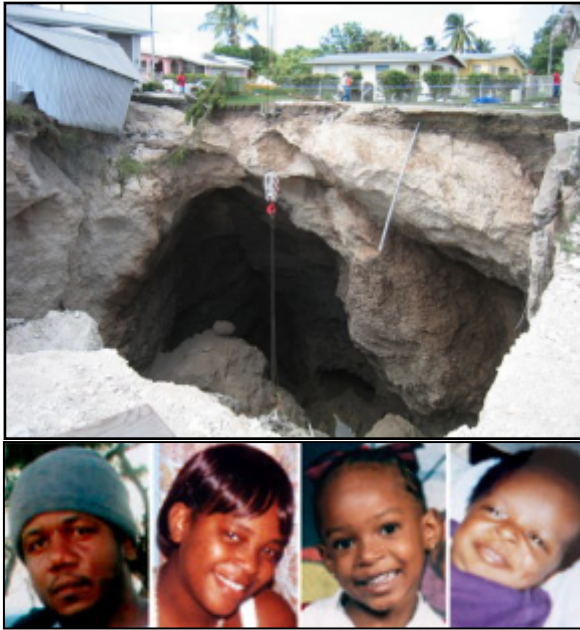


# PING YARK

## THE ARCH COT TRAGEDY



WHO'S TO BLAME ?

Sign our petition for a **PUBLIC ENQUIRY** [here.](#)

To contact us write to : Ping Yark c/o 127 Violet Lane Croydon CR0 4HL  
Email: pingyark@hotmail.com  
Phone 0208 239 9545 - Text / Mobile 07775 824832 - Facebook  
Ping Yark is edited by Leigh Bourne



# Codrington Family Deaths Caused By Gross Negligence... at least !

Not only has all investigative journalism gone missing - the Nation and Advocate newspapers seem to be just paying lip service to the Arch Cot cave in tragedy - rumour has it that two commissioned reports, one preliminary and one final, were completed and submitted but have subsequently -and some say predictably -gone missing.

The Codrington family were killed when their home collapsed into a known cave system. According to a report on [Barbados Free Press](#) as far back as the sixties permission to build on the land was refused because of the caves. Within days of the tragedy and prior to any enquiry into the incident a minister announced to the world that no one was to blame for the tragedy - this was dutifully printed in the local press. Since then no official statements have been made.

But there is a **Town and Country Development Planning Office** (TCDPO), it 'regulates' all building projects on the island and have a stated process. After acceptance the application goes through various stages before a decision can be issued. During the processing, the Chief Town Planner is required to make consultations. After all that, **application fees have to be paid and a site inspection made BEFORE work could begin.**

A building was under construction at the time of the cave in - a few weeks prior to the incident a deep hole appeared - eventually a week or so later work stopped but only for four days - then resumed.

The main questions here are - **which company was doing the construction ? What was being constructed ?**

Next door is a **flow chart showing the planning application process** - it was copied from the TCDPO website.

**FRONT DESK**

**OUTER REGISTRY**

**PLANNING STUDIO**

**INNER REGISTRY**

**SENIOR PLANNING ASSISTANT**

**PLANNING ASSISTANT**

**ASSISTANT TOWN PLANNER/  
TOWN PLANNER**

**SENIOR TOWN PLANNER**

**CHIEF TOWN PLANNER**

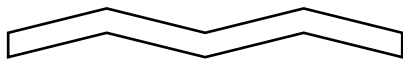
**MINISTER**

**Yet astonishingly to date, no paperwork can be found relating to that construction site. Lost - officials say. How the hell is that possible ? Is someone being protected ? Who has that kind of clout ?**

**It won't bring the family back - but blame should be apportioned and punishments administered - if you agree then join us in our demand for a full public enquiry.**

[CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS.](#)

# THIS IS THE VERY TIME WHEN CARICOM/CSME SHOULD BE REACTING WITH CONFIDENCE AND CONVICTION.



Yet, we have not had a single summit to deal specifically with the global crisis, rising commodity prices or the breakdown in financial regulations.

The one thing that the global financial meltdown calls for is a new regulatory architecture. So, **if the government of Barbados really wants to attract overseas investments – whether it is Barbadians living overseas or just investors looking for safe investments with high returns – then it has to put in place a robust regulatory framework. This is not the case at present.**

Further, if it wants **Barbadians living overseas, through sentiment more than good investment common sense, to invest in Barbados**, it has to reform the Central Bank Act to allow people to move money across jurisdictions without the unnecessary red tape and restrictions.

Let us take a simple example. **Most overseas Barbadians who want to open bank accounts in Barbados will walk in to a bank and sign the necessary papers then make a deposit. In so doing, they immediately restrict the amount of money they can withdraw in foreign currencies, even the currency of the original deposit.**

However, the average European or North American investing in Barbados will take legal advice and the first thing they will be told would be to get central bank approval for their investment which allows them to remove the money without any restrictions. This will have to be reformed.

**Also, the investment vehicles – venture capital, collectives or equities – will have to offer attractive incentives nearly if not exactly comparable to those offered in the investors' country of residence.**

Then there will be a need for greater transparency, good fund management and good corporate governance – you cannot have a chief executive of an investment vehicle with his father as chairman as is the case in Barbados. Then, of course, there is investor protection. **Depositors and investors in Barbados do not have any government or insurance protection. They bank at their own risk. If the bank goes bankrupt investors run the risk of losing their life savings, the government has no legal obligation to intervene.**

## THIS HAS TO CHANGE.

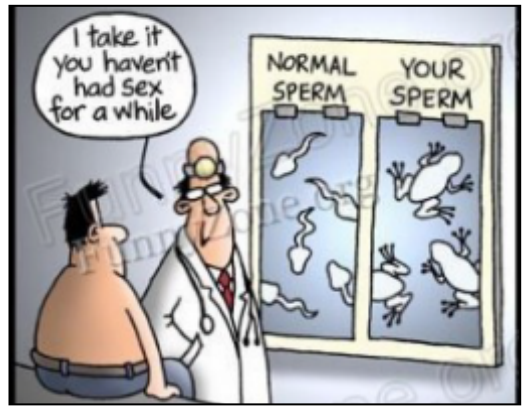
**(Stolen from an article by Hal Austin - Senior Editor at the Financial Times Adviser)**

A local farmer got into his pickup and drove to a neighbouring farm and knocked on the farmhouse door. A young boy about nine years old opened the door.

"Is your Dad home?" asked the farmer  
"I really want to talk to him ...It's about your brother Greg getting my daughter pregnant."

The boy froze but he thought for a while, then he said,

"He's not here right now but you can come back later - if it helps you any, I know Dad charges three hundred a time for the bull and a hundred and fifty for the pig..... I haven't got a clue what he gets for our Greg though."



The man took his underpants off - his girlfriend looked at him and said, "I thought you said you had at least a foot".  
"No I didn't", he replied, "I said I had Athletes Foot".



Girl says to her hairdresser, "My boyfriend's got terrible dandruff, can you suggest anything to give him".

Why don't you try Head and Shoulders", says the hairdresser. The girl thought for a moment. "Oh great idea, errr... how do you give Shoulders" .?



There was a young man called Dave,  
Who dug up a prostitutes grave,  
She was mouldy and gritty,  
With only one titty.  
But look at the money he saved.

Being chased by a bunch of kids in Ilford, Quasimodo was heard to shout:  
"I haven't got your f\*\*\*\*g ball!"



**T**uesday 27th  
January  
2009 - 09.30  
am and the muesli  
tasted exactly like  
what it resembled -  
cardboard. Who-  
ever invented the  
stuff want shoot-

ing - then on opening an email headed  
**'Barbadian Democracy at Risk'** the  
chewing slowed then stopped com-  
pletely. In brief the message was -  
**Freelance journalists (FLJ) in Barba-**  
**dos will now all have to be registered.**  
Wuh? was quickly followed by -Why?  
Why would the government want to  
keep a register of FLJ? What exactly is  
a FLJ? Which government department  
or individual will police the register?  
What are the penalties for failing to do  
so? What legislation or regulations  
apply that would be breached?

As far as we can make out - no such  
framework exists. So, the only thing  
left is an ulterior motive - does the  
government have one?

**Well to be honest, whether they do or**  
**don't, nobody should give a flying**  
**pupp?** The explosion of blogs, the  
access to - and the speed, ease and  
exchange of information worldwide



renders what-  
ever imposi-  
tion any  
government  
makes point-  
less. **Can't get**  
**a letter printed in the local newspa-**  
**per? - then publish it in cyberspace**

as has been done numerous  
times on blogs like the [Bar-](#)  
[bados Free Press!](#)



However you look at it and  
taking into account the ab-  
sence of a detailed explana-  
tion - **this fee-based registration**  
**requirement appears to be nothing**  
**more than a poorly disguised attack**  
**on free speech.**

When it comes to registration the gov-  
ernment should take a look at creating  
one for :

- All lawyers dat teef people mon-  
ey.
- All ministers' business interests  
in Bim and abroad.
- All government preferred /  
owned / construction companies.
- Doctors that should've been but  
never been sued for malpractice
- And register and audit all public-  
ly funded projects and their  
'consultants'.

Interestingly though, [one well known](#)  
[Bim based logger](#) already has a promi-  
nently placed disclaimer stating he is not  
a journalist according to ISO 9002. Oth-  
ers would do well to copy his example.  
Just in case.

**B**arbados' antediluvian libel and  
slander laws reflect an era long  
since passed - yet despite occa-  
sional murmurings mostly from whoev-  
er is in opposition, the likelihood of  
change or modernisation is virtually  
zero. Why? Those laws serve to protect  
the elite and the connected from annoy-  
ances like ... **freelance journalists!**

**READING  
CARNIVAL  
MONDAY  
25th MAY  
2009.**

**The entry and information forms for 2009 are now available on the website.**

**If you want to take part in Reading Carnival as a stall holder, stage performer, mas band, enter a float, or enter the Carnival King or Queen competition - please see the updated forms**

**on our website at :**

[www.readingcarnival.org.uk](http://www.readingcarnival.org.uk)

**Groups and individuals who usually receive copies of the forms in the post will receive them by the end of next week.**

**As always, if you have any comments or suggestions for this year's Reading Carnival, please let us know.**

**Once again, thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you on 25th May.**

**T**he Montpelier Social Club in New Cross have closed their doors and won't reopen again until at least August 2009. This is because the building is being renovated - in the mean time, some uh de fellas are scotching up at a nearby pub .... waiting for that final lick uh paint to dry - and business as normal.

**S**ir Allan Stanford was the object of envy to many - his golden helicopter, his flamboyance, his billions, the jetset life etc etc. Well, apart from the usual human attributes **he and I have at least one thing in common these days. We're both broke.** Poor Sir Allen is destined for mortgage free accommodation and as much soap as he cares to pick up. That said, it remains to be seen whether he makes it to into a court room - rumour has it that much of his personal and business wealth comes from laundering Columbian and Mexican cartel drug money. *An' dem peopl doan mek sport !* Look out for more of the world's richest to follow Sir Allen to the brig. *And listen out for a few Caribbean politicians to be named too !*

**R**esearch suggests that a visa is required to enter the USA for British passports holders who renew in the Caribbean. Put another way - **you would have to queue up like everybody else - pay the non returnable fee and apply for a visa if your UK passport was renewed in Barbados.** You don't need a visa for your UK issued document. Problem? Nah - just renew your passport here rather than anywhere else.

A woman goes to the doctor with a black eye and covered in bruises. "What happened?", asks the doctor. "My husband knocked the shit out of me", she says. "I thought your husband was working away this week", says the doctor. "So did I", says the woman.

At dawn the telephone rings, 'Hello, boss? This is Leroy, the caretaker at your country house.'



'Ah yes, Leroy. What can I do for you? Is there a problem?'

'Um, I am just calling to advise you, boss, that your parrot, he is dead.'

'My parrot? Dead? The one that won the international competition?'

'yes boss, that's the one.'

'Damn! That's a pity! I spent a small fortune on that bird. What did he die from?'

'From eating the rotten meat, boss.'

'Rotten meat? Who the hell fed him rotten meat?'

'Nobody, boss. He eat meat off de dead horse.'

There was a pause. 'Dead horse? Wha dead horse?'



'The thoroughbred, boss.'

'My prize thoroughbred that won the Gold cup?'

'Yes, boss. He dead from pulling **de big heavy** water cart.'

A short pause. 'What water cart?'

'The one we used to put out the fire, boss.'

A short pause 'What f\*\*\*\*g fire?'

'The one at de house, a candle fall down and de curtains ketch light.'

'You telling me my mansion get burn down by a candle?'

'Yes, boss.'

'But electricity at the house!! What was the candle for?'

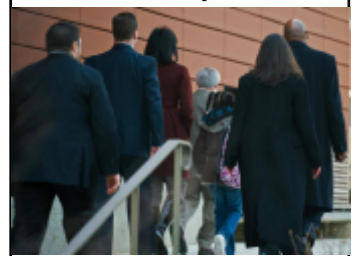
'For the funeral, boss.'

A short pause. 'What f\*\*\*\*\*g funeral ??!'

'Your wife's, boss, she showed up very late one night and I thought she was a thief, so I hit she with a cricket bat, de one Sobers, Lara and Viv sign. Then a really long pause. 'Leroy, if you brek my bat, you in nuff r\*\*h\*\*e trouble'

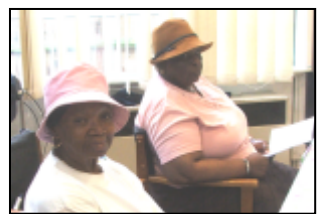


'On November 14, 1960, nearly 42 years ago, Bridges faced hostile crowds as the first black child to attend a previously all-white New Orleans school. She was 6 years old and had only been told by her mother that she was going to be attending a new school that day and 'had better behave.' Little did she know that she would be bombarded with jeers and even death threats, and that she would end up being the sole child in her first grade class after other children were kept home by their parents.' All because Ruby was Black.



Forty-eight years later -- January 5, 2009 -- here is a picture of Sasha Obama, a little 7 year old Black girl, being escorted to school by her mother, First Lady-elect Michelle Obama, and the Secret Service because Sasha's daddy is now President-elect of the United States, Barack Obama:





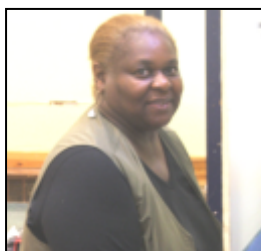
**Winston Pinder.  
Activities  
Committee  
Chair**

Pictured here are the good folk and members of The Dutchpot Lunch and Social Club - London's longest running black elderly project - at 221 to 223

Lanark Road Maida Vale London. The club meets Tuesdays and Wednesdays and is open between 1pm and 4pm. The Dutchpot is a registered charity with a membership of 80 - it costs £6 per year to join and a full (and I mean full) three course lunch costs a mere £3. The club hosts a range of activities including a session at the end of each month to celebrate every birthday that month, and regularly visit other elderly projects in, west and north of the capital.



**Ricky Wharton  
Vice Chair**



**Lillian Gishart  
Project Manager**



**J**ust don't get why some people avoid social network sites like Facebook (FB) or say they would never get involved. **There are more Bajans on FB than any organisation could ever hope to attract** - Plaxo numbers are steadily growing - and other lesser known sites are seeing increasing numbers.

Below is just how useful FB is.

**02.25am and the hotmail pop up box tells me I've got a message from FB - a click revealed a name I didn't recognise asking the question 'Did you go to the Unique High School' (UHS)**

Holy shit !

For the past nearly forty years **the only other person in the world I knew that went to the UHS was my brother** - we have a high school reunion whenever we meet up - Foundation, Harsun Kolige, Combermere, The Modern etc all have associations here and in the USA *the so and so's* - few UK Bajans know of the UHS existence.

Holy shit again !

**About an hour later and after several exchanges it turns out that -**

- ✓ **there is an association in New York -**
- ✓ **they have a growing membership -**
- ✓ **the school is still functioning but is badly in need of repair...**
- ✓ **Are holding a dance in March to raise funds for the school**
- ✓ **Mrs Crawford and Mrs Knights are still there !**

The dance will be held at Nazareth Hall 475 E 58th Street (between Clarendon

Road and Avenue D. Admission is \$35.00. As soon as the necessary info arrives I'll be sending my donation - as I have much to thank them for. Except the occasional cut-ass uh course !

**B**ajan born pop queen Rhianna was hospitalised recently after having a fight with partner Chris Brown. Insiders claim the reason Rhianna's injuries were so extensive is because she couldn't get out de car to find a big rock to lick he down wid !



**T**he most snow we've had in London for eighteen years ! Everything came to a standstill that first day - a foot of snow meant a day off work and school of course - but whilst this level of snowfall and below freezing temperatures **may be normal for Canada and parts of America - we aint used to it !** Sensible people stayed tucked up indoors - only kids, nutters and the emergency services ventured out. **Below is a snap of my three** - you decide if they're **kids** and or just **nutters** !



**A**fter two years of first talking and then planning the 2nd Generation of Barbadians and Friends Association of Birmingham have organised and will be hosting a "**Barbados Day**" on Sunday 12th July 2009 in Solihull Birmingham. The day will consist of cricket, foodstalls, children's entertainment, music and a mini expo of Barbadian products.

Admission £3 children over ten £1

This event is intended to build a stronger Barbadian social and cultural network outside London and to foster awareness of Barbadian products and services that are available in the UK

If you have a product or service that could be of interest to this market be aware that stall places are limited. For further information please send an email to [bdos2g@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bdos2g@yahoo.co.uk)

**R**eports coming in indicate that for some reason, Deputy High Commissioner Donville Johnson has recently been spurred into action. He invited some of our organisations to a hastily arranged meeting and outlined his vision for the future which we're told involves : an initiative to get UK Bajans to sell Barbados- get bums on plane seats so to speak - and rumour has it that none other than former NCBA president Andy Connell will be the man in charge. Now, before wanna go off at the deep end, we sent email enquiries to both the DHC and Mr Connell. No reply from the suddenly active DHC - and Andy

responded saying that he don't respond to rumours !

Apparently also there are plans to have some sort of honours system to reward good work in the community. Yet many feel that Donville has a long long way to go to even begin to address the adverse impression he has made so far. In truth judging by the comments received here and the stories circulating in the community many feel that our Deputy High Commissioner is way way out of his depth. Ooopps - there goes my community award !

That said, any Bring Business to Barbados initiative has to be supported and of course - we at PY will be doing our bit.

**W**e were told one of the main reasons the Bank of Barbados was sold to the Trinidadians was a lack of funds and know how to install technology necessary to bring the bank into the 21st century.

In a move described by financial industry fellas here in London as brilliant - PM David Thompson has announced plans to bring this chunk of the family silver back under Bajan control.

Thing is, the banking processes, compared to what we're used to here, are still primitive. No real tech changes have been made - so some questions arise - mainly - if no change, why was controlling interest in the bank sold ? And - what happened to the proceeds ?

**CONTACT PING YARK**

**[HERE](#)**

A carefully trained suicide bomber fled Iraq and asked the United States government for asylum after choosing mind over martyr.



Any body know...  
who this woman is ??

A bloke goes into the Job Centre in Newcastle and sees a card advertising for a Gynaecologist's Assistant. Interested, he goes to counter and the Job Centre guy "Uh - yes I've had quite a few enquiries about this job. The job entails you getting patients ready for the gynaecologist. You have to help them out of their underwear, lie them down and wash their nether regions, then apply shaving foam and shave off all their pubic hair then rub in soothing oils so they're ready for the gynaecologist's examination. There's an annual salary of £45,000 but I'm afraid you'll have to travel to Oxford."  
"Oh, why - is that where the job's based?"  
"No, that's where the end of the queue is."



this is the last time i buy a keyboard on ebay

I work for the Samaritans. I tried to call in sick this morning but the bastards talked me out of it.

An old girlfriend of mine got a new job recently. It's hard to say what she does... She sells sea shells.....

AMERICAN OPTOMETRISTS ASSOCIATION HAVE DEVELOPED A NEW TEST TO EVALUATE EYE STRENGTH I know it's a small picture but see if you can do it anyway. Can you spot the 44th president of the United States of America on the chart there?



**B**ack in January the Barbados Cultural Organisation donated a sum of £2000.00 to the Olga Lopes-Seale Needy Childrens Fund. The BCO raised the funds through a series of events last summer - a dinner at the Holiday Inn Bloomsbury, a Cricketing Extravaganza in Chiswick and a Christmas Show and Dance at the Bridge Park Community Center.

**T**he BCO also donated one barrel and six large crates containing both adult and children clothing, shoes and toys the majority of which were brand new, and one laptop. And **were it not for the almost extortionate sums the org had to fork out on Health and Safety and Security - a far larger sum would be donated.**

The guys will be more active this year and already have **plans for :**

**14 Jun** - cricket - possibly at Uxbridge

**20 Jun** - dinner/dance - at Bloomsbury

**12 Dec** - Christmas Show & Dance at Bridge park Community. A Social Evening in April, after Easter which would include Bajan quiz, games (dominoes, wari, cards, darts, table tennis) and of course, food and drink will be available.

The group are **planning a "food drive"** for Dame Olga as although clothes are always needed, she has an ample supply and whatever foods we UK Bajans can supply would be greatly appreciated. **A date will be announced soon.**

The org had their AGM on 14 Feb and the following were elected:

Cedric Lynch - **Chairman**

Erold Lashley - Vice chair

Gale Husbands - **Treasurer**

Amanda Barnes - Assistant Treasurer

Sherrill Burton - **Secretary**

Shelley Cox - Assistant Sec

Emmerson Parris - PRO

David Worrell Asst - PRO

Floor members:

Stanford Browne

Anne Humphrey

The children were lined up in the school canteen for lunch. At the head of the table was a large pile of apples and posted on the apple tray was a sign saying: "Take only ONE. God is watching." Moving further along the lunch line, at the other end of the table was a large pile of chocolate chip cookies with a note written by a child that said "Take all you want. God is watching the apples."

**They newly wedded couple were at an Italian Restaurant having dinner when he found a black hair in his spaghetti. He went apeshit, cussed the waiter real bad and asked to see the Manager. As the waiter went for the boss his wife whispered "You weren't too concerned about having hair in your mouth earlier on ." Her hubby replied. " I would have been, if I'd found a piece of f\*\*\*\*\*g spaghetti in there."**



Culture Minister  
Steve Blackett

**O**h dear. Timing is everything and poor old Steve Blackett announced to the world that the Barbados government did not have funds or know-how necessary to repair and or update

the one and only public library on the island and would have to approach the Cubans for assistance. A few days later the government offered \$10 million to CLICO.

There wasn't a follow up to the initial Nation news article of course - that would be too much like journalism, but the [Barbados Free Press article](#) rightly asked why was the minister so quick to go cap in hand to the Cubans? And this came shortly after The PM said he was looking to the Chinese for funding with the St. John Polyclinic and restoring the Empire cinema.

But there are other considerations to be made here. How feasible is to bring the library into the 21st century, wifi and broadband access, computer terminals etc without making major structural changes to the building? And why is there still only one library for over a quarter of a million people anyway? Far better to restore the sorry looking building and keep it as a Bajan book museum or a national monument and construct a suitable building in each parish to house say a dozen computer terminals - its not possible for any library to house books with anywhere near the information available on the internet.

Can you imagine internet access for the entire population? And even with 9 to 5 access restriction and or a fee requirement - a better informed public? Who would want that?



Tuk bands are Barbadian musical ensembles, consisting of a bow-fiddle or pennywhistle flute, kittle triangle and a snare and double-headed bass drum. The kittle and bass drum provide the rhythm, while the flute gives the melody.

In the next issue we been promised an extensive article on our music including references to the Landship, Steel Donkey - down the line ..... Spouge

## *A Business Landmark of the Century*



A new book entitled *British Caribbean Enterprises: A Century of Challenges and Successes* will be released in December 2008, profiling three generations of entrepreneurs and their contribution to the British/UK economy, covering over 200 commercial firms and social enterprises combined. The book covers 11 industry sectors, 70 business segments and is retailed at **£15.99 or \$US30.00** in Paperback/Hardback versions. This publication will benefit businesses, would-be entrepreneurs, students, researchers, policy experts, colleges, universities, think-tanks and others interested in the SME sector. Production details are as follows:

**Author & Publisher:** Dr Christopher A. Johnson (December 2008)  
**ISBN:** 978-0-9561028-1-2

Or order copies of *British Caribbean Enterprises*, from:  
[busbooke591@googlemail.com](mailto:busbooke591@googlemail.com)

### **Review Comments:**

*"The author has provided an invaluable and really comprehensive insight into British Caribbean businesses"* - **Emeritus Fellow, Bill Kirkman MBE, University of Cambridge.**

*"Dr. Johnson's timely book on Caribbean entrepreneurship in Britain addresses an important, yet often neglected topic within the field of ethnic minority enterprise. This book is a valuable addition to the academic and policy community"* - **Professor Monder Ram OBE, Director CREME Initiative, De Montfort University, England.**

*"This book makes an excellent reference resource since the author has dealt with a topic on which very little is known especially in mainstream literature"* - **Professor Sonny Nwankwo, University of East London.**

*"A scholarly work that combines various disciplines such as commerce, culture, demography, geography, politics, sociology and technology located within a British Caribbean context"* - **The Roselle Antoine Foundation.**

*"Congrats to the author on such a timely and splendid work; it is needed to show the contribution of Caribbean people to the UK over a century"* - **Mahogany Arts Ltd**

**THE MODERNITES ASSOCIATION (UK)**  
(FORMERLY THE MODERN HIGH SCHOOL OLD SCHOLARS ASSOCIATION (UK))

UNDER THE DISTINGUISHED PATRONAGE OF  
**H. E. MR HUGH ANTHONY ARTHUR HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR BARBADOS**

**INVITE YOU TO THEIR**

# **GRAND DINNER BALL**

TO COMMEMORATE THE LIFE OF THE FOUNDER AND PRINCIPAL OF THE SCHOOL  
**THE LATE LOUIS ALBERT DEWITT LYNCH**

**Saturday 7th March 2009**

**TIME 7PM - 2AM**

**PRICE (INC BUFFET DINNER & WINE) £50**

**MUSIC BY DADDY VINCE & PHILIP LEVEL (FROM VIBES FM 93.8)**

**COCKTAIL RECEPTION 7PM TO 8PM - DINNER AT 8PM**

**PROCEEDS IN AID OF THE LOUIS LYNCH FOUNDATION**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM:**

**ELEANOR SMALL 020 8579 1949 - KEN SMALL 07956 085001**

**MARGARET SACEY 020 7253 1751**

**JEANETTE HILL 07903 780953 - DADDY VINCE 07950 634893**

**Holiday Inn London - Bloomsbury**  
**Coram Street London WC1N 1HT**