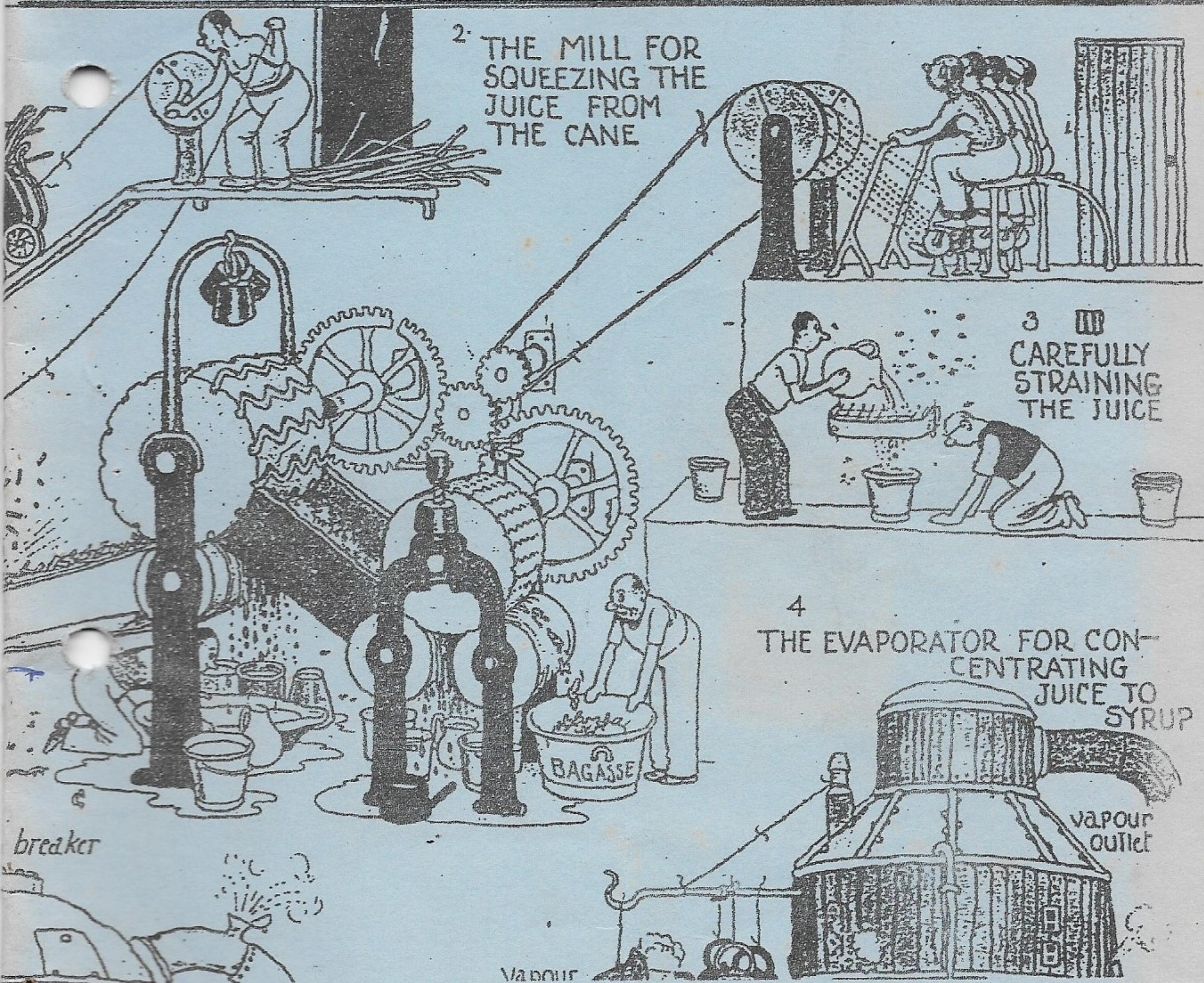


NEWSLETTER

THE BARBADOS MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In this my first message as President of the Barbados Museum and Historical Society, I must first pledge my continued commitment to the development of the Museum and its programs.

We are quickly recognizing that as the Museum expands its activities and solidifies its existing work, greater, more detailed care is required. Accordingly, we have decided to increase and streamline our Sub-committee structure.

Following are the Council's Sub-committees, with a synopsis of their responsibilities, and the committee head.

Committees existing prior to 1990:

1 Exhibitions: Examines portfolios and recommends artists requesting exhibitions. Miss Alisandra Cummins

2 Staff Conditions: Personnel management and policy. Prof. Woodville Marshall.

3 Publications: Editing and publication of Museum Journal. Dr. Anthony Phillips.

4 Archaeological Legislation: Advises government on need for protective legislation.

5 Shop: Management, production and staffing of Museum Shop. At present, has an expanded body to oversee Shop Development Project. Mrs. Jean Goddard.

Newly Formed Committees

6 Marketing/Public Relations: To publicize museum's community identity; plan and augment marketing strategies and P.R. campaigns; and assist in fund-raising functions. Dr. Trevor A. Carmichael.

7 Financial Management/Corporate Fund-Raising: To provide continuity for the museum's governance and management. To monitor revenues and expenditures, establish management policies, and participate in corporate fundraising activities. Dr. Trevor A. Carmichael.

8 Constitutional Reform/ Membership: To advise Council on the updating of the Museum's Constitution and By-laws. To oversee the management of the membership function and suggest strategies for membership campaigns. Mr. Jack Dear.

9 Policy Management: To recommend operational and framework policies defining the structure and mission of the museum. To give priority to drafting a professional code for Council and staff of the Museum. Mrs. Joyce Gale.

We are looking forward to your active involvement in the business of the Museum, and hope that you are able to help increase our membership and diversify the base of membership recruitment.

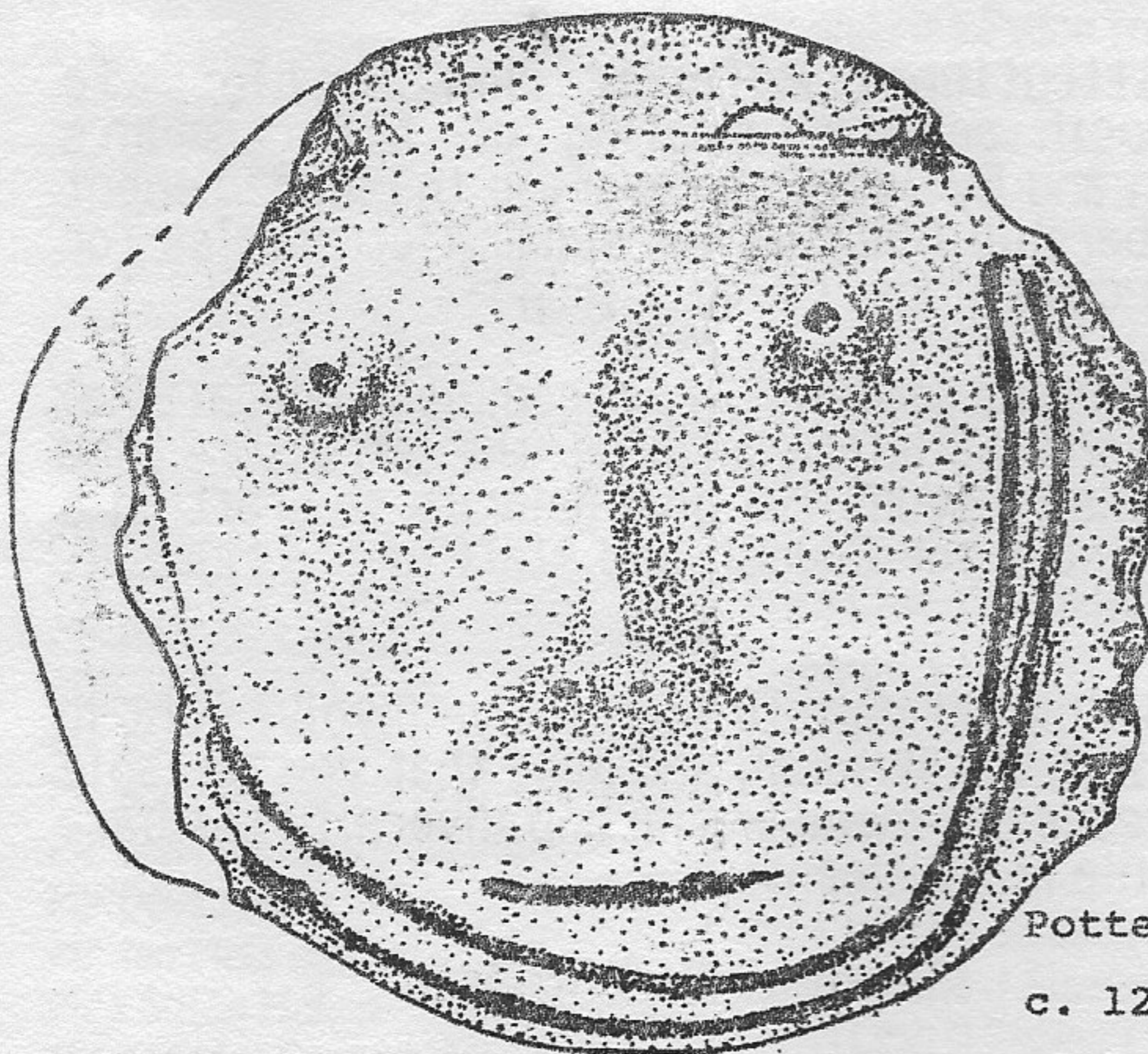
Trevor A. Carmichael

SILVER SANDS EXCAVATIONS

Dr. Peter Drewett, who was recently in the Island, took the opportunity to give an update lecture on the 1989 archeological excavations at the Silver Sands Heritage Park.

Analysis of the ceramic pieces revealed an unusual style which seems to be the craftsmanship of an unconventional ceramist at the Silver Sands site. Unusual features included extensive finger indentations in bowls and items which could either be toys or models of pieces which would be made later.

Several artifacts were also found which indicate various stages in the manufacture of shell tools.



Pottery face plaque,
c. 1200-1400 A.D.

IN MEMORIUM

The sudden death of the late Mr. Mark Hunte is deeply regretted by the Council and Staff of the Barbados Museum and Historical Society. For many years a staunch supporter of the museum, Mark had served as our Honorary Secretary between 1977-1987. His knowledge of Caribbean Art served Barbados well on many occasions and his abiding interest created the highly successful **Caribbeana** Exhibition which contributed so much to our knowledge of this subject. Mark had also been in the forefront of the development of the museum's collections. His contribution will not be forgotten.

It is difficult to add to the tributes paid to one so widely loved and respected as Lady Grace Adams. Born into a colonial, Edwardian society, she saw and participated in Barbados' growth into a modern nation.

Cherished by family, friends and colleagues for her integrity, her keen wit, her intelligence and graciousness, she was a tower of strength to all who knew her.

Wife of one Prime Minister, mother of another, she supported them loyally in victory and defeat, and bore their loss with dignity and fortitude.

The council and staff of the museum wish to express their sense of loss at her death; and yet of gratitude for a long and well-lived life, for which our society is the richer.

MUSEUM EDUCATION ENTERS THE '90'S

The museum's Education Officer and docents began a busy term with a **January workshop**. As well as planning and scheduling for the term, they enjoyed Curator Lesley Whatley's presentation **Biography of an Artifact**; Lesley took the group behind the scenes and through the stages of documentation and processing each artifact undergoes. The docents went on to a term of 45 gallery classes, teaching 1439 children.

For six weeks in Feb/March, the museum hosted a **workshop for trainee art teachers** from Barbados Community College. Participants explored the educational resources of the museum, and learnt object-based techniques to enhance their teaching skills. The group finished their six Fridays with two volunteer sessions, helping the museum with its research and cataloguing. This is the second year this program has been offered, and it seems likely to become a fixture.

Planning has also begun for a museum **day camp for hearing-impaired children**. A small trial camp will be offered in the Easter holidays, and funding is being sought for the projected two-week summer camp.

Construction is on-schedule in the **Children's Gallery**, despite such setbacks as discovering the building is riddled with termites. We have slain the monsters, and have now almost completed the exhibit panelling and the three-house "village" the gallery will house.

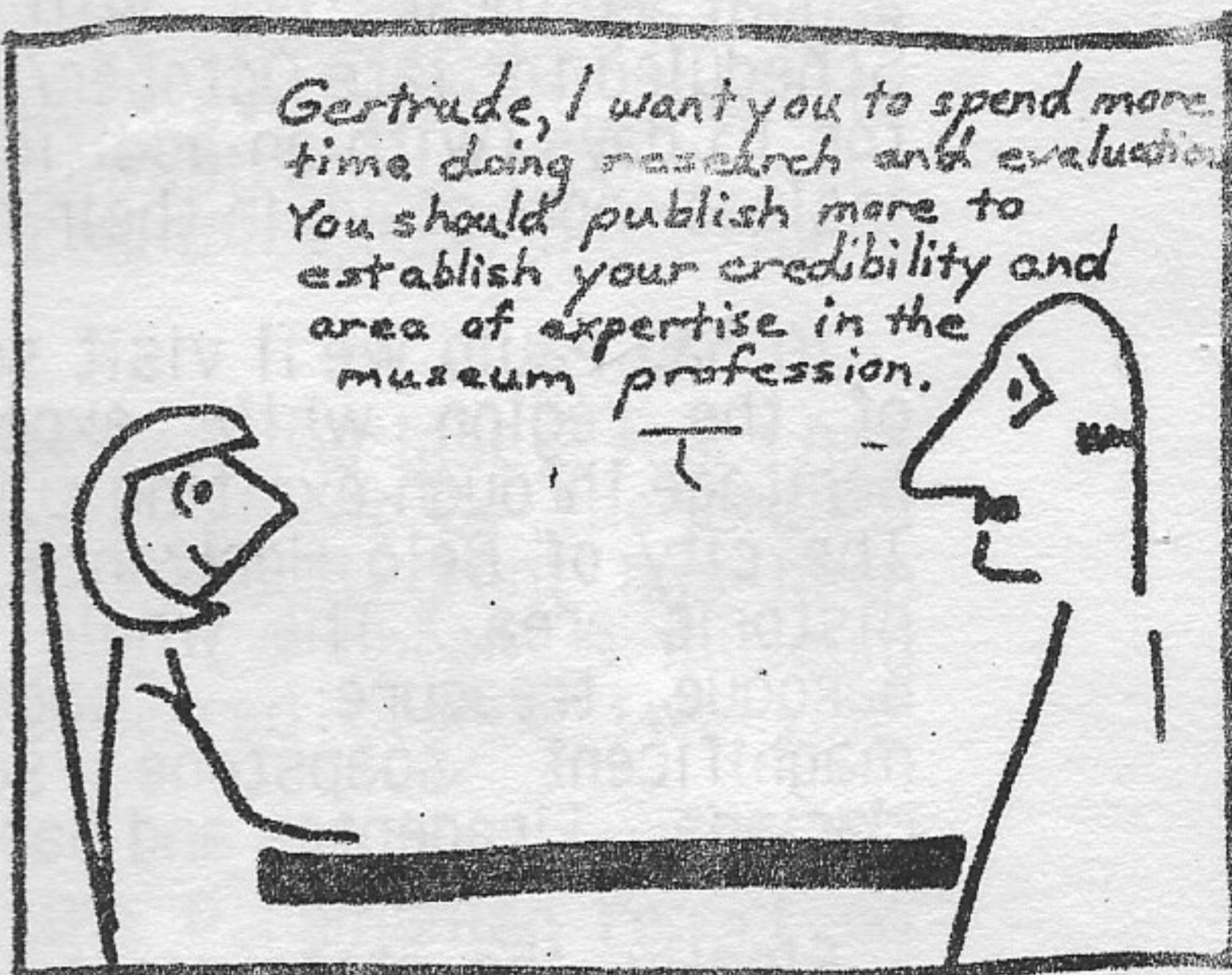
Also near completion are two longstanding projects, one to make the museum **wheelchair-accessible**, the other to replace our hodgepodge of signs with an attractive, legible **signage system**.

We are most grateful to Mr Patrick Cozier, of Sissons Paint, for the gift of eight gallons of paint to the Children's Gallery. When generous members give gifts in kind, it brings the construction costs way down.

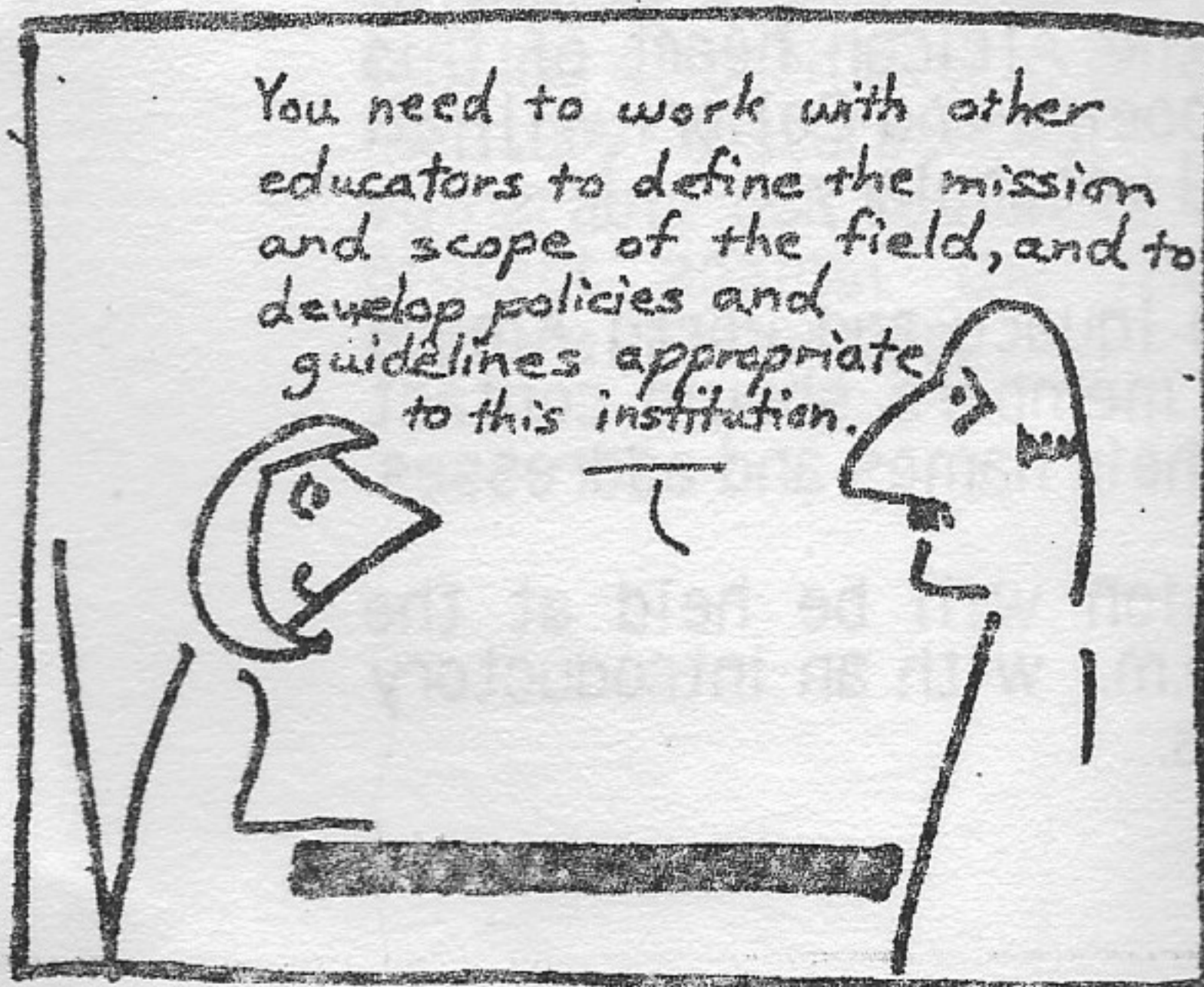
GERTRUDE

MUSEUM EDUCATOR

Gertrude, I want you to spend more time doing research and evaluation. You should publish more to establish your credibility and area of expertise in the museum profession.



You need to work with other educators to define the mission and scope of the field, and to develop policies and guidelines appropriate to this institution.



By the way, attendance statistics are levelling off, so first you better get cracking with some new school programs and special events.



COVER: A fragment from W. Heath-Robinson's vision of sugar manufacturing, one of his many inspired, elaborate and ludicrous inventions which take the ridiculous to sublime heights.

MUSEUM ADVENTURES, 1990

Here is the news you've been waiting for! Our fourth annual cultural tour will be to Brazil this year. Scheduled for late October/November, the tour will be for 13 days (with an additional 4-day option), and will include short stays in their major cities.

In Sao Paulo we'll visit some of the great museums of the region while experiencing a rich cultural heritage through exciting cuisine and performance arts. The city of Belo Horizonte is the centre of a major historic area. The whole town of Ouro Preto is a baroque treasure; Congonhas is home to the magnificent soapstone sculpture of Aleijadinho Mariana; Tiradentes and Sabara will also merit a visit.

Finally, the state capital, Salvador, is a colourful festive city, which remains the African heart of this Latin country. Candomble, capoeira and Colibri will all be new words for your cultural vocabulary.

An additional 4 day tour to Iquacu and Porto Alegre will be optional. Interested members should contact the Museum's office to leave their names and addresses.

A special orientation session will be held at the museum on 2nd May at 5:00 p.m., with an introductory talk, a video and refreshments.

MUSEUM ADMINISTRATION AND THE WINDS OF WAR

ICOM (International Council of Museums) recently held a meeting on museum administration in Costa Rica. Over 50 participants from 17 Latin America and the Caribbean countries attended.

Barbados was represented by MAC's (Museums Association of the Caribbean) president, Alissandra Cummins, who gave a well-received address, **The Role of MAC in Regional Museum Development**. Reports and papers on museum administration issues were given by all participating countries, and made for a most successful meeting.

Filling in myriads of forms over the last 2 years has finally paid off in the announcement by the UNDP's project director that a \$350,000US grant has been approved. This grant, for Caribbean museum development, will be administered over a two year period.

An alarming event was the Panamanian report on extensive damage done to their museums, including looting of prehistoric gold jewellery, during the recent military disturbances. The damage highlights how vulnerable our region is without proper legislation to protect against the illegal sale and transport of cultural materials.

ENVIRONMENTAL LECTURE SERIES

Since 1988, the Barbados Museum has co-sponsored an ongoing series of lectures with the Barbados Environmental Association. Though primarily focussing on local environmental issues, the series has included revealing glimpses at international issues.

We encourage all our readers to become more involved in the series, which often includes slide presentations and a forum for stimulating discussion. Lectures are held on the second Tuesday of each month.

To give readers an overview, here is a rundown of the series so far:

1988

- Geology and the Barbados Environment
- Environmental Planning and its Implications for the Caribbean
- Coastal Erosion
- Conservation and Pollution of Gullies
- Pesticide Use in Barbados

1989

- Environmental features from Zambia to Egypt, including water supply and sanitation
- Sea Turtle Conservation in the Caribbean
- Environmental Impact Assessment of Sewage Outfalls
- Biological Control of Pests
- A Changing Barbadian Environment
- Marine Pollution and Shipping
- Soil Erosion and Conservation
- Coral Reefs of West Africa
- The Environment and Alternative Energy
- Disposal of Toxic Waste and its Threat to the Caribbean

1990

The Effect of Surface Waste Disposal on Ground Water

Problems of Garbage Disposal faced by the SSA

Environmental Initiatives in the Caribbean

Environmental Economics and sustained Development

And for the rest of the quarter:

March 28 *(a Wednesday) **Journey to the Lost World of Roraima** (Guyana): John Warrington

April 9th | **Local Plants that are Pests or Parasites** :Keith Laurie

May 8 **Physical Planning and Environmental Management:** Lionel Nurse

June 12 **Environmental Legislation:** Glenda Medford

EARTH DAY

22 April 1990

Become involved !!!

Tune into the media
for details.



LIBRARY NEWS

It has been a busy year for Librarian Betty Carillo-Shannon. The library serves as the bibliographic centre of the Museum. It purchases new books, borrows material from other libraries on inter-library loans, maintains subscriptions to scholarly and professional journals, and catalogues new holdings into the library collection.

Betty is also resource person for the ongoing stream of researchers, students and scholars who use the library.

The library, closed for stock-taking since Nov. 20, 1989, reopened on January 8th.

Professional Development was not neglected, despite a busy schedule, and Betty attended the CARBICA Conference, **Archives and National Development**, reported in Newsletter 28, as well as a Library Association seminar, **Personal Motivation**, conducted by Dr. Rudi Webster, on Nov. 2.

Two of Betty's valued volunteers, Mrs. Horn and Mrs. Fogg, have returned to England. They are greatly missed; if any readers with research/ library/ clerical skills would like an interesting morning volunteer position, please phone the museum office.

MEMBERS AND INVITATIONS

Help us improve our service!

We try to invite each of our members to a museum event once a year. But we're not mind readers, and we know some names fall through the cracks.

If there is a particular kind of event you'd enjoy attending, would you send back the accompanying tear-off? We can then flag your name, and ensure you are invited to an appropriate event.

Name	Address	Phone	DATE	EVENT	CHOICE
			May?	Opening of Administration block	()
			Aug.	Winston Kellman Exhibition, Watercolours	()
			Oct.	Annalee Davis Exhibition, Prints and Drawings	()
			Dec.	Stanley Greaves Exhibition, Ceramics	()
			Jan. 1991	Dennis de Caires Exhibition, Paintings	()
			Feb	Sharon Oran Exhibition, Multi Media	()
			March	United States Information Service I Dream a World: Portraits of Black Women who changed America	()

If we held a **Meet the staff and council** social event, would you like to attend? ()

EXHIBITS TEMPORARY AND PERMANENT; BEGINNING THE DECADE

February saw Lilian Nicholson's **Mas Vibes-Rituals of Life**. The timely theme of Lilian's exhibit was Carnival, Mas Sacred and Mas Profane. Carnival, she sees as "a purifying rite, moving from the Mud, Sweat and Beers of Jouvvert Morning through a riot of colours and ecstasy of pan into the gentle glow of last lap and the ashes of Wednesday morning."

Mas Vibes was followed by Sylvia Bews-Wright's **Dear Christine...**, which conveys paradoxes of a different sort. Beautiful young women lounging on a beach are juxtaposed against the chilling letters of ill-treatment that turn up in the tabloids. The sunny public facade, the disturbed inner self... The exhibition ends in early April.

And thence from inner explorations to national statements. The British High Commission has organized **Britain Towards 2000**, a photo exhibition, and will feature Britain's innovation in many fields: technology, industry, medicine, urban development and the environment. The exhibition will be accompanied by 30 very realistic replicas of the Crown Jewels. The exhibit will be open April 7-27.

MILITARY EXHIBIT: The **Challenor Gallery** is now reopened with a new display focussing on the island's military history. Closed for over a year, the gallery space was completely renovated to allow access to the new administration block. This gave us the opportunity to rethink the exhibit space, while new display units were built and installed by Museum Technician Dennis McCollin.

The new exhibit was researched and developed by curatorial staff Steve Hackenberger (now returned to the US) and Lesley Whatley, with the able assistance of local historians Warren Alleyne and Peter Campbell.

Objects from the Museum's collection of militaria, including ceramics, silver, uniforms, and prints were carefully selected to complement the text. Education Officer Wendy Donawa devised a useful time-line of events from early settlement till the end of World War II

The new display has little resemblance to the previous one, as its objectives are somewhat different. It is presenting a broad historical overview, for a more general, less specialized audience than before.

For volunteers with military interests, see below.

VOLUNTEER POSITIONS OPEN

Like the devil, the museum can find work for idle hands. Here are some interesting positions we would be glad to fill:

Fine Arts Curator Lesley Whatley needs a volunteer with research skills to assist with the cataloguing of the military collection.

Director Alissandra Cummins needs a researcher for a numismatic exhibition. Interested readers need not be experts on coins, but should have research skills and own transport.

Librarian Betty Carillo-Shannon would welcome volunteers with clerical/ research and/or library skills.

Natural History Curator Philippa Newton needs a volunteer to work with her organizing Natural History clippings into meaningful files. This project would be pleasant for someone with environmental interests, and probably take about 40 hours to complete.

Education Officer Wendy Donawa would welcome a volunteer with basic computer skills (we have a Macintosh Plus) who could help get all the dolls and toys on computer. A morning a week or once a fortnight would be a big help. She would also be glad of an assistant with research and interview skills to

research traditional Barbadian crafts (blacksmith, wheelwright, tinsmith, caning, pottery, early printing and typesetting etc). Own transport not essential, but an asset.

Interested? Phone Education Officer 427-0201.

NUMISMATICS FOR THE CENTRAL BANK

The Central Bank of Barbados has recently contracted the museum to develop and install a permanent numismatic (coin) display for the Bank's lobby.

The display will highlight the historical development of currency and trade in the Caribbean, with a focus primarily on Barbados.

It is hoped to display specimens of coins and paper currency from the Bank's collection. However, we may have to approach other institutions and private collectors for rare and early Caribbean pieces.

The Bank also plans to have a separate display unit with sets of commemorative coins for sale to the public.

We are seeking assistance from various collectors and/or owners who may have early Spanish coins, Barbadian tokens, weighing scales etc. in their possession.

NEW MEMBERS

Life

Mrs Moira Elias
Mr Daniel J Erech
Mrs Wendy Kidd
Mr A K McIntosh
Mrs Angela J Melville
Mr Erskine Rose

Annual

Mrs Pearl Agriss
Mr and Mrs R J Anderson
Mr Michael Beckles
Mrs Margaret Anne Belgrave
BICO Ltd
Dr Elaine G Breslaw
Ms Patricia Byer-Dunphy
Miss Winifred J Cumberbatch
Mr Martyn J Dowden
Mr and Mrs Paul Carrington
Mr and Mrs Michael Cox
Mr and Mrs Patrick Cozier
Rev William Dixon
Dr Wilfred dos Santos
Dr and Mrs Christopher Everard
Mr Derek Gale
Miss Mervi Hietanen
Mr and Mrs Norman W Hunt
Mr Francis Kelley
Ms Claire W Kennedy
Mr and Mrs Frank Hein
Mr and Mrs Perry Lerner-Henzell
Mr and Mrs Larry Hewlett
Mr Dave Layne
Mr Ian McGregor
Mrs Susan Mahon
Mr and Mrs Oswald Massiah
Ltc E S Milligan

Miss Kathleen Moore
Ms Mia Mottley
Miss Sharon Oppen
Ms Jeanette Ottley
Mr and Mrs Charles Pilgrim
Mr and Mrs Robert Posner
Mrs Jean S Ramsey
Miss Cheri-Ann P Sealy
Mr David J H Slater
Ms Jeanette Springer
Mr Chris St John
Dr and Mrs V S St John
Mr Alan Sullivan
Ms Veronica R Thomas
Dr Ethel Tobach
Mrs Annette Trotman
Mr Wilson Wade
Mr and Mrs Pedro Welch
Miss Helen Wentworth-Linton
Mrs Constance Younglao

JUNIOR

Mr Daniel Bethell
Miss Katrina Chandler
Miss Lisa Chandler
Miss Michelle Chandler
Miss Natalie Chandler
Miss Claire D Howton
Miss Julia Massiah
Miss Jacqueline Massiah
Miss Nicole Massiah
Miss Joan M. Phillips
Mr Corey Sandiford
Miss Natalie Sandiford
Miss Helena J Stewart
Miss Leah O Stewart
Miss Radha M Stewart
Mr Ian M. Weekes

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- | | |
|------------|--|
| April 6-30 | Britain Toward 2000 Exhibition |
| April 9th | BEA lecture Local Plants that are Pests or Parasites Mr Peter Laurie 7:30 pm |
| April 11 | Philatelic Society 7:30 pm |
| April 13 | Museum Closed (Good Friday) |
| April 16 | Museum Closed (Easter Bank) |
| April 22 | Earth Day 1990 |
| April 24 | CCA lecture Management of the Coastal Environment Dr Leonard Nurse 8:00pm |
| May 2 | Meeting re museum tour to Brazil 5:00pm |
| May 8 | BEA lecture Physical Planning and Environmental Management Dr Leonard Nurse 7:30 pm |
| May 9 | Philatelic Society 7:30 |
| May 13-19 | Cultural Heritage Week |
| May 18 | International Museum Day |
| May 29 | CCA lecture (to be announced) 8:00pm |
| June 4 | Museum closed (Whit Monday) |
| June 5 | World Environment Day |
| June 12 | BEA lecture Environmental Legislation Ms Glenda Medford 7:30 pm |
| June 13 | Philatelic Society 7:30 pm |
| June 26 | CCA lecture Disaster Preparedness-Do We Take it Seriously Enough? Ms Judy Thomas |

THE BARBADOS MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ST. ANN'S GARRISON, BARBADOS, W.I.

Telephone 427-0201
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ON SERVICE

