

# Ongoing Capital Projects to advance the Department's Objectives

2012 will be marked as a year of change and strategic reevaluation here at Customs and Excise.

The Office of the Comptroller has outlined its fourth quarter change efforts which include the on-going expansion of the H.S. Hanley Conference Room and Training Facility and the acquisition of a Bird Rock property that will serve as the base of the enforcement operations of the Department.

As Customs closes the third and final year of its Customs Strategic Business Plan (CSBP), the Department seeks to fulfil two of its strategic objectives as they pertain to the strengthening of our enforcement (compliance) functions and the organisation's human resource development.

Work on the upgrade of the training facility is on track for completion by the close of December. The upgraded facility will offer twice the space for training as that which had been available.

The training centre will boast multimedia projection and other modern



Work in progress by Rock and Dirt Construction on the H.S. Hanley Training facility.

training amenities.

Mr. Theodore Brown, Assistant Comptroller of Customs with responsibility for training, said that he welcomes the extra space that this expansion offers.

"As the functions of the Department continue to grow, it is imperative that we are able to offer more of our officers the in-house training needed to meet all the objectives we have set out to accomplish, as well as the expectations of the country," Brown said.

The Department has in the past month acquired the property which once housed Century Eslon (SKB)Ltd., a pipe fittings



distributor. This property will undergo renovations in early 2013 to adequately accommodate the administrative arm of the enforcement division, the K-9 Unit, and intelligence gathering and border patrol.

Mr. Jomo Butler, Assistant Comptroller of Customs with responsibility for the Enforcement Division, said his division will be better prepared to discharge the border security role of the Department from the upgraded facilities.

"The Enforcement Division continues to take its border security functions with the highest seriousness. We are always determined to rise above and beyond the call of duty. These new facilities will help us to better ensure the safety and welfare of all citizens, residents and visitors to this country," Butler said.

These two projects form part of a wide range of initiatives undertaken in 2012 by the Department to create and maintain a new culture of institutional strengthening through human resource capacity building and encouragement.

The department will unveil a new CSBP in 2013.

## Pen of the Comptroller



Mr. Rodney Harris Comptroller of Customs

The Customs and Excise Department once functioned as a joint unit along with the Treasury and Inland Revenue Departments. This joint structure was established under old colonial rule and up to a point had served the island's expectations in respect to trade issues and tax collections.

Political, social and economic changes forced the separation of this joint arrangement and as a result we saw the development of the Customs and Excise Department, Audit Department, Treasury Department, and the Inland Revenue Department in 1958. These offices were eventually put under the general control of the Ministry of Finance. This change allowed for greater efficiency in the functions and roles of the respective units.

Change is defined, in some instances, as events which occur when one thing passes from a known state or phase to another. Changes continue to take place in Customs over the years and even more so since the change of management in 2008.

Today, the department wholeheartedly embraces change and if one were to look closely the realisation would be immediate. The Customs owes great gratitude to Fin. Sec. Janet Harris for her visionary leadership.

She was the chief administrative backbone of the changes we implemented and we express our thanks to her as she departs the office to take up a new assignment. We wish her God's bountiful blessings as she once again embraces change.

Each of us face change and challenges in different disciplines. Yet some of us delay action for fear that we may fail.

Now, Customs has embarked on a number of changes which I can say without fear, they were overdue. One such initiative was the implementation of a dedicated courier facility.

This change included the total removal of all courier operations from the RLB International Airport. It also called for a number of measures to be put in place before the actual change of operations.

These included negotiations with FedEx to determine the logistics of the offsite operations. All other courier operations were to be cleared at the new facility. Offices were built and officers trained to function under the new scheme in order to maximise the revenue collection in this area.

This was a historic change since the Customs has been able to safeguard this and every aspect of cargo release. And following this venture, we saw the need for changes through the implementation of a risk management component in the Department.

As a professional body we will embrace change as we keep pace with the changing world around us.

### Your Customs. Your training.



The Training Division is delighted to announce that we have just concluded yet another productive quarter.

#### THIRD QUARTER SYNOPSIS

20 Junior officers underwent the formal Induction Training in July. These officers were formally taught the Customs legislation and the rules and procedures that guide the Department in the various divisions and stations.

Two officers travelled to Barbados in August to participate in the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative sponsored training in Advanced Passenger Information System (APIS) Border Security.

While in September, four officers attended the E-Trace Training in Fire Arms here in St. Kitts which was facilitated by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Fire Arms (ATF).

During this quarter, more than 50 officers received training.

#### FOURTH QUARTER PROJECTIONS

Three Officers will be leave the federation

for REDTRAC Jamaica, in October, to undergo training in Cyber Crimes Investigation.

Also in October, two officers will attend the Maritime Security Risk Assessment and Evaluation Workshop in Trinidad and Tobago. This training is sponsored by the Inter-American Committee Against Terrorism.

In November, two officers will attend a workshop on the Enforcement of Trade Controls under the Montreal Protocol regulations.

Then in December, one officer will attend the World Trade Organization's meeting of the Negotiating Group on Trade Facilitation in Geneva, Switzerland.

## Jamaica Government gets go-ahead to join Shanique Myrie case

#### Courtesy: Jamaica Observer, September 27, 2012

KINGSTON, Jamaica — The Jamaican Government has been given the goahead by the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) to join the Shanique Myrie case.

Myrie, who accused immigration officials in Barbados of sexually assaulting her more than a year ago, has taken the Barbados Government to the CCJ on allegations that she was sexually assaulted by an immigration officer at the Grantley Adams International Airport. Jamaica's application to join the case was heard one week before by a three-member panel of judges headed by CCJ president Sir Charles Byron via video link.

A panel of lawyers representing the Government of Jamaica argued that the application was made to protect the interest of the Jamaican people under the revised Treaty of Chaguaramas that governs the 15member Caribbean Community grouping.

The CCJ, established in 2001 to replace the London-based Privy Council, also serves as an international tribunal interpreting the treaty, as well as deciding disputes between CARICOM nationals and regional countries concerning the treaty, which include the free movement of nationals within the grouping.

In April, the CCJ awarded legal costs to Myrie after the Barbadian government conceded that she had a case.

The Barbados government had earlier objected to the Jamaica government becoming a party to the lawsuit brought by Myrie.

### New OECS trade facilitation project launched

Courtesy: Caribbean News Now! August 2012



CASTRIES, St Lucia -- A new project designed to assist OECS member states in negotiating and implementing trade facilitation agreements was launched in Saint Lucia in August.

The OECS Secretariat, in collaboration with the United Nations' Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), launched the new project during a trade facilitation workshop from August 21 - 22, 2012.

The project focused on national implementation plans for a future World Trade Organisation (WTO) trade facilitation agreement and other agreements within the OECS Economic Union and the CSME. The objective of the negotiations is to simplify and harmonize international trade procedures such as payment of fees, access to information and cooperation between Customs and other authorities.

It is one area in which OECS member states stand to benefit significantly as reform can result in increased efficiency by reducing delays in the clearance of goods which could also be more cost effective for consumers.

UNCTAD has supported the OECS Secretariat and its member states in conducting national needs assessments, participating in the WTO negotiations on trade facilitation, and supporting the establishment of national trade facilitation task forces. UNCTAD will lead the preparation of national implementation plans in the OECS. The expected outcomes of UNCTAD's assistance are:

- Updated and expanded national needs self-assessments based on the most recent version of the draft text of the trade facilitation agreement being negotiated in the WTO; and
- Implementation plans for each measure under negotiation.

The workshop participants, including trade and Customs officials, reviewed the state of WTO negotiations on trade facilitation and discussed the project tools, outputs and stakeholder involvement. The workshop sought to identify OECS interests and concerns, in the context of the establishment of the OECS Economic Union and identify regional approaches to its implementation.

The workshop and project were funded by UNCTAD through its multi-donor trust fund and will be followed by National Missions to the OECS-WTO member states – Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia and St Vincent and the Grenadines.

# All Things Are Created Twice

An extract from the best seller 7 Habits of Highly Effective People by Dr. Stephen Covey

"Begin with the End in Mind" is based on the principle that all things are created twice. There's a mental or first creation, and a physical or second creation to all things.

Take the construction of a home, for example. You create it in every detail before you ever hammer the first nail into place. You try to get a very clear sense of what kind of house you want. If you want a family-centred home, you plan a family room where it would be a natural gathering place. You plan sliding doors and a patio for children to play outside. You work with ideas. You work with your mind until you get a clear image of what you want to build.

Then you reduce it to blueprint and develop construction plans. All of this is done before the earth is touched. If not, then in the second creation, the physical creation, you will have to make expensive changes that may double the cost of your home.

The carpenter's rule is "measure twice, cut once." You have to make sure that the blueprint, the first creation, is really what you want, that you've thought everything through. Then you put it into bricks and mortar. Each day you go to the construction shed and pull out the blueprint to get marching orders for the day. You Begin with the End in Mind.

For another example, look at a business. If you want to have a successful enterprise, you clearly define what you're trying to accomplish. You carefully think through the product or service you want to provide in terms of your market target, then you organize all the elements -- financial, research and development, operations, marketing, personnel, physical facilities, and so on -- to meet that objective.

The extent to which you Begin with the End in Mind often determines whether or not you are able to create a successful enterprise. Most business failures begin in the first creation, with problems such as undercapitalization, misunderstanding of the market, or lack of a business plan.

The same is true with parenting. If you want to raise responsible, self-disciplined children, you have to keep that end clearly in mind as you interact with your children on a daily basis. You can't behave toward them in ways that undermine their self-discipline or self-esteem.

To the extent to which we understand the principle of two creations and accept the responsibility for both, we act within and enlarge the borders of our Circle of Influence. To the extent to which we do not operate in harmony with this principle and take charge of the first creation, we diminish it.

#### By Design or Default

It's a principle that all things are created twice, but not all first creations are by conscious design. In our personal lives, if we do not develop our own self-awareness and become responsible for first creations, we empower other people and circumstances outside our Circle or Influence to shape much of our lives by default. We reactively live the scripts handed to us by family, associates, other people's agendas, the pressures of circumstance -- scripts from our earlier years, from our training, our conditioning.

Whether we are aware of it or not, whether we are in control of it or not, there is a first creation to every part of our lives. We are either the second creation of our own proactive design, or we are the second creation of other people's agendas, of circumstances, or of past habits.

The unique human capacities of selfawareness, imagination, and conscience enable us to examine first creations and make it possible for us to take charge of our own first creation, to write our own script.

Put another way, Habit 1 (**Be PROACTIVE**) says, "You are the creator." Habit 2 (**BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND**) is the first creation.

#### Leadership and Management --The Two Creations

Leadership is not management. ...leadership has to come first.

Management is a bottom-line focus: How can I best accomplish certain things? Leadership deals with the top line: What are the things I want to accomplish? In the words of both Peter Drucker and Warren Bennis, "Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things." Management is efficiency in climbing the ladder of success; leadership determines whether the ladder is leaning against the right wall.

You can quickly grasp the important difference between the two if you envision a group of producers cutting their way through the jungle with machetes. They're the producers, the solvers. They're cutting through the undergrowth, clearing it out.

The managers are behind them, sharpening their machetes, writing policy and procedure manuals, holding muscle development programs, bringing in improved technologies, and setting up working schedules and compensation programs for machete wielders. The leader is the one who climbs the tallest tree, surveys the entire situation, and yells, "Wrong jungle!"

But how do the busy, efficient producers and managers often respond? "Shut up! We're making progress."As individuals, groups, and businesses, we're often so busy cutting through the undergrowth we don't even realize we're in the wrong jungle. And the rapidly changing environment in which we live makes effective leadership more critical than it has ever been -- in every aspect of independent and interdependent life.

### Trade News

### O.E.C.D. finds signs of weakness in world economy

Courtesy: New York Times September 13, 2012

LONDON — More evidence of a weakening global economy emerged ahead of the US Federal Reserve's decision to take new steps to stimulate growth in the United States.

A report from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development pointed to a slowdown in the coming months in Italy, China, India and Russia, with weak growth in France and Germany — the two biggest economies of the struggling euro zone.

The study focused on indicators that aim to anticipate turning points in economic activity. They show signs of slightly slower growth in Japan and the United States, while for Britain and Brazil, they point tentatively to a pickup in activity, albeit at a slow rate, the organization said.

A separate report from the O.E.C.D. said business spending on research and development — one measure of economic strength fell 4.5 percent in 2009 in the 34 countries that are members of the organization. Only France and South Korea went against expectations, increasing their spending.

### All Things are Created Twice

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We are more in need of a vision or designation and a compass (a set of principles or directions) and less in need of a road map. We often don't know what the terrain ahead will be like or what we will need to go through it; much will depend on our judgment at the time. But an inner compass will always give us direction.

Effectiveness -- often even survival -does not depend solely on how much effort we expend, but on whether or not the effort we expend is in the right jungle. And the metamorphosis taking place in most every industry and profession demands leadership first and management second. In business, the market is changing so rapidly that many products and services that successfully Spending in Asian economies, including some like China and India, which are not members of the O.E.C.D., continued to increase. Year-on-year growth in research and development spending by Chinese businesses increased by 29.5 percent in 2010 and by 20.5 percent in South Korea and India.

That means that the crisis has accelerated China's share in global research and development spending, which climbed from 7 percent in 2004 to 10.5 percent in 2008 and jumped to 13 percent in 2009, the report said.

There was some better news in the euro zone on Thursday, as Italy's borrowing costs continued to drop. An auction of three-year debt sold out at its lowest rate in almost two years.

There was some better news in the euro zone, as Italy's borrowing costs continued to drop. An auction of three-year debt sold out at its lowest rate in almost two years.

At the same time, the European Central

met consumer tastes and needs a few years ago are obsolete today. Proactive powerful leadership must constantly monitor environmental change, particularly customer buying habits and motives, and provide the force necessary to organize resources in the right direction.

Efficient management without effective leadership is, "like straightening deck chairs on the Titanic." No management success can compensate for failure in leadership. But leadership is hard because we're often caught in a management paradigm.

At the final session of a year-long executive development program, the president of an oil company came up to me and said, "When you pointed out the difference between leadership and management I Bank announced that it was ready to make unlimited bond purchases to help struggling euro zone nations if necessary, providing countries meet conditions. Germany's constitutional court also approved the creation of a permanent bailout fund for the euro, and elections in the Netherlands did not increase the representation of political parties critical of the euro to the extent many had predicted.

Nicholas Spiro of Spiro Sovereign Strategy in London said there had been a "dramatic improvement in sentiment" toward the so-called peripheral euro zone countries, which include Italy, but added a note of caution.

"While there are grounds for more optimism since the E.C.B. announced the details of its bondbuying program, it is far too premature to claim that the euro zone crisis has been stemmed once and for all," he said. "There are many pieces, in particular very contentious political ones, which need to fall into place."

looked at my role as the president of this company and realized that I had never been into leadership. I was deep into management, buried by pressing challenges and the details of day-to-day logistics. So I decided to withdraw from management. I want to really lead my organization."

"I was absolutely convinced that I needed to provide leadership. And I did. Today our whole business is different. We're more in line with our environment. We have doubled our revenues and quadrupled our profits. I'm into leadership."

Leadership is even more lacking in our personal lives. We're into managing with efficiency, setting and achieving goals before we have even clarified our values.

# CUSTOMS says big "Thank You" to Fi



Under the theme "*Celebrating Her Achievements*. *Seeing Her Off to Achieve More*.", the Customs and Excise Department hosted Financial Secretary, Mrs. Janet Harris and spouse Mr. Gaston Harris to a Gala Evening at Marshall's Restaurant, Frigate Bay on Friday, October 5, 2012 in recognition of her sterling assistance to the Department over the last six years.

# Financial Secretary, Mrs. Janet Harris



Customs management and officers turned out to overwhelmingly thank Mrs. Harris for her support and confidence she reposed in them and wished her every success in her duties at the World Bank. On hand to join in the festivities were Prime Minister, Rt. Hon . Dr. Denzil L. Douglas; Police Commissioner, Celvin G. Walwyn; and Heads of other departments in the Ministry of Finance.

# Customs Legislation Reform will modernize the Department



The Customs and Excise Department is working in conjunction with the Ministry of Legal Affairs to revise its principle legal instrument, the Customs (Control and Management) Act.

Originally enacted in 1992, the Act will undergo a reform effort that seeks to modernise its provisions so that the St. Kitts and Nevis legislation will harmonise with the legislations of our CARICOM partners.

While the reform efforts are more expansive than those discussed in this article, we will look at five key areas of change that will strengthen the core competencies of the Department as it seeks to fulfil its mission objectives of "serving or citizens, collecting and protecting our revenue and enforcing compliance laws at our borders".

#### **Advance Notification**

The revised Act will for the first time provide a legal framework within which Customs can collect and utilise intelligence found in systems of advance notification on passenger and cargo manifest.

This system was formally introduced to the region an integral part of the Sunset legislation used by the region in preparation to host the ICC Cricket World Cup in 2007.

Caribbean governments were able to use the system for ease of processing travellers between the islands, however there has not been a permanent legal framework that gives Customs the legal authority to gather and use such data and will allow for the protection of the data collected.

#### Authority to Audit

At present, the powers of Customs to audit the records of importers is a source of much debate by many of our colleagues in the trade sector.

The revised Act, therefore, will once and for all give clarification to the authority of Customs to do so.

Such a provision will allow for greater accountability in the trade sector.

#### **Requirement to keep proper records**

While the laws give the customs powers to within a five year period to bring a case against an offender, there is at this time no legal provision that mandates importers to keep a complete record of all past declarations and the supporting documents.

The Act will allow for Customs to access all such records and will prescribe penalties for all importers who fail to grant Customs the relevant access to files or fail to keep proper records.

The Act will outline the procedures of record keeping and the powers of Customs to make copies of such records.

#### **Customs Aids**

With the availability of scanners, itemisers,

metal detectors and other modern equipment to help Customs discharge its border security role, the legislative authority to use take the data generated by and collected from them would be admissible in court.

The act will also recognise the canine capabilities of the Department so as to cover the use of the dogs.

#### Definitions of the various types of agents

Laws are ineffective where definitions are not clear. It is always important to clearly establish set out the meaning of concepts covered in the legislation as too broad a usage of the terms can adversely affect officers and the department in the execution of their duties.

Under the revised Act, there will be an expansion of the definitions of key terms so as to clear up anomalies now present. The definition of agents, for example, will give way to the classifications and definitions of customs brokers, ships agents, and other agent.

When enacted, the Act will improve the overall capabilities of Customs and Excise to serve the needs of a modern St. Kitts and Nevis.

Copies of the draft legislation will be available for public preview and consultation in early 2013.

### Sudoku Solution

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# Culture: What gives change its root?



We recall with pride how in December the Baggage Hall at the R. L. Bradshaw International Airport underwent a physical change. This change fostered the implementation of the Primary/Secondary system of processing travelers through the customs declaration process.

Preceding this, the Department used a hybrid version of the confrontational and the Red Lane-Green Lane systems, the use of which gave way to longer lines at the Customs area and dissatisfied passengers.

Today, many residents and visitors express their delight at the fast processing through Customs that they enjoy after they meet the primary requirements of the new system.

Looking back almost one year later, the satisfaction derived from this new system can be lost if the organizational culture that was brought with the change is not allowed to take root.

The culture of any business can be defined as the way things are done to meet the mission, vision and values of the organization.

Changes within an organisation, whether they be planned or emergent, are the first signs of growth. However, the change is never complete and effective until it has integrally take root in the culture of the organisation.

Where employees understand the urgency for change, share the vision of the change, are empowered with the requisite and skills to deliver the change, have bought into the change, and have not allowed these to become an integral part of the way things are done in the organisation, that change effort is destined to fail.

Where culture is not permitted to take root or change is not allowed to stick, the organisation is destined to fall back into the position where work teams are disunited and customers are dissatisfied

The questions therefore is important, "what gives culture its root?" What can we do to make change initiatives stick?

It begins with an embrace of change by all employees. Everyone needs to immerse himself or herself in the knowledge of goals to be achieved as a result of the new initiative.

An embrace of change brings with it the desire to implement the initiative within the framework of the vision, mission and values of the organisation.

This requires an immersion by all people in the organisation to have more than a cursory knowledge of what takes place in the change.

It would be ideal that all Customs Officers seek to have a comprehensive knowledge of changes that take place in the organisation. With the advent of Terminal Operations, all officers should know what happens at this station even before being assigned there.

This allows for a smooth transition into one's role to which is assigned and at the same time, the culture continues to take root. Secondly, the culture takes root where the behaviour continues. The more a procedure is done; the more a particular skill is utilised; the more traditions are practiced; the more firmly the culture is rooted and planted.

Many people fear that new behaviours will take them beyond their comfort zones. So many of us hold on to skills, procedures and traditions not realsing that these are tools and that all tools can be upgraded or our work will be outdated.

Therefore, we must accept that a new culture takes root the sooner, and the more widely, that it is practiced.

New employees must never allow themselves to learn and practice habits that go against the grain of the desired culture. It is more difficult to achieve conformity after non-compliance has our shaped indiscipline.

Equally, it may be as difficult for officers who have operated within the ambit of specialisation and not showing interest to the full operations of the Department, e.g. one who is thorough in the operations of the Long Room but has no knowledge or shows any interest in knowing the new systems at the Baggage Hall, even one year after it has been implemented.

The nation depends on Customs to be its principle border security agency. We need to effectively carry out our mandate understanding the dynamic nature of the Customs environment and committing to the vision that fully implementing change initiatives that will take root.

# Legislations - Customs Management and Control Act, Part II

In this second part of our review of the powers granted to the Customs and Excise Department under the Customs (Control and Management) Act, we will closely consider Sections 92 - 103.

Section 92 requires that any premises used by Customs be provided with the facilities that allow officers to perform any examination or search and any other duty. This includes bonded warehouses.

This section determines that the responsibility for the maintenance and security of the facility and its fittings will be that of the person required by the Comptroller to provide such facilities.

There are penalties for failure to comply or pay the expenses on demand, for the destruction of or damage to fittings, or improperly gain access to that place or to the goods stored therein.

Section 93 grants officers the power to take samples of goods examined. All samples taken will be disposed of and accounted for.

Section 94 grants the power to search premises that are reasonably believed to contain goods that are liable to forfeiture only after being so authorized by the Comptroller in writing or by a Magistrate after the officer has given information under oath.

Where no goods liable for forfeiture is found, the Comptroller is responsible for the costs to make good any damages that resulted in the search.

**Section 95** gives power to search a vehicle suspected of carrying anything which is liable for forfeiture.

**Section 96** gives power to search any person who is believed to have anything liable to forfeiture in his or her possession. A search on a female must be made by a female officer.

The person being searched has the right to request to be taken before a Magistrate or a senior Customs officer. That person will consider the grounds for the search and direct whether the search is to take place or not.

**Section 97** grants powers to Customs and Police Officers to make arrests where an offence has been committed or where one is suspected of having committed an offence under any Customs legislation.

There is a five years statute of limitation after which arrests cannot be made except

in circumstances where it was not practical to make an arrest when the offence had been committed.

Police Officers making arrests under customs laws shall give notice of the arrest to the Comptroller.

Section 98 grants the power to officers to carry and use firearms, where the Comptroller considers it necessary. It lists three conditions under which he/she may use his or her firearm which includes the summoning of a vessel captured in Section 99.

**Section 100** grants to power of the Comptroller to pay rewards up to \$500. Any reward above that amount needs the approval of the Minister.

Sections 101, 102 and 103 grants the Comptroller and officers powers to require masters of vessels and commanders of aircraft to meet (101), powers to require information, within five years, with regard to importation and exportation of goods (102) and powers to require security by bond or otherwise, and to cancel such security (103).

The powers of the department are wide. Know the authority that empowers you.

# Speculated spring launch for Samsung's flagship replacement

#### Courtesy: techradar.com, September 17, 2012

The Samsung Galaxy S4 could get an earlier than expected outing, with rumours suggesting the Korean firm will launch the handset in March 2013.

According to the Korea Times a Samsung representative said that the Galaxy IV would go on sale in March, after an unveiling at MWC 2013 in Barcelona.

Samsung's part supplies claim the Galaxy S4 could well sport a 5-inch display - up from 4.8-inches on the Galaxy S3 - along with LTE capabilities and a quad-core processor.

The Galaxy S3 was only announced in June of this year, so a March arrival for the next incarnation seems a little too soon in a world where annual product cycles are the norm.

However analysts are suggesting Samsung is looking to bring outs its next flagship handset sooner rather than later, following Apple's launch of the iPhone 5 in mid September.

Pundits expressed that they would be surprised that Samsung has to launch the Galaxy S4 just nine months after the S3 touched down, so we're taking this report with a relatively high dosage of salt, but in today's smartphone world you can never rule these things out.



## Humour - All in a day's work

### Up All Night

A Trinidadian, a Jamaican, a Barbadian and a Grenadian went to New York for the Labour Day weekend.

To save money, they decided to sleep two to a room. No one wanted to room with Daryl, the Grenadian, because he snored so loudly. They decided it wasn't fair for the same person to stay with Daryl every night, so they agreed to take turns.

The Trinidadian slept with Daryl on



the first night and came to breakfast the next morning with his hair a mess and his eyes all bloodshot. They said, 'Man, what happened to you?' He said, 'Daryl snored so loudly, I just sat up and watched him all night.'

The next night it was the Bajan's turn. In the morning, he arrived for breakfast with hair all disheveled, eyes all blood-shot. They said, 'Man, what happened to you? You look

awful!' He said, 'Man, that Daryl! He shakes the roof. I watched him all night."

The third night was the Jamaican's turn. Frank was a big burly wrestler from Montego Bay. The next morning he came to breakfast bright-eyed and chipper. 'Good morning,' he said. The others couldn't believe it! They said, 'Man, what happened? He said, 'Well, we got ready for bed. I went and tucked Daryl into bed and kissed him good night ... He sat up and watched me all night long."

### Fun at Customs - SUDOKU

### <u>Sudoku Origin and</u> Modern Sudoku History

While Sudoku is the name the world has come to know of this puzzle game in its present form, Sudoku origin isn't of Japanese origin. The number of given digits was restricted to 32 or less; and the givens were distributed in rotationally symmetric cells, so the puzzles became "symmetrical."

Depending on how rigid you define what really constitutes a Sudoku puzzle, you can in fact trace its evolution through a long string of paper and pencil puzzles in history. The first shape of Sudoku perhaps can be seen from the magic squares appearing in China around 1000 BC or earlier if you go along this route. As the modern game we know it today though, Sudoku has a much more recent history.

In the 19th century, number puzzles based on the magic squares started to appear in French newspapers. Such puzzles became a feature till about the time of the First World War.

### How to Play Sudoku?

Sudoku is a puzzle game requiring you to place numbers with one simple rule. You have to place the digits from 1 to 9 so that they appear on each row and column within the game board of 9x9 grid once only. The grid is further divided into nine 3x3 sub-

grids, sub-squares, boxes, regions or blocks, however you want to call them. Again, you can only fill in the digits 1 to 9 once in each of these boxes.

You don't start off a Sudoku game with a blank grid. The puzzle setter will provide you with a partially filled grid. You'll then have to complete the other blank spaces with the numbers using logic and deduction following the rules simple stated above. The difficulty level of the game depends on the amount of pre-filled numbers. The more the game board has been pre-filled with digits, the easier it is to complete the game. Conversely, the less numbers given, the more difficult the game level.

Do enjoy playing. It's a game of logic, and most of all it is fun.

Do enjoy.

(solution on page 8)



#### LANCE - - Getting it Straight

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### **Customs Sports Club Notices**

#### **4TH QUARTER FUNDRAISING**

The Sports Club will host a Takeaway Dinner in November. Be on the lookout for tickets and please feel free to sell as many tickets as possible.

There will also be a raffle in December. Fun prizes will be up for grabs. Please remember that all proceeds go towards defraying 2013 Club Activities.

*The details to these fundraisers will be announced shortly.* 

#### **4TH QUARTER ACTIVITIES**

Friday-Rama Lime continues on Friday October 12 and 26, November 16 and 30 and December 14, from 4p.m. to 10p.m.

Please come out and support your Sports Club.

#### A SPECIAL THANK YOU

The Customs Sport Club would like to take this opportunity to thank the Management and Staff of the Customs and Excise Department for your continued support throughout 2012.

