



“BROADCAST”

Newsletter of the Toronto Unit

Naparima Alumni Association of Canada

*Naparima Teachers' Training
St. Andrew's Theological
St. Augustine Girls'
Naparima Girls'
Naparima
Hillview
Iere*

Vol. XXXIX No. 2

Spring 2016

April 2016



Photos by: Michele Comeau

Springtime in Southern Ontario!

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The Naparima Alumni Association of Canada (NAAC) was founded in Toronto in 1978 and includes graduates of Naparima College, Naparima Girls' High School, St. Augustine Girls' High School, Hillview College, Iere High School, Naparima Teachers' Training College and St. Andrew's Theological College. Among other things, it supports programmes at alma mater schools as well as a steelband programme in schools in the Toronto area.

All graduates coming to Ontario are invited to join the Association.

2015-16 NAAC Executive

PRESIDENT	Ian Ramdial	905 844 1254	ian.ramdial09@gmail.com
1st V-P:	Merle Ramdial	905 844 1254	merle.ramdial@gmail.com
TREASURER:	Norma Ramsahai	416 283 0675	npramsahai@rogers.com
SECRETARY:	Vilma Ramcharan	416 284 5198	viram@rogers.com
ASST. SEC:	Cynthia Ramdeen	416 499 7357	cynthia.ramdeen@gmail.com
EXEC. MEMBER:	Wendy Rostant	905 542 3548	twrostant@gmail.com
EXEC. MEMBER:	Richard Jaikaran	905 708 6267	RichardNAAC@gmail.com

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CREDITS

“Broadcast” is the newsletter of the Naparima Alumni Association of Canada, Toronto Unit and is published twice a year. The views expressed in articles published are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Executive or of the Association unless specifically stated as such.

Editor: Merle Ramdial

Advertising: Ras Shreeram • 416-743-1331

Layout & Printing: Bluetree Publishing & Design 416-878-5218

Contributions and Correspondence should be forwarded to:

The Editor, “broadcast”, NAAC, Bridlewood Mall Postal Outlet

P.O. Box 92175, 2900 Warden Avenue, Scarborough, ON M1W 3Y9

Web Site: www.naactoronto.ca

President's Message

Well, here we go again with another dismally cold Spring that feels like an extension of Winter. If you were lucky enough to go south, I am truly happy for you. Looking at the front cover of this issue of *Broadcast* does not tell the whole story of the ice storm that damaged many, many mature trees. Just take a drive north on Highway 400!

Although we, as an Executive, did not have meetings during the months of January to March, the business of the Association was dealt with via



email and conference calls. The Social Committee has planned two activities, *A Picnic in the Park*, and *A Day at the Races*. Please take note that our Annual Christmas Dinner & Dance will be early this year, on November 26, 2016.

Our fundraising is now down to the one event at Christmas, with profits allocated solely in support of the T & T schools.

The date for the AGM is fast approaching, May 28th. I must take the opportunity here to thank the members of this Executive for serving this term and volunteering for the many, many duties that keep this Association running smoothly.

Ian Ramdial

From the Editor's Desk...

As our members age, we can easily become prey to the con men and women of the world. I, myself receive at least two phone calls a week from the same recorded voice telling me that my credit card accounts need to be dealt with immediately. If I press the number "1" on my phone, I will immediately be in line for a great reduction in the credit card interest that I am now paying. This con is based on casting a wide net and hoping for the best. No homework was done to tailor the con to those who really need relief from exorbitant credit card interest rates. What's very interesting is that the caller's number that shows on my phone's display, is my own phone number. I'm sure that we all get calls on a daily basis suggesting that the callers can give us some deal and help us in some monetary way. Here's hoping that you read the article sent in by David Seemungal on p.11 about scams of all kinds.

Take a second look at the cover photos which were taken by Michele Comeau. Thanks Michele for giving me access to your album.

The photos of the Christmas Dinner & Dance were taken by Brian Teelucksingh. See what a really good camera can produce? Thanks Brian, for making the extra effort to get these for me.

On p.18, Frank Birbalsingh kindly shares his review of the most recent compilation of poems by Ian McDonald. I hope you find this as interesting as I did.

I wish to thank Shirley Lobin for her piece on her first formal learning experiences at Miss Riley's school (p.8). Brings back my memories of Miss Wilson's Private School.

As always, I am grateful to Rajiv Persaud of Bluetree Publishing & Design for his help and expertise in publishing this issue of *Broadcast*.

NAAC wishes to thank the advertisers, who continue to support our Association.

Merle Ramdial

ADVERTISEMENTS

If you wish to place an ad in the next issue of Broadcast

Contact: Ras Shreeram at rasras@rogers.com or Tel: 416-743-1331

Finance Report

This report reflects the Association's financial information as at February 2016. Annual Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2016 will be presented at the Annual General Meeting scheduled for May 28, 2016.

GENERAL ACCOUNT

Bank of Nova Scotia **\$25,488.00**

NAAC INVESTMENTS

Investment Planning Counsel – Inter Pipeline Fund

*1600 Units – B.V. per unit \$10.00 \$16,000.00
(M.V. \$39,712.00)

**Riocan Real Estate Inv T/U

(M.V. \$21,024.80) \$21,915.00

820 units - B.V. per unit \$26.72

Dividends earned - Feb/16 \$ 913.05

TOTAL INVESTMENTS \$38,828.05

*Market value of the Inter Pipeline Fund as at February 2016 was \$24.82 per unit. This reflects an increase of 148% over book value. The fund continues to earn dividends at the rate of \$208 per month which translates to a return of 15.6% per annum on that investment.

**Market value of Riocan REIT as at February 2016 was \$25.64 per unit, a decrease of 0.4% over book value. Dividends from Riocan REIT are approx. \$96.00 per month or 5.25% per annum.

The Association met its financial commitments to the schools in Trinidad in the amount of \$3,760 which was remitted in September, 2016. This is the sum of the following amounts to each of the five schools: NGHS, Iere, & SAGHS in the amount of \$820 each, Naparima College in the amount of \$620 and Hillview College in the amount of \$680.

We look forward to our Annual Christmas Dinner & Dance to boost our General account so that we can continue to keep on funding our programs.

Respectfully submitted

Merle Ramdial for

Norma Ramsahai, Treasurer



**NOTICE OF
NAAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Saturday, May 28, 2016 • 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Knox Presbyterian Church
4156 Sheppard Avenue East, Scarborough, ON**

Refreshments will be served at Noon

Social Report

As I put pen to paper on this early April morning, I am wondering, Hmmm... did we spring forward to December? The trees and bushes are covered with about 1 inch of ice, but now the snow is falling in those large fluffy flakes covering the bulbs that have sprouted and almost ready to bloom. No complaining, since Mother Nature was quite lenient with us this winter.

Our Annual Christmas Dinner and Dance held on November 28th, 2015 was a sold-out event. This was by far the biggest financial success that we have had in many, many years. The raffle made \$1,650. Wow! Kudos go to our hard working Executive members for selling tickets, to our Association members, friends and relatives for attending and supporting this event. Thanks to Panache for the beautiful steelpan music and to all our donors for giving freely of cash and gifts for the raffle. Special thanks to Ramabai Espinet who was our MC for the evening.

Our next event is a Picnic in the Park which is set for Sunday 26th June, 2016 from 11:00am

to 9pm. This is at The Lakefront Promenade in Mississauga Area B. This is open to all members, their family and friends. Details are listed on p.5 as well as on our NAAC website. We do hope that the weather will co-operate with us this time around.

Next on our calendar is the Social @ Woodbine Race Track. We have reservations at The Post Parade Dining Room for 12 Noon on Sunday September 11th 2016 for you, your relatives and friends. Cost per person is \$50.00 which includes, Hot lunch, dessert table, coffee, tea and all taxes and gratuities. Each person will receive a \$10.00 voucher for the slot area on the ground floor to be used on the same day. I know that some of you can hardly wait to bet on the horses so please get a hold of any of the executive members to obtain your ticket. See p.10 for details.

As always we are open to suggestions for any future events. Please contact any executive member.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Rostant
Chair, Social Committee

HERE ARE NAAC DATES TO REMEMBER:



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, May 28th 2016

NAAC PICNIC IN THE PARK

Sunday, June 26th 2016

DAY AT THE RACES - WOODBINE

Sunday, September 11, 2016

CHRISTMAS DINNER & DANCE

Saturday, November 26, 2016

Steelband Report

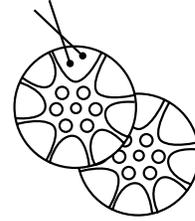
Both NAAC-sponsored after-school steelband programs at Cedarbrae C.I. and West Humber C.I. ran well for the first semester. However, because of low enrolment at Cedarbrae, there were no classes in the east end for this second semester. On the other hand, classes are in full swing at WHCI. Special thanks to Winston Poon for leading the Beginner Class practices.

Panache practices have been going well under the tutelage of Al Foster and in spite of some bad storms which seem to occur on Wednesday evenings. The band has five gigs booked so far, spread over the next three months. No plans have been made for practices during the summer months.

New players are always welcome. If you have an instrument and commit to practicing at home and on Wednesday evenings with the band, please contact Winston Poon at 905-824-3589 or wpoon354@rogers.com

Ian Ramdial
NAAC Steelband Liaison

NOTICE: Steelband Classes 2015/2016 Season



Cedarbrae Collegiate Institute
• Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Contact: Randolph Karamath
• Tel: 416-283-4152
email: ramachez@hotmail.com

West Humber Collegiate Institute
• Time: 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Contact: Ian Ramdial
• Tel: 905-844-1254
email: ian.ramdial09@gmail.com

NAAC Picnic in the Park • Sunday, June 26th 2016

Lakefront Promenade Park is located at 800 Lakefront Promenade off of Lakeshore Road East, east of Cawthra Road. The waterfront is 21.5 km (15 miles) continuous route along Lake Ontario stretching from Etobicoke Creek (Marie Curtis Park) to the Oakville border (Joshua Creek).

An Ideal Place

Lakefront Promenade Park is a project by the City of Mississauga and the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, named after two of its most prominent features: a location at the water's edge and leisure walkways. One of the largest waterfront developments in Ontario with more than 40 hectares (104 acres) of public parkland dedicated to outdoor recreation and the protection of wildlife habitat. Park amenities include a protected harbour with two marina facilities, outdoor licensed eatery, a playground area that features a water splash pad, boardwalks, picnic shelters, cycling paths, and concession facilities.

The park offers an extensive board walk and walking trails, a children's play area, a beach area, 3 comfort stations, playground, water splash pad and a marina that offers berths for 170 boats and year round fishing spots. There is also a licensed outdoor patio and grill.

The park offers an extensive board walk and walking trails, a children's play area, a beach area, 3 comfort stations, playground, water splash pad and a marina that offers berths for 170 boats and year round fishing spots. There is also a licensed outdoor patio and grill.

The NAAC Picnic is booked for Area B which is located at A.E. Crookes Headland with a shelter and seats 60. There is also parking for 32 vehicles with 2 disabled persons parking spots.



Communications Report

Broadcast

We published 175 hard copies of this Spring issue of *Broadcast* for delivery via Canada Post and sent 65 electronic copies to the remaining members who chose to receive theirs via e-mail.

It is still too early to determine the full cost savings of this initiative, since printing costs vary according to the number of colour pages. However, the savings in postage stamps, envelopes and paper is measurable. The income from paid advertisements is still not sufficient to offset the extra costs. (Note: The e-versions of *Broadcast* that everyone can access on the NAAC website are all in full-colour.)

Response to New Bursary Guidelines

The major change that was made to the guidelines, is that the applicant does not have to be a NAAC member, but must be recommended by one.

NAAC awarded two bursaries from those who were recommended by NAAC members for this 2015-2016 year.

The presentation of a cheque for \$500 was made at the Christmas Dinner & Dance to **Nityam Naipaul**. Nityam graduated from West Humber Collegiate Institute and is attending York University

in the School of Arts, Media, Performance and Design. His intention is to become a Music teacher. Nityam is a trumpet player, drummer and a tenor pan player.



In his last year at high school, he joined NAAC's Panache Steelband where he continues to practice and perform with the band.

Our other bursary winner is **Rebekah Wilson-Miller**. Rebekah graduated from Iona Secondary School as a vocal arts major and is now at Mohawk College in Hamilton, Ontario in the Applied Music Diploma Course. She is presently a member of the Mohawk College Jazz Choir.



Although Rebekah is passionate about vocal arts and performs as a soprano, she also plays the clarinet, and is taking piano lessons. She has spent many hours volunteering at her church.

NAAC extends the best of luck to Rebekah and Nityam in their studies.

Submitted by

Merle Ramdial

Chair, Communications Committee

Membership Report

Where have all the members gone, long time passing?

-12 members have renewed their membership for JAN - DEC 2016

-1 new member has been registered for this year.

- 4 Life Members and 1 regular member passed away during 2015

Total membership for 2015-2016 - 270

There are members for whom distance makes it impossible for them to be with us in person.

There are members who are incapacitated and regret that they can no longer be part of the group.

Since its inception in 1978 our Association has been a productive community for members

and friends, especially dedicated to supporting innovative projects that enhance the work of our Naparima family of schools.

Currently, our Annual Christmas Dance remains a standing success. We ask our active members to renew their commitment to the Alumni so that we can keep our Association vibrant.

A copy of the membership form can be downloaded from our website at **naactoronto.ca**

We look forward to your renewals before our Annual General Meeting on May 28, 2016.

NAAC TORONTO NEEDS YOU!

Cynthia Ramdeen

Chair, Membership Committee

Music Notes: West Humber Collegiate

by Joe Cullen

It has been an exciting year at West Humber for the music department! Our music program played for the WHCI Awards Ceremonies, a full school concert at **York Humber C.I.**, Arts night in December, and more! We played for the Black History services at **Applewood United Church** and **Grace Anglican** church in February 2016, playing all the hymns and other special music arrangements. Music will also be an integral part of the **WHCI 50th Anniversary**, celebration on Saturday May 14, 2016.

Coming up very soon is the five-day **Cleveland, Ohio, Music Trip in May 2016!** This will be the biggest music trip ever at WHCI. We are taking 75 students instead of the usual 55. We will be going back to Ohio for our fourth time, and we're visiting **Ravenna Steel Band** and Concert Band in addition to our many other events. We will be playing a joint concert with the students of **Ravenna High School** and are also visiting **PANYARD INC.** where the owner Ron Kerns gives WHCI a personal three-hour tour of the pan factory. Students are selling chocolate almonds and our CDs: "Best of Us, Volume 1" and "Best of Us, Volume 2" to offset costs for the trip.

December ARTS Night was a big success and featured the **N.A.A.C. Panache steel band** as special guests once again, under the direction of Al Foster. **Spring Music Night** (also with special guests Panache steel band) is now on **May 12, 2016** to coincide with the week of West Humber's 50th anniversary.



Our pan tuning and music awards would not be possible without the support we get from the NAAC. Our wonderful long-term partnership is vital to the success of our program. Several of our pan graduates perform regularly with Panache, allowing them to enjoy steel band for years after finishing at WHCI. Thank you to the N.A.A.C.!

For more information, videos and pictures, check out www.whcimusic.com on the web, and also on Facebook at whcimusic.com.

REMINDER TO RENEW YOUR NAAC MEMBERSHIP

*Please remember to renew your NAAC Membership.
The membership year runs from January to December.*

Miss Riley of Petit Valley

by Shirley Lobin

SHE WAS “Mrs” Riley, but everyone called her “Miss” Riley. She was round-faced, short and wide. Her chocolate-brown skin gleamed from her curvaciousness and youth (she was in her twenties). Her husband, Mr. Riley, was her opposite: thin, tall and quiet. They had two daughters; Marva, the elder, was about twelve. Most likely, Miss Riley had never gone beyond elementary school, not unusual for many Trini girls of her time.

In the early 1950’s, she held a kindergarten class in the living room of her house for about seven or eight children, including myself. We didn’t know the word “kindergarten,” so we called her school simply “Miss Riley School” (no apostrophe).

The school was only a three-minute walk from the house where I lived with my parents, four brothers, one sister, two grandparents, one great-uncle, one great-grand-mother, and a fluctuating number of other relatives and the tenants who augmented our household income. It never occurred to us that our four-bedroom house was over-crowded.

On a day in January 1953, my father took me to enroll me at Miss Riley School. Perhaps he thought I was too small as yet to walk the half-hour to and from the elementary school further up in the Valley. The house/school sat on a carved-out ledge on one of the gentler spurs extending from Trinidad’s Northern mountain range. To reach it, we had to walk up a set of steps carved into the hillside, each step topped with unstable-looking planks of wood. There was no railing to hold on to. On my first day, I, this tiny child with stick legs and huge eyes, took one look at that hillside and refused to climb it. It looked like a mountain to me. What if I should tumble down onto road below?

It was left to poor Mr. Riley to leave whatever he was doing to come down and rescue me. He picked

me up in his arms and carried me all the way up to the house. Such was my first day at school.

THE HOUSE Miss Riley lived in was separated by a wall down the middle. She lived in one half, and another family in the other. A single outdoor step took us up to her front door and immediately into her living room. This was the room that, on weekdays, doubled as our classroom. We sat on child-sized benches in two rows; there was no space for desks. Behind us, a blackboard hung on the wall. In front of us, Miss Riley sat plumply at a tiny table next to the room’s only window, reading us Bible stories, and teaching us numbers and the alphabet (“A for apple, B for bat...M for mango, N for net, O for okro... Y for yam, Z for zebu-bull.”) which we scratched out on our slates. I wondered what was a zebu-bull.

The only other room in her house was the adjoining bedroom. Crowded into it were a double-bed, a clothes cupboard and a chair. I don’t know if her entire family of four slept on this one bed, or if the children slept on the floor. Children sleeping on the floor was the norm at *our* house since we often had to make do with one bedroom for two parents on a double bed, two children on cots, and the youngest four of us on bedding on the floor. Every morning we would fold up the bedding and stash it away. But we floor-sleepers didn’t mind, especially when a pack of our cousins came to spend weekends or holidays with us. Then, we would all line up on the floor as if we were at camp – minus the fancy sleeping bags, of course.

But a whole other matter were Miss Riley’s kitchen and outhouse. The kitchen was a crumbling mud-walled, mud-floored shack off to the side of the house. Holes emerged where bits of mud

(Continued on next page)

Miss Riley

(Continued from previous page)

fell off the walls. But if I thought the kitchen was frightening, the outhouse was diabolical. It could barely hold itself upright, and when I looked down through the opening in its teetering seat, I could see the creatures wriggling not far below. I never, ever entered it again. Speaking of outhouses, my first “outhouse” memory is of our neighbor, a rather weighty woman of middle age. One day, as she was sitting in her outhouse, the floor collapsed beneath her, and she fell waist-deep into the stuff below. In a flash, news of this spread throughout the small neighbourhood. This story so traumatized me that I dreamed, that very night – what a first dream to remember! – that I, too, had fallen into the muck.

As at Miss Riley’s house, our home, too, had separate kitchens and outhouses, two of each. But they, like our main house – a gabled, two-storey, concrete structure – were well-built by accomplished house-builders and carpenters: my father and grandfather. Indeed, the outhouses were rather posh by outhouse standards. However, we lacked electricity. So, our “stove” was a mud fireplace; our “fridge” was a home-made wooden box to hold blocks of ice for keeping drinks cold; and our lighting came from oil lamps and candles. We also didn’t have pipe-borne water, so the adults drew water from a well in our yard.

I loved our home; it was where I was born. The house it replaced was built of mud. Our industrious family was creating a better world for all of us.

KIND-HEARTED MISS RILEY showered us, her students, with affection. For reasons I will never know, she was especially fond of me. Maybe she felt my pain because the neighbourhood boys nicknamed me “tin-foot” (thin legs, that is) and “aloo eyes” because my eyes loomed large in my head.

On many an afternoon, at the hottest time of the day, and especially during an afternoon rain

shower, Miss Riley would take a nap, leaving the children under the watchful eye of her daughter Marva who, by then, would have arrived home from her own school. But Miss Riley always took me – and only me – to nap with her in her bed. (Imagine the trouble a non-family adult would get into nowadays for doing that!). And because she knew I would never use her outhouse, only I got to use the potty under her bed. Of course, her pampering of me was unfair to the other children, but all I felt was how cherished I was by her.

One Saturday morning, I took my younger sister with me to visit Miss Riley. When we got there she was cooking cassava bread on a *tawa* heated on the coal-pot. We loved cassava bread; my grandmother used to make it for us. On this day, keen though I was to try out Miss Riley’s cassava bread, she made no move to invite us to stay. So I had to find a way to dilly-dally until the bread was ready, at which time she would be obliged to offer some to us. So I picked up her broom and began sweeping the living room floor, chattering away all the while. This job should have taken only a minute or two, so small was the room, but I managed to stretch it out for ten, sweeping under every piece of furniture, in every corner. Miss Riley must have smiled, but was too kind to let on. Miraculously, my task ended at the very moment that the bread was ready. And, of course, she shared it with us.

But when we got back home, happily cassava-stuffed, we discovered that my mother was frantic with worry. She had no idea where we were. Normally, we played all over the little neighbourhood where one or other of the neighbors would always be able to account for us. But on this day none of them could. When my mother saw us, she breathed a big sigh of relief. Then she picked a little twig off the hibiscus hedge and peppered our bare little legs with lashes. They stung, but more from humiliation than pain; we were not used to lashings because our parents were not of the child-

(Continued on next page)

Miss Riley

(Continued from previous page)

spanking kind. But, as my mother explained to us, “All yuh coulda dead crossin’ dat busy road!”

What’s the big deal, I thought? She should be glad that we were safely back at home. Adults! Who could understand their logic?

I ATTENDED MISS RILEY SCHOOL for only half a year before transferring to the Petit Valley Roman Catholic Girls’ School. Here, too, I had another interesting first day. I would not leave the side of my eldest brother who, with the others, attended the boys’ school just across the road. I remained attached to him for that entire day, thanks to the kindly understanding of his headmaster, Mr. Edinborough. By day two, I realized I had no choice but to stay put in my own school, during classes at least.

At lunchtime, some of the boy students were in the habit of climbing up the trees in the girls’ schoolyard to eat their lunch – roti, in the case of my brothers and me. Even then, I would not

stray far from them. So, while they were up in the branches, I stood alone under the tree, eating my own lunch. For a week or two I continued to do so, leaving them only when the school bell rang to resume classes.

Eventually I settled in, and formed a friendship with my first best friend, Merle. Six decades would pass before we-reconnected, via the Internet.

MY FAMILY MOVED TO SAN FERNANDO IN 1957 while I was still in elementary school. For the next two or three years I wrote letters to Miss Riley telling her of my new life in the big city. And she, an adult, took the trouble to respond to me, a mere child whom she had known for only a few months. Though my siblings and I did not lack for family love, Miss Riley was the first person to introduce me to the wider world beyond family, and to teach me that un-pretty eyes and legs have no bearing on self-worth. She taught me that I was relevant. She inspired me.

And for that, I will always be grateful to her.

shirleylobin@yahoo.com

WOODBINE ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

WELCOMES NAAC of Toronto

To Woodbine Racetrack for an Afternoon of Dining and Races

In the Post Parade Dining Room

On September 11, 2016

Join us on the 4th floor

Dining Room opens at 12:00pm

Buffet is open until 2:30pm

Post time at 1:00pm

PARKING LOT A

WEST ENTRANCE – GATE 10



Protecting Yourself Against Scams

by David Seemungal

Recently, My Rotary Club had an interesting talk from an RCMP officer about frauds and scams. There were some surprising facts presented about how many people in Canada (and around the world) who are unfortunately targeted and relieved of their hard earned money. The amounts involved are staggering, running into tens or even hundreds of millions of dollars. I put this article together from his talk and from the “Little Black Book of Scams” produced by The Competition Bureau of Canada. I quote extensively from that publication as it does a good job of explaining many of the important things we need to know to protect ourselves. It is available from my website in its entirety here: [Little Black Book of Scams](#)

WHILE MANY OF THESE SCAMS ORIGINATE OVERSEAS, WE HAVE NO SHORTAGE OF CON ARTISTS AND SCAMMERS IN CANADA.

To help you protect yourselves and those you care about, here are some of the most common fraud schemes. But be warned, scammers are very resourceful and constantly come up with new ways to steal our money!

Lotteries, Sweepstakes etc.

You cannot win money or a prize in a lottery unless you have entered it yourself, or someone else has entered it on your behalf. You cannot be chosen as a random winner if you don't have an entry. They may suggest that you were entered when you filled in one of those slips at the mall or another event. Many of us have so we fall for their line. Many lottery scams try to trick you into providing your banking and personal details to claim your prize. You should not have to pay any fee or tax to claim a legitimate prize.

Don't be fooled by claims that the offer is legal or has government approval—many scammers will tell you this. Instead of receiving a grand prize or fortune, you will lose every cent that you send to a scammer. And if you have provided other personal details, your identity could be misused too.

A fake prize scam will tell you that you have won

a prize or a contest. You may receive a phone call, an email, a text message or see a pop-up screen on your computer. There are often costs involved with claiming your prize, and even if you do receive a prize, it may not be what was promised to you.

The scammers make their money by making you pay fees or taxes, call their premium rate phone numbers or send premium text messages to claim your prize. These premium rate calls can be very expensive, and the scammers will try to keep you on the line for a long time or ask you to call a different premium rate number.

Money Transfer Requests

The Nigerian scam (also called the 419 fraud) has been on the rise since the early-to-mid 1990s in Canada. Although many of these sorts of scams originated in Nigeria, similar scams have been started all over the world (particularly in other parts of West Africa and in Asia). These scams are increasingly referred to as “advance fee fraud”.

In the classic Nigerian scam, you receive an email or letter from a scammer asking your help to transfer a large amount of money overseas. You are then offered a share of the money if you agree to give them your bank account details to help with the transfer. They will then ask you to pay all kinds of taxes and fees before you can receive your “reward”. You will never be sent any of the money, and will lose the fees you paid.

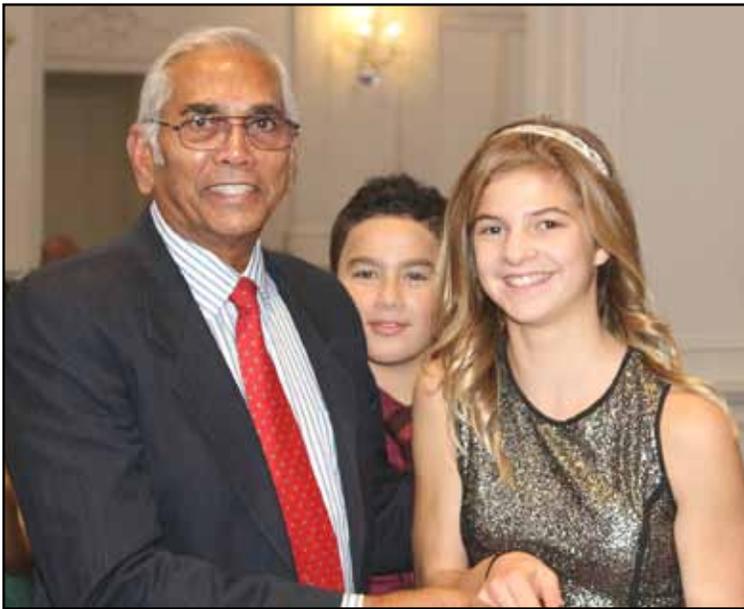
Then there is the scam email that claims to be from a lawyer or bank representative advising that a long-lost relative of yours has died and left you a huge inheritance. Scammers can tell such genuine sounding stories that you could be tricked into providing personal documents and bank account details so that you can confirm their identity and claim your inheritance. The “inheritance” is likely to be non-existent and, as well as losing any money you might have paid to the scammer in fees and taxes, you could

(Continued on page 14)

2015 Christmas Dinner & Dance



2015 Christmas Dinner & Dance



*Photos by:
Brian Teelucksingh*



Protecting Yourself Against Scams

(Continued from page 11)

also risk having your identity stolen.

Emergency Scams

In the typical scenario of an emergency scam, a grandparent receives a phone call from a scammer claiming to be one of his or her grandchildren. Callers go on to say that they are in some kind of trouble and need money immediately. They claim to have been in a car accident, are having trouble returning from a foreign country or they need bail money.

You may get a call from two people, one pretending to be your grandchild and the other pretending to be either a police officer or a lawyer. Your “grandchild” asks you questions during the call, getting you to volunteer personal information. Callers say that they don’t want other family members to find out what has happened. You will be asked to wire some money through a money transfer company. Often, victims don’t verify the story until after the money has been sent.

In some cases, scammers pretend to be your old neighbour or a friend of the family, but for the most part, the emergency scam is directed at grandparents.

An example we heard from our speaker was of a grandmother who had a call from her very distressed grandson, stuck in jail in Europe while travelling there. She sent the money and was so surprised to see him well just a couple of days later at Sunday lunch, that she blurted out her happiness to see him. Needless to say, they did not recover the money.

Dating or Romance Scams

Some dating and romance scams work by setting up a dating website where you pay for each email or message you send and receive. The scammer will try to hook you in by continuing to send you vague-sounding emails filled with talk of love or desire. The scammer might also send emails filled with details of their home country or town that do not refer to you much at all. These are attempts to keep you writing back and paying money for use of the scammer’s dating website.

Even on a legitimate dating site, you might be approached by a scammer—perhaps someone who

claims to have a very sick family member or who is in the depths of despair (often these scammers claim to be from Russia or Eastern Europe). After they have sent you a few messages, and maybe even a glamorous photo, you will be asked (directly or more subtly) to send them money to help their situation. Some scammers even arrange to meet with you, in the hope that you give them presents or money—and then they disappear.

In other cases, scammers will try to build a friendship with you, perhaps even sending you flowers or other small gifts. After building a relationship, the scammer will tell you about a large amount of money they need to transfer out of their country, or that they want to share with you. They will then ask for your banking details or money for an administrative fee or tax that they claim needs to be paid to free up the money.

The RCMP officer told us about a call he had from a counterpart in the USA about an 80 year-old widow who they believed was bringing money to Toronto to help her boyfriend who was in his mid-sixties, whom she had met online, had regular Skype calls with, (but only with her visible) and who would be coming to be with her in the USA from Germany after the very expensive surgery that he was not covered for. (Germany, like Canada, has a very good socialized medical system that provides low or no cost care.) She was detained at Pearson for not declaring the large amount of cash that she was carrying, and returned to the USA without giving her money to the scammer. Sadly, a few months later he was asked by the same police officer in the USA for a referral to a police officer in London, England as the lady was on her way there with more money.

Service Scams

These scams typically involve individuals that make offers for telecommunications, Internet, finance, medical and energy services. This category of scams may also include offers such as extended warranties, insurance, and door-to-door sales.

The two most reported service scams targeting Canadians are the antivirus software scam and credit card interest rate reduction scams.

(Continued on next page)

Protecting Yourself Against Scams

(Continued from previous page)

The scammers involved in the antivirus software scam promise to repair your computer over the Internet. This can involve the installation of software or permission to have remote access to your computer. Payment for the software or repair is typically made by credit card. Downloading software from an unknown source or allowing someone to remotely access your computer is risky. Scammers could use malicious software to capture your personal information such as user names and passwords, bank account information, identity information, etc.

Everyone likes to get a deal and scammers know this. The people behind credit card interest rate reduction scams often impersonate financial institutions and claim to negotiate with credit card companies to lower your interest rates. They guarantee they can save you thousands of dollars in interest. The caller will tell you that the lower interest rates are for a limited time only and that you need to act now. You might receive an automated call, prompting you to “press 1” and provide personal information, such as your date of birth and credit card number. You will also be asked to pay a fee up front for the service. The scammers will use this information to make purchases on your credit card or to access cash advances.

Recently I have had a number of calls from “the Credit Card Department” asking me to contact them about reducing my interest. It’s a scam. So too was the call from “Microsoft” about the report of a problem on my system that they needed urgent access to my computer to repair. A recent variation on this scam was a series of calls from “Revenue Canada” or “The CRA” threatening to have a police officer at the recipients door within minutes to arrest the person if they didn’t pay off the amount allegedly owed immediately.

GOLDEN RULES

Remember these golden rules to help you beat the scammers.

- Always get independent advice if an offer involves money, personal information, time or commitment.

- There are no guaranteed get-rich-quick schemes—sometimes the only people who make money are the scammers.

- Do not agree to offers or deals right away. If you think you have spotted a great opportunity, insist on time to get independent advice before making a decision.

- Do not hand over money or personal information, or sign anything until you have done your homework and checked the credentials of the company that you are dealing with.

REPORTING SPAM EMAILS AND SMS

Many scams arrive by email and SMS. Visit www.fightspam.gc.ca for information on Canada’s anti-spam legislation.

Fraudulent (or “phishing”) emails requesting personal details can also be reported to the bank, financial institution or other organization concerned (be sure to use a phone number or email address that did not appear in the email to make your report).

REPORTING FRAUD, THEFT AND OTHER CRIMES

Contact the police. Many scams that may breach consumer protection laws (those enforced by the Competition Bureau, other government and law enforcement agencies) may also breach the fraud provisions of the Criminal Code.

I’d be interested to hear your stories about scams you have encountered. You can email me your stories or questions at davids@moneytrends.ca. I may use the information (anonymized of course) or questions for a subsequent article.

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(Editor’s Note: Because of space restrictions, details of both Pyramid and Ponzi Schemes and Banking and Credit Card Fraud were removed from this article.)

Dr. Clifford Benjamin Jutlah (March 31, 1938 - September 10, 2015)

Down memory lane

by Milton Moonah.

We have Memory, Memories and memories...our minds are not perfect. Our memories become fragmented, disjointed and insecure. How do we start to remember and put into words all the times we have had together, the places we've been to, the experiences we shared and what perspectives we attach to them. Our times as boys were good times - carefree, unencumbered and unattached. Then, as young men we found and carved a way for our single purposeful futures. And finally as grownups we stayed connected with our many and varied families. Where does it start and where does it end.....does it ever end? I would say YES! We let it end. We disfigure and eradicate memories. We forget. And we do not pay homage to our ancestors, our families, our friends, who we should value for our memories and the life we have led. In the bigger scheme of things ...does it really matter?

Cliff at a mere 3yrs older than me was a cousin that I came to know, admire and respect.

I learned a lot from Cliff. We pitched marbles in the dirt, for other marbles or for buttons. We danced/spinned our home-made tops on the asphalt-paved street, making 3 lines or just jiggling at each other's tops. We shot at birds with our slingshots fashioned from guava Y sticks, old bicycle inner rubber tubes and leather tongues from our old shoes. We played bat and ball on the streets and the playgrounds. And we kicked footballs and tennis balls and anything that was kickable. We made teams and had fun in the sun and the rain and the mud and preferred to do these things than to do our home lessons and chores that our parents would have us do.

Cliff showed me how he bowled an off-break and a googli and I learned from him and became



good at it. And he taught me to ride a bike. A ladies full-frame Raleigh bike that Didie (his eldest sister Elsie Hassanali) had bought for him .The first time he let me go on my own I ended up in the open canal about 50 yards west on Thomas Street

We are children of 2 sisters, Daisy and Lilliana born from the Alice and Charles Temull clan of 9 children. Our mothers grew up in San Francique, Trinidad on the Temull

Estate. Daisy married Samuel Jutlah and moved to Mount Stewart, a village just outside of Princes Town on the Manahambre Main Road, where all 6 of her children were born. I didn't know Sam very well. Lilliana married Moses Moonah and moved to 1D Henry Street, San Fernando in Brown Lane. They had six children too. I am the eldest and I got to know my maternal grandparents, all my uncles and aunties and most of my cousins. I spent time (holidays) with many of them.

Cliff attended San Fernando Government School on Rushworth Street after the family moved to the corner of Thomas and Henry Streets, just kitty corner from his Mousee and Mousa (Auntie and Uncle, my parents). Soon he gained admittance to Naparima College when Rev.V.B.Walls was Principal. He was put into 2A Special immediately after Rev. Walls discovered an error in the reporting of Cliff's marks for the Common Entrance examination. The Dictation Test marks were omitted. During his time at Naps from 1950-1956, Cliff gained a House Scholarship, won The Jerningham Silver medal, and then completed his Higher School Certificate (HSC) in Modern Studies. Cliff was a good cricketer and was

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well-known for his spin bowling (his off-break and leg breaks) and googlies. He was one of the first Prefects in the House System at Naps in Flemington House.

In the grand scheme of things those were not too important. What mattered was that when we got together for all the important holidays, we would share a rum (Barbados Mount Gay Eclipse –in memory of Mousa Moses) and coke and reminisce a little about our upbringing and where we came from. Those were unforgettable moments that make our memories richer.

For a couple of years following Cliff's HSC graduation, he taught at Presentation College, Chaguanas. He then left for the University of British Columbia where he graduated with an Hons Economics and Math degree.

Although he received bursaries during his years at UBC, Cliff worked in the summers to cover his living expenses. He worked at the docks, sold Insurance, and picked fruits in the Okanagan and even negotiated a deal with a Prof to buy a used Austin car for \$50.00 . He also held jobs in Acadia Camp and the UBC Library. After graduation in 1964, he returned to Trinidad.

He married Angela Hosein on August 29, 1965. Angela is the niece of Cliff's brother-in-law Fyzul Hassanali.

That same year when Cliff received the Commonwealth Scholarship he returned to UBC to pursue graduate work in Economics. He was encouraged to work on his PhD without

completing the Master's thesis. This brought him to the University of Toronto, where he completed his Doctorate.

I recall when we came through Toronto in 1967 on our way back to Winnipeg, Manitoba (where I was a student) from Expo 67 in Montreal, we established contact and stayed with Cliff and Angela at their apartment on Eglinton Avenue in Leaside. Cliff and Angela were always good family to us through the years and remained dear friends of Kathy in her most troubled and scary times as she lost her memory. For this I am forever grateful. His son Russell in his reflections of his dad said. "To me, my dad was like the North Star - a reassuring presence, independent but connected with everything, a source of guidance, an unwavering light." It was a fitting tribute.

I have these words from an Anonymous poet that others might relate to when they think of those who have gone before us:

*Once a day and sometimes more, you knock upon my
daydream door*

*And I say warmly "Come right in". I'm glad you're here with
me again.*

*And so we sit and have a chat, discussing this recalling that
Until some task that I must do forces me away from you.*

Reluctantly, I say "Goodbye"...Smiling with a little sigh

For though my daydreams bring you near

I wish that you were really here

My FRIEND, COZ, my HERO in PRAYER

Condolences to...

*Neville Mahabir and his family on the passing of his wife,
Dawne Mahabir on November 28, 2015.*

*Nola Jandesjek, Horace Bhopalsingh and Roy Bhopalsingh on the death of
their brother, **Kenneth** in late February.*

Mona Walrond, whose sister recently passed.

Book Review:

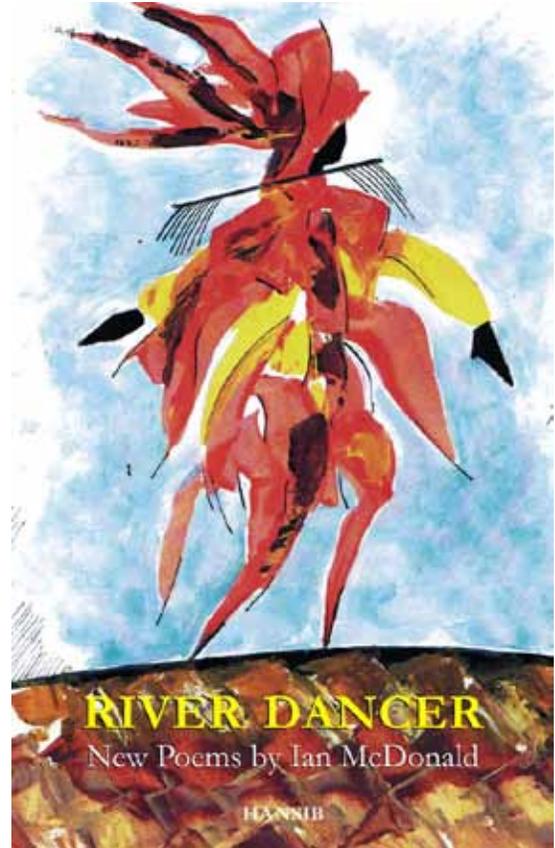
River Dancer New Poems – Ian McDonald

A Review by Frank Birbalsingh

Ian McDonald, *River Dancer New Poems*,
Great Britain, Hansib Publications Limited.,
2015, pp. 109.
ISBN 978-1-910553-26-8

River Dancer New Poems is the sixth collection by an author who, besides writing poems, has worked as a newspaper columnist, edited the literary journal *Kyk-Over-Al*, produced a novel, supervised the Guyanese sugar industry for a lifetime, distinguished himself in international tennis, and won recognition as Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, while being awarded an Honorary Doctor of Literature by the University of the West Indies. At the age of eighty-two, in many poems in *River Dancer*, McDonald's persona now feels burdened by urgent concern over his age that brings gnawing awareness of the passage of time, followed by the absolute inevitability of death and dissolution. To McDonald's persona, this implies one inescapable question: "if we must go through the whole business of living, bad as well as good, sometimes even including great beauty, joy and love, what is the point if it is all destined to disappear?"

In *The Comfort of all Things* (2012) McDonald considers themes of physical decline within an Epicurean framework of birth, transience, and regeneration; but since they lack due sense of pain or urgent questing, these themes may appear too confidently rational, lacking in natural emotion. By contrast, poems in *River Dancer* cannot be more natural: old age is creeping up on the persona in "Going Away," and his imminent departure from home for a few months sparks uncertainty about his safe return: "will I return in my eighties nothing is certain" Similarly, "Twentieth Anniversary" registers an heightened sense of mortality when



the persona finds his wife crying, and foresees possible threat: "I cannot bear the thought/ there will come a day." (p.29)

In "Jacob" a poem revelling in the spirited energy and avid enthusiasm of his three-year-old grandson, the persona cannot resist tempering the child's innocent thirst for life with his own fear of ageing: "it will not be long before you want to learn/ what is fear and pain and cruelty and age/ why death will be the hardest one of all. (p.34) In "Father" another family poem, this time celebrating a loving relationship with his ageing father, the persona cherishes their unbroken bond, but chooses to end by clutching limply at something out of reach, implying inevitable loss in their relationship: "we [the persona and his

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father] watched together/ where far far far far out the green and blue/ fades to grey and then to nothingness,” (p.69)

So far quotations from *River Dancer* reflect a simple, direct diction, without even basic punctuation such as capital letters, except for obvious names, or commas and full stops, while lines of varying length run on and on, seemingly forever, creating an impression of spontaneity or informality, rather than artifice or guile. In his excellent Introduction, one of several features praised by Professor Ramchand is the poet’s technical mastery; for technically, McDonald is clearly at the top of his game, especially as a nature poet; and it is not for nothing that he selects an epigraph for *River Dancer* from *The Prelude* by Wordsworth, England’s greatest nature poet.

As an Edenic landscape, the Caribbean, particularly the Guyana forest, still retains value and beauty as one of the world’s last resources of flora, fauna and greenhouse gases. In “White Orchids at Night” when the persona is taken by a seasoned bushman into the heart of the forest in Essequibo at dead of night, he beholds: “candles without flame but purely bright/arrayed in timeless halls of splendour” (p.54), and In “Rite of Passage,” during an adventure with childhood friends in Trinidad, the persona witnesses: “the trees dripping the slush of black mud/ huge crapauds hopping in the muddy pools.../ red bajack ants in angry hunting streams” (p.74) in a tumultuous and fascinating display of primordial energy, life, and movement.

But there is no question of the over-riding insistence on themes of ageing and death, for example, in “Moon in Old Age:” “I am an old man/ with pain in the gut / in contact with what may be death” (p. 70) Nor should we forget that the title poem “River Dancer” is a paean, one of several in the volume, to the poet’s wife Mary Angela McDonald, to whom the entire volume

is dedicated. The persona of “River Dancer” is sustained by a photo of Mary who, during his serious illness, plays a vital role in recovery when: “every day every single day she was by my side” (p.105)

As a former student at Queens Royal College, one of the best Caribbean schools, Cambridge University, one of the top British universities, and as poet, journalist, sportsman, captain of industry, and pro-consul of empire, McDonald belongs to a colonial elite in Caribbean society and, in Conradian terms, is a veritable emissary of light and learning to benighted Caribbean, creole subjects. “Cane Cutting Gang” offers a glimpse into the unequal, plantation structure that McDonald joined after leaving Cambridge: “destined to run a sugar industry” (p. 96) After workers: “swarmed around” (p.96) complaining of hard work and late pay, a manager: “chased them back to work” (p.96)

For all their status of wealth, power and culture, however, personae in several poems, whether out of guilt or charity, earnestly ponder the gross, all-pervading injustice of plantation inequality. In poems such as “Ram” “Prayer in Old Age” “The Potato Farmer” and “Shopping,” personae mingle with impoverished, aged and worn out plantation workers or victims, and in “Carts” the persona’s wealth and privilege make him: “want to shout and throw / all my wealth in fury at them” but knows “I will do nothing / if I changed my life completely / what good will it do for others.” (p.95) McDonald’s persona feels “a sort of death” (p.95) in falling back on this “age-old justification” (p.95) to explain himself; but when we consider his much greater risk of Kurtzian spiritual corruption from benighted plantation acolytes, ever willing to flatter, finagle and please him, such candour seems redeeming and refreshing.

At Naparima College: Continuous Improvement is our Hallmark of Delivering Quality Education

As an Administration and Staff, we continue to remain faithful to the ideals of our Founding Fathers, as we share in their vision for excellence. This vision of excellence is especially significant because it encourages all of us, to reflect upon the guiding philosophy embedded in our Vision Statement, Mission Statement and School Motto and in commemoration of Naparima College's 122nd anniversary, we are proud to highlight our recent successful memorable moments.

ACADEMICS

Our academic performance continues to be outstanding at both the CSEC and CAPE levels. We continue to debunk the myth of male under-achievement. Academically, over the past ten (10) years, 274 A' Level graduates have been awarded National Scholarships. The academic years 2010/2016 produced some of our most historic milestones.

In 2015, the pass rates in CAPE were 98% with 48 students achieving 6 Grade 1's and more and in CSEC 94% with 98 students gaining 3 Grade 1's and more.

In 2015, 42 CAPE graduates were awarded national scholarships (12 open)! We have now set a new record for the highest amount of scholarships ever received in an academic year in the history of Naparima College!

ATHLETICS

As we continue to provide a premier education for all students, the Administration and Staff remains committed to Naparima's legacy of excellence in athletics.

Naparima College now holds the following records:

- 1. VTCOF titles - 9**
- 2. Zonal titles - 15**
- 3. National Intercol titles- 7**
- 4. Total National titles - 12**

Notable in 2015, the Naparima College Premiership cricket team won the Secondary Schools

Cricket Premier League title after many decades. The Under-16's won the South Zone title and reached the National semi-finals.

CO & EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Collectively, we enhance our students' skills and competencies so that they will ultimately make valuable positive contributions to the overall development of the society: locally, regionally and internationally! The following is a list of some of the active extra curricular clubs and organised activities in Naparima College: Astronomy Club, Big Brother Programme, Chess Club, Castil  - The UNESCO Spanish Club, Drama Club, Environmental Club, Writers Guild, Film and Photography Club, First Naparima College Sea Scout Troop, Indian Cultural Club - I.C.C., Inter School Christian Fellowship - I.S.C.F., Film and Photography Club, Keyboard/Piano Club, Choir, Naparima College Pan Ensemble - *Naparhythms*, Rotary International - Interact Club, Mathematics Club, Scouts School Band, Scrabble Club, Sports - (Cricket, Football, Table Tennis, Lawn Tennis, Athletics, Volleyball, Golf, Swimming and Scuba Diving), Student Council, Scrabble Club, Tassa Group, The Literary and Debating Society - L.A.D.S.

It is also significant that in 2015 Naparima College achieved the internationally assessed 'Diamond' certification, a project of the Ministry of Public Administration. This project was successfully coordinated by Mrs. Gale Yuk Low, Head of the Business Studies department. Mrs. Yuk Low retired after 37 years service in February 2016.

At Naparima College we continue to strive for continuous improvement in the delivery of holistic education whilst allowing our students outstanding opportunities to form life long friendships, develop leadership skills and maximize and collectively harness their very own potential and talents. We look forward to your continued support and best wishes today and always. **A POSSE AD ESSE.**

NGHS Grad Celebrates 100th Birthday

by Ken Rajkumar-Maharaj

Last December, Mrs Marjorie (Mulchansingh) Laltoo, the oldest known alumna (and former teacher) of Naparima Girls' celebrated her 100th birthday. Mrs Laltoo was married to the prominent Naparima alumnus, the late Ralph Laltoo, who was at one time principal of QRC and later North-Eastern College.

A small party was held to mark the occasion at her son's home in Moncton, New Brunswick. About sixty friends and family of all ages attended. Mrs Laltoo was presented with a standard congratulatory message from Buckingham Palace. She is seen in the accompanying photo, examining the document. Mrs Laltoo continues to enjoy good health.

In a way, she exemplified the best gifts of the Presbyterian mission to Trinidad, in that she received a professional education without interruption in their schools: elementary, NGHS, Teachers' Training College; and subsequently worked as a career teacher for 35 years while managing a home and young family. This was a very modern upbringing and life for a young woman in Trinidad in the earlier years of the 20th century. Today, we are used to unending discussions about divers social issues, with an apparent reluctance to apply practical resolutions. The Mission did not expend a lot of time and energy in debate – they simply implemented the notions of equal education and equal aspiration as part of their educational system.

Soon after graduation from NTC (Naparima Training College), she began teaching at her alma mater NGHS. She remained on staff there until 1958 when, with her husband Ralph receiving the QRC appointment, she transferred to Holy Name Convent for twelve more teaching years. In the early 1970's, with all three children approaching university age, the family emigrated to Canada.

Mrs Laltoo's grandfather provided the land to

the first missionaries for an elementary ("CM") school in her village. In these earlier years of the mission, before the establishment of the high schools or the teachers' training college, her father attended special classes organized by the mission to qualify him for teaching in their elementary schools. Following most of her ten siblings, Mrs Laltoo attended the village elementary school as a girl, and subsequently followed her older sisters Winnifred, Laura, Carmen, Claudia and Sylvia to the Sarah Morton Dormitory at NGHS.

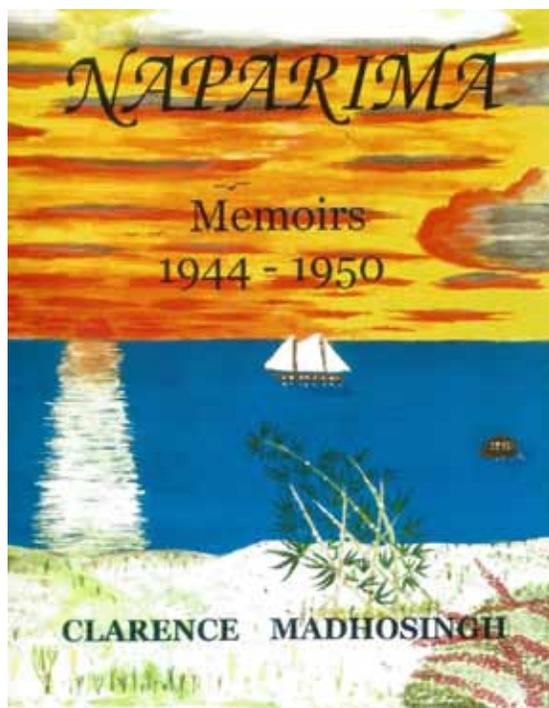
Over the course of her century, Mrs Laltoo embodies portions of an idyllic history of her family in an earlier Trinidad. Today, she describes details of these far-off times with clarity and fondness. Although she still misses her husband who passed away in 2004, she is fortunate in that her children and their families live in the same area. She attributes her longevity to her devotion to the simple values of family, church; and to maintaining what she describes as a "clear mind", and an unburdened approach to life.



NAPARIMA Memoirs, 1944 – 1950

A Book by Clarence Madhosingh

The author takes the reader on a nostalgic trip through his 1940s high school days at Naparima College, a Canadian Mission secondary school in San Fernando, Trinidad, during the British colonial era. The book also covers a brief cultural history of the island at that time as a background to the memoirs. The author obviously continues to hold the school in high regard and he has examined, fairly extensively, the significance of the legacy of the school in relation to its continuing academic successes. His perceptions on the spirit and the legacy of the school are distinctive and sometimes have surprising dimensions. The author has attempted to relate the influences of the unique period, the pre-WW2, the WW2 and post-war years, to the quality of the subsequent relationships which developed among the alumni



from those years. This book contains likely the only first-hand history of what life was like in dormitory at Naparima College in the 1940s. It was the only boys' high school residence on the island and it played an essential and significant role in the training and development of the rural students until it ceased in 1960. The Cambridge Higher School Certificate Class, ("HC"), was also the only co-educational high school class on the island at that time. This sociological break-through, occurring particularly at a religious missionary school, reflected the forward-thinking, the author claims, of the unique cultures and perspectives of the communities that influenced the school - that of the Indians and the Canadian missionaries.

The author, Dr. Clarence Madhosingh, was a 1950 Cambridge Higher School Certificate graduate from Naparima College and is a retired federal research scientist and university professor, who now resides in Ottawa, Canada. The foreword in the book is written by Mrs. Zalayhar Hassanali, former First Lady of Trinidad and Tobago and a Naparima College classmate of the author.

The book has 305 pages with 15 colour plates, printed on quality eco-friendly 70lb paper. The cover picture represents a 1946 Naparima sunset scene from a recent acrylic painting by the author.

The book may be purchased for \$35.00 in Canada plus postage, from the author, who may be contacted at: clarencemadhosingh@hotmail.com



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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Email: congencanada@foreign.gov.tt Website: www.ttcgtoronto.gov.tt

TOR: CON: 5/1/1

05 April, 2016

Trinidad and Tobago Organisations
Toronto

Dear Sir/Madam,

Entry Requirements for Holders of International Travel Documents

The Consulate General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago will be grateful if the following information from the Immigration Division of Trinidad and Tobago could be conveyed to your members.

- (i) With effect from 24th November, 2015 only Machine Readable Travel documents will be accepted for travel into and out of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.
- (ii) **Exception to entry and departure requirements:**
 - (a) Holders of Non-Machine Readable Laissez-passer Travel Documents will be allowed entry on presentation of their National Machine Readable Passport.
 - (b) Citizens of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago who are not in possession of a Machine Readable Passport can enter the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago with an Emergency Certificate or a Republic of Trinidad and Tobago Non-Machine Readable Passport, with prior permission from the Immigration Division.
 - (c) In cases of bona fide emergency situations, travellers who are CARICOM Nationals “only” will be allowed to enter and depart the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago using Emergency Travel Documents. However, prior permission **must** be sought and obtained from the Chief Immigration Officer, Deputy Chief Immigration Officer or Assistant Chief Immigration Officer.
 - (d) Travellers who enter the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago with a Machine Readable Passport and subsequently lost it will be allowed to depart the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago with an Emergency Travel Document.

Yours sincerely

Consul General (Ag.)



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