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## **FORMER WINDSCREEN WIPER AMONG GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S AWARDEES**

Thirty-nine unsung heroes from across Jamaica were recognized at King's House on Thursday (Nov. 10) by Governor-General Sir Patrick Allen for their altruism and active participation in community and voluntary initiatives that enhance people's quality of life.

The awards which were presented under the ambit of the Governor-General's Achievement Awards (GGAA) programme, acknowledge persons whose work and achievements promote community development and inspire others to see opportunities in every situation.

Among the outstanding recipients was Howard Anthony Harvey (Snr.) who, at age 16, wiped car windcreens on the streets of the corporate area in order to survive. Today he is the proud recipient of the Governor-General's Achievement Award for the parish of Kingston and, like his fellow recipients, accepted his official GGAA Pin from Her Excellency the Most Hon. Lady Allen.

Mr. Harvey's story of fortitude, endurance, determination and triumph is one that has left a solid impression on others. Due to a lack of resources the Norman Manley High School graduate had no subjects upon leaving school. However, his determination and passion for learning led him to the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) where



Her Excellency the Most Honourable Lady Allen congratulates Mr. Howard Anthony Harvey Snr., former windscreen wiper now PhD candidate, for his strides in personal development and community upliftment during the 25th Anniversary of the GGAA Pinning Ceremony. Major Eldon Morgan (centre), Aide de Camp to The Governor-General, and other recipients look on.

*Continues on page 19*

# Editorial



Ms. Sonja Simms  
Press Secretary  
Editor-in-Chief

We use this opportunity to wish all our readers and supporters best wishes for a productive 2017.

As the Governor General continues to play his part in empowering the lives of individuals and positively impact communities, we do our best to present you the practical ways in which His Excellency conducts those activities.

We hope you are inspired by the stories of those individuals recognized by the **I Believe Initiative** and the **Governor General's Achievement Awards**, especially as both nation building initiatives celebrated their 5<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, respectively.

It is incumbent on us to shift the public narrative around the constitutional office known as King's House. Therefore, it is important to note that whether occupied by the Governor General or an Executive President the constitutional functions executed by the Office will continue unless the constitution itself changes.

This edition of **King's House Times** features The Governor-General's New Year Message and highlights some of His Excellency's major activities over the last quarter. We also use this medium to take you vicariously on a trip of the King's House Museum and Research Centre which is a must visit on your next trip!

The Office of The Governor-General endeavours to communicate with all stakeholders and have been developing ways to keep you informed.

Please be sure to listen to **King's House Time** a five-minutes news programme on RJR 94 FM every last Sunday of each month, starting soon. **King's House Time** will also podcast on our social media platforms.

Please read, listen and enjoy! Send feedback to [kingshouse@kingshouse.gov.jm](mailto:kingshouse@kingshouse.gov.jm)

## Quick Fact

Have you ever heard the phrase "**under the Broad Seal of Jamaica**"? Did you know that King's House is where the Broad Seal is kept? So what exactly is this Broad Seal?

A **Broad Seal** is the official 'seal' / stamp of a state or country. In Jamaica it is that red sticker that is stamped onto official documents known as Instruments and signed by His Excellency The Governor-General.

Whenever The Governor-General has occasion to make an appointment as specified by the Constitution or the Act, such appointments are made by Instrument under the Broad Seal, with The Governor-General's signature affixed to the document.



The stamp machine.



The Broad Seal



His Excellency the Most Hon. Sir Patrick Allen presents the Hon. Mr. Justice Dennis Morrison, President of the Court of Appeal, with his instrument of appointment under the Broad Seal of Jamaica.

# Governor-General's 2017 Message



Happy New Year!

2017 is the year when our country celebrates **55 years** of nationhood. We stand today at a place, when the challenges and sacrifices of the recent years, have given us the confidence to achieve the goals of our national de-

velopment plan. We have every reason to believe, that the promise of the future cannot be undone by the difficulties of the present, because **we are a resilient, creative and proud people**, who have shown the world that **we can do great things**.

*I believe* that at the heart of our success lies the willingness to confront the social and attitudinal shortcomings, which stand in the way of more rapid progress than we have seen.

But we need to:

- focus our efforts on cultivating and strengthening a kinder, gentler society which reflects the best of our traditions
- constantly show consideration for others, especially the most vulnerable
- value discipline ahead of personal ease and convenience, and
- understand that we must work hard for what we need.

In the year ahead, we will no doubt still be affected by the tensions and uncertainties in the wider community of nations. But our primary focus **must** be to address within our homes, communities and institutions, those issues which give us the greatest chance of improving our quality of life in this Jamaican space which we are privileged to own.

We acknowledge the roles of our leaders in institutions, in business and in local and national government, and we have a responsibility to support them.

We can do this best by ensuring that:

- there is free, frank and respectful communication in both directions
- we listen to each other, and
- be guided by what is best for our nation as a whole and for the future generation of Jamaicans.

Lady Allen joins me in wishing for you all a **peaceful, productive and prosperous New Year**.

May God bless us all and **bless Jamaica, land and people we love**.



# News

## JPs CRITICAL TO JAMAICA'S JUSTICE REFORM



His Excellency the Most Hon. Sir Patrick Allen, Governor-General, delivers keynote address at the launch of a series of Training Seminars for Justices of the Peace at the Jamaica Conference Centre on Thursday, February 2, 2017.

His Excellency The Governor-General has commended the Ministry of Justice and its partners for spearheading the massive training and recruitment of Justices of the Peace (JPs), as a critical component in Jamaica's Justice Reform Process.

Speaking at the launch for the island wide training session at the Jamaica Conference Centre on Thursday (February 2, 2017), His Excellency stated that the exercise will enhance the JPs respectability to undertake greater responsibility in the chain of Jamaica's justice reform.

"I believe that the confidence in our JPs is well placed. Of course, it is clear that the process in which we are engaged is aimed at reforming the structures and the operations of our justice system," Sir Patrick Allen stated.

The Governor General further asserted that owing to the JPs closeness to the people in their communities, they can serve as trusted and respected change agents who will empower citizens and help influence the social transformation that the nation is anticipating. His Excellency stated that much is expected of the Justices of the Peace especially as they serve in the Petty Sessions Courts and give leadership to Restorative Justice initiatives.

Meanwhile, the Honourable Delroy Chuck, Justice Minister asserted that under the training programme, slated for the next 3-4 years, the roles and functions of the Justices of the Peace will be expanded, especially as the Justice model shifts from retributive to restorative.

Justices of the Peace serve as mediators and peace keepers in local communities, reporting to their respective Custos who represents the Governor-General at the parish level.

## GOVERNOR-GENERAL SWEARS-IN NEW JDF HEAD

Governor-General His Excellency the Most Honourable Sir Patrick Allen has sworn in Brigadier Rocky Meade as the eleventh head of the Jamaica Defence Force (JDF). The swearing-in took place in a Ceremony at King's House on December 1, 2016.

In his remarks, Sir Patrick Allen stated that, "this swearing-in ceremony places full responsibility for the defence of our country in the hands of a gentleman with an impressive record of service to Jamaica."

As the new Chief of Defence Staff, Meade has been appointed to the rank of Major General.

Major General Rocky Meade succeeds Major General (Ret'd) Antony Anderson who is now Special Security Advisor to the Prime Minister.



His Excellency The Governor-General presents Major General Rocky Meade with his instrument of appointment recognizing him as the eleventh head and 3rd CDS of the JDF since it was established in 1962.



# News

## Diplomatic Week 2017

Diplomatic Week 2017 got into high gear when Their Excellencies Governor-General Sir Patrick Allen and Lady Allen welcomed eight newly accredited Ambassadors to Jamaica in a Presentation of Credential Ceremony on February 6 at King's House. The week quickly came to a peak with the hosting of the highly anticipated dinner for members of the Diplomatic Corps on February 9, during which Their Excellencies hosted over 100 diplomats in the Ballroom at King's House.

Among the countries whose Ambassadors presented Letters of Credence were the Republic of the Sudan and the Kingdom of Morocco in Africa. From Western Europe were representatives from the Swiss Confederation, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Republic of Finland, the Kingdom of Sweden and Ireland. From the Commonwealth, the High Commissioner for the People's Republic of Bangladesh also presented his Letters of Credence.

Diplomatic Week was held under the theme "Growth through Partnership".



Governor-General His Excellency the Most Honourable Sir Patrick Allen (left) receives Letters of Credence from Mr. Mizanur Rahman, High Commissioner-designate from the People's Republic of Bangladesh on February 6, 2017 at King's House.



Their Excellencies The Governor-General (5<sup>th</sup> left) and the Most Hon. Lady Allen (6<sup>th</sup> left) with the newly appointed diplomats and their spouses.



Her Excellency Mrs. Alexandra Valkenburg-Roelofs, Ambassador-designate from the Kingdom of the Netherlands, signs the official guest book at King's House while Their Excellencies The Governor-General and the Most Hon. Lady Allen look on.



His Excellency the Most Hon. Sir Patrick Allen (centre) greets High Commissioner for New Zealand, Mr. Daniel Mellsoy while Her Excellency the Most Hon. Lady Allen looks on.



Their Excellencies the Most Hon. Sir Patrick Allen and the Most Hon. Lady Allen (front row, fifth & sixth left), Senator the Hon. Kamina Johnson Smith, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, with members of the Diplomatic Corps at the annual Diplomatic Dinner held at King's House on February 9, 2017.



His Excellency The Governor-General (left) in conversation with Dr. Abderrahim Kadmiri, Ambassador-designate from the Kingdom of Morocco.



# News

## Their Excellencies Hospital Visit at Christmas

Governor-General Sir Patrick Allen and Lady Allen ensured that patients at two of the island's hospitals were visited during the 2016 Christmas festivities, as part of their customary Hospital Tour. Their Excellencies visited the Bustamante Hospital for Children in St. Andrew on December 1 and the Noel Holmes Hospital in Hanover on December 8, 2016.

Hospital staff were congratulated for their hard work and presented with gifts to help improve their work space. A television set was presented to the staff at the Bustamante Hospital while a refrigerator and autoclave were presented to those at Noel Holmes Hospital.

Children and staff at the Bustamante Hospital greeted Their Excellencies with a beautiful 'welcome song' crafted and performed by them and their teachers while at the Learning Centre.

In response to the children and staff at Bustamante, His Excellency said, "I thank you for the way you encourage us to keep on doing what we do. We came to cheer you the patients up and we were the ones receiving encouragement."

The gifts presented were made possible by way of donations from Singer Jamaica Limited and the Issa Trust Foundation.

### Bustamante Hospital for Children



### Noel Holmes Hospital







# News

## 'JOY TO THE WORLD' WITH A DIFFERENCE

Her Excellency the Most Honourable Lady Allen brought "*Joy to the World*" of several children with her 2016 Christmas Concert by hosting them at the prestigious musical event.

The concert which usually caters to distinguished individuals and friends of Their Excellencies has now placed focus on children as part of the sustainable way going forward.

"By including the children, we help to broaden their social awareness and make them more rounded individuals," Lady Allen stated.

The children were given a tour of the historic King's House ahead of the delightful evening of music which saw performances from renowned Tenor, Mr. Rory Baugh, Concert Pianist, Mr. Karl Fraser, Mezzo-Soprano, Mrs. Christine McDonald Nevers and several other outstanding musicians, under the musical direction of Bandmaster WO1 Albert Shaun Hird of the Jamaica Military Band.

Other highlights of the evening were a musical medley from the National Cultural Group for the Blind, The Jamaican Folk Singers, the Jamaica Youth Chorale and actress, Ms. Leonie Forbes.

The concert was held on December 4, 2016 at King's House and was also attended by Lady Hall, wife of former Governor-General Professor Sir Kenneth Hall, Custodes, leaders in government and the private sector.



Her Excellency the Most Hon. Lady Allen and her specially invited guests.



Bandmaster WO1 Albert Hird performs a musical item.



His Excellency The Governor-General shares a light moment with Lady Allen's special guests.



Lady Allen presents one of her special guests with a gift.



Ms. Leonie Forbes delivering the Rev. Easton Lee written "Duppy Deh".



The National Cultural Group for the Blind in performance.



# The Judicial Scroll

## Six Judges Sworn in Ahead of New Judicial Term

As the justice system begins its first term for 2017, six judges were appointed to the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court in a ceremony held at King's House on Friday, January 6. The Hon. Marcia Bennett, Custos Rotulorum for the parish of St. Thomas presided over the proceedings on behalf of Governor-General the Most Honourable Sir Patrick Allen.

In congratulating the judges, she stated that their appointment is of great importance to the carriage of justice in Jamaica and challenged each appointee to "leave an indelible mark on our judiciary which must spring from your independence of mind and dispassionate approach to the discharge of justice."

The Hon. Mrs. Justice Zaila McCalla, Chief Justice, in her remarks, called on judges to embrace the reforms taking place in the justice system and urged them to "continue to serve with dignity and diligence." Her sentiments were echoed by the Hon. Mr. Justice Dennis Morrison, President of the Court of Appeal, who thanked each appointee for their commitment to maintaining the rule of law.

Among the judges are the Hon. Miss Justice Carol Edwards who will continue her acting appointment as a Judge of Appeal in the Court of Appeal. At the Supreme Court, Her Honour Mrs. Sonia Bertram Linton and His Honour Mr. Dale Palmer have been confirmed as Puisne judges following several acting appointments. They will be joined by Her Honour Miss Calys Wiltshire and Mrs. Lisa Palmer Hamilton who have been appointed to act as Pusine judges.

Meanwhile, Her Honour Miss Yvonne Brown has been confirmed in the position of Master-in-Chambers in the Supreme Court.



The Honourable Marcia Bennet, Custos of St. Thomas (4th left), with Chief Justice, the Hon. Mrs. Justice Zaila McCalla (centre), President of the Court of Appeal, the Hon. Mr. Dennis Morrison (3rd left) and the newly sworn-in judges at King's House on January 6, 2017.



The Honourable Marcia Bennet (right), Custos of St. Thomas, presents Mrs. Lisa Palmer Hamilton with her Instrument of Appointment.



The Honourable Marcia Bennet, Custos of St. Thomas, looks on as His Honour Mr. Dale Palmer takes his Judicial Oath.





# Diary Entry Highlights



**TOP:** His Excellency the Most Hon. Sir Patrick Allen, Governor-General, presents the Throne Speech outlining the Government of Jamaica's plans for the 2017/2018 fiscal year on February 9, 2017 at the George William Gordon House.

**BOTTOM:** His Excellency inspects the Guard of Honour at the Ceremonial Opening of Parliament at Gordon

The annual Custodes Meeting and Luncheon hosted by The Governor-General was held on February 16, 2017 at King's House. This annual event is one where Custodes present their annual reports with proposed plans to impact their respective parishes during the year.

Concurrently, Lady Allen hosted the spouses of the custodes by accompanying them on a tour of Hope Zoo. This was followed by a brief meeting where they explored the idea of strengthening collaboration among themselves. *See highlights below.*



Scouts flock The Governor-General, their Chief Scout, during the Annual Public Meeting of the Scout Association of Jamaica. The meeting returned to King's House on February 23, 2017, after a one year absence. The absence was due to the general elections on February 25, 2016.



Her Excellency the Most Hon. Lady Allen makes a presentation at the Ministry of Education's Special Education Regional Roundtable held at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel on January 26, 2017.





# Diary Entry Highlights



**TOP:** UWI Mona Campus Male Chorus and St. John representatives surround The Governor-General for a photo.

**BOTTOM:** His Excellency The Governor-General and Patron of St. John Ambulance Jamaica (right) has the rapt attention of Mr. Noel Dexter, Director the UWI Mona Campus Male Chorus (2nd right), Mr. Earl Jarrett, Chairman of St. John Ambulance Jamaica and Mr. Ricardo Johnson, President of the Chorus following a Benefit Performance at King's House on January 29, 2017.



His Excellency (right) receives a document from the Hon. Steadman Fuller, Custos of Kingston and Chairman of the Kingston and St. Andrew Development and Homecoming Foundation during a courtesy call on January 20, 2017.



The Governor-General and Chief Scout (centre), with Executives of the Scout Association of Jamaica following a courtesy call at King's House.



His Excellency The Governor-General delivers Remarks at the National Leadership Prayer Breakfast at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel on January 19, 2017.



His Excellency receives a token from Mr. Wayne McKenzie, CEO of Jamaica Energy Partners Limited, during a courtesy call on December 2, 2016 at King's House.



His Excellency delivers remark at the Classical Fundraising Concert for the Carnegie Foundation for Cancer Research on November 27, 2016 at King's House.



# Diary Entry Highlights



His Excellency The Governor-General shares a light moment with Shakeba Foster, the 2017 Jamaica Rhodes Scholar, as they peruse the document which indicates she is the winner ( November 17, 2016).



His Excellency the Most Hon. Sir Patrick Allen, Governor-General, (centre), joins stakeholder representatives, who signed the Partnership for a Prosperous Jamaica agreement at King's House on December 7, 2016. They are Prime Minister, the Most Hon. Andrew Holness (2nd right), representing the Government; Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica (PSOJ) President, Paul B. Scott; Jamaica Environment Trust (JET) Chief Executive Officer, Diana McCaulay, representing civil society; and Jamaica Civil Service Association (JCSA) President, O'Neil Grant, on behalf of the Jamaica Confederation of Trade Unions (JCTU).



After declaring December 1 World Aids Day, The Governor-General (2nd left) engaged representatives of the Jamaica AIDS Support for Life in light conversation.



The Governor-General addresses members of the Elsa Leo-Rhynie "Towers" Leadership & Communication Academy, University of the West Indies during a courtesy call at King's House on November 3, 2016.



His Excellency congratulates the 2016 Civil Servant of the Year, Ivette Ferguson, at the Jamaica Civil Service Long Service Awards ceremony, held on November 30, 2016 at King's House.



His Excellency (centre) with Officers of the Jamaica America Friendship Association following a courtesy call on November 24, 2016.





# Diary Entry Highlights



The Governor-General signs the official condolence book following the demise of the King of Thailand on November 29, 2016. Looking on is Mrs. Thalia Lyn, Jamaica's Honourary Consul for the Kingdom of Thailand.



Lady Allen presents a membership pin to Security and Safety Manager of Kingston Freeport Terminal Limited and new member of Woman in Maritime Association Caribbean (WiMAC) on November 1, 2016.



Her Excellency receives a gift from Bishop Christine Haber, Founder and Leader of Christine Haber Ministries International, on November 14, 2016 following a courtesy call.



The Governor-General (4th right) with Directors of the Small Business Association of Jamaica following their courtesy call on December 2, 2016.



The Hon. Marcia Bennet, deputizing for The Governor-General, converses with Dr. Gerald Groves during a courtesy call by members of the UWI Medical Alumni Association on November 18, 2016.



His Excellency (right) meets Vice Chancellor of the University of the West Indies, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles on December 12, 2016.



The Hon. Marcia Bennet, deputizing for The Governor-General, delivers Remarks at the Office of the Children's Advocate's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cocktail Gala Event on November 20, 2016.





# Movements in the Office of Custos

## Retired Custos Reverend the Hon. Sophia Azan CD, JP *"Woman of Abounding Faith"*

The **'Duty of Care'** initiative spearheaded by Mrs. Dionne Tracey Daniel, Governor-General's Secretary and some members of her staff is an ongoing project where they make home visits to the former Custodes and express appreciation for their service. The team's third visit was to the home of retired Custos Sophia Azan in Linstead St. Catherine, in June 2016.

They arrived between the midafternoon rains to a warm inviting welcome.

After the preliminaries which included the presentation of a recognition plaque from Governor General Sir Patrick Allen and other gifts, the obviously pleased Rev. Azan was eager for the team to join her as she reminisced on her time in office.



Mrs Dionne Tracey Daniel, Governor-General's Secretary presents a gift to former Custos of St. Catherine, the Hon. Sophia Azan, CD.

Reverend Azan attributes her call to the Office of Custos to the supernatural move of God. She explained that for over a year before her appointment in 2003, she had been feeling that something 'big' was going to happen to her. "I kept feeling something in my body... I even went to church and shared with my congregation," she stated.

She recalled that a friend invited her to a major gospel concert in Ocho Rios where the late Dr. Myles Munroe ministered to her that, "not long from now you will be very different."

Following that, at another religious service, Bishop Peter Morgan stopped the service to minister to

her saying, "I don't know but I see God moving you into something. It looks like something in government. I see you in a position but I don't know what."

Reverend Azan remembered being called to King's House by the late Sir Howard Cooke, former Governor-General on May 15, 2003. She shared the irony of the situation, "When I went to King's House I did not know I was Custos to be. When Sir Howard [Cooke] said to me, 'Do you know why you are here?' I said 'Yes Sir, I am a JP' and he said 'A JP?' I said 'Yes Sir' and he said 'They didn't tell you anything about being a Custos?' I said 'No Sir, you made a mistake. It's JP'".

"He said, 'Let me tell you, you were selected as the Custos and I thank God that it's a woman and a woman of

*Continues on page 14*

# Movements in the Office of Custos

*Continued from page 13*

God... I am going to pray for you' and I said 'Sir may I pray for *you* too?'" Revd. Azan shared.

Of her most memorable moment as Custos was the experience of her installation. "I was a little nervous because I didn't know what to expect even after being briefed. But I did very well and I got a standing ovation," she remembered.

Continuing she said, "I love people and as Custos it gave me an opportunity to meet people from across the world. I've met governors, Governors-General, Presidents and Prime Ministers from all over the Caribbean. So that's an opportunity that God himself gave me. He gave me the word. And I must say I enjoyed working with three Governors- General."



Governor-General's Secretary, Mrs. Dionne Tracey Daniel (2nd right), with former Custos of St. Catherine, Rev. the Hon. Sophia Azan, CD (2nd left), Press Secretary, Ms. Sonja Simms (left), and Executive Secretary, Mrs. Charmaine Campbell (right).



Former Custos of St. Catherine, Rev. the Hon. Sophia Azan, CD (left), with King's House team member, Mr. Alton Smith.

"I didn't have as close a working relationship with Sir Howard [Cooke] as I had with Sir Kenneth [Hall] and Sir Patrick [Allen]. But nobody fixes King's House lawns like Sir Patrick [Allen]. He has really done a great job," she emphatically stated.

## Living Purpose

Confessing her unswerving faith Reverend Azan shared that, "I told the Lord anywhere I go, even King's House, I will speak about Him. If I go to Lay Magistrate, in my deliberations I end up with my God. It's all about my God."

As Custos, Rev. Azan had the reputation of being kind, caring and responsive to the citizen of St. Catherine and her call of duty, "I enjoyed my Custos duties because it gave me opportunities that I probably would never have had. I have been enlightened to a lot of things. I have grown in a lot of things. I met some beautiful people at King's House and I believe that they are my dear friends."

The retired Custos is succeeded by Rev. the Hon. Jeffrey McKenzie who was installed in June 2015.





# Diplomatic Roll Call



His Excellency The Governor-General (left), donning a hat received from newly appointed Ambassador-designate of the Republic of Ecuador, Dr. Alex Fabian Solano Moreno (right), glances through a book he was also presented on November 1, 2016 at King's House.



The Governor-General, Sir Patrick Allen, looks on as newly appointed Ambassador-designate of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, Mr. Ghaouti Benmoussat, signs the official guest book, following his presentation of credentials on November 1, 2016.



The Governor-General (left) meets with Jamaica's High Commissioner-designate to the United Kingdom, Mr. Seth George Ramocan (right) and his wife at King's House on November 29, 2016.



His Excellency The Governor-General (left) with Jamaica's Ambassador to the People's Republic of China, Mr. Antonio Hugh at King's House on December 21, 2016.



The Governor-General (left) shares a light moment with newly appointed Ambassador-designate of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Mr. Diego Pary Rodriguez, after receiving his credentials on November 1, 2016.



His Excellency The Governor-General (right) engages newly appointed Ambassador-designate of the Republic of Italy, Mr. Armando Varricchio, at King's House on November 1, 2016.



His Excellency the Most Hon. Sir Patrick Allen, Governor-General, (4th right) meets with Mr Michael Subratie, Dean of the Consular Corps of Jamaica (centre), other members of the Executive Committee and Ambassador the Hon. Burchell Whiteman, Special Advisor to The Governor-General (3<sup>rd</sup> right) at King's House on December 9, 2016.





# Governor-General in the Community

## Their Excellencies Open JSB's Vision Resource Centre



Their Excellencies the Most Hon. Sir Patrick Allen (left) and the Most Hon. Lady Allen (2nd left) cut the ribbon to officially open the Jamaica Society for the Blind's Vision and Resource Centre. The Japanese Ambassador His Excellency Masanori Nakano (right) and Mrs. Nakano look on.

His Excellency The Governor-General has described the Vision and Resource Centre he and Lady Allen officially opened at the Jamaica Society for the Blind (JSB) as "another point of light which can guide more of our citizens into a brighter future."

Speaking at the official opening ceremony of the new facility on Thursday (January 26, 2017), The Governor-General also commended the Embassy of Japan, the National Health Fund and the many Foundations, multilateral organizations and individuals who have so far contributed in excess of J\$20 Million to construct and equip the centre.

"Many of you knew that establishing this centre would be challenging in a society with competing priorities but you believed in the rightness of the cause and inspired others to support it," Sir Patrick Allen said.

The Governor-General who is Patron of the Jamaica Society for the Blind, had high praises for the University of the West Indies Medical and Dental Class of 2017 for recognizing that the Vision and Resource Centre is a worthwhile project deserving of their support.

The Vision and Resource Centre located at the JSB complex on Old Hope Road will provide screening and refractive services as well as assessment and counseling to persons who are visually impaired. Special attention will be given to persons with low vision who, though not legally blind, have vision impairment that cannot be corrected by visual aids, surgery or medicine.

Close to 100,000 persons in Jamaica are affected by sight related conditions, some of which are preventable.



His Excellency (seated right) gets the pressure in his eyes tested on the Slit Lamp at the Jamaica Society for the Blind's Vision and Resource Centre. He is assisted by Miss Mayanna Francis, Optometry Services Officer, as Japanese Ambassador His Excellency Masanori Nakano looks on.



The Governor-General (right) greets Ms. Lola Marson, Executive Director of the Jamaica Society for the Blind (left) as Lady Allen is greeted by Mr. Daemion McLean Chairman of the Board of Directors.





# SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION!

## GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

# 2017

INSPIRING AND ENERGIZING COMMUNITIES TO SERVE

### TO BE ELIGIBLE, A CANDIDATE MUST:

1. Be a Jamaican Citizen
2. Fall in one of the following categories:  
Jamaica Nominees: 18 – 24 years, 25 – 35 years or over 35 years  
Diaspora Nominees: 18-35 years and Over 35 years
3. Have an outstanding and verifiable record of community service.  
Students in the 18-35 years categories must also have attained strong or excellent academic performance.

### The selection criteria:

- Reinforces strong family values in community initiatives.
- Emphasizes youth empowerment.
- Demonstrates excellence in educational pursuits.\*  
(\*18-35 years Age Group Categories)

Persons who have been the recipient of a National Honour or Award are not eligible to be considered for a Governor-General's Achievement Award (GGAA).

### Closing date

**Jamaica Nominations: Friday March 17, 2017**  
**Diaspora Nominations: Friday, March 31, 2017**

Nomination must be in writing. Visit the websites below to access the GGAA Programme Guidelines for more information.

Contact Information: (876) 927-6424  
 ewhyte@kingshouse.gov.jm  
 www.kingshouse.gov.jm and www.ggpe.org.jm



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I Believe Initiative



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# GGPE OVERVIEW

## Governor-General's I Believe Initiative Celebrates Five Years

The **I Believe Initiative** (IBI) launched by The Governor-General the Most Hon. Sir Patrick Allen in 2011 ended its fifth year on a high, adding ten new Ambassadors to its cadre and His Excellency's endorsement of four impactful, transformative and empowering projects from among the 2016 Ambassadors.

Hanif Brown, Rory Frankson, Tatayana Graham, Romaine Kenton and Constable Jovan Kerr are the Ambassadors inducted at the Annual IBI Luncheon held at the Spanish Court Hotel in Kingston on Thursday December 1, 2016. Joining them are Glendon Martin, Daren Miller, Santana Morris, Odayne Haughton and Keenan Falconer.



His Excellency the Most Hon. Sir Patrick Allen, Governor-General, inducts Constable Jovan Kerr as an IBI Ambassador.



His Excellency (7<sup>th</sup> left) with Custodes and the newly inducted IBI Ambassadors at the Annual IBI Luncheon. (L-R) The Hon. Steadman Fuller, (Custos of Kingston), Darren Miller, Romaine Kenton, Constable Jovan Kerr, Glendon Martin, Tatayana Graham, Odayne Haughton, Santana Morris, Hanif Brown, Keenan Falconer, Rory Frankson, the Hon. Patricia Marshall Dunwell (Custos of St. Andrew) and the Hon. Jeffrey McKenzie (Custos of St. Catherine).

The projects endorsed by Sir Patrick Allen include JAYECAN, a youth empowerment initiative of IBI Ambassador Abraham Simmonds and The Little Genius Competition of Ambassador Tishauna Mullings. Mr. Simmonds has since been named Queen's Young Leader for 2017 while Miss Mullings was a participant in this year's President Obama Youth Leaders of the Americas Initiative.

The other two projects are "My Dream" by Life Transformational Solutions headed by Ambassador Cordell Williams Graham and the Rory Frankson "I Believe" (musical) Tour.

In his remarks, Sir Patrick Allen said that as Jamaica celebrates fifty-five years of independence in 2017, IBI Ambassadors should seize the opportunity to let the initiative make its most significant impact ever.

[Click here for full story/](http://kingshouse.gov.jm/) visit <http://kingshouse.gov.jm/>



His Excellency (centre) interacts with the IBI Ambassadors whose projects were endorsed during the Luncheon. (L-R) Tishauna Mullings, Cordell Williams Graham, Abraham Simmonds and Rory Frankson.



# GGPE OVERVIEW

## FORMER WINDSCREEN WIPER AMONG GG AWARDEES

*Continued from cover page*

he gained several academic subjects and later matriculated into professional studies at institutions of higher learning.

Now a Master's graduate of The Mico University College, Mr. Harvey is in the final stages of attaining a PhD in Educational Leadership from Temple University in the USA. Armed with data and information from his study of learning in marginalized boys, he founded the **Swift Sons' Basketball Club** and currently uses sports as a vehicle for young boys to access educational opportunities.

At the awards function, he and others were welcomed by Sir Patrick Allen into what the Governor-General referred to as the 'Distinguished League' of Jamaicans who have an illustrious tradition of excellence. "Here on this site, thousands of individuals have been conferred with national honours and awards for their sterling contribution to Jamaica. Today is your turn to as 2016 GGAA Awardees be part of the rich history of King's House", the Governor-General stated.



Their Excellencies the Most Hon. Sir Patrick Allen (4th left) and the Most Hon. Lady Allen (5th left) with their predecessors, former Governor-General Prof. Sir Kenneth Hall (centre) and Lady Hall (5th right), Custodes, Major (Ret'd) Effiom Whyte (right), National Co-ordinator for the GGPE and the 2016 GGAA recipients.

The awards programme which celebrated twenty-five years in 2016 received high commendations from Sir Patrick Allen for promoting service that is transformative and for promoting values and attributes such as teamwork, respect, neighbourliness, caring and equity.

"The foundation is strong and the programme is dynamic" Sir Patrick Allen declared to rousing applause from the audience.

[Click here for full story](http://kingshouse.gov.jm/) / visit <http://kingshouse.gov.jm/>

## IBI COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The **I Believe Initiative** continues to demonstrate its commitment to educational development with the donation of computers to individuals and community projects.

Ms. Martanek Phipps, former Deputy Head Girl of Haile Selassie High School, was presented with a laptop computer to aid in her academic advancement on November 21, 2016.

The IBI Satellite Campuses at the South Trelawny Edu-Skills Training Centre, was also furnished with a laptop and six desktop computers. Ms. Joan McKoy, Principal Director of the centre received the computers on January 19, 2016 at King's House.

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National Co-ordinator for the GGPE, Major (Ret'd) Effiom Whyte (right), presents a laptop computer to Ms. Martanek Phipps.

# GGPE OVERVIEW

## GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S IBI SCHOLAR EXCELS



Onel Harrison, Governor-General's IBI/Monroe College/Goren Scholar.

Onel Harrison, the first 'I Believe' Initiative (IBI)/Monroe College/Goren scholarship recipient has successfully completed his studies, obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Information Systems from Monroe College (New York) with a 3.985 GPA.

A graduate of Ardenne High School in Kingston, Onel was awarded the IBI/Monroe College/Goren Scholarship in 2014 by Governor-General Sir Patrick Allen, who at the time said the intent was to "provide opportunities for the development of Jamaica's human resources to first world levels."

Raised in deep rural St. Mary, Onel is not a newcomer to academic excellence. He demonstrated academic brilliance and skipped the third grade while attending Preston Land Primary School. He switched to Port Maria Primary and was Head Boy while preparing for the GSAT exams which he aced, gaining his place at Ardenne High School.

In 2012, Onel placed first in Jamaica and ranked fourth in the Caribbean for passes in Information Technology at the CSEC level. At Monroe College's New Rochelle campus in New York, he was named to the **President's List of Honours for Superior Academic Performance** every semester between 2014 and 2016.



Onel Harrison and research partner at the Round Table Presentation at National Collegiate Research Honours Council (NRHC) in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

## IBI COMMUNITY OUTREACH

*Continued from page 19*

The computer donations were made possible by the Embassy of the People's Republic of China.



National Co-ordinator for the GGPE, Major (Ret'd) Effiom Whyte (left), presents a computer to Ms. Joan McKoy, Principal Director of the South Trelawny Edu-Skills Training Centre.

[Click here for full story](#) / visit <http://kingshouse.gov.jm/>



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I Believe Initiative



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# KING'S HOUSE TOURS



Their Excellencies continue to host a number of individuals from various organizations on tour of the historic King's House.

*Here are some highlights.*



Cedric Titus High School



Pete Hill Basic School



Stacy Holder Giddings and Family



Manchioneal All Age School



Spring Arbor University



Holy Family Primary and Infant School





# King's House Museum & Research Centre

The King's House Museum and Research Centre provides an incredible journey along the corridors of history as well as useful and informative reference materials. The Centre also stages regular exhibitions which provide valuable insights in the work, leisure and 'way of life' of Governors and Governors-General dating back to the 1800s.

The Hon. Olivia Grange, Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport, visited the Centre which started exhibitions in October 2016.

The King's House Museum and Research Centre is managed by Ms. Joy Scott and opens for visits Monday - Friday 9am - 12 noon and 1 - 3pm. *Here are some highlights.*



The King's House Museum and Research Centre.



Insignias of the national orders, decorations and medals accompanied with a framed portrait of Jamaica's National Heroes and Heroine and books written by Jamaican authors.



The Hon. Olivia Grange (right), Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport is wowed by the exhibition at the King's House Museum and Research Centre.



Water goblets and chinaware as well as the license plate used by former Governor-General, the late Sir Howard Cooke.



Framed Christmas Cards from Buckingham Palace (centre) and a cabinet of silverwares (right) used by former Governors-General.



Candle Lamp Holder



Candle Snuffer



Silverwares used by former Governors-General.



Christmas Cards from present and former Governors-General.



A bath pan redesigned into a shelf housing goblets used by former Governors-General.



Horse Shoe





## WHO IS

HELLO  
my name is

Charmaine Campbell

Executive Secretary

***“Many plans are in a man’s mind, but it is the Lord’s purpose for him that will stand.”***

This verse from Proverbs 19, somewhat describes Charmaine Campbell’s journey at King’s House. What was supposed to have been a three-month stint in 2001 has blossomed into a love affair with the Office of the Governor-General and Staff, spanning fifteen years and five months.

Mrs Campbell came to King’s House from the Office of the Services Commission in late 2001 to act for someone who was on vacation. Just as her time was about to expire she was asked to stay on and help prepare for a Royal visit in 2002 by

none other than Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. “A secretariat was set up for the Royal visit and I was asked to serve there as secretary. Just as I was about to leave, an Executive Secretary from King’s House resigned and I stayed on,” she explained.

She recalls that her first day at King’s House as “work, work, work” and this has continued during the tenure of the three Governors-General for whom she has worked.

Though she was initially nervous on her first day, that all dissipated after she met then Governor-General Sir Howard Cooke. Mrs Campbell has fond memories of Sir Howard who she says was a people person and a father figure to staff. “He held our interest at heart.” Workwise she said that Sir Howard was like a teacher who liked when employees took things to him directly. “He would go through the document and show you where you went wrong,” she reflected.

Working with Governor-General Sir Kenneth Hall was somewhat similar. He too liked when employees took their work directly to him. One thing she admired was that he appreciated suggestions from staff in support of his function.

Of Governor-General Sir Patrick Allen, Charmaine has been guided by his stated expectations of staff as laid out in his first staff meeting. “I will never forget that in his first meeting he said that if there is a problem he does not only want to hear about the problem, but you must offer solutions as well.” She is encouraged by the ethos of excellence that he has brought to King’s House and his desire to see every member of staff work to the best of their ability

*(Continues to page 24)*



## WHO IS



*(Continued from page 23)*



She credits her success working with all three Governors-General to her open-mindedness and taking the time to know and understand what is required of her. “Just because it has always been done a certain way doesn’t mean that that has to continue. We have to do what is required of us in our various supportive roles,” she stated.

Mrs Campbell also has the great fortune of working as Executive Secretary to three Governors-General Secretaries, all of whom she could relate to on a personal and professional level. “They make you feel appreciated,” she stated.

Charmaine Campbell is the unofficial encyclopedia of King’s House. Asking her for information is like tapping into Google’s search engine. Her memory of past events; who has which national honour and what was done when is remarkable. How does she do it? Her sharp memory is a factor. However, she pays close attention to detail and takes note of what happens in society generally, especially if it bears relevance to King’s House.

She puts God first and lives by the motto: “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

When asked what she loves most about the Office of the Governor-General, Mrs. Campbell did not hesitate to list teamwork and camaraderie among her favourite. She is also a great fan of the King’s House website which she says has been helping more persons to understand the roles and functions of the Office.

What Mrs. Campbell likes the least about the office environment is the tendency for persons to misrepresent information because they do not spend the time to ascertain all the information.

But it is not all work for Charmaine Campbell. She loves to read and do crosswords puzzles. Mrs. Campbell has a very supportive family – a loving husband and two daughters. The support she receives at home helps her to balance work and family quite well. In addition, she has a very caring and understanding boss in the person of Mrs. Dionne Tracey Daniel who looks out for the best interest of her staff at all times.





# King's House Candid

*The Annual Staff Outing, December 2016.  
Sommerset Falls, Portland it was!*







# King's House Candid

*...and then there was Their Excellencies' Christmas party for the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) staff deployed to King's House.*







# Human Resource Matters

The Human Resource and Administration Department extends hearty congratulations to the following staff members on their success in professional development training courses.

- Mrs. Michelle Garvey Clarke, Deputy Governor-General's Secretary (Personal) – Certificate in Strategic and Corporate Planning (MIND)
- Miss Nikesha Brown, Accounting Technician 2 - Successfully completed the Government Accounting Level 1 Module 2 Course (MIND)
- Miss Tameika Estick, Director, Human Resource and Administration – Professional Certificate in Industrial Relations (MIND)
- Mr. Ralston Gordon, Procurement Officer – Successfully completed the Professional Certification in Public Sector Procurement Series (International Procurement Institute (INPRI) Jamaica Limited)

## Upcoming...

### MARCH

- Governor-General launches Girls' Brigade's Month of Activities & Tag Drive
- Governor-General hosts the Commonwealth Day Ceremony
- Governor-General launches RAFA 's Wings Appeal
- Their Excellencies to visit to Knox Community College
- GraceKennedy Foundation Lecture

### APRIL

- Jamaica Cancer Society Awards Ceremony
- Governor-General's Achievement Awards Ceremony for the County of Cornwall
- Launch of the I Believe Initiative Summer of Service Competition

### MAY

- Governor-General's Achievement Awards Ceremony for the County of Middlesex





## Get Involved With the Governor– General's Programme for Excellence (GGPE)



The need amongst our citizens is great. Each one can help one. Together we can do even more.

Contact us at:  
The Governor-General's Programme for Excellence (GGPE)  
King's House  
Hope Road  
Kingston 6

OR

[kingshouse@kingshouse.gov.jm](mailto:kingshouse@kingshouse.gov.jm)

### BECOME A VOLUNTEER

Offer to assist with a project by contacting the GGPE or the Custos of your Parish.

Write to the Custos of your Parish and ask for consideration to serve as an Ambassador. Include your resume.

Serve on the Parish or National Committee.

### HELP MAKE OTHERS AWARE

Learn more by joining us on Social Media: Twitter @ibija and Facebook at I Believe Initiative

Once you've learned more, spread the word! Share the IBI Vision & Mission with others.

## The Governor– General

The Governor-General is the representative of Her Majesty The Queen who is Head of State in Jamaica. Governors-General are appointed by the Crown on the advice of the Jamaican Prime Minister.

As The Queen's representative, The Governor-General gives formal assent to the laws passed in Jamaica by the Parliament before those laws are gazetted to take effect.

The Governor-General's role covers *constitutional, legislative, ceremonial* and *community* activities.

He acts in accordance with the Constitution and the respective laws that govern the appointment of the Executive, Judicial and other bodies.

The present Governor-General is the Most Honourable Sir Patrick Linton Allen, ON, GCMG, CD, KSt.J.

### King's House Mission Statement

"To support The Governor-General in the execution of constitutional, legislative, ceremonial and social duties of the Office."

### King's House Vision Statement

"A culture of excellence through people performance and partnerships."



Provide your feedback, suggestions, observations, and appropriate content to be published in upcoming editions of *King's House Times*.

Email: [kingshouse@kingshouse.gov.jm](mailto:kingshouse@kingshouse.gov.jm)

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