

Newsletter

APRIL
2012



Dear Friends of Ranfurly,

I would like to thank all of the generous supporters of the Home. 2011 has been a year of growth and challenge for us. Many goals were realized this year encouraging us to set new ones and to aim to climb higher. Some of our goals are still works in progress.

Mr. Roberts, our administrator (who came to us in October, 2010) has very calmly been able to steer our ship on a more even keel than I had hoped. Under his watchful, paternal eye I have noticed the blossoming of many of the children as Mr. Roberts has provided them with the father-figure that our children so desperately need.

The children are more consistently disciplined and encouraging self-respect is the on-going goal of all the people who care for the Ranfurly Homes for Children. The Home looks so beautiful thanks to the generous and patient care of one of our most loyal benefactors. It is clean and well-loved despite its limitations of space.

Our website and Facebook page are fully functional and our newsletter has become a reality - thanks to Joey Premock, our Vice-President.

We have had three (3) long-standing members of the Board resign recently: Mrs. Becky Wzolek, Ms. Patricia Ferguson and Ms. Gandhi Pinder. We thank them so much for their years of service to the Home

and know that we shall continue to see them as mentors to the Children.

We welcome two (2) new members to the Board from the Association: Mrs. Linda Eldon and Mr. Alistair Chisnall. I look forward to working with both of them and know that they will both bring tremendous talent to the Home.

Our goals for 2012 include (but are not limited to):

- Creating a sustainable fundraising plan for Ranfurly's future.
- Developing a realistic Five-year plan for the Home including not only the Transitional Home but also considering the possibility of building new dorms and an in-school facility.
- Creation of an Alumni section of the Association and indeed growing the Association itself.

Our motto this year for 2012 is "the attitude of gratitude" and we are all so grateful for your love and support.

Alexandra Maillis-Lynch (President, 2011-2012)

In This Issue:

Summer Activities	2
Message from Nurse	2
Upcoming Events	3

Activities

Friday, 11 November

Missionaries **Mr. & Mrs. Peter Kingston** from Fiji visited the Home and shared their life experience as missionaries and gave a well received presentation on making and spending money.

Sunday, 13 November

The staff of **Majesty of the Seas** invited staff and students aboard the cruise ship for lunch. The crew presented gifts to the children.

Saturday, 19 November & 10 March

Ranfurly continued their program with the **Girls Getties**. This is a joint project between the Rotary Club of South Miami and the Rotary Club of Nassau. Their mission is to provide guidance and positive direction to young women through relationships with caring adults.

Sunday, 27 November

Ranfurly kids were treated to a movie at the Galleria Cinemas by **Rotaract Club**.

Wednesday, 30 November

The children attended the National Tree Lighting Ceremony at Rawson Square.

Friday, 2 December

The children attended the Christmas tree lighting ceremony at the Royal Bahamas Police Force Headquarters.

Also during December the Ranfurly had visits from many groups and individuals including the Salvation Army and Bahamian actress and model, Jeanene Fox. The highlight of the Christmas season was the closing of the Ranfurly Home from **December 23 – 27**. Residents were placed with relatives, sponsors, and mentors.

This was the 2nd year and was extremely successful. Some of the hosts asked to have the residents to stay on until 2 January! Hosts have also indicated that they would like to have the residents join them over other breaks and holidays. This is expected to continue to grow in the future.

Residents received lots of Christmas gifts and were encouraged by Mr. Roberts to return the kindness to those children in the community that are less fortunate than them. All the residents agreed and their gifts were sent to the Red Cross and the All Saints Camp.

Some of the boys experienced three days of sailing with professional sailor Dragan Popov, Director and Founder of the Island School, and Simone Pasqua. This culminated with a fun day for all the residents at Blue Lagoon Island.

Wednesday, 18 January

Mr. Roberts was invited to speak to a group of insurance executives from the United States at the Ocean Club who donated seven bicycles to the Ranfurly. The following day the executives toured the Home and donated linen and towels to the Home.

Thursday, 19 January

The children were invited to the Carnival from 6 – 9pm, they had a great time.

Sunday, 22 January

Bahamas Waste Management treated the residents to a full dinner from Bertha's Ribs.

Saturday, 28 January

Bahamas Customs hosted the Ranfurly residents and children from other homes to a fun day that they very much enjoyed.

Saturday, 11 February

Shelia Culmer and members of the SAC Links Club treated the Ranfurly residents and other children to a fun day.

Saturday, 18 February

St Augustine's Class of 1972 treated residents to food and drink, gave out gifts and spent time with the children.

Tuesday, 21 February

The Brownies from Temple Christian School donated items to the home.

A sponsor donated tickets for the older residents to attend the Othello production at the Dundas.

Sunday, 11 March

Eight students and two staff member from the University of Tennessee – Chattanooga attended church with the Ranfurly family at the Presbyterian Kirk then had lunch at the home. The following day they assisted with various projects around the Home.





THE LOVE That Child benefit concert in aid of the Ranfurly Home for Children and the Children's Emergency Hostel attracted to a huge crowd Sunday at the Rainforest Theatre.

More than 200 performers wowed the audience with hip-hop inspired contortionist dance moves and vocal renditions.

Bahamian artists including Funky D and T'rez Hepburn, took the stage at the Bank of the Bahamas sponsored event. Children from The Meridian School performed "Lean on Me" and hit single by Jessie J "Price Tag".

Damien Davis, who grew up in the Children's Emergency Hostel and the Ranfurly Homes for Children, wrote and composed the song Love That Child, the event's namesake. Davis received a standing ovation after his moving rendition of "You Raise Me Up".

He was joined on stage by local performers and the 20 award-winning dancers from the Touch of Class Dance School in Philadelphia who all raised their own money to perform in the concert.

Other performers included Danielle Dean of Chelsea's Kids, Yodephy Dance and Modeling Academy, Dance Bahamas School, Virtue Dance Academy, Live to Dance, Eurhythmics Dance Studio, Kaleidoscope Dance Company and Juice Unit Hip Hop Group.

"Today has been truly remarkable, not only the fact that it is all about children helping children, but that we were hoping to fill 500 seats and we are now at standing room only with more than 800 in the house. It shows how much heart we have as a people when it comes to looking after our youth," said Minister of State for Labour and Social Development Loretta Butler Turner, who brought remarks at the event.

Corporate table sponsors included Chelsea's Water, BTC, Colina, MacDonald's, Graycliff and several individuals.

Delivering toothbrushes and smiles worldwide.

Global Grins made a donation of hundreds of toothbrushes to the Ranfurly Home and shared their passion for the promotion of dental health.



PERFORMANCES OF NOTE BY OUR RESIDENTS

- St. Anne's "Confidence Award" for the month of January
- A member of the gold medal relay winners Under 13 in the 4x100m and 4x400m during the B.A.A.A. competition
- Spelling Bee Champion at Charles W. Saunders

Extracurricular Activities

Three of our residents are sailing at the Nassau Yacht Club. Robert Dunkley, the sailing coach, has high hopes for one of the residents to make his mark in this sport.

All but two of our girls are enrolled in Yodephy where the social graces and poise are taught along with modeling and dance. The girls are highly motivated and enjoying the experience.

Atlantis Resort's children's Homes community service program has started again this year. Each week they host one of five homes. Each home chooses up to 10 children and 2 chaperones to be guests of Aquaventure to experience the water park. Of the remaining children 10 get to play at Gamer's Reef with the newest and coolest video and arcade games, 5 children partake in the Atlantis Kids Adventure where children are allowed to pick their own adventure that is limited only by their imaginations, the rest of the children join the Earth and Fire Pottery Studio.

Volunteers are needed to Chaperone the events - please see the calendar below for the dates.



Become a fan
Hole In The Wall

Upcoming Events	March	April	May
	<p>17</p> <p>Antique Auto Show and Cookout</p> <p>18</p> <p>Visit to the All Saints Camp and lunch sponsored by Rotaract Club</p> <p>28</p> <p>A group from Maryland to visit</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Fun Day at the Adventure Learning Centre sponsored by Social Services</p> <p>20</p> <p>Club Rush 8:00pm - midnight</p> <p>21</p> <p>Activities at Atlantis 1pm - 7pm</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Easter Monday Picnic and Easter Egg Hunt at Adelaide</p> <p>19</p> <p>Ranfurly Home's Fun-Lympics at Botanical Gardens</p> <p>25</p> <p>Club Rush 8:00pm - midnight</p> <p>26</p> <p>Activities at Atlantis 1pm - 7pm</p>

If you wish to volunteer in any way, we would be thrilled to find a purpose, which will use your gifts or resources effectively! Please contact the Home to help out at 242.393.3115 or aroberts_ranfurly@yahoo.com.

Thank you all for being a part of Ranfurly's extended family and support system. Our calling to care for these children is a great and beautiful one, and so are the responsibilities that come with it. We are dependent on you who share the honor of this task with us!



**Make An Immediate
Impact on a Child's Life,
Become a Mentor**

