



July 2026

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THE COLLEGE BELL

*The Official Newsletter of the Harrison College/
Queen's College Alumni Associations Network*



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HCQCAA USA Elects New Board

***The summer solstice is a time for strength and vitality for action and movement.* —
Carole Carlton**

As HCQCAA USA celebrates the summer solstice, we take heart from Carole Carlton's quote to engage in action and movement.

In April, our new board was elected. Congratulations to the new and returning members. We look forward to continued collaboration as we engage with alumni and fellow chapters in reaching out, networking and giving back.

Update on HCQCAA, USA tertiary Scholarships

Our scholarship committee has reviewed the four applications we received for tertiary level scholarships from students from both schools. The shortlist has been prepared. We are awaiting the final confirmation of acceptance by the chosen institution to announce the scholarship winners in the next edition.

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A digital publication of the Harrison College & Queen's College Alumni Associations



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KATHIE DANIEL

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CHERYL PHILLIPS



Update from the HCQCAA USA

Reflections and appreciation

Let's take a moment to reflect on the following alumni to whom we have bid farewell in the past few months. We acknowledge the seeds of education — which we seek to sustain for current and future students through our association's work — that were sewn during their journey through our schools laid the foundation for them to achieve their unique potential. They have given back and their contributions endure. They will be an eternal inspiration to us.

QC alumna Professor Dr. Juliet Daniel. We are grateful for her contribution to breast cancer research. Her research findings and the identification of the Kaiso gene in women of African descent will perennially transform the treatment of breast cancer in that group.

HC alumnus Robert Williams: Known as math teacher for some of us at QC, and to many others for both his contribution as Computer Manager at UWI and a member of BARP's Executive.

HC alumnus Michael Tudor, remembering his contribution in Canada as a renowned educator.

HC Alumnus Sir Emile Straker: We will forever remember his contribution to Barbadian music and to putting Barbados on the map regionally and globally.



Professor Dr. Juliet Daniel



Robert Williams



Michael Tudor



Sir Emile Straker

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Update from the HCQCAA USA

Continued from Page 2

Update on HCQCAA USA Tertiary Scholarships

Our scholarship committee has reviewed the four applications we received for tertiary level scholarships from students from both schools. The shortlist has been prepared. We are awaiting the final confirmation of acceptance by the chosen institution to announce the scholarship winners in the next edition.

Initiating a HCQCAA UK Chapter

On behalf of HCQCAN, HCQCAA USA has been working with the High Commission of Barbados in London to reestablish a chapter in the United Kingdom (UK). We had an informational meeting in late May, and Delbert Sandiford and June Foster are at work on preparing the constitution and familiarising with local organisation operating requirements. If you know of any alumni in the UK, kindly reach out and encourage them to join and, with their permission, send us their contact information at 2020hcqcgatherin@gmail.com so we can follow up.

HCQCAA USA Activities

We are pleased to share our schedule of activities for the year, including activities in which we collaborate with HCQC Alumni Network (HCQCAN) in October and December.

We thank those of you who have joined our book club sessions. We look forward to continued engagement, and invite you to take the next step and become a member of the alumni chapter in your locality.

We hope some of you will join our USA Chapter for some of our upcoming events and bring friends along. We are sharing our calendar for the year so you can save the dates. We especially invite you to start building your teams for our ever-popular walk run bike fundraiser in October. Watch out for more information on that and other events.





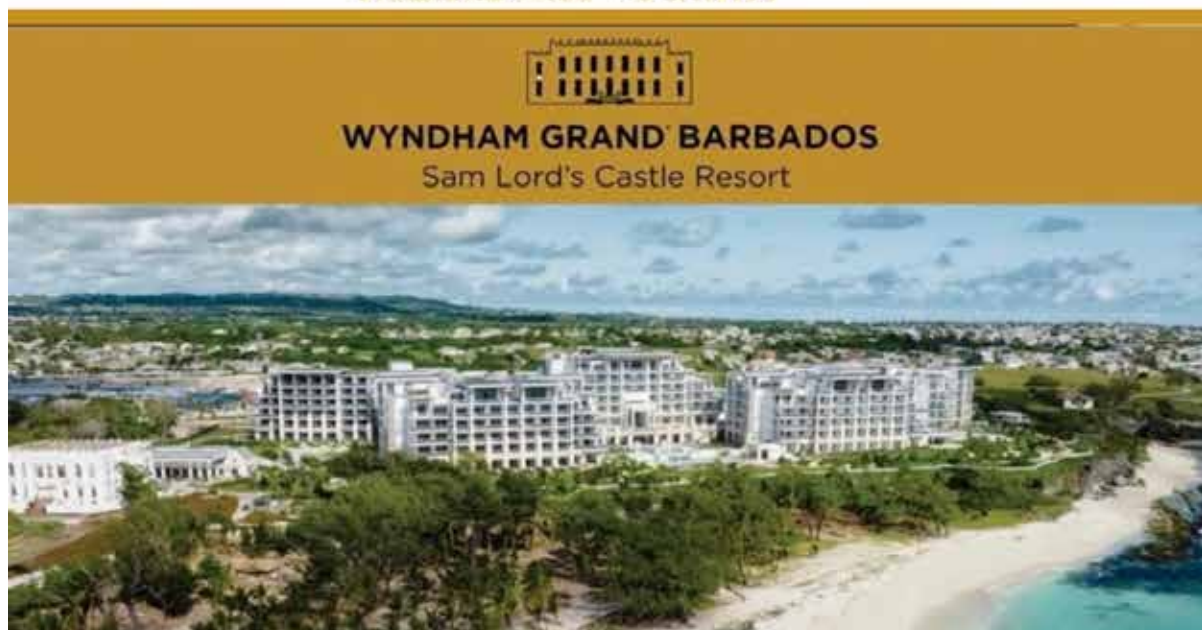
OCTOBER 9, 10 & 11
BARBADOS JAZZ EXCURSION
10th Anniversary 2026

BENEFITTING THE HEADSTART MUSIC PROGRAM
 WYNDHAM GRAND BARBADOS RESORT



KEYON HARROLD NESTOR TORRES JULIAN VAUGHN JOE TORRY
 ANDRÉA LISA ROMARO GREAVES ANIYÉ KWEKU JELANI
 WEST BYRD MAHALIA C JEFFREY OSBORNE HARMONI THAT DJ SPIN

WEEKEND PASS – 3 SHOWS



Barbados Jazz Excursion - 10th Anniversary 2026

The **Barbados Jazz Excursion & Golf Weekend**, hosted by renowned saxophonist **Elan Trotman**, a Queen's College alumnus, is scheduled for October 8–12, 2026. This luxury travel event combines world-class jazz, island excursions, and golf, primarily taking place at the Wyndham Grand Barbados Sam Lords Castle All Inclusive Resort.

Event Features: *Live jazz performances, island tours, charity golf events, and luxury social gatherings geared toward couples and music lovers.*

October 9, 10 & 11, 2026

Wyndham Grand Barbados Sam Lord's Castle Resort

Performers:

Jeffrey Osborne

Keyon Harrold

Julian Vaughn

Andréa Lisa

Aniyé

West Byrd

Harmoni

Weekend Pass: 3 Shows

Elan Trotman

Nestor Torres

Joe Torry

Romaro Greaves

Kweku Jelani

Mahalia C

That DJ Spin

Proceeds to benefit the *Never Lose Your Drive Foundation* and the *Headstart Music Program*

Details: www.barbadosjazzexcursion.com



How to Join the Associations

Your Alumni Associations look forward to welcoming new members, and to your participation in upcoming reunion events both online and in person!



HCQC AA (USA)
Mary Symmonds
Email: hcqcalums@gmail.com

HCQC AA (Toronto)
Cheryl Phillips
Email: hcqcaatoronto@gmail.com

QCA (Barbados)
Erica Hinkson
Email: qcapresidentbarbados@gmail.com

OHS (Barbados)
Junior Browne
Email: kolljpresident@gmail.com

PASSAGES

Celebrating the social, professional and personal milestones of our alumni.

If you have events that you'd like us to feature, please reach out to us at communications.hcqc@gmail.com



Nell Wycherley



Nell Wycherley née Hall, born in Bridgetown in 1933, was quoted as saying that she was “born to sing”. She believes that she began to practice as a baby because she was told that then she “screamed a lot!” and she is convinced that she was trying out her voice.

At an early age Nell started singing in church and from the beginning it was apparent that Nell had a special talent. She went to New York with her mother to audition at Julliard School but was not successful.

After that an Italian maestro, Odone Sommovigo, arrived on the island to do a concert and Nell’s mother found out where he was staying and arranged for Nell to audition for him. Nell says that he heard her voice and immediately wanted to train her. So much so that he moved into their spare bedroom. She remembered that as a joyful time when she sang everyday, learning operatic arias and other types of music.

Her gift of song began to open doors around the world. She sang across South America, debuted in 1962 at Carnegie Hall, New York to rave reviews.

“The charming soprano from Barbados ... sang everything with taste and grace, and she has an exceptional voice. Its range is

extensive, and she always had all the tone she needed. But what was striking was the loveliness of its quality. It was velvety and soft in the lower and middle registers and light and clear at the top, with no change or break as she ascended the scale. It was also pure and supple in its flow.” New York Times, May 1962.

In 1963 Nell arrived in England for the first time. She settled in southeast London, and with her childhood church habit and her strong faith she was welcomed at St Laurence Church. The Vicar and his wife invited her to practice in their home, and this was the beginning of a lifelong friendship with them supporting her English career and the Vicar conducting her wedding.

Eventually settling with her husband in Portchester in Hampshire, Nell now Wycherley, became a committed member of St Mary’s Church singing in the choir, conducting services and fund raising for the church repair. Nell was awarded an MBE for her services to opera.

As far as I can find up to May 2026, Nell is still taking part in church services and on occasion serving as a Deacon. Make sure you watch the video below!

<https://youtu.be/S3TxgKZzqw8?si=ezpKixXYgG20zBfd>

<https://youtu.be/iANmA094D1I?si=DmsMegQp8-n27nIV>

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PASSAGES

Sir Paul Altman, Celia Toppin Among Five Honoured With Heritage Award

Story excerpted from Barbados Today, originally written by Ricardo Roberts



Former Ambassador Michael Ian King, preservationist Sir Paul Altman, visual historian Ronnie Carrington and former Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Culture Celia Toppin were honoured with the Fielding Babb Heritage Recognition Award. (RR)

Prominent preservationist Sir Paul Altman, cultural policy pioneer Celia Toppin, and visual historian Ronnie Carrington are among five distinguished Barbadians honoured with the Fielding Babb Heritage Recognition Award as Heritage Month 2026 got underway at the end of May.

The awards, which celebrate exceptional contributions to preserving and documenting the island's cultural and physical history, were presented at the official launch hosted by the Office for Pan-African Affairs and Heritage, in collaboration with the Barbados Tourism Marketing Inc. (BTMI) and the Barbados National Trust.

This year's observances are being held under the theme "Safeguarding and Celebrating Our Heritage".

Sir Paul Altman, a Harrison College alum-

nus, was recognised for more than four decades of work in heritage conservation and urban renewal. A past president of the Barbados National Trust, he is widely credited with spearheading the restoration of the 1650s Synagogue Historic District, a project that successfully combined real estate development with historical preservation.

Celia Toppin, a Queen's College alumna, was honoured for her foundational role in shaping Barbados' cultural landscape. She authored the island's national cultural policy and later served as project manager for Cultural Heritage with the Organisation of American States, where she established national registers for historic places across the Caribbean.

Veteran photographer and director Ronnie

Carrington (former Harrisonian) received recognition for decades of documenting local culture. Known for his Bajan Folkways series and the award-winning Footprints of our Heritage tours, Carrington is currently finalising *Shelters in the Shadows*, a pictorial publication tracing the history of the Barbadian chattel house.

Toppin expressed gratitude for the recognition while urging greater focus on the future of the cultural and creative sectors, particularly for young people.

"I would really like to see more done in the area of culture and cultural heritage," she said, emphasising the need for youth involvement. "I would like to see a greater integration of culture and heritage into our economy, especially for the young people."

Continued on Page 8

PASSAGES



QC alumna and fitness advocate **Celia Collymore** received the Wellness Advocacy Award at the inaugural **Health and Wellness Conference and Open Day Dinner and Award Ceremony**, hosted by the **TVET Council Barbados** on June 21, 2026. She also complimented a fellow award winner. “A special congratulations to Pat Alleyne, a valued member of our Bajan Fusion Fitness community, on receiving the ‘Unsung Hero in Caregiving’ Award. Your dedication, compassion, and service are truly inspiring.”

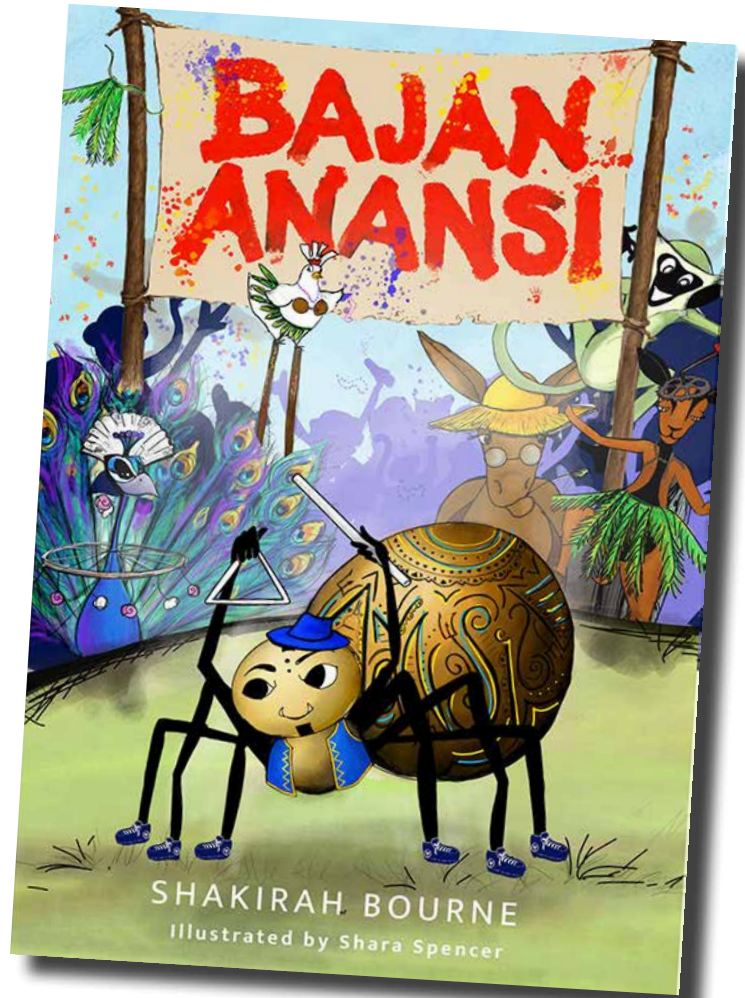


Barbados High Commissioner to England, **Edmund Hinkson** (HC alumnus), with West Indies Women Cricketers **Hayley Matthews** (HC alumna) and **Deandra Dottin** at Lord’s Cricket Ground in London, England. Last week, West Indies Women faced England Women in a test match.



Continued on Page 9

PASSAGES



The National Cultural Foundation (NCF) has partnered with acclaimed Barbadian author **Shakirah Bourne**, a Queen's College alumna, to publish ***Bajan Anansi***, the first-ever collection of Barbadian Anansi tales, bringing a key element of the island's oral heritage to a new generation of readers.

Extensive research informed the project, with Bourne exploring Anansi's origins in Ghana and its journey throughout the African diaspora before creating a collection of stories featuring authentic Barbadian characters and settings.

Some stories in the collection include *Anansi and Ossie Boar*, *Anansi and the Cowitch*, and *How Flying Fish Came to Barbados*.

The project will culminate with the distribution of ***Bajan Anansi*** to school libraries across Barbados.

As part of the initiative, Bourne will visit schools, giving students the opportunity to meet the author, participate in live read-aloud sessions, and engage with an important aspect of Barbadian folklore. NCF Chief Executive Officer Carol Roberts said the Foundation was pleased to support the publication and distribution of the book.

"The NCF congratulates Shakirah on her latest book. Our partnership is intentional as it ensures these powerful stories with embedded life lessons will reach school children across Barbados. Of course, Anansi stories are for everyone and adults are also encouraged to read this delightful book."

"I am excited to engage with kids to show the connection between Barbados and Africa and to explore Barbadian heritage and culture," said Bourne.

Cultural Officer Literary Arts at the NCF, Karra Price, noted that "It is incredibly important for young Barbadian children to learn about our intangible cultural heritage in a way that is both entertaining and educational."

By placing the book in school libraries and bringing the stories directly to students, the initiative seeks to ensure that Barbadian folklore remains a living part of the island's cultural landscape for generations to come. (PR)

Article from The National Cultural Foundation website.



Crop Over at Gun Hill “Back In Time”

**Live Entertainment
by Popular Artists
Door prizes,
refreshments included.**

Donation \$50

**Details coming
soon!**

**Watch the QCA
social media!**

**Friday, July 24, 2026
5:00pm - 9:00pm
Gun Hill Signal Station
Gun Hill, St. George**

3rd Biennial HCQCAN Stars Awards - update



***It's about who you've lifted up, who you've made better.
It's about what you've given back."* — Denzel Washington**

Thanks to those who responded to our call for nominations!

HCQCAN's nomination committee co-chaired by Mary Zephirin, Vivian Anne Gittens and Junior Brown are hard at work, reviewing the 26 nominations of 13 female and 13 male alumni from both schools who are giving back or have given back locally and/or globally. They serve as an inspiration to us and those who follow us. Let us celebrate their accomplishments!

October celebratory and fundraising lunch

We look forward to seeing alumni both locally and from the diaspora on Sunday, October 25, 2026, as we honour the awardees

at our celebratory and fundraising lunch. It's an opportunity to be in Barbados to network, reconnect, recognize our alumni and celebrate Barbados's 60th anniversary of independence. Save the date today and book air tickets where needed. Watch out for more details.

Our 6th virtual uplifting year-end fundraising concert will be coming up on Thursday, December 17, at 6:30 pm EST /7:30 pm AST.

Save the date and contact us at 2020hcqcgatherin@gmail.com if you are ready to contribute your talent this year.

Establishing the HCQCAA in the UK

Connecting with alumni across the water and establishing a HCQCAA UK Chapter

While in Europe recently, the HCQCAN Chair, Mary Symmonds, met up with alumni and collaborated in the initiation of a HCQCAA UK chapter.



Mary Symmonds meeting up with Andrew Nehaul in Stockholm

With support from HCQCAA USA and in collaboration with the Barbados High Commission in London, efforts are underway to relaunch an alumni association.

We were pleased to welcome several alumni across the decades at our informational meeting, co-chaired by HCQCAA USA's Mary Symmonds and the High Commission's Deputy, Mackie Holder.



Mary Symmonds and Mackie Holder

Attendees included Cherise Trotman (HC 2011), Delbert Sandiford (HC 1963), Deniece Sandiford (HC 2011), Don Burgess (HC 1984), Hilary (née Barrie-Smith) Gooch (QC 1972), Jared Spencer (HC2009), soon-to-be alumnus Joshua Jemmott (QC 2026); June Foster (QC 1972), Kelvin Dalrymple (HC 1984), Sara Sewell (QC 1993). Also present were the presidents of HCQCAA Toronto, Cheryl Phillips, and OHS Junior Browne, as well as HCQCAA USA's board members Otho Hoyte (Vice President), Cecilia Pilgrim; (Assistant Secretary Treasurer and Membership Chair), and member, Pamela Hoyte.

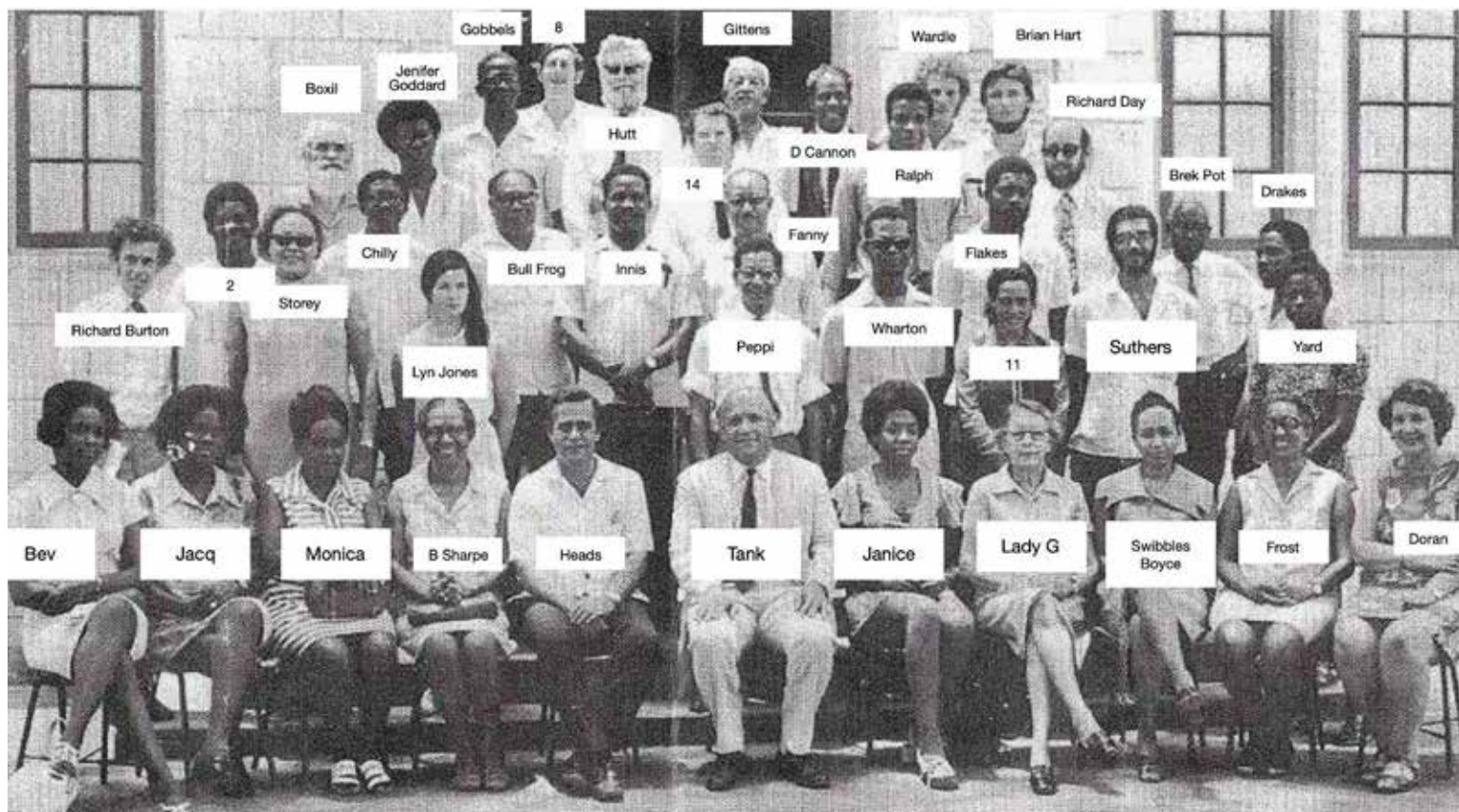
Help us recruit members for the UK Chapter by getting permission and sharing their contact with us at
2020hcqcgatherin@gmail.com



Top left, Old Harrisonian Society President Junior Browne; top right HCQCAA Toronto President, Cheryl Phillips. Pictured at left, Hilary (Barrie-Smith) Gooch, and Mary Symmonds.



Blast from the Past!



An old photograph of the teaching staff from Harrison College, complete with nicknames, estimated date 1970 to 1971. Feel free share more photographs or to comment on this one!



Here we are with another newsletter from the erudite HC/QC Alumni Association. We would love to have some feedback from you. And especially, we would love your input. We are looking for contributors and fun photos through the ages.

**Give us your valuable feedback at:
communications.hcqc@gmail.com**

In Memoriam



Dr Juliet Michelle Daniel {GCM}

September 19th, 1964 – April 28th, 2026

Formerly of Culloden Road, St. Michael, Barbados and resident of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. Professor, McMaster University and Strategic Advisor to the President for The Canada-Caribbean Institute at McMaster University.
Past Student of St. Paul's Primary School and Queen's College, Barbados.

Dr. Daniel was a world-renowned cancer researcher and academic. Her discovery of the Kaiso gene was a major advancement in the quest to find a cure for cancer.

As a member of staff of McMaster University in Canada for 27 years she devoted her time not only to cancer research, but also to the development of an inclusive research and educational culture at McMaster and beyond. She fiercely championed initiatives that promoted gender and racial equality and sought to make room at the table for many others. Dr. Daniel was a true Caribbean person and spent much time traveling the world to drum up support for cancer research. Although she resided in Canada, Dr. Daniel always remained close to her childhood home in Culloden Road, her family, dear friends and her beloved Browne's Beach in Barbados.

Daughter of the late Lionel and June Daniel

Sister of Robert Daniel and the late Heather McCollin

Aunt of Marc McCollin, Keefe Birkett, Leah Newton-Wilson, Shane Taylor, Malachai, Matthew and Micah Daniel

Sister-in-Law of Nicole Gilkes-Daniel

God Daughter of Cicely & Mavis Humphrey and the late Victor Cooke

Niece of Tony, Patrick, Ian & Honor Walcott, Velma King, the late Darnley, Charlie, Freddie & Mable Daniel, Marjorie Reid, Grace Armstrong and Ann Walcott.

Cousin of Margaret, Richard, Richelle, Dadrin & Marlon Brathwaite, David, Beverly, Michael, Nkwa, Nariba, Adero & Nassir Daniel, Mark & Anne Reid and the late June, Dereck & Wendy Daniel.

Marcella, Charles, Bernard, Carolyn, Andrew, Junior, John, George, Cheryl & Miriam Daniel, Christopher, Andre & Matthew Frederick, Linette Bourne-Lindsey & Shawna Bourne-Shields and many others (Canada).

Lisa and Lynn Armstrong, Lana Trotman, Christianne, Claire, Adrian & Desiree Walcott, Timmy King-Proverbs, Rena Maxwell and Judy Lavine.

Friend of The Honourable Mia Amor Mottley, SC; MP Prime Minister of Barbados, The Honourable Kay McConney, MP; Commander David Dowridge, Stephanie Hunte, Cecile Harris, Debra Ashby, Jackie Spencer, Jacqui Payne, Michelle Daniel, Ingrid Lovell, Mark Niles, Wendy Beckles and many others.

God Mother of Mariska Murrell and many more.

A Celebration of Life for Dr. Juliet Michelle Daniel will take place on July 3, 2026, at 2 p.m. at The Abundant Life Assembly, Lower Bank Hall Main Road. No mourning colours by special request.

Attendees are asked to be seated by 1:45 p.m.

Live streaming available <https://youtube.com/live/zSd59mgP00w?feature=share>

In lieu of flowers, persons may graciously make donations to:

The Dalkeith Methodist Church – Church Restoration Fund
By way of The Methodist Church – Bethel Circuit
RBC Royal Bank (Barbados) Limited
Branch: Broad Street & High Street
Branch Transit Number: 09435
Account No: 1122126

or
RED
Republic Bank (Barbados) limited
Branch: Six Roads
Account No. 098327482001
Branch Transit #: 00009
Account Type: Chequing



In Memoriam



O'Sheina HENRY
 aged 40, of Fortesque, St. Philip,
 entered into rest on Friday, May 1, 2026.

Loving and devoted mother of Khemet Burnett.
Cherished daughter of Cleton and Marcia Henry (née Parris).
Beloved fiancée of Glen Burnett.
Adored sister of Tameisha Henry.
Granddaughter of Verna "Myrtle" Henry and the late Ena Parris.
Great-niece of Hallam Henry, Beryl Sealy, the late Rosemary Henry, Mellis Harewood, and Joan Belle.
Niece of Jennifer, Deborah, Sherwin, and Ashton Parris, Angela and Hartley Henry, Toni Greene, Junior and the late Linette Davis, Sheila Headley, and Richard Parris.
Cousin of Tyson, Hallam, Valencia, Ruth, Benjamin, and Valance Henry, Patrick and Everton Harewood, Akida and Zakiya Greene, Dale, Fabian, Tanya, Alfred, Diane, Joycelyn, Junior, Marie, Margaret, Keisha, Omar, Alyssa, Aaron, Julian, and Seantelle Parris, Roger Howard, Kayla Prescod, Ukweli, Dikembe Wilson, Ebony Ben Yisrael, Gloria, Margaret, Stephen Sealy, Joy Douglas and many more.

Relative of the Henry and Parris families.
Friend of Bertram Hall, Fazal Mohamed, Felisha Holder, Mona Crawford, Leann Barker, Hetty Small, Robert Forde, and so many more amazing people. She was the Export Manager at WIBISCO.

A service of celebration and thanksgiving will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2026 at the Chapel of Coral Ridge Memorial Gardens, where relatives and friends are asked to meet at 10:00 a.m. This will be followed by a private cremation. No flowers by special request. Mourning colours are optional. For those who cannot attend in person, the family invites you to view the live streaming of the service via www.lyndhurstfuneralhome.com/events/osheina-henry. Condolences may be sent to www.lyndhurstfuneralhome.com.



Tessa DIANNE CHADERTON-SHAW
 Sunrise: November 11, 1959
 Sunset: May 3, 2026

of Bella Vista, Mount Wilton, St. Thomas, entered into rest peacefully on May 3, 2026. Former Lecturer at the University of the West Indies.



In Loving Memory

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of

Donna Marie Archer
 September 05, 1965 - April 04, 2026

A funeral service will be held on

**Thursday, April 30, 2026
 at 10:00 am**

Coral Ridge Memorial Gardens

LYNDHURST
 FUNERAL HOME
 BARBADOS



Novah
 Grace Patricia Straughan

also known as Pat or Patricia Straughan, aged 87, of Bridge Road, St. Michael, and formerly of Lee Road, Oldham, United Kingdom, entered peacefully into rest at her home on June 8th, 2026. Retired Nurse of the Royal Oldham Hospital, U.K. and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Barbados. A woman of quiet strength, elegance, and warmth, Novah lived a life filled with love, family, and deep faith. Those who knew her will forever remember her smile and warm, serene, and dignified presence.

Daughter of the late Llewelyn and Eileen Straughan;
Beloved mother of Geoffrey Brewster and the late Dean Hamilton Straughan;
Mother-in-law of Joe Ann Brewster.
Cherished grandmother of Tamika Walton, Ashlee Prince, Miles Straughan, and Clayton Brewster.
Adored great-grandmother of Kai, River, and Avery.
Niece of Clement and Rosemary Straughan (Toronto).
Cousin of Victor Jones, Jenny Jones, Judy Jones, and many others;
Relative of the Straughan and Walton families.
Close friend of Sir Wesley Hall, Sherri-Lyn Lewis, Victor Bishop, Kareem Hackett, Janice Cheltenham, Deborah Goodridge, Margaret Maloney (U.K.), Janice Holdip (U.K.), the Nedd, Prince, and Hassell families, among many others whose lives she touched with kindness.

The Funeral of the late **Novah Grace Patricia Straughan** leaves **Paramount Funeral Home**, Upper Hindsbury Road, St. Michael at 8:30 am, on Monday June 29, 2026 for All Souls Anglican Church, Bank Hall, St. Michael, where relatives and friends are asked to meet at 10:00 am for the Service of Praise and Thanksgiving to celebrate her life. The Organist and members of the Church are kindly asked to attend. The cortege will then proceed to the St. Joseph Parish Church Cemetery for the Interment. Flowers may be sent to **Paramount Funeral Home** no later than 8:15 am on Monday June 29, 2026. The body will repose for viewing in the Chapel of the **Paramount Funeral Home** on Sunday June 28, 2026 from 4 pm until 6 pm. The funeral service for the late **Novah Grace Patricia Straughan** can be viewed live on Youtube or 34streamingservices

Fond remembrances and condolences to the family may be directed to paramount@caribsurf.com or paramountfh993@gmail.com or on Paramount's Facebook page

Dining and Racing At Woodbine

It was a beautiful summer's day on June 20th in Toronto. The FIFA World Cup game was on, and the city was alive with excitement. Germany was playing Ivory Coast and thousands of soccer fans filled the streets waving their flags and singing their songs. It was a few days after Canada defeated Qatar in Vancouver and there was a wonderful sense of happiness, pride and community in the air.

Meanwhile, in Toronto's west end, 42 HCQC alumni and friends gathered at Woodbine Race Track, for our annual ***Dining & Racing at Woodbine*** fundraiser.

It was a chance to catch up with old friends, exchange stories and memories, enjoy a delicious lunch, and of course, try our luck at the races. Between bites and conversations, many of us could be found hurrying to the betting wicket to place wagers on our favourite horses.

For some, betting strategy had little to do with odds or racing form. More often than not, the deciding factor was the horse's name — or even better, whether it was being ridden by a Bajan jockey. But how do you spot a Bajan jockey?



Grant Morris and Pat Sammy enjoying their day



Helena Thorne (in red) with her guests

Names such as Bynoe and Gaskin quickly caught our attention, and after a little Googling and much laughter, we discovered that our instincts had been right all along.

Beyond the fun and fellowship, the event serves an important purpose. Proceeds from ***Dining and Racing at Woodbine*** go towards our two annual scholarships to students pursuing their studies in Canada. **The Diana Massiah Memorial Scholarship** is awarded to a QC student and the **Harold Brathwaite Memorial Scholarship** to a Harrisonian.

A special thank you goes to Helena Thorne for organizing another memorable and enjoyable day, and to everyone who attended and supported the event. Your participation helps us to continue investing in the educational dreams of our young alumni.

We are already looking forward to and planning for next year's event. In the meantime, if you would like to support our scholarship programme, donations can be made by e-transfer to hcqcaatoronto@gmail.com.

And if you have not yet joined the HCQC Alumni Association, we would love to welcome you. Membership offers the opportunity to reconnect with old friends, build new friendships, celebrate our shared heritage, and give back in a meaningful way. Simply send an email to hcqcaatoronto@gmail.com, and Jannette will be happy to forward our membership information package.

After all, events like ***Dining & Racing at Woodbine*** remind us that some of life's greatest pleasures come from good friends, shared memories, and helping the next generation succeed.

Dining and Racing At Woodbine

Continued from Page 16



Margaret Leacock with her friends, deep in conversation



Sundae for sweet tooth lovers (of which there were many)



Steak with garlic mashed potato...very yummy



Out and About with the QCA!

The QCA kicked off the year with a round of donations to the school. The first was the donation of 80 cupcakes just in time for **International Women's Day** to make sure that our admin team, teachers and ancillary staff are reminded of how special they are to us and how much their efforts are appreciated. We alumni know, that for each and every one of us, there was always that one person who was always in our corner trying to ensure we made it to graduation and giving us inspiration for the road beyond. So when our Head Girl, Danielle Rowe, reached out on behalf of the student body to ask for our help in showing how much we care, we were happy to assist – because we believe in giving those flowers today.

This was followed on March the 11th, 2026 by a donation of \$1,000.00 to the PE Department to support our **BSSAC** Teams. Those of us who used to take part in the event formerly known as **Interscholar Sports** know only too well that the needs of a PE Department — and the school and students it supports — are endless. We were therefore more than happy to step in after QCA Treasurer, Jamie Lashley, identified some funds, to collaborate with our then Staff Representative on the QCA Executive, Sharon Callender, to channel those funds where they were needed most. Both teams placed 6th in this year's competition but we know that with our continued support we going to be first (right where we belong) next year. Go Warriors!

Elections were held at our **AGM** on March 21st 2026, and President Erica Hinkson, who has been doing a fabulous job was returned to her post by popular acclaim (because we QCA alum know not to mess with that level of dedication). Jamie Lashey was also returned as Treasurer and Amanda Forde who had previously served as Secretary (2022 to 2024) was re-elected as a Floor member after a brief break. The new QCA Executive is happy to serve and eager to find new ways to support our school so don't hesitate to reach out to our team with your ideas and suggestions.

The New QCA Executive comprises:

- Erica Hinkson – President
- Kemberley Gittens - Vice President
- Jamie Lashley – Treasurer
- Adriana Gooding - Assistant Treasurer
- Keisha Gittens-Price - Secretary
- Leah Morris - Assistant Secretary
- Kaye Hall - Public Relations Officer
- Nicole Inabinet - Floor Member
- Amanda Forde - Floor Member

The new executive jumped right in and continued the giving which started out the QCA year by providing refreshments to the QCA Cheer Teams. During the **BIM Cheer Federation National Championships** held on April 18th, 2026, at the at the Garfield Sobers Sports Complex, this was done to ensure our teams could compete efficiently since their comfort and welfare were a prior-



The donation of 80 cupcakes to celebrate International Women's Day 2026



QCA supporting the PE Department for BSSAC

Out and About with the QCA!

Continued from Page 18

2026 - 2028



EXECUTIVE TEAM

The Executive Committee manages the Association and serves as its secretariat. These are the members of the 2026/2028 Executive Committee.

 Erica Hickson President	 Kemberley Gittens Vice President	 Kathia Gittens-Price Secretary
 Leah Morris Assistant Secretary	 Janice Leashley Treasurer	 Adrianna Gooding Assistant Treasurer
 Kara Hall Public Relations Officer	 Amanda Furse Past Member	 Nicola Lindquist Past Member

Facebook: Queen's College (Barbados) Alumni
Program: qca.barbados@gmail.com
Email: qcaexec@qca.com
Tel: (246) 235-2712



Lighting The Way Forward

QCA WEEK 2025

SUPPORT OUR MISSION WITH YOUR DONATION

Donations are warmly welcomed to advance the work of the Queen's College Association. Funds received or raised by the QCA go towards one of several ongoing special or general projects, e.g. to assist alumni and former teachers who need urgent financial help; to contribute to special requests from members of the student body where possible.

For Local Online transfers:

Account Name: Queen's College Association

Account Number: 1001137473

Account Type: Chequing

Bank Name: CIBC FIRST CARIBBEAN INTERNATIONAL BANK

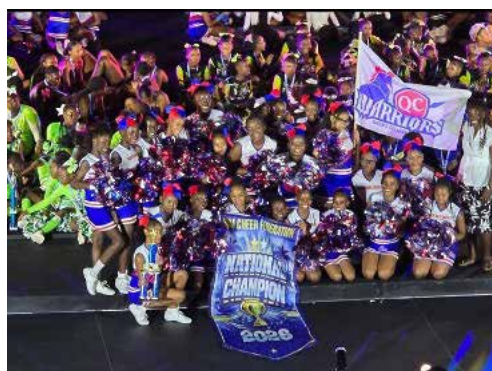
Branch: Warrens

Branch Transit Number: 9326

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Program: qca.barbados@gmail.com
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Email: qcaexec@qca.com

ity. As always, our teams did not disappoint — coming home as Level 1 National Champions and bringing home the silver for Level 2. We could not be happier, and we know that the members of the QCA will continue to provide us with the means to continue to support winning efforts wherever the school competes.

The QCA Executive also launched a new initiative aimed at assisting alumni primarily with short-term emergency support during unexpected hardship or urgent basic care needs. The **Alumni Financial Aid Fund (AFAF)** is intended to provide short



Queen's College won Gold at Level 1 and Silver at Level 2 at the BIM Cheer National Championships.

term, low interest revolving loan assistance to support alumni over temporary fiscal shortfalls due to life's unexpected emergencies. We have already been able to start assisting persons and with your help we can assist many more. Given the current climate, we are eager to grow this fund so we can be responsive when eligible requests are submitted. Any amount you can give would be greatly appreciated. Contributions are voluntary and can be sent to the Queen's College Association bank account at **FirstCaribbean #1001137476** with the description **AFAF**. Please contact **Ms. Adrianna Gooding, Assistant Treasurer, at +1 (246) 250-5453** directly for details.

On April 30th 2026, the Executive also supported the HCQC Alumni Network to the tune of \$1,000.00 in a donation to support the Many of us would not be where we are today except for the wonderful education we received at our alma mater and we aim to assist in making sure students continue to achieve the highest standard of education available on island.

This is sometimes a challenge given the limited education budgets allocated to our island's schools, so we as alumni aim to meet the budgetary shortfall especially with regard to capital equipment needs for STEAM education which is mission critical for modern education institutions. With us at the crease our students will not be left behind!



Last but not least we would like to join everyone in wishing our eldest alumna **Katherine Margaret (Hinds) Neblett**, who celebrated her **106th birthday on May 6th, 2026**, many happy returns. The QCA Executive was pleased to mark the occasion with a gift to celebrate her wonderful milestone on behalf of the association and school.

Want to reach out and chat or be kept updated on what's going on?

Follow us on social media @qca.barbados and feel free to inbox us.

We can also be reached via email at qcanews@gmail.com or via WhatsApp (PM any admin) in the QCA group chats (if you're not yet a member, send your request to join to **+1 (246) 231-2712**) and of course you can talk to us in person at our next **General Meeting scheduled for Saturday July 4th, at 4.00 pm at the School in Husbands, St James** where the main topics of discussion will be this year's **Elsie Payne Awards – scheduled for 5.00 pm on August 23rd 2026 in the Trevor Carmichael Walled Garden Theatre at the Barbados Museum & Historical Society** — and other upcoming events on our calendar. (See Page 20 in this newsletter.)

To receive a General Meeting agenda or nomination forms and criteria for the Elsie Payne Awards or to be added to our mailing list write us at qcanews@gmail.com.

See you on July 4th!

Keep Carrying That Light!



Fertur Lux

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2026

Queen's College Association (QCA)
June – December



JUNE

- Queen's College Enterprise Expo – June 26



JULY

- General Meeting – July 4
- Crop Over at Gun Hill – Friday, July 24



AUGUST

- Elsie Payne Evening and Awards Ceremony – August 23



SEPTEMBER

- General Meeting – September 19



OCTOBER

- QCA Week – October 5 - 11
 - ✓ Anniversary Church Service
 - ✓ Joint Assembly & Tree Planting
 - ✓ I Love QC Day
 - ✓ Lime
 - ✓ Fete
 - ✓ Luncheon



NOVEMBER

- General Meeting – November 21



DECEMBER



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