



# ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY OF NEW YORK

## E-NEWSLETTER

## APRIL 2008

### FIRST ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING HELD



The first meeting of the Society's Advisory Council was held on 2 April at the corporate headquarters of WPP, courtesy of its chairman, Sir Martin Sorrell, Council member. The purpose of the meeting was to begin to develop a strategy to enlist senior corporate executives in support of the Society's work, nominate candidates for the Medal of Honour, and to make financial

commitments to the organization. The meeting, chaired by Peter Felix, CBE, who stood in for the Chairman, Sir Dennis Weatherstone, KBE, was attended by Jim Dale, MBE; Francis Finlay, OBE; William R. Miller, OBE; and Martin J. Sullivan, OBE, (in photo) as well as John Shannon, Executive Director, and Paul Sharpe, Development Officer. The event constitutes a successful first step in establishing regular twice-yearly meetings, one in New York and another in London where several of the Council members are based. Other Council members are: Sir Thomas Harris, KBE, CMG, Lord Marshall of Knightsbridge, Lord Saatchi, Sir Alan Collins, KCVO; Sir Harold Evans; Sir Deryck Maughan; Frank E. Morgan II; Mark C. Pigott, OBE; William F. ("Frank") Price; Sir Nigel Sheinwald, KCVO; and Sir Howard Stringer. One of the first objectives is to identify potential new members to build up the Council's reach and capacity. Through regular interaction, it is planned that the body, made up of leaders in business, finance, diplomacy and the arts, will become the Society's main vehicle for outreach at the highest levels.

### MARY LAMASNEY SUCCEEDS CAROL CHETRICK AS MANTON SOCIAL WORKER



The Society suffered a loss in March when Carol Chetrick, Manton Social Worker (photo), submitted her resignation, which was accepted with regret. Carol was devoted to the needs of our numerous beneficiaries, for whom she was a passionate advocate. The social worker is the main interface through which the Society interacts with its beneficiaries, producing reports on their situations and needs,

interviewing new candidates for assistance, as well as coordinating help through other agencies. These can be termed normal attributes of a social worker position at most agencies. St. George's is unusual in several ways: beneficiaries are from many countries, come from different cultures and backgrounds, and live all over New York City as well as Connecticut, New Jersey and Long Island. The Society is fortunate to have secured Mary Lamasney, LCSW, to succeed Carol. With almost 20 years of experience in the field, Mary has been a case manager at Fort Washington Houses Services for the Elderly, where she provided case management, advocacy, counseling and other services to seniors in the Washington Heights and Inwood sections in northern Manhattan. (The Society has partnered with that agency to assist individuals in the past.) Prior to that, from 1989 to 1999, Mary worked in different capacities at Isabella Long Term Health Care Program, first as a social worker, and then as a supervisor. She received a BA from Columbia University, School of General Studies; and a MSW degree from the Wurzweiler School of Social Work. Mary will officially start working at St. George's Society on 5 May.

### ROYALS & NOBLES RECEPTION AT GEOFFREY BRADFIELD'S



The prelude to the 2008 English Ball of the Roses was a reception for the Royal and Noble-level subscribers held at the East Side townhouse of Geoffrey Bradfield (photo) on 8 April attended by over 100 guests including the Ball's honorees, Barbara Taylor Bradford, OBE, and Martin J. Sullivan, OBE. The cocktail reception is a Society tradition

to thank those who support the Society as a whole and The English Ball of the Roses in particular. A leading interior designer whose work is regularly featured in magazines such as Architectural Digest, Mr. Bradfield is a member of St. George's Society and also a friend of the Bradford's.

### ST. GEORGE'S CHARITY WORK BULLETIN



For the edification of members and friends, this E-Newsletter will occasionally profile a beneficiary or situation to illustrate the range of people being helped as well as the services we provide. At any time the Society is supporting financially over five dozen individuals, half from the UK (mainly

England) and half from Commonwealth nations (primarily in the West Indies). Recently the Society was approached to assist a 70-year-old woman, S.C., from Guyana who came to America 13 years ago when she was 57. After interviewing her Mary Lamasney, Social Worker designate

Needless to say, his home, which is also his workplace, was the peak of stylishness and displayed furniture and carpets he designed himself, as well as art works by Julian Schnabel. The spectacular interiors elicited awe and admiration from the guests and were complemented by exquisite hors d'oeuvres, champagne and an open bar supplied by the noted caterer, Aquolina. Among the Society supporters present were President Peter Felix and his wife, June; Vicki and Jeff Downey; Jennifer and Rodney Johnson; Jim Dale; Iris Williams; Natalie and Malcolm Pray; Bill and Irene Miller; April and Roddy Gow; June and Donald Briggs; Nancy Sakas; and Jeffrey Ryan, to name but a few, who all happily mingled against the backdrop of Mr. Bradfield's home. Every attendee agreed it was an outstanding occasion, and one that raises the bar for 2009. The English Ball of the Roses will take place at the Rainbow Room in Rockefeller Center on Friday 25 April 2008. If you have not yet bought your ticket, do not delay much longer as the room is literally filling up. Call the office at 212-682-6110.

### MARCH ARTS INITIATIVE CELEBRATES TARTAN WEEK



The March 28 Arts Initiative at the National Arts Club celebrated Tartan Week. Thanks to Alan Bain of the American-Scottish Foundation and George Campbell of the Caledonian Club of New York, the Society was proud to host a highly informative program featuring Scottish singers, painters and a fashion designer. Deborah Gilmour and Cristina L.

Ciocca began the evening by showing works by the Scottish Collective, a group of contemporary painters who include James McDonald, Neil MacPherson, Martin Kane, Ally Thompson, Moray Hillary and Lesley Banks. The clothing designs of Lusmila McColl, of McColl & Clan, highlighted Harris Tweed fashions. The firm is atypical in that it incorporates a design and business ethic that supports an eco-sensible way of producing, selling and distributing fashion. Visit [www.mccollandclan.com](http://www.mccollandclan.com). Next the young singer Louise Cairns performed some of her songs on the piano. She began her career as a classical musician and progressed to pop, blues and jazz. She has worked with some of the biggest artists, record labels, studios (including Abbey Road) and promoters in the UK. Following her was singer and musician Steve O'Connor (photo) who performed the pop-rock hit "Hail Caledonia." Born and raised in Liverpool but now living in Scotland, his words and melodies coupled with his warm and genial manner, engaged his audience. The evening was MC'd by the inimitable Jim Dale, MBE, who gamely entertained the audience while the models changed clothes behind the scenes. One word: "Satan." (You had to be there.) The capacity audience enjoyed a fun and informative evening of song, laughter, art and culture, not to mention liquid refreshments!

(photo), produced a report revealing that, since coming here, S. worked as a home health aide, and always paid her rent (currently \$825) on time, until January 2008 when she was diagnosed with congestive heart failure. A defibrillator was implanted in her in February. Her rent is more than her income from Social Security. The City's Human Resources Administration agreed to pay the outstanding rent but wants a third-party to guarantee that S. will be able to maintain herself in the future. She has six children, all in Guyana; and a sister, who has a family, in New York. None is able to act as guarantor. A paramount concern of the Committee is to prevent eviction. There are long waiting lists for subsidized housing while non-public apartments are invariably more expensive. HRA will pay the back rent, which is lucky. The Society will grant S. a monthly stipend to fund her deficit, which should satisfy HRA. S. should not have to work in her condition and at her age. This is probably the start of a long-term relationship as her financial situation is unlikely to improve.

### UPCOMING PUB CRAWL & OPEN GOLF TOURNAMENT



Be sure to keep space free in your diaries for two exciting upcoming events – the St. George's Pub Crawl and the St. George's Open Golf Tournament. Saturday 3 May is the day of an exciting new venture for the Society. Come down and bring your friend's to join in the first ever St. George's Society Pub Crawl! Hosted by Ulysses and in collaboration with neighboring bars on Stone Street,

patrons will have the option of either paying their own way per drink and food or purchasing a pub crawl bracelet for discounts at the participating bars. The St. George's Society will conduct hourly pub quizzes with prizes and a raffle. A belated celebration of St. George's Day, this event promises to be great fun with great people in celebration of our legendary namesake. Stone Street is the oldest paved street in New York and the British Memorial Garden is located just a couple steps away at Hanover Square. The St. George's Open Golf Tournament is also just around the corner. After the overwhelmingly positive feedback received after last year's, the venue will remain at The Suburban Golf Club, Union, NJ. Once again teams will be treated to lunch, 18 holes of golf on the Suburban Club's immaculate course, followed by cocktails, dinner and prize ceremony. Corporate and personal sponsorship opportunities are available. 2007 sponsors included Deutsche Bank, RP Capital, Saxon Technology, ABN-AMRO, Aston Martin, and The Daughters of the British Empire. Rich Jacklin won the tournament and will be presented with the trophy this year at the English Ball. For more information on either of these events, please contact the Society's office at 212.682.6110 or [val.bickel@stgeorgessociety.org](mailto:val.bickel@stgeorgessociety.org).

216 EAST 45th STREET • SUITE 901 • NEW YORK, NY 10017-3304 • T 212.682.6110 • F 212.682.3465

E [Info@stgeorgessociety.org](mailto:Info@stgeorgessociety.org) • W [www.stgeorgessociety.org](http://www.stgeorgessociety.org)

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