



# A.B.S.A.R.

## Antigua and Barbuda Search and Rescue

Antigua Yacht Club Marina  
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*"So that others may live"*



May 2018 Newsletter

### Letter from the Director

As the docks continue to clear out after Antigua Sailing Week, our medic station once again returns to a more steady flow of patients coming in and out for minor medical issues. We have been so fortunate to have had the help of a number of medical students from the UK who have been instrumental in assisting us during such a busy season this year. With such extensive hurricane damage in other islands, we experienced a higher than normal amount of visiting yachts, cruise ship passengers and tourists this season. We can't thank our volunteers enough for all of the hours that they put in each week in order to keep our medic station running and keep us response-ready for callouts, both on the water and in the English Harbour area. We thank you all for your support in continuing your annual memberships which provides the majority of the funding required to keep our operations going. We could not do what we do without you!

Hope you all have a wonderful summer!

Julie Esty

*Julie Esty*

ABSAR Fundraising Coordinator

### Vanessa's Walk for ABSAR



A huge thank you goes out to Vanessa Smit from Cloggy's Restaurant for her amazing efforts to raise money for ABSAR. Last July, she participated in the world's largest marching event in the world in Nijmegen, Netherlands. She walked 40km daily for four days and raised over US\$3120.000 for ABSAR. She's now planning to do it again this July! Please support her in her efforts by donating online at <https://www.gofundme.com/walk-for-absar>. Thank you Vanessa and hoping the blisters aren't too bad this year!

### JBF Continues Their Support

The Jumby Bay Fund not only assisted us in the



purchase of our medical structure for Barbuda, but they also agreed to pay for all of our fuel for 2018 for all of our vehicles, as well as joined our membership program as a Platinum member! Thank you to all who contributed!

### 2018 Statistics to Date

Medical Cases	340+
Emergency Response Vehicle Calls	30
Miscellaneous Walk-Ins	690+
Search and Rescue Assists	7
Rescue Boat Launches	4
Regattas/Events Supported	4
RORC Caribbean 600 boats met	86
Transatlantic Rowers/SUPs met	26

## ABSAR Hurricane Relief Efforts Continue

We are currently coordinating our final boat-load of supplies down to Dominica in approximately one week's time. In total, we raised US \$262,937.08 for Dominica, which resulted in six boat-loads from Antigua and five containers from Miami. Team Cobra Relief Rebuild accepted all items and ensured their delivery to people who truly needed it the most. We were able to raise US \$233,038.67 in aid of Barbuda. We are continuing to fund various projects, including the rebuilding of Codrington's only ice cream shop and assisting a local farmer to rebuild his egg production and agricultural operations. Thanks to the Jumby Bay and the Mill Reef Funds, we were able to obtain a large portable structure that is being used by the International and the Antigua and Barbuda Red Cross for their headquarters in Codrington.



## Antigua Sailing Week 2018 Keeps ABSAR Busy

With 116 entries this year, and a significant amount of wind, we launched two boats to cover both fleets each day. In the week-long event we had over 80 walk-ins to the medic station for treatment, and 8 on-the-water rescues which included two dismastings and a collision. We provided towing assistance, as well as transport in our ambulance for injured persons from the collision.



## First Aid Courses

ABSAR will be teaching basic first aid courses at the start of next season for any business that would like to give its staff a refresher before the busy season. The course will be focused around basic first aid & allergic reactions. The idea is to provide your teams with enough information that they feel comfortable dealing with these potentially emergency situations and know what resources they have available around them. Please get in contact with us to discuss class sizes, dates and pricing.



## Calendar of Events

Mikie Pigott Jr. Memorial Classic	May 18
A & B Sport Fishing Tourney	May 19-20
Antigua Carnival	July 22-Aug 2
Frances Nunes Memorial Tourney	September 29-30
Antigua Charter Yacht Show	December 4-10

## ABSAR 2018 Sponsors

**Diamond** – Jumby Bay Fund Ltd.

**Ruby** – The Mill Reef Fund, Antigua Yacht Club Marina

**Emerald** – Antigua Marine Services, Club House, Digicel, Premier Motors

**Sapphire** – Antigua Computer Technology

## About ABSAR

A.B.S.A.R. is a registered non-profit organization that has been in existence since 1998. Our organization is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, ready to assist with medical emergencies, marine and aerial search and rescues, as well as with marine-based fires. We have a base at the Antigua Yacht Club Marina in Falmouth Harbour and our medic station is open 6 days a week. Our ambulance is used to transport patients to the hospital and to various doctors on island. Our two Rescue RIBs can be launched within minutes in the event of a callout. Our organization is run by a group of volunteers and is funded through annual memberships, donations and fundraising events. Copies of our Antigua registration and our latest financial report may be obtained from our office. **Directors:** Jonathan Cornelius, Julie Esty, Max Freling, Dave Martin, Tracey Meagher and Charles Shawcroft.