



NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2011

Jersey Charity Award Winners



Winners from the first ever Jersey Charity Awards

Congratulations to the inaugural Jersey Charity Award winners; **Driving for the Disabled** (Small Charity of the Year); **Jersey Alzheimer's Association** (Medium Charity of the Year); and the **Jersey Sports Association for the Disabled (JSAD)** (Large Charity of the Year).

The overall winners, who each received an engraved glass plaque and a cheque for £5,000, were selected from the 45 entries by a panel of judges comprising Senator Francis Le Gresley; Principal Aide de Camp to Jersey's Lieutenant-Governor, Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Woodrow; Arclight Solutions Ltd Senior Consultant (who provide consultancy and training services for charities), Jane Galloway; and chairman of the AJC, Liz Le Poidevin.

A wonderful awards ceremony was held at Radier Manor on Sunday 4 September when the winners were crowned. The event was compered by Channel TV's Mark McQuillan and attended by 150 charity representatives and guests including the Bailiff and Geoff Cook, Chief Executive of Jersey Finance. Parklife Choir provided the entertainment and at the end of the ceremony their musical director, Roger Bara, was presented with the Lions' Club Citizenship Award for his work with the group.

The awards, supported by the AJC, were launched earlier this year to highlight local excellence within the charitable sector thus raising the profile of charity and voluntary activity in Jersey. The AJC worked in partnership with the 50 years of financial heritage celebrations for the event and the proceeds from the Golden Gala Community Charity Ball, which marked the anniversary, will be donated to local charities through the AJC and the awards.

Presentations and Seminars



The following courses are free to all representatives of AJC members. Email [Lyn Wilton](mailto:Lyn.Wilton@ajc.org) or call 840138 to book your place.

Courses are run by Jane Galloway, a UK consultant with years of experience in all areas of charity work. She is also available to offer members specific advice and consultation by booking through Lyn.

Marketing Your Cause - 22 November 2011

Social Networking - 23 November 2011

Team Building - 7 March 2012

Social Networking - 8 March 2012

Stress In The Workplace - 4 July 2012

Social Networking - 5 July 2012

International Legacy Day

15 members joined our recent legacy campaign, handing out thousands of tea bags (kindly donated by Coopers) and encouraging people to talk about leaving a donation to their preferred charity in their wills.

Gifts in wills, or legacies, as unexpected one off donations are a vital source of income which can make a huge difference to both island and national charities and it's hoped island promotion of International Legacy Giving Day (13 September) has encouraged more people to start thinking about how a charity could benefit and how they might go about making or changing a will.

Lyn Wilton said: "Of the 65% of people who give to charity during their life, only 4% leave a gift to charity in their will. In the UK, charitable donations in wills create almost £2 billion for good causes each year."

More information can be found at www.jerseycharities.org and people can contact Jersey's Citizen's Advice Bureau for advice on wills by calling Freephone 0800 735 0249 or 724942 or visiting www.cab.org.je (search under 'wills').



RNLI In Bloom



The Jersey Flower Club supported the RNLI Jersey Lifeboat Guild by putting on a Flower Festival at St Aubin's Methodist Church. The flowers looked fabulous and the ladies of the RNLI made homemade cakes and biscuits that were served in the Church Hall for visitors.

Smart move for Macmillian Jersey



Chris Ambler hands over the keys

Jersey Electricity have lent Macmillian Jersey an emission-free, all electric, Mercedes Smart Car until February 2012 to help the charity raise public awareness of its work.

The charity provides free information, support and practical advice to patients, their families and friends on coping with cancer and its treatment. The charity also runs a Prostate Cancer Support group that meets monthly.

Jersey Electricity CEO Chris Ambler said: "Healthcare is one of our priority areas for community investment. Equally, our commitment to reducing Jersey's carbon emissions involves encouraging electric transportation.

"We hope to give as many islanders as possible the chance to experience electric driving during the next four years we have these second generation smart cars on trial."

AJC Christmas Fair

It will be here before you know it! The AJC Christmas Fair will be on **Saturday 19 November** in the Main Hall of the Town Hall 10am-3pm. This is a chance for you to sell your Christmas cards and gifts and to run any other fundraising activities. There'll also be a Santa's Grotto, entertainment and refreshments by Grace Trust Jersey. Book your place and let us know your plans asap by emailing [Lyn Wilton](mailto:Lyn.Wilton@ajc.org)

Subs - Important Changes

The AJC bank account is now closed so standing order amendment forms will be sent out to you all regarding your subs. Please ensure your treasurer get them signed and sent back asap so they can be sent onto your banks. And 10 Members are still in arrears with these payments...do we need to name and shame you next time?!

MS Therapy Centre Make Over



The Jersey Multiple Sclerosis Therapy Centre got a much needed make over during this year's Construction Week. It's the first time the interior of the centre has been refurbished since the centre opened 24 years ago.

The centre is opposite the Jersey Cheshire Home in St Helier, and is used by people with Multiple Sclerosis for whom high-dosage oxygen therapy can bring relief for some of the condition's symptoms.

Jersey Construction Council member Colin Russell, who is also chairman of the centre, suggested the project: 'The centre is run by unpaid volunteers and any money that we raise is used to benefit those who use it. In 2012 we celebrate our 25th anniversary and this project will help us mark that anniversary in a meaningful way by refreshing the building and making it far more welcoming for all who visit the centre.'

The reception and resource information areas were remodelled, the existing padded bench seating removed and the carpets, lighting and decoration throughout the building were replaced. The kitchen was also moved to create more floor space. Visit www.mstherapycentre.com/refurb.htm.



Trip of a Lifetime By Pam Evans



Pam at the wheel!

I always dreaded the night watches, but there is nothing more beautiful being under the star-laden Caribbean sky, with only the sound of the wind in the sails. Certainly a time for reflection...

On our trip, we sailed by sunsets over Montserrat, past the lights of Guadeloupe sighting sperm whales, dolphins and flying fish, and we eventually moored at a small harbour in Dominica. Dominica is very basic, with shacks as shops, and very few cars. We spent the afternoon on a wild boat trip into the rainforest to a rum shack, where we partied. This was followed by a crazy trip back to the jetty in the pitch black. All this time we were 'safely' in the hands of the local Rastafarians, who were very happy! It was then time for a meal by the beach, followed by another party - on the beach!

The following day we sailed up to one of the very small French islands off Guadeloupe. It was charming. We managed a bit of shopping and some time on the beach, sharing it with chickens and goats.

After a lot more sailing, passing Montserrat once more, Antigua, St Kitts and Nevis, we moored at St Barts. On arrival, most of the crew dived into the deep blue sea and they managed to lower me in a harness. I think they were feeling the strain from my increased weight due to the most wonderful food we have on board. St Barts is so chic, the complete extreme from Dominica. We were not really smart enough! There are limited facilities for clothes washing on board and by this time our hair had suffered, and the make up hadn't been taken out of my locker yet! However, we made the most of it and had a glorious time on the most beautiful beach, followed by a rather expensive meal! The 'Checkers' bags were not quite on the same level as the various designer bags on show, but they did the trick.

A long sail back to Antigua. Many tearful farewells. We had had the most wonderful time. Everybody comes away with a sense of achievement. It is often hard work, but the camaraderie, the enjoyment, the fun, and the feeling that we can all take a full part in whatever is going on. It was a levelling experience, putting life into perspective for all ages, all abilities, and it was all amazing!

Please contact me if you're interested and would like more information on tel 726284. There are always spaces on their sailings. www.jst.org.uk

On a cold, dark February day this year, my sister in law Pat and I boarded a flight to join the ship Tenacious, which was waiting for us in Antigua. I had sailed before with The Jubilee Sailing Trust from Antigua to Bermuda, and I do recall saying "never again", so what was I doing? Pat hadn't sailed before, and understood that we were meant to be part of the crew, but I'm not sure she realized how much we would be working. I suffered a severe stroke seven years ago, and have been left paralysed down my left side. The ship caters for disabled and able bodied crew, and for some reason I had persuaded her to join me on this trip.

On board we met the other crew - ten permanent, complete with lady captain, and 30 voyage crew - us. There were two folk who were completely blind; one woman in a wheel chair; an older man who happened to be an ex-sea captain with severe walking difficulties; and me. The rest were all able bodied. The oldest was 78, and the youngest 18.

We were split into watches (teams) each with an experienced watch leader. Each watch was on watch for four hours during the day and four hours at night. During watch - we watched, took frequent readings, checked weather conditions, and often lowered or hoisted the many sails. You also steer. It's fascinating watching the people who are blind steer with audio aids. I had to be lifted onto a high chair and strapped in, and so I did manage to steer with one hand.



Welcome To Our New Members

The Association now has 267 members, with the following charities being the latest to join us:

- Equine Assisted Self Development
- Jersey Merchant Seamen's Benefit Society
- St George's Church Club
- MPS (Jersey) Uganda
- Caring Hands Charitable Trust
- Jersey Heart Support Group

The Jersey Herpetology Society and The Bush Hospital Foundation have recently been expelled from the AJC due to non-payment of subs.

Recent Grants Awarded

At the June AJC Committee meeting, eight grant applications were successful:

£3,750 - Jersey Association of Cancer Nurses
To host a medical conference

£4,136 - Good Companions Club
For a CCTV security system

£20,000 - Centre Point Trust
To cover transport costs for one year

£6,000 - Jersey One World Group
Two year salary for an educational officer

£7,780 - Jersey Heritage Trust
To update their catalogue

£20,000 - Maison des Landes Trust
Towards conversion costs

£19,220 - Glanville Home
For redecoration, tarmac and railing repairs

£20,000 - Silkworth Lodge
To replace their heating system and windows

Don't forget to keep your grant applications coming - we now have approx. £150,000 of additional funding to be given out from the interest on our investments...all waiting to be put to your good use!

Lourdes Pilgrimage - Please Help Us Continue By Annette Lowe



Please help. Younger helpers are needed

This spring, the Jersey Across Group once again enjoyed a wonderful holiday/pilgrimage to Lourdes, taking a total party of 47 people, 21 of whom were islanders with disabilities. They would have been unable to make such a trip without the constant care and support that the helpers provided.

We would all like to thank the AJC very much for the grant received, which helped toward the considerable expense that this trip entailed. As seen from the photo, we are delighted to have now recruited some younger helpers, but we desperately need to find more as so many of our long standing members are now well past retirement age and are finding the physical work involved increasingly difficult.

We have now been giving these wonderful holidays to disabled Jersey people for 27 years, and we feel it would be a tragedy if this has to cease due to the lack of suitable volunteers. If you, or anyone you know, would like to join our team please contact me on annette@lowejersey.co.uk.

Wanted: Your photos & events!

AJC website and emails are **free** ways of publicising your events, and we continually need new pictures from you to keep our grants, events and people [galleries](#) up to date. Send your diary dates, snap shots and information to info@jerseycharities.org.



Queens Award Winners



Congratulations to the Macmillan Jersey Prostate Cancer Support Group which was announced earlier this year as one of 130 winners of The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, the MBE for groups of volunteers who work in their local community for the benefit of others.

This prestigious UK national honour recognises outstanding voluntary contributions and sets the national benchmark for excellence in volunteering, with the work of those awarded being judged to be of the highest standard. Those receiving this year's award were selected from 413 groups nominated by members of the public.

The Jersey Group was nominated for its hard work and dedication in raising the awareness of prostate cancer and supporting those with the disease in the island. The group received a certificate signed by the Queen and an exclusive commemorative crystal, presented by Her Majesty's representative in Jersey, His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, Lt Gen Andrew Ridgway at a special ceremony. The group also received an invitation for representatives to attend a Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace in the summer.

The Queen's Award Committee Chair, and former broadcast journalist, Martyn Lewis CBE said: "Volunteer groups make such an important contribution to their communities, often without praise for the incredible job they do. In these difficult times their efforts are even more valuable. It's a pleasure to celebrate the achievements of The Macmillan Jersey Prostate Cancer Support Group with The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service and give official recognition for the benefits they bring to others' lives."

More than 980 groups from the UK, Channel Islands and the Isle of Man have now received this annual award since it was created by Her Majesty to mark her Golden Jubilee in 2002.

Visit www.direct.gov.uk/qavs for more information and details on the way in which you can nominate a charity.

Community Award Winners



An Association member, Le Squez Youth Club, won this year's Condor Ferries Community Award at the Enterprise Awards. Very well done to Jane Donald and her team for being recognised for the fantastic work they do with the youngsters of the area.

The aim of the Condor Ferries Community Award is to recognise the people that give up their time freely to help those less fortunate than themselves.

Simon Edsall Managing Director of Condor Ferries said: "There are so many people, organisations and charities who work selflessly for the benefit of others in the island. Their work helps to knit the Jersey community together, and Condor Ferries is proud to recognise and thank those that play such an integral part in supporting island life."

Condor Ferries welcomes all nominations, from individuals, small and large voluntary groups, to the local branches of larger charities. Contact community@condorferries.co.uk for more information.

Spotlight on Helen Davies, AJC Applications Review Officer



I first became involved with the AJC as the publicity officer and then moved into my new role last year. I really enjoy the small part I play in assisting a large number of Jersey charities, and I have worked closely with some regarding the applications process. I'm immensely proud of Jersey's commitment to charitable organisations and the number of people who work tirelessly for those who need support. After work, and some charity work, my spare time is spent with my partner and family enjoying meals, the zoo and the wonderful beaches as well as salsa dancing a couple of times a week. I can also regularly be found in St Aubin's Bay, crewing on a Hobie 16. Hobie racing is fast and furious in good winds so my family are used to seeing me tired, wet and occasionally bruised!



Jersey Cheshire Home



Our Muratti Players!

By David Lord

Operations Manager, Jersey Cheshire Home

Recently we've had a few events which have involved our residents being out and about having fun, living a life and promoting their own home, and this is what the Cheshire movement is all about!

In June we had the **Cheshire Muratti** - the Jersey and Guernsey Cheshire Homes met on the Springfield five-a-side football pitch in the inaugural Cheshire Muratti Cup. On a glorious afternoon, watched by residents of both homes, the staff battled it out on the pitch and Jersey took the silverware! The Guernsey contingent were then entertained with a post-match tea at the Eric Young House before returning to the northern isle, courtesy of Condor Ferries. It was a great day for all residents and staff as well as an opportunity to exchange views and meet people with similar challenges and problems.

Later that month 350 people attended the **Ball 4 Ben** in memory of Ben Poole, an islander and Royal Marine who died in July 2008. We were one of the charities to benefit from the ball, alongside the Special Boat Service Association, and about £25,000 was raised, a fantastic amount which will be split between the beneficiaries. A great night was had by all with lovely food and lively entertainment from the Le Rocquier Big Band and DJ James, along with a raffle and silent and grand auctions. Nine residents from the Cheshire Home attended and had a night to remember, along with staff and committee members who swelled the attendance by more than 50. The Jersey Cheshire Home is indebted to the Ball 4 Ben team: Amanda, Christine, Nick and Madders for their incredible efforts and support in creating such a successful event.

More volunteers for Victim Support



The new recruits at Victim Support

Victim Support has trained nine new volunteers to help victims of crime in the community and witnesses who have to go through court proceedings.

The training was delivered by Michele Rickett, from Victim Support Northumbria, who came over for a week to train the recruits to the organisation's national standards.

The group, of seven women and two men, are a welcome addition to the team and their diverse ages and backgrounds mean the charity is now even better equipped to match each client to someone who has the best skills, experience and knowledge to help them.

Lauren from the charity said: "We are endlessly grateful to all our volunteers, old and new, for giving up their time to help people in need. Thank you all!"

Need a display board?

The AJC now has eight boards, with sturdy feet and legs for members to use - portrait or landscape style. To borrow them email [Lyn Wilton](mailto:Lyn.Wilton@ajc.org) or call 840138.

Next issue

If you have any stories, suggestions or photos for November's AJC newsletter, please send them to: Lynsey Beahan, Publicity Officer, PO Box 356, St Helier, Jersey, JE4 9YZ, call 840138 or email info@jerseycharities.org.