



WINTER NEWSLETTER 2011

Dear Ladies,

I'm delighted to announce that 2011 has been another eventful and successful year so far for the Lady Taverners in Guernsey and we have raised £36,200 for our charity to the end of October!

MEMBERSHIP - Congratulations and a warm welcome to the new Lady Taverner members who have joined us this year: Sara Bourgaize, June Bright, Susan Clark, Shirley de Carteret, Marion Fallaize, Ann Hunt, Sandra King, Cherry McMillen, Sandra Poulding and Christine Whitehorne.

GRANT APPLICATIONS – During 2011, we were delighted to award a grant of £5,000 to the Croft Respite Centre for a sensory room. Several of our members also kindly donated items such as bedding, furniture, DVDs, computer games etc which would fall outside the charity's remit. Sue Aldwell of The Croft has asked me to pass on the Centre's sincere thanks for everyone's kindness.

We were also pleased to sponsor some Photography Workshops for special needs children as part of the Guernsey International Photography Festival again this year.

We are always looking for projects to support, especially as we have been raising more money than we have been asked to commit for some years now. Our aim is to encourage those youngsters with physical or mental disabilities to participate in sporting and recreational activities within a group environment, thereby helping to build their self-confidence, social skills and general fitness, thus encouraging them to achieve goals which may otherwise be beyond their reach. If you know of any projects for which we may be able to provide assistance, please contact me and I shall be delighted to discuss your ideas with you.

FUND RAISING EVENTS AND DINNER MEETINGS IN 2011

Our New Year Dinner Meeting was held at The Alpine Chalet where we were joined by 43 members and guests to enjoy an especially themed dinner of fondues and raclettes – with a glass of mulled wine!

In February our RGM was held at The OGH. Sadly this was the last event to be attended by Sir Fabian and Lady Malbon as our Honorary Presidents. Tribute was paid to them both by John Birley at the post-Meeting Dinner, and Zoë also thanked Lady Malbon for all the valued and enthusiastic support she gave to our charity by attending so many of our functions despite her very busy diary.

Our March Dinner Meeting was held at the newly refurbished L'Escalier Bar & Maison Grill. March also saw the second Tarrant's Giant Quiz at Beau Sejour as a joint event with the Lord's Taverners. It was as huge a success as the first time with 430 people joining us for an amazing night of dancing on tables as well as Chris's fantastic music quiz. Auction prizes included holidays in the Cayman Islands, London and Paris. A remarkable £20,000 was raised during the evening.

The Grand National Lunch, our biggest event of the year, was held in April at the St Pierre Park Hotel where 310 ladies joined us for this annual occasion. We are very grateful to our main sponsor Lovells, and to Bucktrouts and St Pierre Park Hotel for sponsoring the Champagne Reception. Carey Olsen sponsored our Star Prize of a Weekend at the Jersey Races staying at The Grand Hotel which was won by Fionnuala Carvill. During lunch, our surprise guest Bruce Airhead entertained the ladies with his amusing balloon act, which proved to be a huge success.

We were again blessed with glorious sunshine, so after lunch ladies enjoyed a glass of wine on the terrace before shopping at the Terrace Bar stalls. Everyone had placed bets with Boschers Bookmakers and many ladies took part in the Sweepstake, kindly sponsored by Spearpoint again this year. Our thanks also go to Coast Media for funding the horse balloons for each table. We were delighted to have raised the magnificent sum of £7,700 during the afternoon.

Also in April, Karen New and Zoë were interviewed on BBC Radio Guernsey about the work of the Lady Taverners in Guernsey which provided our charity with a fantastic profile raising opportunity.

Our May Dinner Meeting was held at Riva Upper Deck where Zoë announced the very good news that the new Lieutenant Governor's wife, Mrs Lynda Walker, has agreed to be our Honorary President.

Later that month Fran and Zoë were pleased to accompany Shep and Toni Clayton to the fourth annual Lord's and Lady Taverners Conference in Manchester. This is always a very worthwhile and informative event and is well attended by representatives from most of the Regions. Our speakers this year were some young men from the Cricket For Change charity which has linked with The Lord's Taverners due to the natural synergies between the two charities.

Our June Dinner Meeting was held at Le Chalet Hotel.

In July, our fifth Wimbledon Ladies Final Lunch went with a swing at The OGH, and we were delighted to raise over £3,500 with the help of our main sponsor Guernsey Trust Company Limited. The Hotel looked after us impeccably during the afternoon which was attended by 134 ladies. We enjoyed a glass of Pimms in the garden, kindly sponsored by Odey Wealth, followed by a delicious salad and strawberry dessert for lunch. We were fortunate to have received so many lovely raffle prizes, and are also grateful to Coryn and Bev for donating the table gifts, and Creasey's for the perfume samples. After watching the Wimbledon Ladies Final on screens around the Regency Room, we enjoyed Afternoon Tea in the garden, making a perfect end to a lovely afternoon.

The 25th Anniversary Silver Ball was held at Beau Sejour in September. We were delighted that HE Air Marshal Peter Walker and his wife Lynda, Colonel Richard and Mrs Ruby Graham, and Chief Minister Lyndon Trott joined us with 340 guests. The Lady Taverners Chairman of Chairmen Carol Robinson flew over especially for the event. The evening which was sponsored by Investec Bank began with a Champagne Reception followed by a 3 course dinner, with entertainment from the marvellous 'Siren' string quartet and dancing to top UK dance band 'Pop Fiction'.

Auction prizes included an Anya Hindmarch handbag donated by Nadine Brewer and bought by Margaret Welsh, a pair of Jimmy Choo sunglasses donated by Trouteaud Opticians and bought by Toni Clayton, Dinner cooked in your own home by the OGH Executive Chef bought by Karen New, one week's accommodation at Duncan Spence's apartment in the Cayman Islands bought by the Lieutenant Governor, and a long weekend at the luxury Spa Hotel in Tunbridge Wells including dinner with the Queen's personal jeweller bought for her by Zoë's husband! We are absolutely thrilled to have raised the amazing sum of £15,000 during the evening.

Our September Dinner Meeting was held at The Hideaway Restaurant at Moores and the October Tennerfest Dinner Meeting at La Grande Mare was attended by a record 44 ladies. In November we shall be holding a Drinks Party at Muse in place of our usual Dinner Meeting.

Our Christmas Celebration Evening will be held at the Courtyard Brasserie at Oatlands on Monday 5th December. We are delighted that Mrs Lynda Walker and Mrs Ruby Graham will be joining us again this year.

2012 CALENDAR:

The following are provisional dates and venues for next year so far and are subject to change:

Monday 9th January – Dinner Meeting at The Alpine Chalet
Tuesday 7th February – Regional General Meeting followed by dinner with the Lord's Taverners at The OGH
Monday 12th March – Dinner Meeting
Saturday 14th April – Grand National Ladies Lunch at St Pierre Park Hotel
Monday 14th May – Dinner Meeting
Monday 11th June – Dinner Meeting
Saturday 7th July – Wimbledon Ladies Final Lunch at The OGH
Monday 10th September – Dinner Meeting
Monday 8th October – Tennerfest Dinner Meeting
Monday 12th November – Dinner Meeting
Monday 10th December – Christmas Celebration Evening

HAVING 'FUN' WHILST 'FUN'D-RAISING!

Your Lady Taverners Committee is always thinking of ways to continue the charity's tradition of having fun whilst fund-raising. If you have a new fund-raising idea or would like to offer your assistance in some way, I'd love to hear from you. Thank you for your valued and continued support.

With best wishes

Zoë

Zoë Cousens,
Chairman, Lady Taverners Guernsey Region

Committee Members:
Helen Green, Treasurer
Beverley Mella, Dinner Meeting Secretary
Fran Bourget
Coryn Le Clerc
Vanda Slann, Chairman Elect