



MUSTIQUE CHARITABLE TRUST NEWSLETTER

Volume 1 Issue 1
October 2010



Mustique Charitable Trust Activates Grant Programme

Since its successful launch on August 8, 2008 in Mustique at a Gala Evening to celebrate the Fortieth Anniversary of the Mustique Company, funds raised enabled the Trust to initiate its Grant Programme.

In order to begin dispersing grant funds the Trustees identified the types of causes in St. Vincent and the Grenadines that would benefit from the generosity of our donors. Lavinia Gunn was appointed Administrator of the Trust in June 2009 and oversees the day to day running of the Trust. A grant application process was set up. The Trustees will not dispense any funds without having done thorough due diligence of any proposed charity.

Since September 2009 the Mustique Charitable Trust (MCT) has supported nine Vincentian charities and organisations through its Grant Programme. The first recipient was the Technical and Vocational College



Donation of computers to Technical and Vocational College

which received a donation of 34 computers, a printer and a server to increase the capacity of the Information Technology Laboratories. Renovations to the two labs improved the IT facility catering to all 900 students attending the College.

Other MCT grant funded projects have ranged from donations of equipment to schools, assistance

with school fees for those in Special Needs Education, counseling for vulnerable children and young adults and assistance with maintenance and repairs to charities providing residential care. We will continue to update you on MCT grant funded projects in subsequent issues of our newsletters. Further details are highlighted in this issue.

Special Points of Interest

• The MCT website, designed by Ixora Digital, was launched in September.

Go to www.mustiquetrusts.com to find out more information about the MCT.

• A Fundraising Cocktail Party and auction on December 29, 2009 hosted by the Mustique Company and the Cotton House raised funds to assist Trust funded projects.

• Marco Sodi's Swim around the island of Mustique on April 6, 2010 raised US\$10,000 for the MCT Grant Programme.

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Launch of MCT Bursary

Earlier this year the Trust launched a Bursary at the University of the West Indies Open Campus in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Three students will be selected annually to benefit from the bursary which will provide for fees and laptops to assist with studies for Bachelor Degrees and Certificates offered at the Open Campus in Kingstown.

The first student, Samantha Browne, received a MCT Bursary in February 2010. Two further students, to be selected with the assistance of



Samantha Browne receives laptop from MCT Chairman Roger Pritchard

the SVG University of the West Indies Open Campus, will enter the MCT Bursary programme in September. Candidates must demonstrate academic qualifications, economic need

and ability to complete the area of study. Support is reviewed on an annual basis and on going funding is dependant on satisfactory progress in the area of chosen studies.

Management of the Trust

The Trust aims to listen, suggest, oversee and manage the charitable giving of the Island of Mustique. The Trustees are:

- Roger Pritchard (Chairman)
- Brian Alexander
- Michael Bunbury
- Basil Charles
- Dora della Gherardesca

The cost of the Administrator has been sponsored by the Mustique Company so that the cost of running the Trust is kept to the absolute minimum. Any charity in that wishes to receive funds has to go through a grant review process. The Trustees will not dispense any funds without having done thorough due diligence of any proposed charity.

Grant Programme 2009-2010

- Bread of Life
- Helping Hands Centre
- Marion House
- Our Lady of Guadelupe Home
- School for Children with Special Needs
- St. Benedict's Home
- West St. George Secondary School
- SVG Technical and Vocational College



Counseling Support for Children at Risk

During visits to Homes providing residential care for children with special needs and young adults at risk, the need for regular counseling was brought to the attention of the Trust. The Trustees agreed to provide this service at three of the Homes supported through its Grant Programme. Marion House, another MCT supported project, now

Mustique Charitable Trust Funded Projects

Since its foundation in May 2008 the type of projects that the Trust has supported include funding in the following areas:

Children & Young People Fund

- * Vulnerable children and young adults
 - HIV Aids
 - Girls
 - Domestic Violence
 - Incest
 - Boys

Tackling Poverty, Building Local Communities Fund

- * Capital Endowments
- * Relief of Childhood Poverty Education
- * Pre-school, Primary and Secondary School Support
- * Adult Vocational Education – Scholarships
- * Non-Structured Learning (after school clubs etc)
 - Bursary
 - Medicine
- * Screening Programmes

The aim is to continue to raise funds to build the Trust to a level whereby it continues to support on-going projects and provide assistance for new ones.



Science Laboratory for West St. George Secondary School

In March 2010 The Mustique Charitable Trust gave financial assistance to the West St. George Secondary School to complete the Science Laboratory and for the purchase of science equipment. All 350 students at the School will use the Science Laboratory allowing Integrated Science to be studied at Caribbean Council Examination level as well as opening up a range of career and employment opportunities.

This co-educational school caters to students in the community around Belair and Kingstown who were not successful in the Common Entrance Examination and therefore did not qualify for secondary education. The school is staffed by 21 qualified teachers with the teachers playing an active role in the lives of the pupils who are mainly from low

socio-economic backgrounds and have mixed academic ability.

The West St. George Secondary School opened in September 2004 as a response by the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines to allow universal access to secondary education. Despite many educational challenges the students are achieving considerable successes in the Caribbean Secondary School Examination (CXE) taken at 16-17 years.

The fundraising for the Science Laboratory was spearheaded by Miss Kristina Noel, a Maths and Business Administration teacher. She is studying for a Bachelor's Degree in Education Administration through the University of the West Indies Open Campus St Vincent and the Grenadines. This project forms her practical work towards attaining her BSc in Education Administration. The Trust congratulates her on her commitment to the School.



Opening of the Science Lab

“The Mustique Charitable Trust will improve the opportunities for children, young people and vulnerable adults while supporting the development of sustainable local communities throughout St. Vincent and the Grenadines.”

MCT Supports School for Children with Special Needs

The Mustique Charitable Trust supports a breakfast feeding programme for children attending the School for Children with Special Needs. Situated in Kingstown it provides education and day care for up to 60 children. Many of the children have long journeys to school each morning. Assistance from the Trust allows the children to have a light nutritious breakfast before the school day starts. The school also received a multi function photocopier donated by the Trust to assist with administration and school programmes.

2010 marks the 35th Anniversary of the School for Children with Special Needs. The Mustique Charitable Trust congratulates the school on achieving this milestone. Through hard work and dedication by staff and volunteers, a well rounded programme catering to the particular needs and abilities of the students has been developed.

The Trust is looking at other ways to provide assistance to ensure that the slogan adopted by the School for its 35th Anniversary this year “ Keeping Our Special Ones’ Hopes Alive” becomes a reality.



Student “signing” Thank You for donation



Assistance for Bread of Life Home

Situated in a homely setting in the countryside on the main island of St. Vincent, Bread of Life Home provides residential care for HIV/AIDS orphans. The Home has been in operation since 1995 under the care and guidance of Sister Zita, Knights of the Corpus Christi Carmelite Order, for children ranging in age from six to seventeen years old.

The Mustique Charitable Trust has been assisting with running costs, maintenance and repairs, landscaping and books and toys for the children as well as counseling. Renovations and landscaping were completed in December 2009 allowing the six children currently in the Home to enjoy a festive Christmas season.

The Trust continues to support the Home especially in the area of counseling which is provided by Marion House on a weekly basis. On-going operational support is needed to provide a healthy, positive and loving home environment for these vulnerable children and teenagers.



Sister Zita gives a helping hand.

Fundraising: Mustique Island Swim by Marco Sodi

Those who were up early on the morning of April 6, 2010 would have seen a flurry of activity on the beach near Basil's Bar in Mustique as Marco Sodi prepared for his round the island swim to raise funds for the Mustique Charitable Trust.

The Security Boat and staff were on hand to provide support. Three persons flanked Marco on kayaks but were forced to turn back due to strong currents and seasickness. Nothing seemed to phase this strong swimmer who took four and a half hours to swim around the island.

Congratulations Marco on this great achievement! Thank you to everyone who contributed to the fundraising. Mark Sodi's feat of stamina raised US\$10,000 for the MCT Grant Programme.

The Trustees would also like to thank the many well wishers, homeowners, visitors and guests to the island of Mustique who have contributed most generously to all our fundraising activities. Your support makes our mission a reality by creating opportunities for the disadvantaged children and young adults in communities in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.



Marco Sodi departs for his swim around Mustique

Support for the Mustique Charitable Trust

The Mustique Charitable Trust is happy to receive donations on a monthly basis as well as one off payments. For US and UK tax payers' donations can be made via the UK Friends of the Mustique Charitable Trust or once activated to The Mustique Charitable Foundation in the USA. All donors will be sent a copy of the Trust's annual Newsletter as well as an annual report and accounts.

The crucial point to remember is that all donations will be spent in an effective way to deliver help where it is needed. The Administrator constantly monitors grant recipients so that each donation has a positive and sustainable impact in communities in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.



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