Even if it feels like February …its May and summer’s here …kinda ! Still…no point crying over absent heat …lets get on with it !

First up …many thanks to the thirty eight gorgeous ladies who volunteered to be on our page 5 ‘Fifty Plus ..Still Fabulous’ feature.. Because of the larger than expected response we had to put names in a bag and get a neighbour to pick one …but not to worry …your turns will all come !

Mention of a rowdy teenager, a drunk or a bus load of buddies ‘mooning’ passers by would hardly be a surprise …its almost expected ! But when an attorney at law did it to a judge …jaws …as well as his trousers …dropped ! Read all about it inside !

Very familiar set up at the Caribbean Family Day held May bank holiday at North Middlesex Cricket Club. Ostensibly our Barbados Cultural Association weren’t involved but we’ve put some scrag ends of info and a bit of guess work together to come up with a story …more inside !

What is a diplomat and how do you become one? How does one get diplomatic status and or a diplomatic passport? Does diplomatic immunity really exist? You might well be surprised at the ‘perks’ those with such statuses enjoy! Read about a few …inside!

Air Passenger Duty has become a huge money making exercise for the UK government at a time of severe austerity, irrespective of the economic consequences for tourism dependent regions like the Caribbean, or those UK citizens who have family ties to the region. That’s fair enough, but airlines pay no VAT on fuel and are exempt from VAT on anything transport related …they could easily absorb APD but wont - why? Read our opinions inside.

May the 26th could be make or more likely break for the DLP UK branch. Its questionable whether the number of people and coaches going to their excursion is enough to break even. Coupled with an almost complete loss of faith by most and a point blank refusal by some to get involved with the org as is … prospects …viewed from any angle …look bleak. Read about the omnishambles inside !
“It’s called ‘reading’. It’s how people install software into their brains”

Robber: Give me all your money!

Man: Do you know who I am? I’m an important politician!

Robber: Then give me all my money back!

Three drunks entered a taxi. The taxi driver knew they were drunk so he started the engine and turned it off again. He then told them - “we’ve reached”.

The first guy gave him money and the second guy said thank you. The third guy gave the driver a hard slap! Shocked and thinking that the drunk knew what he did, the driver asked him.. “what was that for?” The guy replied - NEXT TIME - DON’T DRIVE SO FAST!
RIP DLP [UK]... THE LAST RITES BEFORE INTERNMENT

by Dalrymple

Sadly, it is that time of the year again and the Bajan community must endure the so-called elections of the DLP yet again. Never in the history of Bajan politics has one organisation been so poorly served with a plethora of crooks, cockroaches, and socially and mentally unstable social climbing nincompoops. People who mostly misguided and quite honestly would be better employed forcefully doing some form of community service rather than anywhere near a once meaningful organisation.

Tried as I might, I could not see the leadership qualities of most of these semi or fully illiterate fools that somehow saw the organisation as a cash cow to milk four or five times a year and to afford them the opportunities to put on some glad rags and rub shoulders with Ministers or the Prime Minister.

While it is never my intention to speak ill of the dead, just look at some of the departed so-called leaders, no greater shower of crooks, incompetent, self-serving pimps, political prostitutes and above all the kind of people you would not invite to your house for dinner in case they liberated your finest silver. Thoroughly despicable characters who saw leadership positions of the organisation as a means of rescuing their pitifully inadequate lives and possibly something to write home about. It provided an opportunity to be in and out of the High Commission at will, as well as enjoy a few glasses of rum, a chicken leg, or flying fish at the poor Bajan taxpayers’ expense.

Just to give a glimpse of what I mean, since 1986 no funds were sent to Barbados for the parent organisation. Some 52 fund-raising events took place, no profits realised, no one held accountable, no one decent enough to hold their hands up and so we messed up. Were this a business enterprise, it would have gone to the wall a long time ago. This is no joke, I have first hand knowledge of chairpersons who don’t know how to conduct meetings, secretaries who have never taken minutes, a treasurer whose absences and prolonged silences indicates she knows nothing about finance, and a political officer who does not know the difference between BLP and DLP or what their own party stands for.

The real damage is done to stalwarts like Carl Carter and Ken Braithwaite and a few other long serving and long suffering members of note …and to commitments to honesty and decency.

The sad truth is that apart from this being a social wet dream for misfits to indulge their childish fantasies, no real work or good is being done. The supporters suffer and no one has the audacity to tell them to go away. How Dipper Barrow must roll in his grave to see the crap parading as leaders of a once decent organisation. I make no mockery when I say if there is anyone out there in space, protect us from the idiots and villains who have hijacked a once noble organisation.

They really are some fabulous looking fifty plusses in this community and they don’t come any more fab than this. Meet the very sporty, bubbly and well fit Gillian! Gillian’s lifestyle is busy bordering on hectic. She still trains every week for netball, regularly hits the gym, holds down a full time job and still finds time to party heartily. Those who know… know that Gillian loves her soca …is a regular at Notting Hill and Berlin carnivals, and we’ve also seen pics of her wearing ‘if you got it …flaunt it’ costumes in Barbados and Trinidad.

Gillian supports west London’s Chelsea, West Indies cricket, New Edition Netball club and when necessary her son Alexander.

So - that’s our Gillian … busy, sporty, well fit and guess what fellas? Single!
Sunday April 14 was a sunny day - according to the pic above it was so sunny …the sun shone in two directions at the same time! It was also the day our Rodney completed the Brighton marathon …sure he’s run around Reading for various for charities but this was a first … 26 miles 385 yards line to line. **LOOK OUT MO FARRAH!!**

Rodney’ says “I am extremely pleased to have achieved this life-time ambition. It certainly demonstrates what can be done when you put your mind to it” His efforts were again in support of the West Indian Women’s Circle (WIWC).- the made up pic below shows him handing over a cheque to Project Coordinator Deonne Springer somewhere on Fobney Street RG1 a few years ago. Although the race is run you can still sponsor Rodney by sending your donation to the WIWC bank account: **Acc No: 07228017, Sort Code: 30-91-31.** So well done Rodders! The WIWC have an excellent champion.!

Both Eunice and Errol enjoyed fame and renown in their own spheres. Eunice was born in the USA and was becoming known internationally. Her husband, Andrew Stroud, was a city cop before he resigned to become her manager, when things became strained between the two Eunice packed her bags and left. Hubby’s act of revenge was to snitch Eunice up to the Inland Revenue alleging non payment of taxes - a warrant was subsequently issued for her arrest so in 1971 she left America and headed for Barbados. Shortly after arriving there it's reported she fell madly in love with a hotel porter …but that didn’t last long.

Meanwhile Errol was the leading political figure not just in Barbados …the Caribbean. He loved his music and regularly played in a combo. *(in fact in 1937 Errol, a pianist named Clarence Weir and a certain Edmundo Ross caught a Dutch steamship from Trinidad to England. They caught a train to London and history shows they followed very different paths.)*

We don’t know how Errol and Eunice hooked up but they did. What followed was a not at all secret affair between the two that lasted a couple years. Eunice actually moved to Barbados and shared house space with Errol for a good while. How long they played their duet or why the music stopped we don’t know as neither are here to tell the tale.

**Worked out who Eunice is yet?**

I don't know how dem Amurcan men does sleep when de night come, knowing wuh duh do to dem young girls. How they could tek up people girl trildrun off a de street, easy so, like they pickin mangas or donks, got me. Nuh body see or hear a ting. And all de time they had de girls in de musty ole house and needa naybah nor police en know nuttin.

My heart hurt me when I hear de tings that dem girls endure. Beatin, raping, tie up, caan go out, caan get way, starve out and frighten.

Dem men want some serious punishment? I en mean nuh lashes wid nuh birch or bullpisol. No, these men want killing! And I hope duh end up in a prison whey duh get the same treatment duh dish out to dem poor girls. De good book does tell ya 'turn de other cheek', then it does tell ya 'an eye fuh eye'. So I figa that it telling ya to mek up you own mine how to deal wid certain situations and this call fuh de highest punishment they got.

Yuh see de ole goat they got in jail now hangin he head in shame? He din suh meek when he did meking dem girls suck salt. But since de bredders sell he out, claiming dem en know nuttin, he know dat um is he house and he got to tek de largest potion a de blame.

Romans tell us 'be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good' and I hope and pray that dem girls will be restored to de lovin arms of their friends an famly soon and start their life afresh and live good. And de men dat do bad to dem de Lord heself will be waiting.

But, ya tink dat its just in Amurca dat people onfairing people girl trildrun? Look at de Bajan people they tek up de udda day fuh what they call 'sex trafficking'. It en just men dat wicked and want prison. De body controlling tings was a maddum.

Imagine nice, pretty girls coming to Buubadus from udda Caribbean countries in de hope a bettering their lives, only to end up parading de premises half naked and working as cockrat in a whore house! Passport tek way, nuh money, nuh friends. De only job they get is selling wha suppose to be theirs fuh somebody else profit.

I sorry I en gine get time to talk to any a dem, cause dem caan step one foot up hay. De ole people always say 'nevah wuk ground fuh monkey run pon' and I agree wid dat. If they choose dat way of life, good. Let dem answer fuh it when de time come. But nuh body en got de right to mek money off a woman body against she will. Amen.

By Angel Lou
Not the only Bajan soil in the UK indeed. In doing our research the word ‘inviolable’ appeared time and time again. For those who complain every time a function, meeting or whatever is held at the High Commission, its time to hush! The building is deemed to be Bajan soil and therefore ‘inviolable’. Inviolable means .. ‘that must not or cannot be transgressed, dishonoured, or broken; to be kept sacred’. The same policy is extended to the residences of employees of the Barbados Government (High Commission) who hold diplomatic status. Though there is some degree of immunity involved …the police can still enter but only on invitation and there is a strict process they must follow should any follow up action be considered. Local authority officers can only ‘kindly request’.
So then …how many High Commission employees hold diplomatic status? We reckon there are at least ten …with one pushing hard to acquire it. We enquired about the ‘perks’ that come with diplomatic status …the results surprised us…they were too many to list in the space we have - but here are a few.

The status means they will:
Enjoy the privileges and immunities granted by the Vienna Conventions on Consular and Diplomatic Relations.
Purchase drinks, cigarettes and other supplies ‘for your consulate’ (nod wink !) duty free. (duty charges removed with the stroke of a pen !)
Use the diplomatic channel at airports …no annoying customs checks.
Automatically receive invitations to Royal/Diplomatic and Society events.
Meet top-ranking government officials and heads of state.
Some major car manufacturers give super big discounts to diplomatic persons.

APD …and airline profits.
The costs of motoring compared to flying:
• Motorists pay 61p a litre duty on their fuel. **Airlines pay nil.**
• Motorists pay a further 20% VAT on their fuel. **Airlines pay nil.**
• Motorists pay 20% VAT to have their car serviced. **Airlines pay nil.**
• Motorists pay 20% VAT to buy their car. **Airlines pay no tax on new aircraft.**
So as the aviation industry pays no duty and no VAT, there is Air Passenger Duty instead.
Thousands of years ago, ancient Egyptians and Aztecs, among others, worshipped the sun, but we were taught that they were primitive and ignorant. Now, as mankind wakes up from the stupor of often deceptive education, we are rediscovering ancient data which is empowering, healing and FREE! This information is often contradicted by mainstream 'experts' who must sing from narrow official hymn sheets or they are fired.

As rates of depression increase exponentially, and plant food continues to lose formerly high levels of sun-ripened nutrients - through tired soil, chemical pesticides, genetic modification, artificial ripening and preservation - eating appears to have become more toxic, expensive and controversial. More people are suffering from food allergies and digestive ailments, and, as obesity is rising rapidly in developed countries, it may be timely to sit back and investigate what those ancients found so beneficial about the sun!

In the UK, at least one in four people is medically classified as 'depressed', but that figure may be higher, since many suffer silently. People are also told to avoid the sun, and to use chemical sunscreens; yet skin cancer continues to increase. Vitamin D3 is a vital nutrient, available freely from sunlight, and, when medically prescribed, can offer immense improvements to mood and well being; but we can stock up on this nutrient free

ly and sensibly, from the sun.

Seasonal Affective Disorder, or SAD, is a condition which makes people so miserable in dark, winter months that they need special devices at home to replicate the bright influences of sunlight; but there is a way to utilise our own human, solar panels, to activate our capacity for greatness and self healing.

**DISCLAIMER: It is called Sun Gazing, and, yes, it can be dangerous, so it is NOT for amateurs. It is imperative to find a qualified professional who can SAFELY teach the gradual build-up of light acquisition.**

Sun gazers usually choose a time within an hour AFTER official sunrise or one hour BEFORE official sunset. I started by looking directly at the sun for ten seconds on day one, doubling time daily; over time, experts build that duration carefully. Feet were bare, on soil. Within days, I had greater mental and creative clarity, ate less, gained more motivation and energy and lost weight - and effects were built up and stored. My wintry pallor became a golden colour and initial, visual 'effects' soon dissipated. Sun gazing allows processes, which imbue plants with rich nutrients, to occur directly within the body, so hunger is reduced. The pineal gland, the seat of our spiritual knowledge and connections, or 'Third Eye', is activated, producing serotonin and melatonin, lifting moods, and increasing inspiration, creativity, healing, intuition and confidence to their optimum, all FREE!

Mercedes is a healer, coach and speaker: [www.mercedesleal.com/testimonials](http://www.mercedesleal.com/testimonials) [www.facebook.com/mercedesleal2](http://www.facebook.com/mercedesleal2) and on www.linkedin.com email lealengland@aol.com
When people think of the wild west several images come to mind: the gritty gunslinger, arrow slinging injuns riding bareback, the uncompromising lawman, or even wagon train families, but try this for an image - imagine a gritty, cigar smoking, tobacco chewing, whiskey drinking, fist fighting, permanently angry six foot tall 200 pound plus black woman. That is the image of ‘Stagecoach’ Mary Fields. Mary didn’t mess! She had more fist fights than gunfights but was equally adept - there are no records of amorous liaisons and she never bore children because she was such a formidable sight...you’d have to be one brave SOB to try ‘tackling’ big Mary...soft sweet words might get you shot - success was more likely if you took some rope, scaffolding poles and a few mates!)

Born in Tennessee Mary travelled out west aged 52. Rugged life as a slave probably prepared her for the rigours of the wild west. She ended up in Cascade County, Montana where she worked as a hired hand, but her famous temper got her fired after having a gunfight with co-worker. She tried unsuccessfully tried restaurant ownership before landing the job that would make her famous. Mary was hired as a mail carrier because she was the fastest applicant to hitch up a team of six horses- at the time she was almost 60 years old! Mary drove the route with six horses, a mule named Moses and never missed a day- because of her reliability she earned the nickname "Stagecoach." Mary was such a respected public figure in Cascade that when Montana passed a law forbidding women to enter saloons the mayor of Cascade granted her an exemption. Mary Fields died of liver failure in 1914 aged 82. In a 1959 article, actor and Montana native Gary Cooper wrote "Though born a slave... Mary lived to become one of the freest souls ever to draw breath”. In the TV movie Hannah's Law ...Stagecoach Mary Fields was played by Kimberly Elise.

We offer a finding service to Bajans genuinely trying to locate or re-establish contact with family and close friends. Contact us with as much detail as possible on 07960 048071.
These are some of the pics we took a few weeks ago at the Afro Caribbean Centre Barking Road in East London - since then we’ve come to understand that they have a vibrant social scene which includes a well attended quiz night!

Well !!! On hearing this ..and seeing Ossie’s Face Book boast about his table’s performance …our editor had a word with WIFFA’s Assistant PRO. As you know WIFFA has a quiz night most mondays. They’ve decided to try and arrange a best of three series of matches ..a showdown ..a south versus east battle of wits to determine bragging rights !

WATCH THIS SPACE !

Happy Birthday!
Reading & Speightstown 10th Twinning Anniversary
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Saturday 20th July 2013 at Rivermead Leisure Centre Richfield Avenue
Reading RG1 8EQ
From 12.00pm to 6.00pm

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Bajan Cakes and Sweet Bread

Funday Admission Free

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Tickets: Early Bird: £5 Adults, £3 Children (5-12)
At the door: £8 Adults, £5 Children (5-12)
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Tickets Available From
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IN JUST 30 MINS

HOW TO BURN 800 CALORIES

YOU HAVE REACHED THE UKIP IMMIGRATION HOTLINE ..PRESS ONE IF YOU SPEAK ENGLISH .. PRESS TWO TO DISCONNECT UNTIL YOU LEARN HOW

Woow! Your kid is so small!

The Smiths were shown into the dentist’s office, where Mr. Smith made it clear he was in a big hurry. “No fancy stuff, Doctor,” he ordered, “No gas or needles or any of that stuff. Just pull the tooth and get it over with.” “I wish more of my patients were as stoic as you,” said the dentist admiringly. “Now, which tooth is it?” Mr. Smith turned to his wife. “Show him, honey.”
A report claims that the five second rule is dangerous! Stupse! Many of us would be long dead if that were true. But those with commercial interests want us all terrified of germs - buy this to ...scrub, boil, wash, spray, disinfect, sterilise or otherwise neutralise the bejesus out of anything with the merest hint of a germ. That said these germs got some terrible sounding names ... e coli, salmonella, clostridium, listeria, shegella and Staphylococcus ...stuff my what?

The new way to keep us westerners scared is via mainstream media. Religion no longer works ...long gone are the days when a guy in a pulpit would invoke fear of a ‘loving’ god that would send you down to a place of eternal torment where you’ll weep, gnash teeth, starve, scream, suffer and burn forever if you didn’t follow his command. These days the fear comes from the news.

War, famine, pestilence, mass graves, mass murder, ethnic cleansing, floods, storms, hurricanes, tornados and if that don’t work ...you get hourly repeats of every rape, murder or burglary and reminders that the food shortages, food banks, horse and donkey meat sales, recession, unemployment, repossessions, job losses, cutbacks, price rises and shop closures ...are all coming to a street near you.

High blood pressure, diabetes, measles, bird flu, heart disease and cancer are just some of the diseases waiting to jump down your throat and kill you dead.. Then there are claims your GP wants you outta his office asap - ‘here ...take these tablets for your slight ache’ - but take a read of the possible side effects ...may cause blindness, dizziness, stomach ulcers, dry mouth, liver failure, death and might pull the moon out of its orbit ... if you got any sense ..you’ll put up with the sight ache and bin the bloody pills. The companies who make them don’t give a flying frig about you or side effects.

And you’re getting old. Everything is heading south... so use this cream, take these vitamins, dye your hair, plaster on this make up or ...you should have cosmetic surgery; chin and tummy tucks, breast and buttock implants,...stay young cos the minute you start looking old .... you’re ******!

The media bombardment is an attempt to keep us in a constant state of fear, stress or anxiety ... if we’re not careful - many will end up strapped naked in a chair talking to an invisible friend ...and dribbling. Don’t let that happen to you ! Just ...

..stay calm .....drink rum !!
Who we are

At The Pepper Pot Centre, we provide a comprehensive, high quality culturally-specific service to older people from the African and Caribbean Community and others over 50 in Kensington & Chelsea (and neighbouring boroughs) to enable them to live independently in their own homes.

The Pepper Pot Centre uses the available resources within the community to meet the socio-cultural, emotional, physical and psychological needs of African and Caribbean and all other older people, ensuring that each individual enjoys a higher quality of life.

We invite you to come along and make new friends, take part in activities and use our services which include: Culturally Specific Personal Day-Care Services; Hospital and home visits; Information Services; Advice on social matters; Individual care planning services; Health Promotion & Illness Prevention Services; Outreach & Befriending; Therapeutic Services; Counselling and advice and Meals on wheels.

Pepper Pot activities include; Day trips to the seaside; Exchange visits with other day centres; Music and dance therapy; Birthday and Christmas parties; Dominoes and Bingo; Pool table and other games; Bible classes and Gospel singing; Reminiscence and intergeneration groups; Presentations and talks / Film Club; Arts and Crafts, sewing and needle work classes; Tai Chi and Yoga classes; Spirituality and Mental health workshops; Computer & Ipad classes.

How to join us; Contact us at The Pepper Pot Centre, 1A Thorpe Close, Ladbroke Grove, London W10 5XL. Phne: 020 8968 6940 email: info@pepperpotdaycentre.co.uk or get your GP or Social Services to contact us on your behalf. We can visit you at home to assess your needs to ensure how best to meet them. Membership is FREE. Our opening times are Monday to Friday 9.30 am – 5.00 pm

COME AND JOIN US!

Also: Our main hall is available for hire for special events and meetings. (Maximum Capacity 90 people).
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Nat West and Royal Bank of Scotland customers are being charged the most for using their debit cards to withdraw cash abroad.

Customers of the two banks pay both a charge of 2% of the amount withdrawn, from a minimum of £2 up to a maximum of £5 per withdrawal …this is higher than any other bank. Research from Norwich & Peterborough Building Society found that holidaymakers using fee-charging debit cards in the top 10 foreign holiday destinations pay an average charge of £5.99 per transaction.

Thinking residents of a Houston neighbourhood had found GIANT AFRICAN SNAILS (GAS) scientist warned that GAS are potentially dangerous to touch because they can carry meningitis…and further warned that anyone who comes in contact with the snails to thoroughly and immediately wash their hands as handling live wild snails of this species can infect a person with a nematode that can cause a life-threatening infection. THEN THEY FOUND OUT THAT THE SNAILS WEREN'T GIANT AFRICAN SNAILS.

But the warning for giant African snails remain. Hang on !!! Is this is the same species found in Barbados ? Is this the same species our people joked about eating ? Was any research done to determine or identify any health risks ? C’mon ! Our people deserve to know.

Man wunna stop ! Go and find out for wunna self and stop asking me questions ! Till I see de man name pun a flyer to lecture on Prostate Cancer at the High Commission …I’d never hear bout VASCO STEVENSON ! I dont know wuh or if he got any medical qualifications ..I dont even know if he still selling insurance ! I know nothing about the man ! If wunna want to know sumting ask he wunna self ! Or Google ‘e ! Wunna mus tink we is proper journalists or sumting !
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An article in the Sunday Times Published: 19 May 2013 stated that the number of people transferring money through the currency broker World First for property purchases in Barbados increased by 500% in the first four months of 2013, compared with the same period last year. Man …where do you begin with depressing information like that? Depressing because we all know that those properties are not being bought by Bajans anywhere …and will be lost to Bajan ownership forever. More on this next issue.

Did you hear about Queen’s Counsel Alair Shepherd mooning High Court Justice Dr Sonia Richards a few weeks ago? According to Shepherd it was an act borne out of sheer frustration. The case concerns thirteen police officers who are challenging promotions by the Police Service Commission. First heard last August it wasn’t until the third hearing that an injunction was granted halting the promotions pending outcome the case. Since then, and looking in from the outside it looks like either a powerful somebody somewhere is pulling strings or there is massive incompetence residing happily in Barbados’ archaic admin court support system.

On the day of the incident the case was due to be heard before Justice Kentish, but on that day, she informed the attorneys that the case was now to be heard by Justice Richards. However, Justice Richards recused herself from the case. Why she did this was not reported but normally its because of a conflict of interest or lack of impartiality. The case has been adjourned without a date set or judge assigned.

So lets see - we have a group of police officers taking on their force’s hierarchy. The collective chose Alair Shepherd QC and you can bet your life they didnt chose him from the yellow pages! Is this a case of irresistible force and immovable object. Whichever - something ain’t right.

Things that make you go hmmmm!

You’ll be pleased to know that we now have a list …albeit a small one …of reliable legal professionals in Barbados. References have been checked, customers contacted and pledges have been received so we’re happy - we’ve done our homework and are satisfied with the results.

We will not be publishing the list.

Instead if you need representation then contact us and we’ll give you at least two names. Of course, we won’t pass any details unless you’re a overseas Bajan and we’re happy that your enquiry is genuine. We’ll know if you’re fishing! Contact details are on the front cover.
President M. A. Augustin

WM of Epworth Lodge No. 3789
and his

Lady Bina

extend their most cordial greetings and invite you to join them for an enjoyable evening at this year’s

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