



THE EXPEDITIONER

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Award going digital in 2015

As we embark on a mission to make the Award more accessible to all young Barbadians we are preparing to start using the online record book (ORB). This is one of the newest tools that the Programme has introduced to help with the development of the Award. Barbados is set to be one of the first in the Eastern Caribbean to come on board with the system.



It is expected that using the ORB will be a greatly welcomed tool for both participants and leaders. It is a simple way to keep track of progress through the programme. Leaders training is set for Saturday 31 January.

The Award is concerned with the development of both our participants and our leaders. As such, leaders can look forward to personal and professional development opportunities. In May Award leaders will have the chance to refresh their skills and knowledge at the Experienced award leader workshop.

For participants, the summer holiday will be off with a bang when we will host our very first National Qualifying Expedition. This will be open to bronze and silver level participants. To complete their Adventurous Journey.

We continue to welcome all support of the programme; we are calling on past award participants and supporters to come back and give us some time as the next generation of young leaders emerge. **Be sure to check out the new Facebook page at www.facebook.com/deabarbaradosaward.**

In this our first newsletter for 2015 we take the time to highlight some of what happened in the past year. Be sure to check out our centre spread.

A Prosperous 2015 to all!!!!



January

- 17–18 training for new leaders
- 31—ORB training for group leaders

February

- 14—CASC 2015 meeting / Open Award group meeting
- 21—Expedition panel planning meeting
- 22—Open Award group meeting.

March

- 14-Open Award group Meeting
- 15—Annual Church Service
- 16-20—Duke Day activities
- 22- Orienteering exercise/ Open Award group Meeting
- 31- **Deadline for CASC 2015 registration**

April

- 11—CASC 2015 Fundraiser

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Surviving Korea

Here is an account of the 14th International Gold Event from Barbados Youth Rep Allison Ramsay

'Leadership' this was the focus of the International Gold Event (IGE) 2014 in South Korea.

For the delegates from places such as Seychelles, Turkey, Europe, Kenya, The Bahamas, Hong Kong, Jordan, Canada, the lesson that was being taught to us concerned how emerging young leaders can transform The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award.

In order to achieve this, we were divided into nine groups based on our interests. After icebreakers and team building activities, we were ready to embark on our field visits related to the Award's nine impact measures.

I was assigned to group eight for the impact measure 'Gender equality and the empowerment of women'. We called ourselves Pyeong Don which means Equality.

We had a day to prepare for two days of field visits. Each group was given a budget, the locations we were to visit, a translator and a shadow who was from Seoul. We had to decide on mode of transportation, the best route and ensure our budget would suffice for two days. **I called it Survivor Korea!**

The host organisations included schools, centres and even the border between North and South Korea, referred to as the Demilitarised Military Zone. My group visited the Gyeonggi Women's Development Centre and the Korean Women's Development Institute where we learnt about the gender relations in Korea and the issues impacting the progress of women in the society. Our hosts were most accommodating and provided valuable insight into their work which includes implementing business innovation programmes and training for women to promote female entrepreneurship. The information started us thinking about gender equality and empowerment of women as it relates to the Award in our own countries.

My group was comprised of delegates from Seychelles, Ireland, Turkey, South Africa, Slovenia, Hong Kong and South Korea. It was memorable and fun figuring out how to get to our locations and back. That was also part of the journey of leadership.



(Above) Allison performed a bit of rhythm poetry about Barbados.
(Below) Female Americas delegates



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We learnt that leadership does not only mean leading from the front, but in a group, based on different skills, various leadership roles would emerge. And so, roles emerged such as accountants, protectors, photographers, writers and navigators.

After two days in the field, we had ONE DAY to prepare for our presentations of the field visits to the HRH, The Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex and the International Council representatives. The presentations were well received.

The next important item on the agenda was the Emerging Leaders elections. At the IGE, the Americas was represented by Barbados, The Bahamas, Bermuda, The Cayman Islands, Trinidad and Tobago and Canada. For the Americas, the Emerging Leaders are now Arvis Mortimer of The Bahamas and Jessica Silva of Canada.



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Chairman of the National Award Council Lt. Col (Rtd) V Owen Springer also attend the IGE to represent the Caribbean during meetings.

At the IGE, we not only experienced leadership training but the culture of Korea as well. Our hosts did an excellent job. We experienced this first hand by being taught Mo-dum-buk (Group drumming), Pung-mul (instruments for Korean traditional percussion music) and Taek-gyeon (Korean traditional martial arts). We had a two hour practice session and performed what we learnt the very next night at cultural night!

On our field visits, we appreciated the beauty of the landscape and architecture of Korea. Of course, we tried Korean food such as kimchi (cabbage), rice cakes, gimbap (sushi), seaweed and marvelled at their many banchan which means side dishes and wide array of street food.

I am grateful to have been given the opportunity to represent Barbados at the IGE. My journey to South Korea has given me much food for thought on how youth leadership can transform the Award not only in Barbados but across the world.

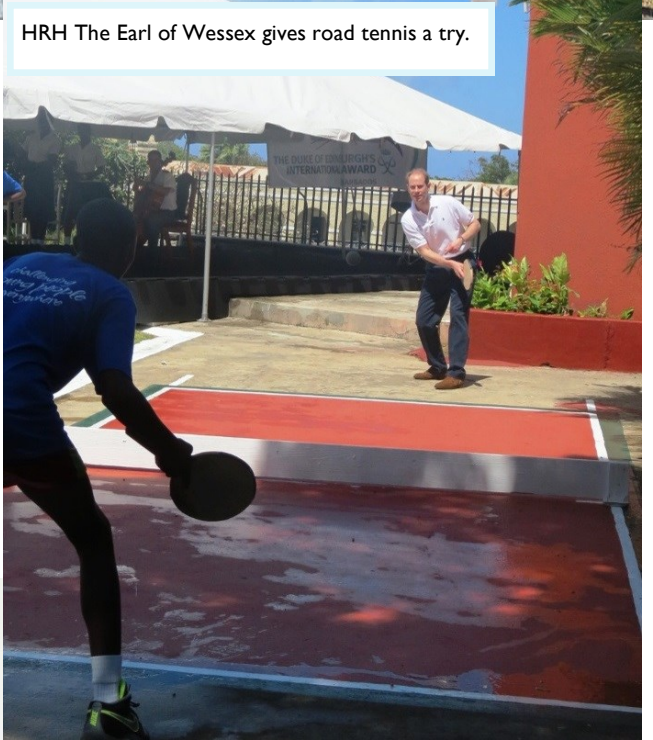
Children & Come hike



Dukers Showcase at the Officers mess of the Barbados Defence Force



Clean Up Barbados



HRH The Earl of Wessex gives road tennis a try.

Bronze & Silver Award Ceremony



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On board the HMS Severn

Now in the region doing training and assisting regional authorities, the HMS Severn, welcomed participants of The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award in December.

In addition to a tour of the vessel participants also heard from crew members who are Gold Award holders.. They fully endorsed the Award and encouraged the participants to continue with the programme to the highest level.

They were exposed to the various levels of safety procedures that are necessary to ensure comfortable living on board.



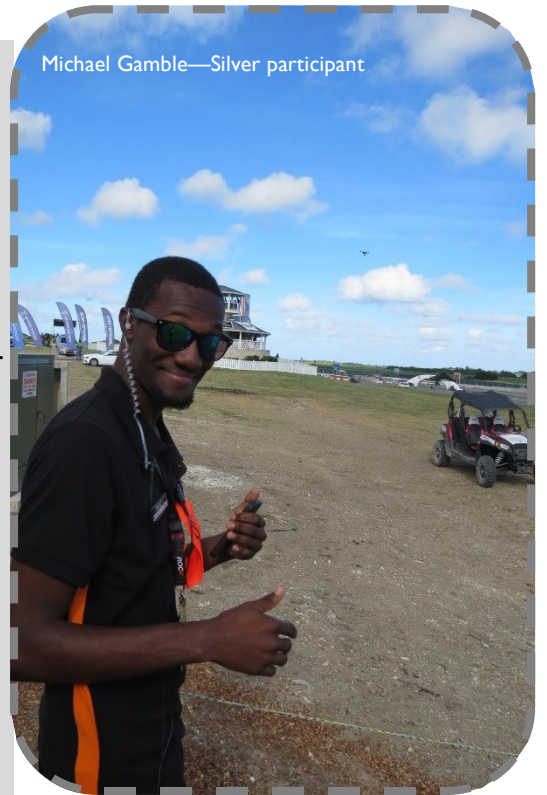
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Race of Champions makes a mark with Volunteers

Participants and award holders had the once in a lifetime opportunity to be part of history, when the hosting of Race of Champions was held here for the first time in December 2014. They were amongst the cadre of volunteers who made sure the event went off without a hitch. Silver participant, Michael Gamble was part of the volunteer team and he had this to say, "Organisation was the main thing that I learned....They had very good equipment. The level of organisation was really good. Everyone came together."

The volunteers were not on the job all the time; they had the chance to spend some time on the track along with meeting the drivers. Michael recounted his awesome experience riding in one of the super trucks. He said, "The drive was pretty cool. You get in through the window. It's a bit complicated."

Another 'duker' on the job was gold award holder Jamar Odwin, he had the chance to take to the track with the lone female driver, Susie Wolff. Like Michael he was very impressed with the level of organisation which went into the event. He said, "The thing that stood out for me the most about Race of Champions was the fact that most of the organisers reside in different countries and not much of them are actually into cars but they have a common purpose which is coming together to make each Race of Champions a success. It really goes to show that as a people we can all come together and make something work once we all have the same purpose. It actually reminded me of CASC."



Michael Gamble—Silver participant



Jamar Odwin—Gold Award holder



18 DAYS OF PURE ADVENTURE IN THE SPICE ISLE CASC 2015—24 JULY—10 AUGUST



GRENADA



CASC 2015

- ✓ Register for CASC 2015
- ◇ Sample 'Oil Down'
- ◇ Hike to Fedon's Camp
- ◇ Go to Spice Mass

COME TO THE INFORMATION MEETING
ON SAT 14 FEB

AT THE ST MICHAEL SCHOOL

LEADERS PARTICIPANTS AND PARENTS ARE
INVITED TO ATTEND

START TIME 9:30 AM TO 11:30 AM

