



**4 February 2009**

## Walking Festival 2009

Following on from the success of the 2007 Walking Festival, St Helena Tourism is organising a second Festival of Walking which will take place from 6 to 13 May 2009.

This year's festival will occur during the RMS Shuttle to Ascension and we hope to attract visitors who have arrived from Cape Town and who are on the Island for the duration of the festival.

While the event is intended to appeal to visitors, it is also a celebration of our unique geological and historical heritage as seen through the eyes of the hiker, the stroller, the charity organiser, the history buff or the geology enthusiast and we hope to have a good turn-out of locals.

Our programme will run similarly to the previous festival, with walks ranging from easy through to the more difficult, so that all people of all abilities can find a walk or walks that they can participate in.

The walking festival is an ideal opportunity for local people to expand their understanding about the island and each walk will be led by a guide who is knowledgeable and experienced.

The festival will be launched with a 'meet and greet' on the evening of Wednesday 6 May and the walks begin with a historical town walk on Thursday 7 May. Each day there will be walks of varying difficulty and interest.

Why not join other walkers in a Country Moonlit Stroll from St Paul's to St Helena and the Cross in Blue Hill and return to St Paul's for a steaming cup of hot soup? Or perhaps you might like to traverse the boundary wall of Longwood where you can learn about the history of Longwood. There will be activity exercises for the young at the George Benjamin Arboretum or for the intrepid a hike down to Lot's Wife Ponds could be on the cards.

This will also be a good opportunity for local organisations to benefit and while some of the walks will raise funds through sponsorship, or require a fee, there will be others where a donation can be made to charities and NGOs such as the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA), Nature Conservation Group (NCG), and the St Helena National Trust (SNT).



### **St Helena Tourism**

**Product Development & Administrative Officer**

Jamestown . St Helena Island . STHL 1ZZ

w. [www.discoveroursecret.co.sh](http://www.discoveroursecret.co.sh) . e. [enquiries@tourism.gov.sh](mailto:enquiries@tourism.gov.sh) . t. +290 2158 . f. +290 2159