

OUTGOING BHS HM REWARDED FOR EXCELLENCE



Elizabeth Isaacs-Walcott (left) receives a token of appreciation from Joyce Sinclair

Outgoing Bishops' High School Headmistress Elizabeth Isaacs-Walcott receives a token of appreciation for her years of service from Chairman of the Board, Joyce Sinclair. Bishops' High School has, for decades, been churning out stellar performances via students that have been privileged enough to attend the premiere

learning institution, and primarily because of the cadre of dedicated teachers and administrators that preside over the daily proceedings.

Once again, the Board of Governors of The Bishops' High School had reason to be proud of the performance of the school's students at the Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) examinations.

This year, the school recorded an overall percentage pass of 95.3 per cent, with 34 of the students securing Grade One passes in five or more subjects. As such the Board saw it fit to pay tribute to its outgoing Headmistress, Elizabeth Isaacs-Walcott and the band of devoted teachers and to the members of its many Overseas Chapters, who support the school.

Many of the old students of The Bishops' High School would remember Mrs. Walcott as a devout disciplinarian but as one of the most charming persons one will ever meet.

Most persons would describe this consummate professional as a result-driven teacher and administrator who embellished in a "no-nonsense approach towards getting her work done".

At a small but impressive ceremony held at the Dutch Bottle Café, the Board members presented a gift of appreciation to Mrs. Walcott for her many years of dedicated service to the school.

Bishops' High secured 100 per cent passes in fifteen subjects, namely Agriculture Science, Biology, Chemistry, Economics, Food and Nutrition, Home Economics, Integrated Science, Office Administration, Social Studies, Spanish, Information Technology, Human and Social Biology, Electronic Data Processing and Typewriting.

"The school remains proud of its percentage passes in English A - 98.7 per cent, English B - 92.76 per cent, Physics - 94.72 per cent.

According the Board of Directors of the School, it is hoped that now that the Science Laboratories have been refurbished by some of its Overseas Chapters, more of its students would opt to remain at the school to offer science subjects at the Advanced Level.

BHS LEGACY—THE VICTORIA REGIA WATER LILY

Speaking of the BHS Legacy, I found the following recently while reading an article titled 'Life Lessons' by Blanche Kimble Wilson, in The Daily Inspiration for Better Living, September 2008.

"...The water lily always rises to the surface. Always! Breaking away from the mud and murkiness, the lily reaches upward despite surrounding pressures, emerging triumphantly on top!

Within its stem is an elaborate apparatus, an elastic spiral core, expanding, contracting, giving the lily power to rise or fall on the surface as the water deepens or diminishes.

The lily always rises above the pressures in which it lives. There, face-to-face with the life giving sun, it basks, not merely coping but conquering turbulent water, boisterous winds, and other environmental hazards. Because of the action of its elastic core, it remains flexible, staying on top of the very difficulties it had to overcome - thriving and giving beauty for all to see.

What a life lesson.....! The lily's resilience is automatic, a part of its survival system.

...Like the lily we can rise above the pressures in which we live...not merely coping, but conquering overwhelming circumstances (turbulent waters), criticism from others (boisterous winds) and other environmental hazards.....we remain flexible and focused, keeping our thoughts above the very difficulties we had to overcome - thriving and giving beauty in our world of experiences."

What a legacy to continue to pass on!

Marlene Belfast

News from BHS

Easter Term Diary

4th February – The regular BHSOSA committee meeting is held in the Library and Computer Room to showcase the computers and furniture funded by the Toronto Chapter of the Old Students' Association. The idea of a fundraising Tea Party is ignited.

9th February – Final preparations for The Annual Elocution Competition are underway, along with preparations for The Prize Giving Ceremony

10th February - The Annual Elocution Competition was held in The Oswald Parry Hall. The overall winner was Vyfhuis House with five positions, closely followed by Wearn House with four positions, both houses managed to place in all four categories. Baskett House was third with two positions. Winners included Marisa Stewart (2nd – Middle School – Wearn), Prudence Julien (1st – Middle School – Vyfhuis), Shaleeza Hanif (3rd – Middle School – Baskett), Vanya Legall (1st Lower School – Dewar), Nyameke Griffith (2nd Vyfhuis), Nadene Kalil (3rd – Lower School – Wearn), Timothy Millington (2nd – Upper School – Vyfhuis), Andrew Kendall (2nd – Upper School – Wearn) and Kadeem Davis (1st – Upper School – Vyfhuis)

16th February – The Prize List for Prize Giving Ceremony is read to the assembled School Population. A quasi-grand rehearsal is held for the Master of Ceremonies and President of the PTA – Philip Chance.

18th February – Final Rehearsals are held for each cultural item on the programme for The Prize Giving Ceremony

19th February – The Annual Prize – Giving Ceremony was held in the Oswald Parry Hall at 3:30 pm. Mr. Philip Chance was the Master of Ceremonies with our own Vidya Kissoon as the Guest Speaker. The new PA system provided by South Florida worked perfectly.

27th February – Allen House Day was celebrated. The Oswald Parry Hall was adorned in the traditional yellow and white decorations.

The 5th Form Food Sale was held to coincide with the House Day. 5C did lunches, 5B snacks and 5A drinks and ice-cream. Most of the money raised at these food sales goes toward paying the huge security bill with which the school is faced.

3rd March – Preparations for the Caricom Project were underway.

4th March – BHSOSA committee meeting for March was held in the Entrance Hall using the new furniture provided by BHS Alumnet at a cost of \$525,000. At the same time, the BHS Board was meeting in the Oswald Parry Hall.

The Annual Caricom Programme for Third Form Classes was held in The Oswald Parry Hall.

The country assignments were as follows

3A – Anguilla

3B – Barbados

3C – Dominican Republic

3A was adjudged the winner with 3B placing second and 3C bringing third. The Caricom cake was cut and shared among participating students.

We hope to have pictures on our website shortly. Once again, the standard of work displayed was extremely high. The judges this year were Dr. Rovin Deodat, our own Maggie Lawrence and Ms. Lavonne George from the Allied Arts Unit of the Ministry of Education. The prize this time will be a trip across the new Berbice River Bridge which will be done during next term. At present, school exams have started and school closes for the Easter break from April 3rd to the 20th.

Footnote: The school suffered two break-ins where the computers are located. The first targeted the computer room itself but was thwarted by the security staff on duty. Fortunately nothing was removed. MMC Security Service was immediately called to reinstall the defunct system in the room. We also had to extend the system to the Library. Two weeks later, a further attempt was made to enter the library. This time the alarm went off and MMC responded promptly. Luckily for us once again, nothing was removed. We have since put in a grill door and extra locks on the library door.

Terry Stuart



News from other Chapters

BHSOSA

The Bishops' High School Old Students' Association (BHSOSA) held its Annual General Meeting on Saturday 25th October, 2008 in the Oswald Parry Hall.

The newly elected officers of the Executive Committee 2008-2009 are:

President	Terry Stuart
Vice President	Hazel Friday-Burrowes
Secretary	Alethea Puranram
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer	Tamika Griffith
Treasurer	Jason Porte
Immediate Past President	Andrea Owen
Committee Members	Ravi Singh Jonelle Ashby Nicholas Fraser Nadia Singh
Special Advisor (Public Relations)	Andrea Bryan
Special Advisor (Youth & Sports)	John Ramsingh
Staff Representative	Malkia Payne
Woodside Representative	<i>To be determined by choir</i>



WASHINGTON METRO

At a Luncheon Meeting held December 10, 2008. The following members were elected to the Executive Committee of the Washington Metropolitan Area Chapter for the term 2009--2011:

President:	Annetha BLAIR Hall
Vice President :	Joy ALLEYNE Hinds
Secretary:	Dawn OSMAN Murray
Asst. Secretary:	Neibert WILSON
Treasurer:	Desiree Mc DONALD Simons
Public Relations Officer:	Audrey ALLEYNE
Committee Members:	Elon CALLENDER Holder Darcy JACK Headley
Ex-Officio Member:	Lilette Kitt

UK/Europe



The new Executive Committee of the UK/ Europe Chapter

Chairperson	Joy Leitch
Asst. Chairperson	Leila (Persaud) Gharthey
Secretary	Claire (Mongul) Carballo
Treasurer	Carole Fraser
Asst. Treasurer	Diane Fraser
Committee Members	Adele (Williams) Sewell Gill (Carter) Case Edmee Chee-A-Tow Tessa King
Outgoing Chair	Alison Tyndall



NEW YORK TRI-STATE CHAPTER

The BHSAA New York Tri-State Chapter held its Annual General Meeting and Elections on Saturday, October 18, 2008.

The following are the members of the New Executive:-

President	Gillian Sue
Vice President	Margaret Briggs
Treasurer	Janice Inniss-Cox
Secretary	Lynette Davson
Asst. Secretary/Treasurer	Joan McGowan-Findley
Immediate Past President	Denise Roman



News from other Chapters

It's Time for Tea Again

The seniors were abuzz as September rolled around, some expecting that call to inform them that the tea date had been set. Tea parties were a feature of school life in the days gone by. While they have disappeared from the calendar of the Bishops' High School, they are now a permanent fixture on the timetable of the Senior Class.

It was time to gather at the Kirkpatricks once again. The date was Saturday, September 27. The seniors present for tea and a visit numbered 24, all ready to sip, chat and reflect on the memories of school days and beyond.

It was exciting to witness the re-connection among former classmates and friends. There's always that intention to make contact between events but, somehow, time rolls by and some promises to keep in touch await another day. However, some do stay in touch, keeping their friends up-to-date on activities and sharing news of the day.

The background music is always a welcome touch. This time around, a taste of Reunion 2008 was added. The CD featuring the theme song, "Let's Celebrate", produced by the Toronto Chapter, was played for the enjoyment of those gathered. Having recently returned from Reunion 2008, Carmen, Magda and Joyce shared some of their memories, touching on the excitement of seeing former classmates, students and long lost friends. They told of the activities of alumni from different years.

For example, one group of alumni arranged a dinner to celebrate the 50th year of their entry to the school. Another arranged a walkathon to raise funds to support the school. Yet others had gatherings where they shared stories and pictures and certainly had lots to eat and drink. Photographs from the Reunion allowed members of the Senior Class to identify persons whom they knew and marvel at the range of the ages of alumni who sought to capture the magic of togetherness by their presence in Toronto.

Scenes from the Air Show staged during Carifesta 2008 also provoked conversation about the spectacle of the aerial maneuvers.

On a somber note, information was shared about the passing of Betsy Pounder, one week after attending Reunion 2008. Betsy experienced the meaning of "true comrade and true friend" as she prepared for the next stage of her life. Her daughter, C.C. Pounder accompanied her to the Reunion.

From BHSOSA Senior Class Notes, October 2008

FROM A PARAGRAPH TO A CHAPTER



On Saturday April 4, 2009, the Jamaica Chapter hosted a fund-raising event at the Poolside of the Senior Common Room Club of The University of the West Indies. Set against the backdrop of the Blue Mountains, with a vivid and well-coordinated display of style and colour, the largely Jamaican audience was enthralled by the presentation– "Classic Eldorado – Art in Motion" – by Shape Custom Creations, the product of the very talented and inspired Donna Ramsammy-James. It was a spectacular show which left the over 200 persons in the audience abuzz for some time afterwards.

Alumna Donna and her 12 - member team, of models, wardrobe persons, commentator, Mr. Carlton James, and able supporter Mrs. Gina Singh-Trotz, President of the Florida Chapter, came to Jamaica as guests of the Jamaica Chapter. The occasion was an achievement on many levels. Firstly we were able to showcase the work of our talented sister to the Jamaican population through television interviews, newspaper interviews, photo shoots and full media coverage of a spectacular event. Secondly we were able to launch our 2011 Reunion fund-raising campaign with a high quality event which left our audience asking for more. Finally the young team members were able to experience Jamaica and the richness of its culture in the true spirit of CARICOM.

The event was sponsored by the Jamaica Pegasus, El Dorado Rums and Laparkan (Jamaica) Ltd. The Chapter would like to specially thank Mr. Eldon Bremner, General Manager of the Jamaica Pegasus for his untiring support; Mr. Ian Lye, Demerara Distilleries and Dr. Jerald LaRose, Senior Vice-President, Laparkan and their Jamaican representatives. Additional support was received from Rainforest SeaFoods, Pear Tree Press, The University of the West Indies and The Gleaner Company. We also acknowledge with gratitude all those who supported us by attending the fund-raiser held in Guy-

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ana which helped to cover some of the expenses for the Shape team to travel to Jamaica.

Given the size of our nascent Chapter, the success of such an event leans heavily on the support of other Guyanese resident in Jamaica and their friends. Our hard working Executive Committee was well supported in the planning and execution by family members and friends. Special mention must be made of our three Guyanese/Jamaican display team members— Maya Wilkinson, Darielle Hopkinson and Anya Mollison, who easily integrated with the Shape team; Kaiel Eytle, who coordinated the technical aspects of the production; and Desiree Alli- Robbins of Desiree's Dance Theatre and her group of Jamaican dancers who performed a tribute to Champs, the premier inter-school sports event the finals of which also took place on April 4th. Saturday April 4, 2009 was a proud day for us in which we hosted a lovely event and displayed exceptional Guyanese talent to Jamaica!

<http://www.jamaicaobserver>



My Experience in St. Kitts for the Leadership Program

The joys experienced on my trip to St Kitts can be described as simply exhilarating. Coupled with the excitement of visiting a new country and even being stuck in another, was the looming opportunity to bring to light the talent and intellect of The Bishops' High School and more so, my country, Guyana.

Even though we arrived one day earlier, my chaperone and Headmistress, Mrs. Isaacs-Walcott, did not skip a beat in keeping me fully enlightened on locations and sights around me so although my primary learning program had not begun, I was able to gain foreknowledge on what lay before me.

On the 1st day however, I was able to aid my mentors and facilitation team in setting the tables for other participants - which was a small but valuable lesson in leadership - that as leaders we pave the way for others and make them feel catered for in our atmosphere. With games referred to as "icebreakers" helping to release the tension in the air and helping us familiarize strangers and transform them into teammates and friends, the pace for the rest of the program was set. We were also given snacks and sweets in between speeches and our regular breakfast, lunch and dinner buffet style.

Also the basic goals of the program were highlighted which were (1) to equip us with all the skills necessary in order to be an effective leader by means of interaction and participation that called for

crucial thinking and (2) allowing us the opportunity to display the leadership qualities we all need to possess and build on as Emerging Global Leaders.

After being assigned a roommate we were given a tour of The Marriott Hotel with all its grandeur, its spacious environment and multi-purpose facilities- spas, pools, ballrooms, games rooms, malls and much more all overlooking a beautiful seemingly blue sand and sea beach in St. Kitts.

We were able to listen and enjoy speeches from individuals with varying backgrounds, circumstances, cultures and statuses. All proved to be very effective and held my interest very well since they were ever so often, animated and employed the use of power point by means of a projector as a visual aid. From all the speeches we were able to grasp a few common points:--

1. Good leaders model the way for others.
2. Good leaders are principle centred in areas such as equity, justice, honesty and service.
3. Good leaders are continually learning which reminded me that we never do know enough since new things are being brought forth as we take them in.
4. Effective leaders are goal oriented in that they have clearly set in mind what they want to achieve and they work their way toward their goal
5. They inspire and enable others to act and challenge the status quo in that they ask the awkward questions- the ones everyone wants to know but is never brave enough to ask.

During the period of my stay we also had a group identity project in which we named ourselves and created an identifying poster based on our thoughts and this taught me how to listen to varying opinions and ideas and incorporate them in such a way that it neither seemed self centred or foolish on my behalf. This indeed taught me teamwork.

One of my joys was being able to share with persons my Guyana - its attributes such as its luscious fertile virgin forests with a budding ecosystem along with its geography using visual aids of animals and places to do so even explaining our symbols and this indeed generated lots of interest and drew attention to my country's finer assets.

I have also been given a huge task to complete within my school called a "Community Project" in which my topic is litter and I was required to put pen to paper to outline my strategy for getting participation in this endeavour and given a 1 yr period to complete it and give a feedback to EGLP.

We also had a reception in which we were able to have a marvelous time eating, conversing and dancing the night away under the observing eyes of our mentors and chaperons. A talent show was done showcasing poetry, persons composing their own songs and playing them, piano rendition and many other unusual talents. It proved very fruitful and the program facilitators and mentors indeed saw my diligence reflected in my work and were as delighted as I was to have me here for such a wonderful experience.

Prudence Julien

Prudence's trip to St. Kitts to attend the Scotiabank-York University Emerging Global Leaders Program (EGLP) was made possible through contributions from some of the Chapters.



News from other Chapters

Caribbean woman statue unveiled



London's first public statue of an African-Caribbean woman has been unveiled as a memorial to women in the Caribbean community.

The 3m (10ft) high Bronze Woman statue of a woman holding a baby has been installed in Stockwell Memorial Garden, south London.

The anonymous figure is based on a poem of the same name by Guyana-born Cecile Nobrega, who lives in Stockwell.

The statue comes after a 10-year-long campaign by Ms Nobrega.

Olmec, a community investment foundation, raised £84,000 funding and found the sculptors and a location for the statue.

The statue was unveiled by a "circle" of women of Caribbean origin including artist Anissa-Jane, Baroness Rosalind Howells OBE and Music of Black Origin (MOBO) Awards founder Kanya King.

Windrush anniversary

An initial model of the statue was first designed by sculptor Ian Walters, who also created the Nelson Mandela statue in Parliament Square in 2005.

Following his death in August 2006 the project was completed by Aleix Barbat, a final year sculpture student at Heatherley's School of Fine Art in London. Olmec director Tanzeem Ahmed said the monument was "a tribute to the diverse communities that make up British society and a symbol of the potential of women everywhere".

The installation of the statue marks the 60th anniversary of the arrival of the Empire Windrush ship to Britain carrying 500 West Indian immigrants, and the 200th anniversary of the end of the transatlantic slave trade.

Story from BBC NEWS:
http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/2/hi/uk_news/england/london/7658991.stm

BHS ALUMNAE RECEIVES AWARDS

2008 Guyana Cultural Association Folk Festival Awards

These Awards recognize the achievements of individuals and contributions by social and business entities in cultural development. These are given annually by the Guyana Cultural Association of New York.

In 2008 two BHS Alumnae received these awards:

Belle Avis Joseph received the award for Musicology. Avis has been a musician all her life and plays several instruments very well. She teaches Music and plays the organ in her church. She is also involved in many cultural areas in New York City.



Dr. Cicely Rodway received the award for Education. Cicely is an Assistant Professor in English at CUNY, City University of New York.

Also honored this year was Singer/Composer Bill Newman (The Crooner). Many of you will remember Bill as the MC of the Cultural Evening at Reunion 2008.

We congratulate them all.



INTERACTIVE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Are you planning a trip to Guyana this year? Sign up for the Interactive Volunteer Program where you spend a day or more at your alma mater interacting with the students and staff.



Death knocking at her door - a former Governor's daughter mistakenly let her killer in by Michael Jordan



When I went prowling around Quamina Street last week where she had once lived, not a single soul had anything bad to say about old Miss Dorothy King. She was kind, some said, she reached out to the less fortunate, others recalled.

But the cynics like to say that no good deed goes unpunished, and back in 1999, there was someone who had it in for 84-year-old Miss King.

A lot has changed in Quamina Street since then. For one thing, the huge, sprawling colonial-style house which was Dorothy King's last home has been torn down. Just a weed-infested lot remains. That old house had a certain touch of grandeur about it; fitting, I guess, for someone of Dorothy King's background.

Dorothy Rosabelle Napleton King was born on March 22, 1913 and was the daughter of the former Governor of Her Majesty's Penal Settlement, Mazaruni (now the Mazaruni Prisons). She spent most of her childhood there before heading for Georgetown, where she attended the Ursuline Convent School. The young Dorothy King then attended school in London, England, where she was trained in ballet.

Returning to Guyana, King opened her own ballet school at the sprawling Quamina Street residence. In 1942, she joined the teaching profession, becoming the Drill Mistress at the Bishops' High School. King retired from the teaching profession in 1977, but continued to live an active life. She had a keen interest in art and Guyanese history and ironically, it now seems, was also a member of the Guyana Human Rights Association.

Like I said, the old house had a touch of grandeur. But it was not the sort of house in which an elderly woman should have lived alone. From reports, some of Miss King's close friends had expressed concern about this situation, since that section of Quamina Street was crime-ridden then, as it still is today. But Miss King brushed off these fears. It has been suggested that Dorothy King's days at Mazaruni had given her confidence to deal with criminals. It was said that on many occasions, she had actually encountered criminals at her Quamina Street home. According to this report, she would patiently speak with them, and sometimes even offer them a meal before showing them to the door. The retired schoolteacher had established a certain routine that some of her neighbours knew of. At 17:30 hrs every day, she would always close two side windows at the eastern side of her house. But at 18:00 hrs on Wednesday, January 27, 1999, a neighbor observed that King's windows were still open. The neighbour called a guard who worked nearby. The

guard went over to Dorothy King's house and noticed that her front door was slightly ajar. He summoned a friend and neighbour of King's. The friend arrived at 19:05 hrs and, on entering the premises, almost immediately realised that something was terribly wrong.

Miss King's broken spectacles lay on the floor a short distance from the door. There were also spots of blood on the floor.



Dorothy's King's last home

Summoning another acquaintance, the friend went further inside, and now the friend observed marks on the floor that led to the kitchen. And that is where they found 84-year-old Dorothy King. She was lying face-down on the floor, with her hands outstretched. Someone had bashed in her skull. A piece of wood about 18 inches long was resting on her back. An autopsy would later reveal that she was also strangled.

Robbery was clearly the motive, since the house was ransacked. A safe that had contained valuables was open, and the contents were missing. There was no sign of forced entry and it was surmised that King had opened her door for someone she had known. King reportedly would look through her window when anyone rapped and then open the door, but only for people she recognized. From the blood and the smashed spectacles near the door, it was believed that King was attacked as soon as she opened the door. Detectives immediately began enquiring about any unusual movements around the murdered woman's house.

However, despite the detectives best efforts there has never been an arrest warrant for Dorothy King's murder.

I returned to the scene of Miss King's murder last week because this is one of the cases that remains stuck in my memory. I was somewhat taken aback to discover that some people were still apprehensive about speaking about the unsolved case. One person hinted that the killer(s) might be from a neighbouring community. Pressed further, he said he had given a statement to the police back then and suggested that I check with them. The killers were still around and he refused to say anything further, but gave the impression that he knew a lot.

Well, I guess I was hoping for too much. I guess that ten years is too long a time to find out who entered that old house on that fateful Wednesday evening and killed a Governor's daughter...

IN MEMORIAM FOR CICELY ROBINSON (nee PILGRIM)"The End of an Era"

I met Frankie Pilgrim in kindergarten when I was four and he became the brother I never had. By this reckoning, Cicely became the big sister I never had. I adored her! She seemed the acme of sophistication, glamour and worldly wisdom.

As time went by, the whole family became involved and lived as an extended family. I even got married from the Pilgrim's home some 48 years ago - literally a lifetime of friendship.

On hearing of Cicely's death, three months after I returned to Canada, I was profoundly shocked and saddened by her passing. In my heart I think I knew when I left that I wouldn't see her alive again ... she was already travelling. But death is always sudden and traumatic whenever it happens to those we love.

At ten I went to Bishops' - an important milestone in my life. At that time, Cicely had her Montessori school at 188 Carmichael Street which my sister, Jeanne, attended. We ate lunch at the Pilgrims on school days and learnt so much for it was the centre of scintillating conversation for people in the arts. Many happy memories of good food, old friends, exhilarating concepts, come to mind - memories that have stood the test of time. As a teenager, my admiration of Cicely grew by leaps and bounds. I saw her as a pioneer in her imaginative use of colour. She was psychedelic long before it was fashionable and successfully combined colours that were then considered taboo.

Her best years she spent teaching at BHS. Her main gift was inspiring her girls to be adventurous and daring; to question the norm, and to think things through and find answers for themselves. If I had been in her maths class I might have had a different approach towards the art of numbers today. Though often appearing fragile and very feminine, she was, in her heyday, a great organizer and planner. She must have coined the phrase, "Just DO IT"! Cicely had a hands-on approach and successfully co-ordinated many theatrical productions. Perhaps her sojourn at Bishops' was aptly summed up by a student who affectionately called her "The rare and dear Miss Pilgrim". It was she who introduced me to glossy fashion magazines like Vogue and Harper's Bazaar, and taught me the difference between style and fashion - lots of the time she was ahead of the game and was often a trendsetter. She loved muumuus and caftans because of their comfort and colour - a combination well-loved by both of us.

Whenever Cicely comes to mind, I think of her striking face, high cheekbones, expressive, twinkling eyes, a zest for life and a well-developed sense of drama. She loved people, dance, shoes, music, colour, costume and china. An expert in

creating mood-magic on stage, she fully appreciated the importance of make-up as a tool, allied with costume, to literally set the stage. I was encouraged to put my best foot and face forward and it helped me to become a make-up artist later in life. We often enjoyed facials, masques and make-overs together, usually late at night. Her expertise on the effect of light on colour and her wealth of knowledge in this field was highly valued by this "wannabe" artist.

Cicely had a penchant for choosing the right gift for the right person and wrapping it with imagination. I always opened her gifts last because I knew they would be special and would make me feel special too.

As time went by, I joined her on the staff at Bishops' and we became colleagues. I enjoyed the exchange of ideas and the new and different perspective which Cicely brought to everyday problems. She contributed greatly to my appreciation of aesthetics - sometimes called "the finer things of life". I especially remember the fun of going up the Courentyne looking for costume materials at affordable prices, sorting through piles of pound cloth at the now defunct Hollywood store, and going home laden, arms full of colourful treasure, feeling fulfilled and very happy. Memories too many and far too personal to recount flood my mind, a mosaic of times well-spent together. A tear falls ... in memoriam.

As I got older, the years between us vanished and our roles were reversed. I became her mentor and friend, and I like to think I made a difference at the end. Yes, it is the end of an era. Gone forever that gracious quality of life we once knew, when people had the time to drop in casually, have a "cuppa" and talk about the important things of life: music, movies, make-up, fashion, painting, the latest book, the Broadway hit. Everything was grist to the mill, life was full and exciting and profoundly satisfying in the "good old days", and now both they and she are no more. Cicely always had a great sense of timing - essential in good theatre, be it comedy or drama. Entrances and exits are equally important. So, when she decided to leave she did so graciously - trailing clouds of glory and in very good company.

Like Princess Di and Mother Teresa, she touched many lives and inspired quite a few. Cicely will long be remembered as a colourful character by the many her life enriched. "While memory weaves a thread of gold into our being", she will be sorely missed. As a beautiful woman passes, she leaves a hauntingly beautiful fragrance ... and it lingers on in her wake ...

Syble G. Douglas
December, 1997



CHAPTERS ON THE NET

Some of our Chapters are now on the internet—

Toronto www.bhstoronto.com

New York www.bhsnytristate.org

Washington www.bhswashmetro.org

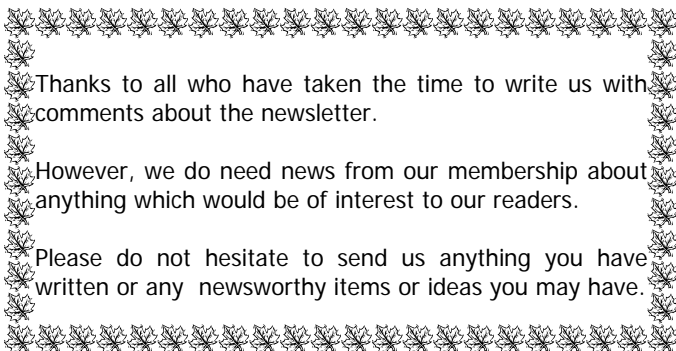
Guyana www.bhsosa.org.gy

London www.bhsukeurope.com

BHS Alumni Hub www.bishopshighschool.com

A Prayer

I have wakened in Thy shelter, O my God, and it becometh him that seeketh that shelter to abide within the Sanctuary of Thy protection and the Stronghold of Thy defense. Illumine my inner being, O my Lord, with the splendors of the Dayspring of Thy Revelation, even as Thou didst illumine my outer being with the morning light of Thy favor.



Thanks to all who have taken the time to write us with comments about the newsletter.

However, we do need news from our membership about anything which would be of interest to our readers.

Please do not hesitate to send us anything you have written or any newsworthy items or ideas you may have.



Passages

We remember alumna and Toronto Chapter member Elaine Daune Small Hector who passed away in April.

We extend our sympathies to the family of alumna Betsy Pounder who passed away in August.

We remember alumna Dawn Campbell Adams who passed away in March.

Our condolences are extended to the family of Joan Piggot Dow who passed away in April.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Cicely Godette Gouveia on the passing of her husband, Dennis.

We remember in our prayers

Peter Small, father of Daune Small Hector
Gladys Kissoon, mother of Beverly
Monalene Ganesh, mother of Seeta, Romie,
and Praimie

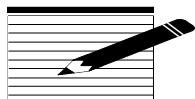
Lucille Haynes, mother of Lilith

Mary Ann Bispham, aunt of Beverly Henry
Stephenson

Agnes Jones, aunt of Maureen Bryan De-
Freitas

Wilburne Hurry, husband of Pene-
lope Yearwood

**He who kneels before God can stand
before anyone.**



Newsletter staff :
Jennifer Cave-Williams
Denise Savory-Archer

If you have any comments or suggestions about the newsletter, please write to us at

BHS Alumni Association (Toronto Chapter)
170-6A The Donway West
Box 700
Don Mills, Ontario, M3C 2E8

or email us at dcarcher@sympatico.ca or cavewilliams@hotmail.com

