

# Artefacts

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Barbados Museum & Historical Society | July 2018

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## Recently at the Museum...

Historians and sports commentators spoke about cricket in our lecture series, **Fire in Babylon: Cricket as Popular Culture**.



Eleven students from the Graydon Sealy Secondary School completed the **Heritage Champions** pilot programme, where they decided how they wanted to engage with history. (They had lots of fun.)

We held the "**Barbados Museum & Historical Society and Science North Made in Canada Film Festival**". Four films highlighted the importance of the natural environment.

We celebrated **International Museums Day (Week!)** with workshops & lectures. Plus, 6 contemporary artists put works in the galleries reacting to and commenting on our island's history.

Left: Adrian Richards "King"



Local craftspeople sold delightful items at **Craftworks**. Pictured here is Cher Antoinette with her "C-Toi" line. Several people came out to enjoy the fashion show, local entertainment, and kids' zone.

Teachers from Virginia visited the Museum. They previously assisted us with our work on Panama.

The **Annual General Meeting** took place on Friday, 15 June. Welcome our new Council Members: Ms Denese Nichols and Mr Lloyd Powlett. Many thanks to Mr Ashwell Thomas, who has stepped off the Council, for his long service.

The **Genealogy Group** went on a bus tour.

Three students learned about 3D Photogrammetry in our **3D Archiving Summer Intensive**.

The **Changing Face of the Barbadian Landscapes** exhibition showed several people how Barbados looked in the past. Stay tuned for news on our bus tour!

Six **junior curators** joined the team for the summer! Thank you to **Bridgetown Cruise Terminals Inc.**, **Republic Bank Ltd**, **City of Bridgetown Cooperative Credit Union Ltd**, and **RLM Leasing Inc.** for supporting our junior curators.

# She Sells Seashells...

The Assistant Curator of Natural History, Kerron Hamblin, tells us about the upcoming exhibition *She Sells Seashells*.

## Why did you choose the title?

It was a working title and then it stuck. It's very catchy.

## Can you talk a little about *She Sells Seashells*?

The exhibition is essentially going to be looking at how seashells are important to the biological and geological makeup of beaches and how they're important in human culture. We're going to look at seashells throughout the collection, not just looking at natural history but Amerindian history, sport, religion, food, lifestyle—and essentially trying to showcase why we are using certain shells and why they're important to those specific areas.

Looking at seashells throughout Barbadian culture—what I also plan to do is anywhere in the galleries where there are shells, have panels highlighting those specific shells. If not, linking to the culture of where the shells are found. So that the shells that you sort of pass by and don't really notice, you have a chance to look at them.

The attached programmes will include a chance to see the reef up close and personal.

## Why did you want to do *Seashells*?

Really, to bring awareness of climate change.

## What do you hope people learn from *Seashells*?

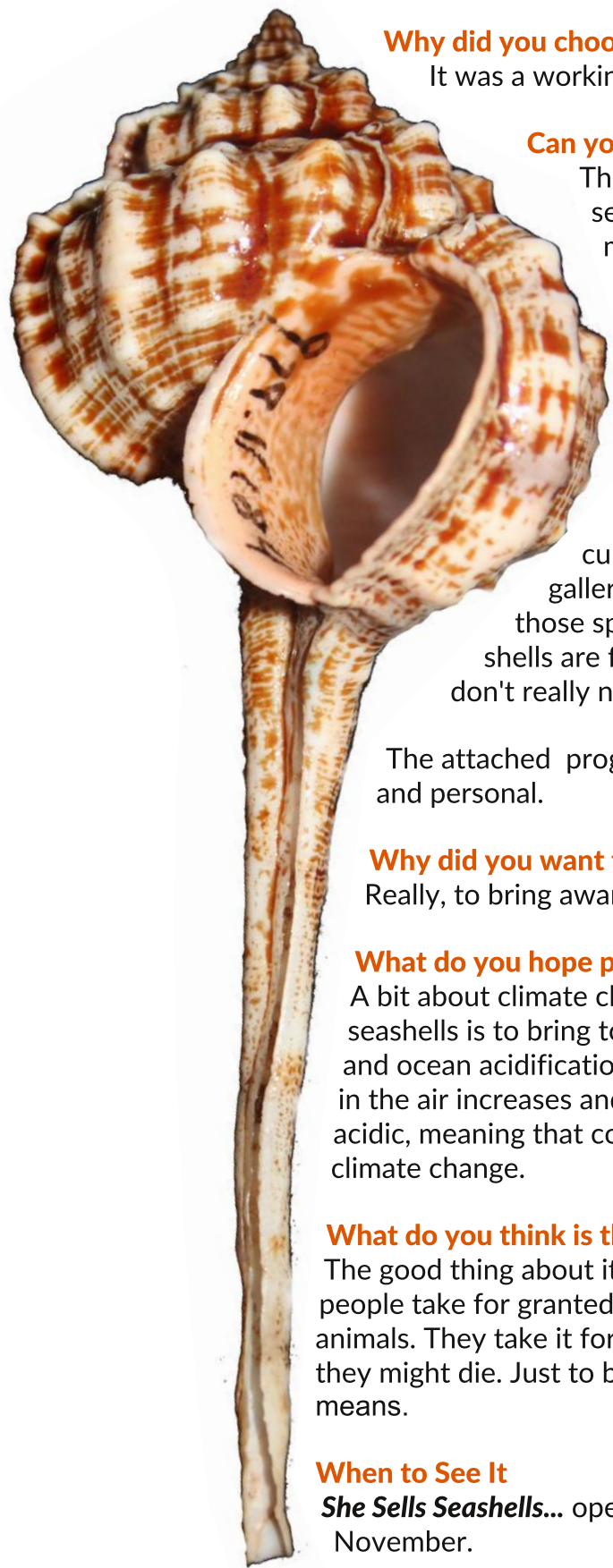
A bit about climate change. The whole reasoning behind highlighting seashells is to bring to light the importance of the threat of climate change and ocean acidification. As the temperature gets warmer and carbon dioxide in the air increases and permeates the oceans, leading them to be more acidic, meaning that corals and shells have a weakness in structure. It's about climate change.

## What do you think is the most interesting thing about *Seashells*?

The good thing about it is that there are a lot of things about seashells that people take for granted. People just think shells, people don't think these are animals. They take it for granted they will just be there, but if oceans acidify, they might die. Just to bring that awareness to people and show what it all means.

## When to See It

*She Sells Seashells...* opens 20 August and ends in November.



# Artefacts Online

Want to see an artefact but can't make it to the Museum? If you have Internet access, our 3D Photogrammetry project might help.

3D Photogrammetry uses multiple photographs to create 3D models of artefacts. The Museum works with the European Union – Latin America & the Caribbean (EU-LAC) Virtual Museums projects to make this technology available in the Museum and connect with other participating institutions internationally.

## 3D Photogrammetry conserves artefacts.

It creates an artefact archive. Plus, we can send digitised archives around the world to get online conservation advice.

## It makes artefacts accessible.

Digitising means you can see our artefacts whenever you want. If you're doing research and need a closer look but can't make it down, our digital archive can help. We can't make every artefact available. And of course, the digital images never live up to the real thing. But if you want to show your 10-year-old niece what a First Peoples Mask looks like at 9 p.m., you can do that.

## Every artefact tells a story.

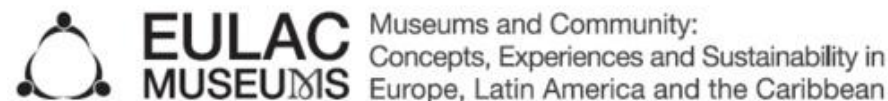
Every artefact has its own story. But there's only so much space in the Museum. And we have 500,000 artefacts in our collection. Digitising artefacts means you can see more of those stories. You can see more than what the Museum can physically display.

*Digitising artefacts allows for multiple narratives to co-exist.*

## Sharing the Technology (With You)

3D Photogrammetry is a useful tool for sharing history. The Museum teaches many to use it. Our Assistant Curator Natalie McGuire shared the techniques with both local students from the Barbados Community College and visiting scholars.

Recently, we finished our pilot summer intensive for students. And we featured a photogrammetry workshop during ICOM Museum Week. So keep an eye out. You too can learn this amazing skill.



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 693669.

How does it work?

## Pick an artefact.

Something small to medium fits our equipment. Matte surfaces work better than shiny ones. Simple shapes work better than complicated ones.

## Photograph it.



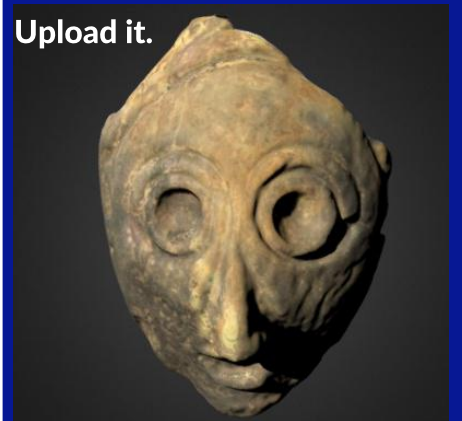
Cameras stand at three heights. Put the artefact on a table. Photograph it several times using one angle. Rotate the object 15 degrees each time. Don't forget the top and bottom! Start over with a different angle.

## Render it.



Through programmes like MeshLab, EU LAC helps us put everything together. Add source photographs. Add meta data, including object description.

## Upload it.



We upload ours to sketchfab. You can see it here: <https://sketchfab.com/eu-lac-3D/collections/barbados-museum-and-historical-society>

# Guardians of our heritage

Every summer, about 8 students come to the Museum to be Junior Curators. The JCs, as we like to call them, spend 8 to 10 weeks learning history and heritage preservation. But what do the JCs do after the programme? That depends. Some teach at universities. Others take corporate positions. And others come back to the Museum...



**Dario Forte**  
Assistant Researcher  
JC Year: 2015

## What did you do as a JC?

I catalogued the natural history collection; conducted tours; did research in the library for the curators; and collected surveys at the airport to find out people's Crop-Over season Experience.

## What was the most important thing that you learned?

Communication—you have to try to have open communication with the people you are working with.

## How does your JC experience help you now?

Harriet [our librarian Harriet Pierce] gave a seminar on "Principles of Research". I apply those techniques to my research today. I also learned how to give tours to dignitaries, and I still do that today.

## Why did you become a Junior Curator?

The guidance counsellor said it was a good idea. I actually enjoyed it and decided to come back as long as they would have me.

## Give a short list of things you did.

I gave tours. I assisted in the development department and with the newsletter, helped out with children's programming, and helped out with Craftworks.

## How does your JC experience help you now?

It taught me how to do the history and interpretation. Ms McGeary helped me bring something to life.



**Klebere Perry**  
Senior Tour Guide  
JC Years: Intermittently  
2006 - 2009



**Zuwena Perry**  
Project Assistant  
JC Years: Intermittently  
2006 - 2011

## Why did you become a Junior Curator?

My guidance counsellor told me to come here. Originally, I didn't have an interest in history, but it helped in ways that I didn't expect: I improved my public speaking, organisation and research. Eventually I grew to love it and what the job entailed.

## What was the most important thing that you learned?

How to be an ambassador for my country. The JC Programme gave me insight into my history and showed me how to promote a heritage site.

## How does your JC experience help you now?

I use basic curatorial skills to do my job: I research artefacts and catalogue them.

# Your Dream Event



You have an event coming up. You can see what you want it to look like in your head. It's a perfectly planned, elegant executed garden event. But every venue you looked at tells you "you have do your event our way." And that's just...not working for you.

Then you remember the Barbados Museum & Historical Society grounds. You love the historical buildings, the peaceful ambiance, the gorgeous gardens. You love how it all comes alive at night. And the friendly staff are a bonus. Yes, you think, this is it. But how do you actually book it? Well, here's your checklist!

## **As Soon As You Decide to Have Your Event**

**Call or email the Barbados Museum & Historical Society.** Our numbers are 538-0201 or 537-9422. You can also email [marketingadmin@barbmuse.org.bb](mailto:marketingadmin@barbmuse.org.bb).

**Speak to a member of the events team.** You'll speak to either Leshay Drayton, Events Coordinator,

or Andrina Cadogan, Admin Assistant - Marketing. Tell them exactly what you are looking for in an event space. They will let you know if you can make it happen at the Museum. They can also help you figure out the costs.

## **Peruse follow-up information.**

After your call, our events team will e-mail you some detailed information. Read it one more time. If you like it, that's great! If not, we wish you the best of luck on your search.

## **As Soon As You Choose Us**

**Make your deposit.** If you pick us, hooray! Make your 15% deposit and pay your caution fee. (The Caution fee is refundable, as long as there's no damage to the grounds or Museum equipment.)

## **One Month Before**

**Make your final venue payment.**

## **By Two Weeks Before Your Event**

**Get your public liability**

## **insurance policy.**

Select an insurance company and get your public liability insurance policy. Let the event staff know who you choose, so they can give you a letter to take to the company.

## **Make sure your licences in order.**

If you are playing recorded music, you need a COSCAP licence. If you are selling alcohol, you need a liquor licence. And if you plan to play loud music, you might need a loud noise licence. Leshay and Andrina can tell you who you should contact for these.

## **One Day Before**

If there are no conflicting events, **bring in your team to set up your event.**

## **Event Day**

**Say hi to Leshay or Andrina,** who will be on hand to ensure that things go smoothly and assist if needed. Most importantly, **enjoy your beautiful event.**

# What's on in...

## JULY

- 2-6** 3D Archiving Summer Intensive
- 6** Beer and Wings  
Kontakt Band partners with BMHS for Beer and Wings Night until Crop-Over ends.  
BMHS | 5.30 p.m.
- 9-13** 3D Archiving Summer Intensive
- 9-20** Summer Art Camp  
Facilitated by Ms Shanika Grimes by Artist Made.
- 9** Junior Curators Begin
- 9** History of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church in the Caribbean  
BMHS | 6.00 p.m.
- 11** West Indians in West Africa: the Barbadian Settlement of Crozierville, Liberia  
BMHS | 6.00 p.m.
- 13** Beer and Wings  
BMHS | 5.30 p.m.
- 14** Shilstone Memorial Library Open  
9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.
- 19** Archiving Oral History Collections  
Genealogy Group  
BMHS | 6.00 p.m.
- 20** Beer and Wings

BMHS | 5.30 p.m.

- 27** Beer and Wings  
BMHS | 5.30 p.m.

- 28** Shilstone Memorial Library Open  
9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

## AUGUST

- 11** Shilstone Memorial Library Open  
9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.
- 20** She Sells Seashells... Exhibition Opens
- 24** Junior Curators End
- 25** Shilstone Memorial Library Open  
9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

## SEPTEMBER

- 8** Shilstone Memorial Library Open  
9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.
- 19** Genealogy Group  
BMHS | 6.00 p.m.
- 22** Shilstone Memorial Library Open  
9.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.

Our schedule is **subject to change**. We frequently add new items. Sometimes scheduling, weather, or acts of God cause us to reschedule or cancel.

Call **538-0201**, check our **Facebook page**, or **check your weekly email** so you don't miss anything!



# Meet our Team

## COUNCIL

Sir Trevor Carmichael  
President

Dr Justin Robinson  
Senior Vice President

Ms Maureen Davis  
Junior Vice President

### Ordinary Members

Dr Henderson Carter  
Mr Charles Holder  
Ms Denese Nichols  
Mr Justin Oran  
Mr Lloyd Powlett  
Mr Geoffrey Ramsay

### Government Appointees

Ms Nicole Alleyne  
Ministry of Tourism and  
International Transport

Ms Andrea Wells  
National Cultural Foundation

Dr Tara Inniss  
University of West Indies

## MUSEUM STAFF

Ms Alissandra Cummins  
Director

Mr Kevin Farmer  
Deputy Director

### Curatorial

Ms Allison Callender  
Curator - Art/Art History

Mr Kerron Hamblin  
Assistant Curator - Natural  
History

Ms Natalie McGuire  
Assistant Curator - Social History  
and Engagement

Ms Angela Boyce  
Registrar

Mr Dario Forte  
Assistant Researcher

Ms Zuvena Perry  
Project Assistant - Global  
Biodiversity Information for  
Development (GBID) Project

### Development

Ms Rhiannon Estwick  
Administrative Assistant -  
Development

### Education

Ms Kaye Hall  
Education and Community  
Outreach Officer

### Facilities

Ms Marcia Griffith  
Administrative Officer - Facilities  
and Security

### Finance

Mr Errol Clarke  
Finance Officer

Ms Jacqueline Cumberbatch  
Administrative Assistant -  
Accounts

### Library

Ms Harriet Pierce  
Librarian

### Commercial & Marketing

Ms Leshay Drayton  
Marketing Officer (Acting) and  
Events Coordinator

Ms Andrina Cadogan  
Administrative Assistant -  
Marketing

Ms Kandacey Rollock  
Receptionist/Shop Assistant

Ms Myka Payne  
Receptionist/Shop Assistant  
(Part-Time)

Ms Klebere Perry  
Senior Tour Guide

Ms Elizabeth Hinds  
Tour Guide (Part-Time)

Ms Melanie Bynoe  
Tour Guide (Part-Time)

### Technical & Maintenance

Ms Movita Baptiste  
Support Staff

Ms Merna Bryan  
Support Staff

Ms Sandra Brathwaite  
Support Staff

Mr Leon "Junior" Walters  
Support Staff

Mr Charles Wiggins  
Support Staff

Mr Stephen Layne  
Artisan

Mr Shaquan Inniss  
Apprentice Artisan

Mr Prince Leonce  
Museum Ranger

### At The Exchange (Place of Mystery and Discovery)

Mr Bryan Batson  
Receptionist/Shop Assistant

Ms LeJade Alleyne  
Tour Guide