

In December Verdmont was shining in its full candle-lit glory and guests thoroughly enjoyed the first of a series of elegant dinner theatre shows called "A Memorable Evening in Bermuda – Mark Twain in 'Reminiscences and Other Lies'" performed by Gavin Wilson. The shows were geared to both the tourism and corporate market during the newly rebranded Arts & Culture Season and were supported by the Bermuda Tourism Authority.





*Flowers of Bermuda stamps featuring paintings by Charlotte Anna Lefroy*

## Cultural Tourism

Our historic houses were enjoyed by many visitors throughout the year when they were able to step back in time and learn about the way of life in the old Bermuda. A Roads Scholar group and later the Ogden Group from Andrew University toured all of them under the guidance of their study leader Tom Rogers in February and March. Also in March a Special Interest Group from the Smithsonian Institute was treated to a variety of tours of our historic houses and private homes. In April the Museums Manager gave a special tour of Verdmont to Linda Densmore who was working on a feature film about pirates in which Bermuda and Verdmont would be featured and during May guests from Ironshore Insurance, Society of Colonial Wars Tour Group and Western & Southern Insurance Convention Group enjoyed tours through St. George's and Verdmont.

During the summer a tour entitled 'Boom Times in St. George's' was launched by the Trust with the support of the Bermuda Tourism Authority. Visitors began their walking tour in King's Square where they learned about the historic buildings that surround the area. The walk then proceeded to other points of interest in the town with participants learning about their history and fascinating trivia as it related to tumultuous times. The walk finished at the Globe Hotel for a historical vignette performed by a local thespian dressed as the proprietor of the hotel reminiscing about some of the colourful characters that have passed through its door. These include Major Norman Walker, a Confederate shipping agent, and his wife Georgiana whose daring exploits and cosmopolitan social life have been preserved for us in her own words in her diary. The story included a description of a lunch at the Globe Hotel written by a visitor who signed the guest book as 'S. Langhorne' - his full name was Samuel Langhorne Clemens, aka Mark Twain!

In August members of the Sons, Daughters & Children of the American Revolution arrived on the island to celebrate the

240th Anniversary of the Gunpowder Plot and to honour two Bermudian brothers, Thomas Tudor and St. George Tucker, who were patriots in the American cause of freedom. Among the many highlights of the visit was a short re-enactment at Tucker House by 'Rebecca - a Bermudian Girl' who lived there in 1775, a walking tour through St. George's and a humorous finale at Tobacco Bay where more than 300 locals and visitors enjoyed the re-enactment of the theft of the gunpowder and the lively shocked reaction of Governor Bruere.

In the autumn Waterville was toured by members of the Maritime Law Association and the Garden and Gun Magazine Public Relations groups enjoyed visiting the Globe Hotel and Tucker House.

## Uncovering the Past

In May the Smith's Island archaeology team from Rochester University arrived for the 2015 field season led by Dr. Michael Jarvis. Together with 15 Bermudian volunteers they excavated large areas endeavouring to discover what life was like for Bermuda's earliest settlers. They spent five exciting weeks and made many new discoveries, in particular at the Oven site which is believed to have been the home of some of the island's first inhabitants. Here they exposed two parts of a house dating to about 1615, found two large post holes that would have supported the old roof and uncovered English ceramics which back the belief as to the building's origins. Dr Jarvis believes that the people living in this house probably arrived in Bermuda in the first three years after the Sea Venture. They also found interesting clues about the type of building materials used.

In July Dr David Wingate assisted the archaeology team in the Reeve Court lab by identifying animal bones from the Cave site on Smith's Island. While the majority of the bones from this year's Smith's Island summer dig were fish and hog, bird and turtle bones were also identified. Visit our website for a full report on the fascinating archaeology digs.



*Michael Jarvis and three of his students at the excavation site on Smith's Island*

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# INSPIRING SUPPORT

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## Our Annual Events

The Trust runs an annual cycle of events which serve to raise funds, make friends for the Trust and increase public awareness of issues of concern. Over the years, Trust events have garnered an astonishing array of volunteers and supporters and also created enriching, exciting and fun experiences for all. We could not succeed without the wonderful relationships between volunteers, members, donors and the general public.

## Children's Nature Walk

On February 17th we were blessed with a wonderful breezy day and no rain for the Annual Children's Nature Walk where 179 students and 75 adults enjoyed a fun morning learning about our precious environment. Volunteers included expert scientists and local historians serving as station guides, as well as other adult group leaders. Twenty-one students from the Bermuda College also volunteered as student guides.

## The Plant and Bake Sale

On Saturday, February 14th Cupid was in the air at Waterville for the Annual Plant and Bake Sale on Valentine's Day. Despite the recent hurricanes our donors and supporters supplied a fabulous selection of plants and our bakers came up trumps with cookies, jams, sweets and breads to please every taste. Our committee chairs David O'Neil (Plants) and Ghie Patasin (Bake Sale), along with their teams, did a stellar job and we raised a total of \$10,108.75, just surpassing our fundraising target.



*Plant and Bake Sale 2015*



*Collectables at the Auction and Jumble Sale*

## Auction and Jumble Sale

We love this event which took place in March this year. It is a great recycling fundraiser with an army of dedicated volunteers led by Hugh Davidson and Lionel Thompson. Volunteers return year after year to take responsibility for their chosen areas, the Trust's supporters bring in truckloads of goods to be sold, and a host of people turn up to buy them. Our lead auctioneer, Judiann Smith, was joined this year by Stephen Lusher, Leonard Gibbons and Linda O'Shea and their talent along with many supporters resulted in more than \$50,000 to support our work. A great success indeed!

## Earth Day

The 2015 Earth Day was celebrated with three Trust events this year.

The Trust hosted a mini film festival and awards ceremony at the BUEI for the 2015 Earth Day Video Competition. This event, now in its fourth year, was sponsored by Marshall, Diel and Myers. Andrew Stevenson, Lisa Greene, Anne Hyde and Robert Zuill served as judges to review ten videos that were submitted by 35 students from six schools. All videos have been uploaded to the Trust website and were shown on national television. Thirty staff from Tokio Millennium held a Day of Giving at Springfield and Gilbert Nature Reserve alongside Trust staff. Citizen scientists from the HSBC Water Programme met at Paget Marsh for a training session. They will be testing fresh water in ponds across Bermuda. David Wingate gave an overview of Paget Marsh and of Bermuda's wetlands and ponds.





*Palm Sunday walk 2015*

## Palm Sunday Walk

On March 29th the Palm Sunday Walk took place in St David's with the support of many volunteers. A beautiful breezy day with a walk around Coopers Island, through St. David's, along trails that led to Great Head Park and a spectacular cliff view, then along the coast of St. David's, finishing back at Coopers Island, was enjoyed by some 1,400 participants. The St. George's Town Crier was in good form to start the walk which was led off by His Excellency the Governor and Mrs. Fergusson, Premier Michael Dunkley, Minister of the Environment Mrs. Jeanne Atherden, St. Georges MP Suzann Roberts-Holshouser and Alison Hill, CEO of our event sponsor Argus, accompanied by the President and Director.

## ACE Gallery Exhibition

The ACE Gallery exhibition entitled "Lansdown Guilding: A Natural History of Bermuda" opened on May 7th with a good crowd in attendance. In celebration of Heritage Month the ACE Gallery and the Bermuda National Trust partnered to showcase these colourful paintings of Bermuda's marine wildlife for the first time since they were created in 1831. The works on display were reproduced from an album entitled "The Natural History of Bermuda" by Rev. Lansdown Guilding. It was purchased by J. Leslie Darling at a Christie's auction in 1963 and donated to the Bermuda Historical Monuments Trust, the precursor of the Bermuda National Trust. We are very grateful for this fantastic partnership with ACE which allows the Trust to showcase its precious collections. The ACE Gallery has all the necessary safety and security measures in place to exhibit such rare art and their highly qualified team is a pleasure to work with.



*Dinner and dancing at Belair*

## Spring Soiree

The Trust's annual fundraising dinner, was held at Belair on June 6th. Over two hundred guests enjoyed cocktails and a fine dinner provided by the MEF Group. The Go Down Berries were the live entertainment for the sixth time, our own Peter Frith the MC and Nathan Atcheson the DJ. With much gratitude due to a host of volunteers and contributors, special thanks are due to the event chair Raj Tolaram who designed yet another unforgettable evening. William and Laura Pitt graciously allowed us to use Belair, and committee members Mariette Savoie and Linda O'Shea were invaluable in putting together a fabulous Silent Auction, selling tables and helping out in many other areas of the event. It was truly a night to remember and made possible by generous support from the Bank of Bermuda Foundation.



*2015 Bermuda National Trust Award recipients*

## Bermuda National Trust Annual Awards

The Annual Awards ceremony took place on June 23 in the Bermuda Room of the Elbow Beach Hotel with over 100 people in attendance. Bermuda National Trust President, Lt. Col. William White, opened the proceedings and welcomed Mrs. Fergusson,



the Junior Minister of Education the Hon. Leah Scott, JP, MP, the Minister of Health, Seniors and the Environment the Hon. Jeanne Atherden JP, MP who were in attendance to present awards. The event highlighted a host of impressive and positive projects and programmes in our community and the awardees were thrilled to be recognised. The Trust recognised the five-year term and outstanding leadership of President William White with an Honorary Life Membership and a framed cartoon by Al Seymour. Our thanks to Jim and Debbie Butterfield and Butterfield and Vallis for their sponsorship of this event.



*FarmFest 2015*

## FarmFest

On October 31st a very successful first FarmFest was held at Devondale with more than 1,000 guests in attendance during the day. The event was very popular with a wide range of people enjoying the beautiful farmlands of Devondale and a host of activities including pony rides, farm themed fair games, a treasure hunt, face-painting, a fun castle and much more. FarmFest celebrates the incredible value of our agricultural holdings and healthy family fun in the great outdoors. A fitting theme for the Trust, we hope this event will continue in future years.

## The Annual Christmas Walkabout

The December 4th Walkabout was a spectacular event this year. The Trust home base was in the centrally placed Bridge House gallery. Rain threatened but decided to stop just for the duration of our event. Out of the thousands that came to St. George's, the children's corner alone saw 340 children and parents creating Christmas themed ornaments and crafts. The winning tickets of the Annual Trust raffle, sponsored by the Bank of Bermuda Foundation and raising some \$26,000 for the Trust, were drawn at the Walkabout this year. The stage performances were spectacular, the snow machine in Stewart Hall's window was active and the streets were alive with lots of people and the spirit of Christmas. It takes an army of volunteers, performers and supporters to make this evening such a success and it would not be possible without the generous support of Butterfield Bank.



*the Bermuda Regiment Band playing at the Annual Christmas Walkabout, 2015*

## Christmas Cocktail Fundraiser

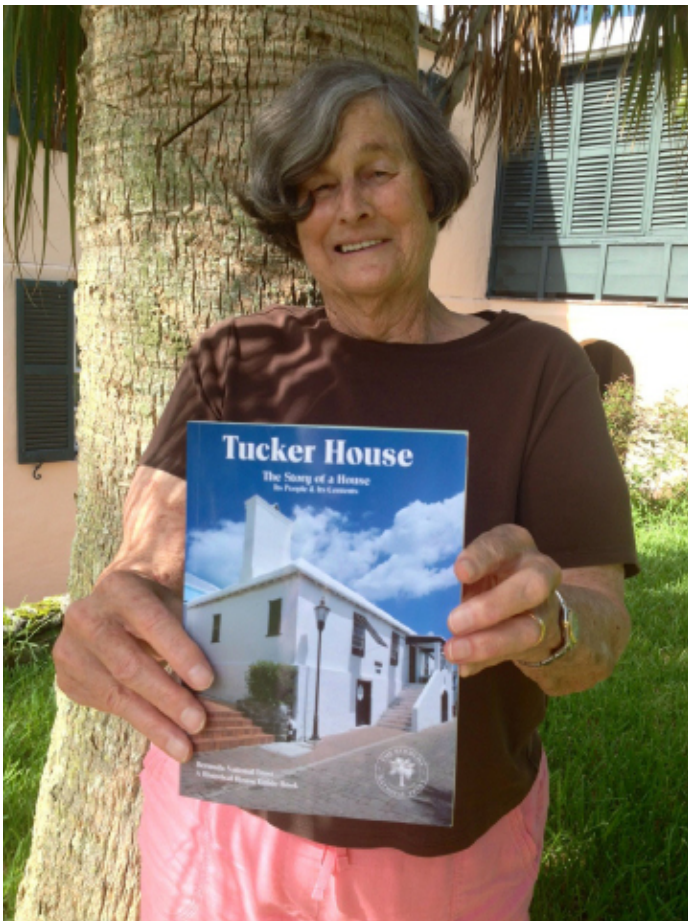
The Trust Christmas Cocktail fundraiser took place at Government House on December 9th. Five vendors and the Trust arranged their goods on tables and some 80 guests enjoyed Christmas shopping, piano music by young Jude Richardson and refreshments in the dining room. Many bought baubles to decorate our tree in the drawing room. This event, which seems to grow in popularity and support every year, is becoming a creative way to raise funds, in addition to celebrating the Christmas season.

## Christmas Boat Parade

For the first time the Bermuda National Trust participated in the bi-annual Boat Parade on December 12th which saw our entry sporting a fabulous Trust logo organised and donated by Council member Michael Heslop and proudly displayed on *Play Penn*, a lovely boat owned by Luciano Aicardi. The Trust won two awards for its entry and we were delighted to see our logo on the water and appreciated by so many onlookers.



*The Bermuda National Trust logo, hosted on 'Play Penn'*



*Diana Chudleigh showing 'Tucker House, The Story of a House, Its People & Its Contents'*

## Publications

*Hamilton – Town and City*, the latest in our Architectural Heritage series, arrived in late 2014 and sales continued buoyant well into 2015. This latest edition to the series is a must-buy.

The book was dedicated to its author, the late David L. White, OBE, past President of the National Trust, and was sponsored by Bacardi Limited. It has photographs by Robin Judah and contributions from Linda Abend, Larry Burchall, Edward A Chappell, Thomas V James, Margaret Lloyd and Hilary Tulloch. It would not have been possible without the incredibly painstaking work of our amazing and tireless publications research team as well as an army of other volunteers, too many to mention here.

Packed full of information and fascinating illustrations of Hamilton, both present and past, it covers the history of Hamilton buildings, governance, merchants and its residents. Front Street and town areas from Brooklyn across to Angle and Union streets are included, with information ranging from the governors after whom some of the streets were named, through the black gentry families who lived on Princess and Court streets, down to some of the humblest inhabitants.

Throughout the book there are wonderful paintings and

photographs of old Hamilton that helped to trace the development of the town. We are extremely grateful to all those who have collected and cared for them and made them available to us.

This is the seventh volume of what will be a ten volume series (nine parishes and the City of Hamilton). Many of original team that worked on our first volume, *Devonshire*, published in 1995, are still with us as well as new members we have welcomed over the years. The book is enlightening and we hope readers have and will continue to enjoy learning from it.

Work continued in 2015 on our next volume, *Pembroke*, written by Dr. Clarence Maxwell and scheduled for publication in late 2016, along with research for *Warwick* and *Southampton*.

Thanks to the hard work of a dedicated team, *Tucker House, The Story of a House, Its People & Its Contents* was published in 2015. This informative guide to the Tucker House Museum was researched and written by Diana Chudleigh, photographed by Ann Spurling and designed and laid out by Dace McCoy Ground. Its publication was sponsored by David and Joy Tucker with additional support from Ann Spurling and three members of our UK Friends of the Bermuda National Trust.

Tucker House today is one of our most treasured historic buildings and is a museum housing a valuable collection of Bermuda artefacts and furniture. Located on Water Street in the heart of St. George's and within the UNESCO World Heritage Site, the house was built in the 1750s largely as it exists today.

The book tells the story of this mid-18th century house through the eyes of its many inhabitants so that we witness the unfolding history of the Town of St George, the former seat of government.

Tucker House was built for Captain Thomas Smith, a merchant mariner, with living quarters over large cellars. The book tells the story of Tucker family including Henry Tucker, President of the Governor's Council at the end of the 18th century. It gives the story of those enslaved at the house, tells of the famous Gunpowder Plot and details how the house grew over the centuries and the history of its priceless collection, and much more. It has a section on Joseph Rainey who was, on 12 December 1870, the first African-American to be sworn into the U.S. House of Representatives. He was a free black man from South Carolina who operated a barber shop in the kitchen of Tucker House from 1862 to 1865 after escaping from the South due to the American Civil War.

This is a wonderful addition to the Bermuda National Trust library and a great education resource. The book is available at book shops around the island and along with our other fabulous publications is available for purchase at our headquarters at Waterville, 2 Pomander Road in Paget and the Globe Museum, 32 York Street in St George's.



# SPOTLIGHT ON OUR VOLUNTEERS

## Volunteers are the Lifeblood of Our Organisation...

We depend on our incredible volunteer community for success. The gift of volunteer work is an invaluable service which is truly treasured at the Trust. While teams of volunteers come out to support annual events and enjoy the teamwork and comradery, the Trust has a number of silent heroes who year after year quietly offer their services to benefit our mission. On November 18th we hosted a volunteer recognition celebration at Waterville. The event was well attended and a special way to thank our many volunteers. Collectively our 831 volunteers logged over 10,000 hours during 2015, a testimony to their great value to the Trust.



*Mrs Kempe and Mr Lionel at Waterville*



*Campers & counsellors at Vesey Nature Reserve, part of the AIM programme*

## AIM Youth Volunteer Programme

The Trust's AIM Programme, sponsored by John Charman, is designed to Activate, Inspire and Motivate students through action in the environment and at our historic buildings and nature reserves. This programme gives students the opportunity to fulfill their community service requirement with meaningful giving. With 331 students participating and volunteering 1,674.5 hours of their time, 2015 has been another record-breaking year for the programme. It showed a 77% increase in student participation and a 51% increase in donated hours over 2014. Each interaction between student volunteers and the AIM Programme cultivates the student's educational and philanthropic growth. AIM fosters environmental, cultural and historical awareness and advocacy, and students repeatedly request the Trust as their charity of choice.

This year students joined in a variety of projects. Highlights include special events such as the Plant and Bake Sale, the Children's Nature Walk, FarmFest and the Christmas Walkabout. Experiences that are fine examples of the AIM Programme in action are the Saltus Island project, Student Docents, Community Service Week and the collaboration between the Bermuda College and the Trust. In 2015 this partnership included working at the Gilbert and Sherwin Nature Reserves.

# THANK YOU & FAREWELL



*Trustworthy Shop Volunteers outside the Old Cellar Lane location*

## Trustworthy Shop

Sadly, at the end of 2015 the doors closed for the last time on the Trustworthy Gift Shop in Old Cellar Lane in the City of Hamilton. The Trustworthy Committee retired after 25 years of being in business. Over this period the incredibly hard working and very dedicated unit contributed a staggering \$428,000 to the Bermuda National Trust. Their support and tremendous contributions will not be forgotten.

When the idea of a gift shop for the Trust was born, this small group of stalwart Trust supporters were told that perhaps they had better 'pack it in' before they started. The founders — Laura Butterfield, Patsy Phillips, Kathryn Brown and Pamela Langton — were not to be so easily put off. The first shop opened at the Trust's headquarters, Waterville. The ribbon was cut by deForest (Shorty) Trimmingham because Waterville was once a Trimmingham home and the site of first Trimmingham store. To start the shop the Trust invested \$18,000 to purchase merchandise.

After the first year Trustworthy paid the Trust back in full, with an additional donation of \$15,000.

Trustworthy has had a variety of homes over the years. From Waterville, the shop moved to Gibbons Company across from the Hamilton bus depot, and then to a tiny building on

Queen Street, and finally to Old Cellar Lane. The lane contains one of the few remnants of the stables which once would have been commonly found behind the buildings on Front Street, sheltering horses and carriages.

The last Hamilton Trustworthy shop was located in one of these stables. The shop has been staffed by numerous dedicated volunteers, at times assisted by part-time staff, under the direction of the tireless Committee which consisted of Hope Bowker, Gillian Burpee, Laura Butterfield, Ann Holzberger, Mary Ann Piatta and Pamela Langton, with Patsy Phillips as Chairperson.

What exactly did the shop sell? A little bit of everything including a large selection of Bermuda books, locally made cedar items, blue bird boxes, a wonderful range of Trust logo items from canvas shopping bags to boxer shorts and unique gift items to please any shopper. Some of these items can still be bought at our shop in the Globe Museum in St George's. Trustworthy was a small shop making a big difference to Bermuda's future. Thank you!



*Chairperson of Trustworthy Shop, Patsy Phillips*



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# TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2015

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The Trust's leadership continues to focus on reducing costs, increased fundraising efforts to ensure preservation of built and natural heritage, reinvestment in rental properties and promoting awareness through education and advocacy.

We are pleased to report a positive result in the general fund of \$133,000 for the year ended December 31, 2015 compared with \$29,000 in 2014. The Trust's leadership continues to focus on reducing costs, increased fundraising efforts to ensure preservation of built and natural heritage, reinvestment in rental properties and promoting awareness through education and advocacy.

Although we had a positive result, total revenues in the general fund declined by 1% to \$1,876,000 from \$1,903,000 in 2014, as cultural and retail revenues fell by 40% and donations fell by 9%. Thankfully, these decreases were offset by increased rental income of 7%, while special events and other income remained the same. As the traditional business model for retail was no longer sustainable, the difficult decision was made to close our Hamilton Trustworthy Gift Shop on December 31, 2015 after 25 years in operation. The remaining inventory was relocated to our museum at the Globe Hotel in St. George's.

We were pleased to receive a one-time grant from the Ministry of Education toward our education programme which supports the national curriculum and we continue to receive a small service contract to maintain Government House furnishings. Our strategy of investing in our rental properties continues to improve related income which represents 43% of the Trust's total revenues. The renovation of Devondale, a property bequeathed to the Trust in 2014 by the estate of Jean Cox Spence, was completed and added to our rental portfolio on June 1, 2015.

General Fund expenditures decreased by 6% in 2015 from \$2,132,000 in 2014 to \$1,998,000, primarily as a result of decreased activity in preservation, cultural and retail. Administrative, education and museums costs were down by 4% due to staff vacancies. The Trust is grateful for the continued and generous support of AXIS Capital Holdings Limited and the Bank of Bermuda Foundation towards the education programme.

As in the prior year, preservation costs amounted to 38% of our total expenditures in the general fund, and represents the cost of upkeep of our nature reserves, farmland, cemeteries, together with maintenance of our gardens and historic buildings

- including 82 properties and 277 acres of land. Preservation expenses for all funds amounted to \$895,000 in 2015 (2014 - \$897,000). Additionally, capital outlays of \$281,000 for the renovations at Springfield and Devondale were capitalised during the year compared with \$138,000 in 2014 for the same properties. During 2015 a bequest of \$150,000 for open spaces was received from the estate of Dorothy Trimmingham and included in income for Restricted Funds. Capital Funds also benefitted from an anonymous gift to redesign our website. The Architectural Heritage Series continues to be graciously sponsored by Bacardi International Limited and the next publication will be "Pembroke" later in 2016.

At year-end, the Trust's total fund balance amounted to \$18.08 million (compared with \$17.74 million in 2014) of which properties held in perpetuity by the Trust represented \$12.9 million (2014 - \$12.6 million).

We have unrestricted capital funds of \$506,000 at year-end and a general fund balance of \$776,000. However, significant funds will be needed during 2016 to finance the growing number of large capital projects such as Springfield, which continues to undergo urgent renovations in order to return the property to the rental market. As always, our challenge is to continue to meet our core objectives with limited resources.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'S' followed by a horizontal line.

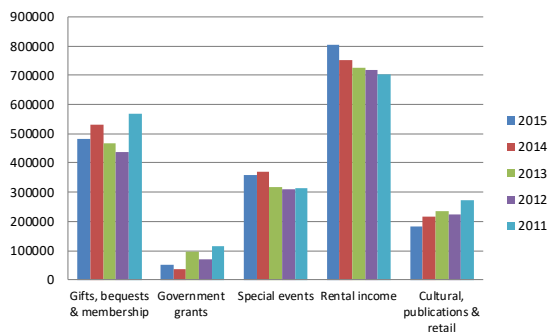
**Stephen Kuzyk**  
**Treasurer**



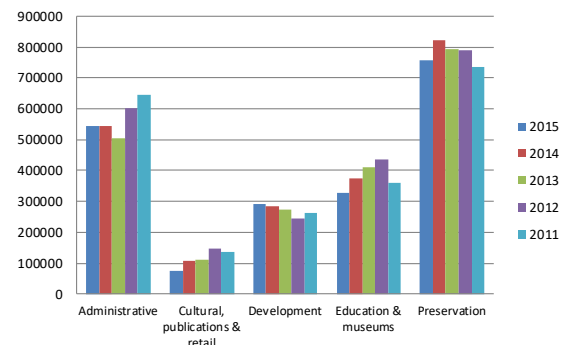
# SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

	2015			2014		
	General Fund	Restricted Funds	Total	General Fund	Restricted Funds	Total
<b>Revenues</b>						
Gifts, bequests & membership	\$482,359	\$638,492	\$1,120,851	\$529,626	\$2,749,774	\$3,279,400
Government grants	49,990	-	49,990	34,787	-	34,787
Special events	357,883	-	357,883	371,297	-	371,297
	890,232	638,492	1,528,724	935,710	2,749,774	3,685,484
Rental income	804,943	-	804,943	751,385	-	751,385
Cultural, publications & retail	76,744	9,592	86,336	128,041	44,451	172,492
Interest	24	51,215	51,239	31	61,805	61,836
Other income	104,993	-	104,993	88,573	-	88,573
Net unrealized gains (losses)	-	(72,338)	(72,338)	-	(25,830)	(25,830)
	1,876,936	626,961	2,503,897	1,903,740	2,830,200	4,733,940
<b>Expenses</b>						
Administrative	545,712	15,724	561,436	545,318	16,012	561,330
Depreciation	-	43,948	43,948	-	26,229	26,229
Cultural, publications & retail	76,353	12,444	88,797	107,937	32,268	140,205
Development	291,339	-	291,339	284,840	-	284,840
Education & museums	328,479	-	328,479	372,904	-	372,904
Preservation	756,246	139,189	895,435	821,240	76,383	897,623
Realized (gains) losses on investments	-	(49,516)	(49,516)	-	(59,504)	(59,504)
	1,998,129	161,789	2,159,918	2,132,239	91,388	2,223,627
<b>Net (loss) income before interfund transfers</b>	(121,193)	465,172	343,979	(228,499)	2,738,812	2,510,313
Grants for education program	223,696	(223,696)	-	236,447	(236,447)	-
Endowment contribution to operations	30,800	(30,800)	-	21,972	(21,972)	-
Other appropriations	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net (loss) income</b>	\$133,303	\$210,676	\$343,979	\$29,920	\$2,480,393	\$2,510,313

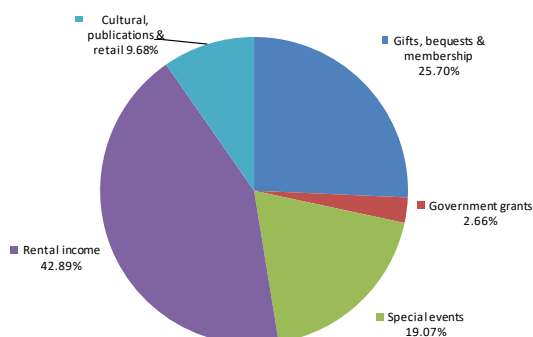
Revenues by Source, General Fund, 2011-2015



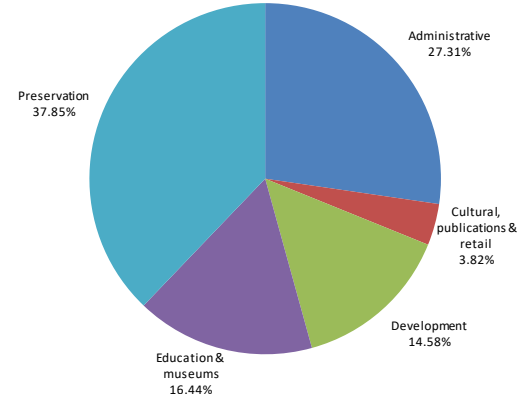
Expenses by category, General Fund, 2011-2015



Operating Revenues - 2015



Operating Expenses - 2015



# AWARDS 2015

We present these annually to individuals, organisations, groups and schools who have worked for the benefit of Bermuda and its people, to preserve places of beauty or historical interest, buildings, artefacts, lands and animal and plant life, and to promote their appreciation.

## EDUCATIONAL AWARDS

The School Programme Awards recognise educational institutions (preschool through college) for projects, programmes or initiatives that demonstrate care for the environment or preservation of Bermuda's heritage, both natural and man-made.

### Wee Environmentalist Award

Southampton Preschool  
Saltus Foundation Year  
Stepping Stones Preschool

### School Programme Award

Francis Patton Primary  
West End Primary  
Bermuda High School for Girls  
Dellwood Middle School  
Mount Saint Agnes  
Berkeley Institute  
Saltus Grammar School  
Somersfield Academy

### Michael Darling Shield

This award is given in recognition of projects, programmes or initiatives by a school demonstrating care of the environment or preservation of Bermuda's heritage. It was established in honour of Lt Col Michael Darling who served as the Trust President, 1977-79 and 1982-84.

**Winner: Sandys Secondary Middle School.**

## ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS

Awarded for projects, programmes or initiatives which enhance and protect the islands' natural environment, land or sea, or which improve the physical environment in our neighbourhood communities.

Winners: Lisa Whitehead  
Judie Clee  
The Guardian  
ACE Bermuda  
Bermuda Ocean Explorers  
Ian MacDonald-Smith

### The Patsy Phillips Bermudiana Award

The National Trust's top environmental award for recognition of projects, programmes or initiatives demonstrating care of the environment or preservation of Bermuda's natural heritage.

**Winners: Michael and Tucker Murphy**

## PRESERVATION & ARCHITECTURE AWARDS

Preservation Awards are awarded for projects, programmes or initiatives which contribute to the preservation of Bermuda's unique man-made heritage, including buildings, gardens, furniture, documents, artwork and other artefacts.

Winners: Ascendant Group and Conservation Services.

Architecture Awards are awarded to individuals or groups whose new buildings or additions show particular sensitivity to Bermuda's traditional architecture, or are appropriate renovations of old buildings.

**Winners: Rene Lamer, architect Molly Bigley and Linberg & Simmons**

## The deForest Trimingham Award

Our top awareness award is The DeForest Trimingham Awareness Award given for outstanding projects, programmes or initiatives that serve to inspire appreciation and stewardship of Bermuda's unique natural, built and cultural heritage. It is presented in memory of long term supporter of the Trust, deForest (Shorty) Trimingham.

**Winner: Jean-Pierre Rouja (LookBermuda) and Department of Conservation Services**

## SERVICE TO THE TRUST

These Trust Honours recognise individuals who have made significant contributions to the Trust. These organisations and individuals and others like them are the lifeblood of our organisation.

**Winners:**  
**Stephen Copeland**  
**Ann Spurling**  
**ACE Gallery**  
**Jonathan Young**  
**David O'Neil**

### Honorary Life Membership:

William White

## The Palmetto Award

This is the National Trust's highest annual honour and is awarded for outstanding service to the community in areas of concern to the Trust or service to the Trust itself. This would include preservation of Bermuda's natural or man-made heritage – or significant donation of time, effort or funds to this end.

**Winners: Paul and Penne Leseur**



# DONORS 2015

Each year the Trust is the beneficiary of many generous gifts - some from members and friends and some from altogether unexpected sources. Each gift is vital to the sustainability of the Trust and allows us to continue to carry out our mission.

## BEQUESTS

### \$150,000+

Estate of Dorothy Trimmingham

## CORPORATE DONORS

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### \$100,000+

Bank of Bermuda Foundation

### \$20,000+

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Butterfield  
Clendenen/Outerbridge Charitable Trust  
Government of Bermuda Ministry of Education  
KPMG  
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Wyndham Worldwide Corporation

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JLT Park Ltd  
The Shipowners Insurance and Guaranty Company Ltd  
UK Friends of BNT  
Walker Arcade Co. Ltd

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## IMO In Memory Of

A number of gifts listed were in memory of:

Mr. Theodore (Ted) Cart  
Mrs. Elfrida Chappel  
Mrs. Rosemary Clipper  
Mr. Giles Christian  
Mrs. Diana Dill  
Sir David Gibbons  
Nathanial (Rusty) Hutchings  
Mrs. Dorothy Trimingham

## Gifts in Kind

Gifts in kind of time, services, the opening of private homes for special tours and donations to collections, operations, auctions, raffles and special events are too numerous to list in this report despite being equally important to us. We thank all other faithful supporting vendors, members, volunteers and friends for the many ways in which they contribute to the furthering of our mission throughout the year. Our gratitude goes out to everyone who has helped the Trust carry on its important work.

Have we listed your name properly? Please let us know of any corrections or omissions so that we can be more accurate in the future.



# COUNCIL & COMMITTEES 2015

## Honorary Patron of the BNT

His Excellency, the Governor,  
Mr. George Fergusson

## Trust Council

William White, President \*(to June 2015)  
Tim Marshall, President\* (from June 2015)  
Tim Marshall, Vice President \*(to June 2015)  
Alana Anderson, Vice President \*(from June 2015)  
Stephen Kuzyk, Treasurer \*  
Karen Border  
Hugh Davidson  
Kevin Gunther  
Rosalind Gutteridge (to January 2015)  
Michael Heslop  
Paul Leseur (Executive to June 2015)  
Robin Mayor \* (from June 2015)  
Jan McDonald (from January to May 2015)  
Mark Orchard  
Tim Rogers  
Mariette Savoie (Executive to June 2015)

## Non-Voting Members

Bill Holmes, Past President (to June 2015)  
William White, Past President (from June 2015)  
Patsy Phillips, Trustworthy  
Susan Titus, Patrons Co- Chair (to June 2015)  
Paul Leseur, Patrons Chair (from June 2015)

\*Executive Committee Member

\*\* No longer on staff

## Trust Committees

Archaeological Research  
Andrew Baylay, Chair (to October 2015)  
Deborah Atwood, Chair (from October

2015)  
Charlotte Andrews  
Brent Fortenberry  
Jillian Smith  
Staff: Peter Frith

## Buy Back Bermuda

Karen Border  
Alison Copeland  
David Cox  
Paul Leseur, Chair  
William White  
David Wingate  
Staff: Jennifer Gray  
Mujib Swan (to May 2015)  
Lawrence Doughty (from October 2015)

## Collections & Advisory

Hugh Davidson, Chair  
Elfrida Chappell (sadly passed away July 2015)  
Lt Col Michael Darling  
Karla Hayward  
David Mitchell  
Betsy Ray  
Staff: Peter Frith

## Development

Mariette Savoie, Chair to June 2015) \*  
Robin Mayor, Chair (from June 2015) \*  
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Kendaree Burgess  
Amanda Outerbridge  
William White  
Staff: Jennifer Gray, Kelly Way

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Linda Abend  
Karen Bramlett  
Cathy Kennedy  
Anna Ridgeway  
Lindsey Sirju  
James Smith  
Lisa Spencer-Arscott  
Denika Wade  
Staff: Cindy Corday (to August 2015)  
Dörte Horsfield

## Environment Committee: Renamed: Advocates for the Environment From July 2015

Karen Border, Chair (to July 2015)  
Alma Dismont Chair (from July 2015)

Lee Davidson  
Annie Glasspool  
Cathy Gosling  
Eugene Harvey  
Penne Leseur  
David Wingate  
Staff: Dorcas Roberts  
Mujib Swan (to May 2015)  
Lawrence Doughty (from October 2015)  
Finance  
Stephen Kuzyk, Treasurer \*  
Alana Anderson  
Kevin Gunther  
Mark Smith  
William White  
Staff: Jennifer Gray, Vincent Chaves

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Diana Chudleigh  
Sheila Johnson  
Jeremy Madeiros, Consulting  
George Ogden  
David O'Neill  
Susan Swift  
Staff: Mujib Swan (to May 2015)  
Lawrence Doughty (from October 2015)

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William White  
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Karla Hayward  
David Mitchell  
Linda O'Shea  
Tim Rogers  
Lionel Thompson  
Nea Willits  
Staff: Peter Frith  
Patrons  
Paul Leseur, Chair (from June 2015)  
Mrs. John A. Ellison, Patrons Co- Chair  
Mrs. Susan B. Titus Patrons Co- Chair  
Preservation  
Paul Leseur, Chair  
Hugh Davidson  
Margie Lloyd  
Robert Masters  
Jillian Smith  
William White  
David Wingate



Staff: Dorcas Roberts  
Mujib Swan (to May 2015)  
Lawrence Doughty (from October 2015)

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Lionel Thompson  
Staff: Jennifer Gray

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Lawrence Doughty (from October 2015)

Historic Properties  
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Robert Masters, Co-Chair  
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Kirk Bridgewater  
Charles Tatem  
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Mujib Swan (to May 2015)  
Lawrence Doughty (from October 2015)

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Karla Hayward  
David Mitchell  
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Tim Rogers  
Lionel Thompson  
Nea Willits  
Staff: Peter Frith  
Patrons  
Paul Leseur, Chair (from June 2015)  
Mrs. John A. Ellison, Patrons Co- Chair  
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Preservation  
Paul Leseur, Chair  
Hugh Davidson  
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Robert Masters  
Jillian Smith  
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Staff: Dorcas Roberts  
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Anne Holzberger  
Pamela Langton  
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Thomas James  
Robin Judah  
Sue Judah  
Catherine Kennedy  
Katie Law

Margaret Lee  
Clarence Maxwell  
Cecille Simmons  
Sue Simons  
Alicia Resnik  
Joy Wilson Tucker  
Joan Williams

## Staff

Jennifer Gray, Executive Director \*  
Vincent Chaves, Director of Finance  
Cindy Corday, Director of Education (to August 2015) \*\*  
Lawrence Doughty, Conservation Officer (from Oct 2015)  
Tawana Fox, Membership/ Administrator  
Peter Frith, Museums Manager \*\*  
Dörte Horsfield, Education Officer  
Donella Perinchief, Accounts Assistant  
Pauline Powell, Executive Assistant  
Dorcas Roberts, Director of Preservation  
Mujib Swan, Conservation Officer (to May 2015) \*\*  
Kelly Way, Director of Development

## Buildings Maintenance

Allan Van Putten, Manager  
Randy Denbrook  
Duane Symonds  
Horticulture  
Saleem Madyun, Manager  
Vibio Festa  
Jackie Robinson  
Museum Guides  
Pansy Pitcher (to January 2015) \*\*  
Trustworthy  
Victoria Flood, Volunteer Shop Manager  
Judith Matos (to Sep 2014) \*\*

*One individual cannot possibly make a difference alone. It is individual efforts, collectively, that makes a noticeable difference – all the difference in the world!*

Dr Jane Goodall

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