



Economy looking up

Welcome signs of an improving Jamaican economy have been seen recently. The island's Ambassador to the US, Audrey Marks, told Philadelphia business leaders that strong indicators this year had given rise to renewed optimism. The BOJ interest rate was now below double-digit levels, for the first time in 15 years. And the government was encouraging banks to follow suit.

Other helpful indicators include tourist arrivals rising 7% in the first six months of 2010. Sandals again gained the most WTA awards in the Caribbean. And US\$3 billion is to be spent on new infrastructure linked to the Liquid Petroleum Gas project, with new generating capacity and retooling of bauxite and alumina plants.



The cut in cement price of 7.5% means we should now see more activity in construction. **And BHJ is ready to build your dream home.**

BHJ Only Brings You Positive News

Here at Bespoke Homes Jamaica we bring only good news. There is too much bad news around. Let's celebrate our heritage, our "now" and our future. Let's work for a better Jamaica, a better future for all of us.

Proverbs

Every BHJ Newsletter will bring you some of those proverbs we learnt as a child at the knee of our mother.

Walk better dan sidong

To walk is better than to sit down

Di daakes' part a di night, a when diay soon light

*When thing and times are the hardest,
brighter times are near*

Duppy know who fi frighten

*Bullies pick on those who can defend
themselves the least*

Please send us your favourite proverbs, to feature in the next BHJ Newsletter. **Send to: lillalee@bhj-ltd.com**

BHJ new website unveiled

The new and improved Bespoke Homes Jamaica website is now running at www.bhj-ltd.com. One new feature is the Connections section, which includes a focus on our seven National Heroes. And there's a thinkpiece about what it means to be a Jamaican today - please let us know what you think at lillalee@bhj-ltd.com. There's lots more too, with many more pictures of people and places across the island.



Our first BHJ home – St Catherine

Bespoke Homes Jamaica

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Your News, Your Views

Please send us your news stories, for inclusion in the Bespoke Homes Jamaica Newsletter.

Focus on Clarendon

Each issue of BHJ News focuses on a parish. Last month we had Trelawny and now it's Clarendon.



Clock tower, May Pen

Only two parishes have more land than Clarendon. Musicians born there include Freddie McGregor, Toots Hibbert, Cocoa Tea, Liz Mitchell of Boney M and Millie of My Boy Lollipop fame. Boxer Glen Johnson also began life in Clarendon. As did actress Mona Hammond who, in October, reprised her role of Eastender Blossom Jackson.

Recent good news for the parish is that repair work is set to begin on 15 November in Rocky Point fishing village. \$36 million from the Canadian International Development Agency is renewing the beach area, with new gear sheds, showers and other facilities.

Jamaica Heritage and Other Things

Find that book on Jamaica culture, heritage and other things Jamaican at:

www.promotingourheritage.co.uk

08451 259 419

Record crime fall

To the east of Kingston, sitting between Long Mountain and Dallas Mountain, is August Town. Thanks to partnership working with its near-neighbour UWI, Mona, August Town has "seen a drastic reduction in crime and violence", according to Kenneth Wilson, Liaison Officer for the UWI Township Programme.

Gangs across the 15,000 community – which includes African Garden, Bedwood Gardens and Hermitage – signed a peace treaty that has been well respected. And the community pledge to work with law enforcement leads Wilson to say: "We really have a lot to give thanks for, especially the level of peace". In addition, "...we are pleased at the level of cooperation the police are receiving from the community" – a key factor the government has itself been trying to bring about for such a long time.

University of the West Indies has also repaired several of the 9 basic schools and 3 primary schools. UWI students play a part, especially through the Quality Leadership Programme.

Housing Help for Young Professionals

The National Housing Trust recently announced three measures to help professionals over 18 to buy a home. They have cut the time young people need to have been depositing; they have allowed youngsters to combine their incomes; and they are now to offer a shared equity programme. Another reason for you not to put off any longer building that dream house in Jamaica. See www.bhj-ltd.com

Housing Help from the Government

The recent cuts in the cost of stamp duty and transfer tax have boosted the housing market. The Realtors Association of Jamaica is now backing the boss of Jamaica National's call for more action.

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