



Beyond THE GREY SHIRT

FATIMA OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION // NEWSLETTER



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ISSUE

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Living The Grey Shirt – Fatima 2015 Hall of Achievement Inductee, Anthony Smart

INTERVIEWER: STEFAN ROACH

Anthony Isidore Smart, instead of being burdened by his name, set out to make his life a living testimony to what being sensibly smart is all about.

After attending Fatima (1958-64) he taught at the College for one year before heading to the University of Toronto, obtaining his BA, majoring in Economics at age 21. He pivoted to the profession of his distinguished father, attorney Isidore Smart, and began practising as a Solicitor and Conveyancer from age 25.

He got into politics as one of the founders of the Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR) and the National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR); won a seat in Parliament in 1986; rose to become Deputy Speaker, Minister in the Offices of the Attorney General and the Prime Minister, the Chief Whip, and finally Attorney General at age 42.

The tragic attempted coup of 1990 saw AG Tony Smart displaying sterling qualities of common sense and courage when he eluded the insurrectionists in Parliament and

emerged to play a leading role in defending and preserving T&T's democracy during the country's most challenging period.

Q How would you describe the culture of the school at that time?

A It was a small school compared to St. Mary's. It was new and relaxed and growing. We didn't have a uniform at first. We got a uniform when I was in Form 4: a monogrammed grey shirt and khaki pants. The dress uniform was a blue blazer piped in yellow and a tie. Cows grazed in a pasture in the field opposite. From time to time while playing sports there, we would encounter cow dung! During my time, we started to raise funds to develop the playing field and it was a dream come true for me that in my last year, the playing field was completed with turf cricket wicket and pavillion.

Q Who were some of your classmates that we may know?

A Lennox Grant—a journalist, a past Editor of the Guardian; and Keith Smith—an



Editor at the Express for many years who passed away a few years ago. These were both good friends of mine. Ken Attale—Lonsdale Saatchi & Saatchi advertising head. We sat next to each other and shared a desk. We both lived in Belmont and rode our bicycles to school together. Conrad Aleong—once managing director of BWIA, and former head of the United Way Charitable Foundation. Ewart Williams—former Governor of the Central Bank.

Q What sports did you participate in?

A I played cricket up to the Under-16 A-Colts level. I was captain. I also played first class Basketball for Fatima and my team won a

Basketball Intercol. There were about six schools participating. I also played football, but not to a high level.

Q How did Fatima prepare for you for the leadership roles held throughout your career?

A First of all, I was very happy as a student. The school, together with my parents, instilled in me the values of integrity, honesty and hard work. It was an enjoyable but disciplined school experience. We had stern teachers and relaxed teachers, but generally they were all likeable.

I really liked Fr. Anthony Pantin who eventually became the Archbishop. He was the Dean of Discipline at Fatima and had a great impact on me. He was also quite a comedian. There was a guy called Hugh (Bosey) Edwards who was very popular for his jokes during recess. Students would gather around to hear Bosey talk, and from time to time Fr. Anthony Pantin would join in the ole talk and match him joke for joke! The serious Bosey went on to qualify in New York and returned to Trinidad and Tobago to become the first head of the T&T Stock Exchange.

Q What influenced your transition into politics?

A The state of the country at the time after I completed my studies. I had studied economics in Canada then returned to Trinidad to do Law. At the time everything was breaking down...roads, telephones, the airport was in shambles, problems for water. Lots of infrastructural type issues. I felt as if Prime Minister Dr. Eric Williams was not doing all he could for the people

of the country. I felt the need to do something to improve our condition.

Q Describe your greatest challenges during your time as Attorney General?

A Dealing with the attempted coup! My greatest regret is that these murderers were able to walk free because of the failure of the judges who dealt with the case at the time, one judge in particular.

What is particularly irksome for me is that once a State of Emergency is declared, within 15 days the Government has to go to the Parliament and the Parliament by simple majority must extend the State of Emergency by 30 days or at most 60 days, or else the State of Emergency lapses and all the powers exercised lapse, and therefore, the Government must free all the persons detained.

When I went to the Parliament to pilot the motion to extend the State of Emergency, I argued that the Amnesty document that was made with the Muslimeen was invalidated because after it was made, the Muslimeen continued to make demands. One was that Abu Bakr be made Minister of National Security. Imagine that that was the same argument that the Privy Council used later on to throw out the Amnesty document!

Unfortunately, the guilty Muslimeen could not be re-arrested because of the technicality of being freed on a Habeas Corpus writ.

Q How did you escape Parliament during the attempted coup?

A Parliament was in session and I heard the gunshots. I assessed that they were coming from the western side of the Parliament chamber. I got up from my seat and moved quickly away from the western side. As I got up, I saw guys entering with rifles. I ran across the Parliament chamber and went toward the eastern side which led onto a veranda on the upstairs portion of the building. Whilst running along the veranda, I saw men with rifles coming from the Trinity Cathedral running towards the Red House so I turned around and decided to hide. I passed by the AG's office and saw two burly men standing by the entrance so I went downstairs by the vault area into a room. That room was actually at the eastern entrance to the Red House.

I hid under a counter and of course I was fearful because there were bullets flying and I was afraid of being hit through one of

the windows which were low. I hid there for about 2 hours next to a lady from the kitchen staff. Muslimeen were in and out of the room and I could have heard them moving around and speaking. Eventually, they discovered 2 other ladies in the room, whom I didn't know were there because they were also hiding. The Muslimeen told them "It's not allyuh we want. It's the big boys we want."

The lady next to me then emerged from hiding. The lighting in the room was not that great. Two Muslimeen saw me and asked "Who's you? Come out! Come out!"

I had discarded my jacket and tie and my glasses but I had a little pouch which I had my driver's license in. They told me to come out, "you look like a Special Branch. Let me see your ID!" One had a rifle over me and the other had a pistol. The ladies in unison shouted, "He is one of us!"

They then stopped their search. They didn't look at my pouch too closely and handed it back to me and then showed us how to exit the Red House. We walked out and that's when I saw the Police Headquarters on fire. The ladies and I crossed Hart Street and went separate ways.

Eventually, I went down to Independence Square where I encountered a Special Branch police officer in plain clothes who took me into a Maxi with him and took me to his home in La Horquetta.

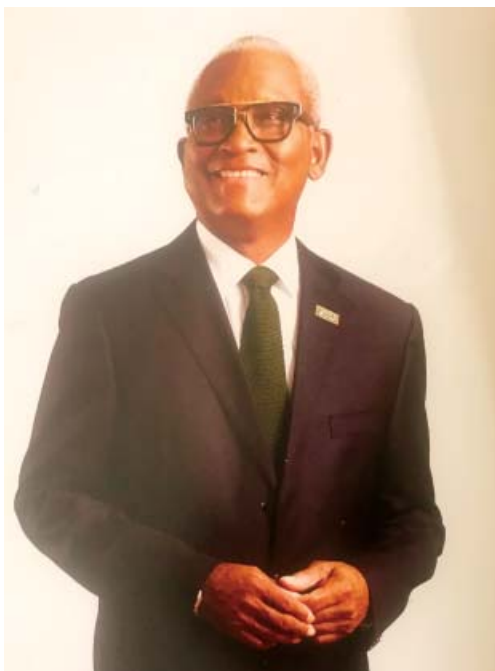
Q What would you consider to be appropriate justice for the atrocities inflicted on our country in 1990?

A They should have been incarcerated for life. Maybe later in life they could have been set free if they behaved themselves properly. I am not a believer in capital punishment. I see that as the easy way out. I think that life in imprisonment is a worse punishment than capital punishment.

Q You personally drafted the Code of Ethics for Ministers and Members of Parliament laid in the House of Representatives in 1988. Are you satisfied with the level of ethical conduct exhibited by our more recent politicians?

A No, it's sadly lacking. It was terrible in one administration and not enough effort is being made by another to demonstrate the importance of ethical behaviour.

Q During your time as AG, why was it necessary to increase the compensation package for Judges?



Judges were reportedly not happy with their compensation and we wanted them to be happy. We improved the salaries for lawyers in the Public Service as well. With the increase in salaries for judges, lawyers were a lot more interested in going to the bench as judges.

Q Briefly tell us about the law firm, 'Gittens, Smart & Co., Solicitors and Conveyancers, Trinidad and Tobago'.

A We did mainly conveyancing, transferring of deeds, land transactions, civil and probate and matrimonial work. We have bound documents of title for land in our vault going back to the 1930s!

Q Does the study and practice of law hold the same prestige as it did 30 years ago?

A I guess not, perhaps because there are so many more lawyers now. But there is still some prestige. There were less than 100 solicitors when I became one. Now there are thousands!

In essence, it is still a very noble profession as well as a very practical one. It touches every aspect of life—from birth to death, and including marriage. Nine members of my family are lawyers, including siblings, my daughter and nieces.

Q Was there any merit to the formation of the Ministry of Justice?

A Not really. I'll tell you how that Ministry arose. Selwyn Richardson who joined the NAR after leaving the PNM during the 1986 election campaign was made the first Attorney General under the NAR Government. However, Prime Minister Robinson realized sometime later that while he appreciated the role which Richardson had played in the election, he needed to remove him. He made me Attorney General; but at the same time, not wanting to humiliate Richardson, he simply added the title of 'Justice' to the Ministry of National Security. The portfolios of the Attorney General and Ministry of National Security remained exactly the same.

Subsequent administrations have tried to transfer some of the responsibilities of the Office of the Attorney General to the Ministry of Justice.

Q How can the Judiciary improve the speed of its delivery of justice?

A There needs to be more judges. During my time, we introduced the CAT system — Computer Aided Transcription. And there have been some innovations since then, such as skyping. The leadership



should consider insisting that the judges 'produce' more!

However, I regret terribly what's happening at the DPP Office. It seems to have completely collapsed. I call it the black hole—matters go in there and you never hear about them again! Maybe more lawyers and funds need to go to the Office to help with the production.

Q Is it time for T&T to participate fully in the Caribbean Court of Justice?

A It is long overdue. How can we call ourselves independent and still have to go to England for our final Court of Appeal. In fact, it was in 1989 when I was AG, that ANR Robinson first floated the idea of the Caribbean Court of Appeal. After 29 years, it's more than time now! It's like a political football.

Q You have served as a tutor at Hugh Wooding Law School and your law firm has provided in-service training to students of Hugh Wooding over the years. You were also a non-graduate teacher at Fatima College for one year. Is teaching one of your life's callings?

A I wouldn't say teaching was my calling. Teaching was my mother's calling. It was my wife Valerie's calling. It was also my son Stokely's calling. He is a qualified actuary and decided to abandon the commercial and corporate world and started the Actuarial Science Department at UWI.

My calling was to serve publicly, but in order to serve publicly, you have to get the approval of the people at elections. Nevertheless, I gave 22 years of my life to that level of service to T&T.

Q Do you still have political aspirations?

No, I'm too old now. I think the firmament has changed where I don't think my philosophy will be accepted. The NAR was about bringing people together rather than separating them by race. It was a fulfillment of my dream, but alas, it was short-lived.

Q You were appointed as an Observer of the general elections of Kenya in 1992. What did your duties entail?

A We were given various territories in Kenya to observe during the run-up to the elections. We attended meetings, spoke with people...really just seeing how the process went. Afterwards we wrote a report, and concluded that while there were some irregularities, the process was generally free and fair.

Q You are well known for your legal and political careers but are also as a graduate in Economics from the University of Toronto. Is your present role as Chairman on the Board of First Citizens Bank the best example of your training in Economics playing a role in your career?

A Economics actually played a bigger role in my political career. Banking is more restricted to just one area of the economy. I was brought in when there were serious allegations of insider trading with the IPO. The Government appointed me to chair a new Board after they removed the old one reportedly to 'restore confidence in the Bank'.

Q What did it mean to you, being inducted into the Fatima College Hall of Achievement?

A It was one of the major achievements of my life. I was very proud to be recognized by my Alma Mater, and I continue to

contribute to and have a relationship with our school as best I can.

Q Describe your family.

A I have three children and two grandchildren. My eldest son is an Actuary but also has an LLB. My daughter is a Lawyer and a Chartered Accountant; and my youngest (son) is an Electrical Engineer with his Master's in solar energy. The boys went to Fatima of course.

Q Has your hectic career negatively impacted your family life?

A No, not really because I have a very devoted wife and mother to my children. I always tried to be there for my children, especially for school activities such as parent-teacher meetings, football matches and sports days.

Q What do you do for recreation?

A Golfing. I used to run around the Queen's Park Savannah in my younger days and sometimes even walked to Maracas. However, as I got older, running turned into walking and I eventually tried golf at the age of 57. I love golf. My life now revolves a lot around golf. It is a form of

exercise, recreation and happiness. I also love to travel.

Q Out of the countries, you have visited which was your favourite?

A Well I've travelled quite a bit. Each country has its own charm. Florence is actually my favourite city. I've been there twice. I also like Scandinavia, Stockholm, Sweden...interesting places. Sydney has also impressed me. My daughter lives there and I've been there twice. I've been to the outback of Australia, Melbourne, Queensland, to the Great Barrier Reef. But Sydney is a very exciting city...very clean (I feel brave to say that you could eat food off the floor of the public toilets in Sydney, they are so clean!)

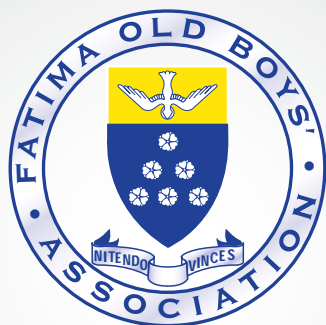
Q Any advice to the many young graduates of Fatima College reading this interview?

A Follow your dreams. Stand by the virtues and principles that Fatima has taught you. Try to do the right thing publicly, whilst it may not get you where you want to go. Don't sacrifice your integrity and principles for material wealth.



Q Any Closing Remarks?

A My advice to anyone considering getting into politics is for them to be financially independent first, so you could not be bought and sold. If you have a job or career to go back to after politics, it is easier for you to walk away from compromising your integrity.



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Congrats to Dylan Carter



CONGRATULATIONS GO OUT TO TRINIDAD & TOBAGO SENIOR SWIMMER, AND FATIMA ALUM, DYLAN CARTER, WHO ON THURSDAY 5TH APRIL 2018, COPPED A SILVER MEDAL IN THE MEN'S 50M BUTTERFLY AT THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES IN GOLD COAST, AUSTRALIA.

In doing so, he made history by capturing T&T's first ever swimming medal at the international multi-sport event. South Africa claimed the gold and bronze medals.

Dylan was the subject of an interview by FOBA back in June 2016, where he talked about his time in Fatima and his swimming career. Visit the FOBA website to see the interview @ <https://www.foba.fatima.edu.tt/dylan-carter>.

Images from the Fatima 2018 All-Inclusive Carnival Fete, 'You Are The Star' held on Saturday 3rd February



Images from FOBA's "Jus Bring It" Cooler Fete

held in collaboration with Kairi People on Wednesday 3rd January at Salybia



Living The Grey Shirt – Kit Israel

Kit Israel attended Fatima from 1997 to 2004. His company, AdvoKit Productions, is primarily a music productions company. However, Kit undertakes just about anything to do with music creation, including song-writing, background-vocals and advertisement-scoring. His hits include the “Folklore Riddim” (Kes – ‘Hello’), “Buss Head” by Machel Montano and Bunji Garlin, and “Ola” by Olatunji on the Kan Kan Riddim.

Q At what age did you decide that were going to make a career from music?

A I have been doing music production since I was about 12 years old, but only at around 2012 I started doing it professionally. At about age 27, I decided to make a career from music.

Q Who or what shaped your early musical development?

A My dad, Roger Israel, most definitely. He is an outstanding musician and producer as well.

Q Did you participate in any extra-curricular activities at Fatima College?

A Yes. I was on the basketball, swimming and water polo teams.

Q What about Fatima’s school-life made the greatest positive impact on you?

A I would say my schoolmates had the greatest positive impact. Life’s greatest gifts are great relationships.

Q Who were your favourite teachers?

A This is a trick question!! Lol...I would first single-out Father Gregory, Mr. Achille, Mr. Young, Mr. Lee Ha—and then too many more to mention.

Q Share one quote from the Principal during your time.

A I think all the Principals said this: “Fatima boys are good boys.” Simple but to us, very telling.

Q What studies did you pursue after leaving Fatima?

A I did a degree in Math and Post-grad in Geoinformatics.

Q Do you need to be a good musician to be a music producer?

A Technically, no. But being a good musician helps guide the production and selection of melodies and tones. So to be a good producer, one would need to be at least a competent musician.

Q Can creativity be learnt or are you just born with it?

A I think it can be learnt. Though I have a lot of musical background from my family, I apply a lot of Math to analyze and formulate types of songs. To some degree, it can be learnt but of course it does help if you have a natural talent for it.

Q What other talents do you have, apart from music production?

A I did Photography professionally as well, so I guess we can consider that a ‘talent’?

Q Would you describe ‘Buss Head’ as your breakout hit?

A Respectfully, no. Olatunji - Ola on the Kan Kan Riddim was more so the breakout hit.

Q What impacted your career more: ‘Buss Head’, or the “Folklore Riddim”?

A I think Folklore Riddim had a bigger impact. Kes – ‘Hello’ is really proving to be a monster hit for Soca.

Q What other popular songs have been credited with your inputs?

A Some of the writing or production work done:

- Machel Montano – Human, Wake Up, Beat It, Memory
- Aaron Duncan – Can you Feel It
- Road Trip Riddm, Intercol Riddim
- Kan Kan Riddim - Olatunji – Ola, Benji Phenomenal, Flipo – Her Love, Sekon Sta – The Best
- Timaya – Bang Bang

There are more, but those are the few I can recall from top of my head.

Q Is it right to assume that most of your Carnival music is created before Carnival season? What keeps a producer busy during the actual season?

A I guess we as producers define the season a little differently. Our season begins from September and that is usually when the first releases come out. So with that said, though a lot of music is made before the Carnival season most of the productions are actually completed between September and December.

As there are so many other Carnivals (Cropover, Toronto CARIBANA, St. Lucia, etc) around the world, there are always projects to work on. Aside from working on songs, there is corporate work (i.e. advertisements) that keeps some of us busy as well.



Q When you create a ‘Riddim’, do you have specific artistes in mind or do you shop around for artistes after the creative process?

A We usually have artistes in mind. It doesn’t always work out that way though. We market the material to the intended artists and compose the songs either for them up front or write it with them. If they don’t accept the project, we try to find a similar voice to represent it. It is usually a pretty long trial-and-error process.

Q Does a music producer also write the lyrics?

A The typical producer does not write lyrics; however, most are capable of doing that as they are in the environment all the time.

Q What are the various ways music producers earn their income?

A There are a few ways music producers can earn income:

- A. Through royalties and sales—Copyright/Publishing, Master rights, iTunes, Spotify, etc.
- B. Through Synchronization opportunities — Placement in ads or movies, etc.
- C. Through up-front sale of the music, as the client pays for the song to be produced
- D. Through competitions—Soca Monarch, Road March, etc. (percentage of the artist winnings)

Q Do Music Producers put in all the hard work in the background whilst the artistes reap all the financial rewards and praise?

A This is a complex area because there are

some instances when it feels like that, but others when it does not. It really depends on the relationship and agreement made with the artist. Yes, the producer is in the 'background', but once you make the right deals everyone wins.

Q What are the challenges of working with some of T&T's artistes?

A Well it is work, so I guess there're the same challenges that anyone would have in collaborating on a project. The two that stand out would be:

- 1) Different opinions and vision for the song
- 2) Differing business practices

Q Any special shout-out to an artiste that you really enjoyed working with?

A Not doing "preferences", but definitely Kes and Machel. They're both super-talented and musical geniuses.

Q Is Calypso dead?

A The old-fashioned traditional type perhaps...but Calypso is not dead.

Q The art of social-commentary seems to have found a comfortable place in some of our mainstream Carnival party music. Voice, the artist, Ultimate Rejects – Full Extreme and even Blaxx-Hulk come to mind. Do you think that

Mainstream Carnival music is evolving away from being purely party music to something more responsive to societal challenges?

A Just like Calypso, social commentary is part of our style of treating with music-making. But to be absolutely fair, 'party' music is part of our reservoir as well. So, I don't think it's evolving to be more of one or the other. Both have their place, and it really is about balance.

Q Describe your family.

A I am married with 2 boy children. One is seven years old and the other two.

Q Would you be ok with one of your sons also choosing a career in music?

A Most definitely! I would try to make things better before he does, but I would be totally supportive of it.

Q Any advice to a Fatima student interested in a career in Music Production?

A The best advice that would probably apply across the board is to "know yourself." Your talents and passions will guide you. As with any business, it is not going to be an easy journey, but you are defined by the work done today and the more focused it is, the better your chances are in the future.



To be quite frank, if you are not really interested in music or don't think about it before you sleep and first thing after you wake up, and you're willing to forgive it when things go bad, then don't fool yourself with the hype.

Another important piece of advice would be to help as much as you can, even if it is for free. In helping you will learn and build relationships that matter!

The key to success in my opinion is being of genuine help. The old 'cast your bread on the waters...'

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Images from FOBA's Carnival Cruise, 'Splash – The Cooler Cruise' held in collaboration with Holy Name Convent Alumni Association and St. Francois Girls College Alumnae, on board the Harbour Master on Wednesday 7th February.



Form 3 Career Day and Expo 2018

“THE WORLD IS MY FUTURE” WAS THE THEME FOR THIS YEAR’S FORM 3 CAREER DAY AND EXPO WHICH WAS HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18TH APRIL.

The day’s proceedings were opened with a prayer and welcome by Principal, Fr. Gregory Augustine, followed by an introduction by Form 3 Dean, Nigel Cooper, of the two (2) feature speakers, Mr. Christopher Camacho and Mr. Andrew Lewis. Afterwards, the 152 Form 3 boys were divided into groups of 8 and each group was chaperoned by a parent to the various booths.

Below is the list of the companies and individuals who participated.

Congratulations go out to the Parents Support Group for once again hosting a very successful event.

Architecture/ Project Management	Trinidad and Tobago Institute of Architects
Medical Services	MRI of Trinidad
Aviation	PRO ATS - Flight Simulator
Aviation	Caribbean Airlines Limited
Military	Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force
Marine Pilotage	Trinidad and Tobago Pilot Association
Energy Sector	Atlantic LNG
Energy Sector	Stork – a Fluor Company
Media	Hott 93
Mechanic	Bad Granny
Carpentry	Immortelle Wood- working - Chris Valdez
Finance	Sheppard Securities
Movement Efficiency, Sports Psychology	ALTIS Performance Evolution
Optometrist / Ophthalmologist	Look Opticians
Photography	Fotograe Services - Graeme Ottley
Tertiary Education	University of Trinidad and Tobago
Tertiary Education	University of the West Indies

Vocation - Religion	3 seminarians
Real Estate and Valuation	Terra Caribbean
Technology	IBM
Science and Technology	NIHERST
Forensic Science	Caribbean Forensic Services
Restaurateur	Adam’s Bagels - Adam Aboud
Dentistry	Dr Chandler



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What's happening in Sports

Fatima College emerged as the top boys school when the TT Triathlon Federation (TTTF) hosted its fourth instalment of the TTTF Secondary Schools Multi-Sport Series, with a duathlon held at the Brian Lara Cricket Academy in Tarouba, on Sunday 18th March 2018.

Overall, Fatima are leading with 2245 points, followed by St Joseph's Convent Port of Spain with 1480 points and St Mary's College with 880 points at the end of the second event of the Multi-Sport Series 2017/2018. The Triathlon Championships, which is the final event, will be held in the next school term.

RESULTS

Boys 13 & Under

(1 km run/3 km bike/500 m run)

1. Luke Ferreira - Fatima - 13:05
2. Ryan Hospedales - Fatima - 13:55
3. David Archer - Fatima - 14:08

Boys 14-15

(1.5 km run/4 km bike/800 m run)

1. Troy Llanos - Fatima - 16:14
2. Matthew Wortman - Fatima - 16:59
3. Samuel Rudden - North Gate - 17:15

Boys 16 & Over

(2k m run/6 km bike/1 km run)

1. Darian Nimblett - Fatima - 21:48
2. Kareem Mason - St Mary's College - 21:52
3. Jean-Marc Granderson - QRC - 22:05

Relays

(1.5 km run/4 km bike/500 m run)

1. Fatima - 14:58
2. Fatima - 15:23



Ryan Hospedales, Luke Ferreira, David Archer



Matthew Wortman, Troy Llanos, Samuel Rudden



Darian Nimblett, Kareem Mason, Jean-Marc Granderson



Fatima Relay Team: Troy Llanos, Matthew Wortman, Samuel Rudden, Kareem Mason

Upcoming Events

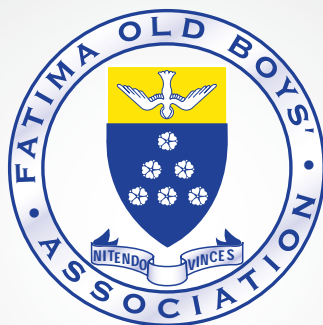
8-A-Side Cricket Tournament

SUNDAY 10TH JUNE 2018

School Daze Retro Party

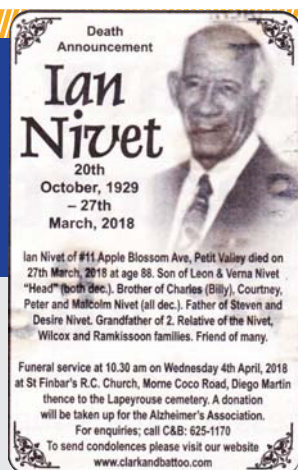
(with Holy Name Convent Alumni Association
& St. Francois Girls College Alumnae)

SATURDAY 14TH JULY 2018



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Memorium to Fatima Old Boy and Sports Pioneer, IAN NIVET (1929-2018) - The Man who gave Fatima our First Holiday - KEITH SIMPSON

IAN NIVET ENTERED THIS WORLD ON 20TH OCTOBER 1929 AND PASSED AWAY ON 27TH MARCH 2018, LEAVING BEHIND A VIRTUAL 'STADIUM' OF GREAT MEMORIES. HE WAS AMONG THE FIRST BATCH OF FATIMA STUDENTS WHO STARTED THE COLLEGE IN 1945.

As a natural sportsman, Ian loved cycling, but was banned from cycling by his mother (Verna Heady Nivet, who owned and operated Vee's Guest House and Tavern) as it left him with many broken body parts. Ian secretly purchased a second-hand bicycle with the brand name "Unity", for \$35.00, paying down \$13.00, with a pay-off arrangement of 50-cents weekly. This was unknown to his mother. He lived at Abercromby Street at the time, but could not carry the bicycle home...so he left it at his friend's home at Picton Street. He used to train in the Chaguaramas area, take the bike to his friend's house, then run to his own home!

In 1947, St Mary's College and Fatima held their Sports Meet jointly, as Fatima had not yet acquired their own Grounds at Mucurapo Road from the Port-of-Spain City Council. In that Meet, Ian won the 'Throwing-the-Cricket-Ball' Competition by two inches; placed second in the High and Long Jumps, third in the Sack & Three-legged Race. In cycling, he won the Half, One-mile and Two-mile events, and placed third in the Three-mile race!!

For his excellent performance, he was awarded the Victor Ludorum Trophy, beating C. Agostini by one point. The Fatima boys went wild and hoisted Ian on their shoulders, carrying him to the College yard, singing and beating bottles and drums. Because up to this time this was Fatima College's finest hour, never

having beaten St Mary's College in any sporting discipline, Fatima's then Principal Fr. Byrne granted a school-holiday in Nivet's honour. When Ian's mother heard the news she could not believe it, and exclaimed: "How could this be? Ian doesn't even own a bicycle!" (Ian later recounted: "I sold every trophy I won and paid Mikey Fernandez from whom I had purchased the bicycle. Mikey wrote off the \$11.10 which I had still owed him.")

Ian was 17 years old at the time. As an adult years later, he went on to distinguish himself in riding and and perhaps most of all, coaching—Roger Gibbon and Leslie King, two of our country's finest cyclists, were coached by Nivet.

Ian was the coach and manager of the T&T Cycle Team at the 1966 Commonwealth Games in Jamaica which saw T&T win two Gold medals courtesy Roger Gibbon in the Sprint and Time-trial. He was also the manager and coach of the T&T Cycle Team at the 1970 Commonwealth Games in Scotland. (Ian remained friends with his school-mate Roy Huggins, who is 89 years old; both having started at Fatima together, and sharing a close relationship up to the time of Ian's death.)

Another fellow-first year Fatima student Robert Aguiton, now residing in Toronto, remembers Ian as team-mate to Robert (and Robert's older brother Sydney, later to become Fatima's first ordained priest, now deceased) on Fatima's Cricket First Eleven. "Ian was a



The cycling fraternity pays their respect at funeral

fine hard-hitting batsman, an excellent fieldsman, and a useful occasional bowler," Robert recalls.

While Fatima College produced many great sportsmen, Ian Nivet was the first to bring glory to this young College 'against all odds'. Countless other friends remember Ian as a supremely entertaining raconteur, the live-wire in 'ole talk' sessions at Queen's Park Savannah bench limes, dramatizing his stories with actions and detailed memories.

Ian was finally laid to his much deserved rest and reward on Wednesday 4th April 2018 at the Lapeyrouse Cemetery.

May he rest in peace...and continue to ride in glory.

Letters to the Editor

Anyone wishing to send letters to the editor of FOBA Newsletter "Beyond the Grey Shirt" can email their contributions to: contact@foba.fatima.edu.tt

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