



Published by the **Carriacou Historical Society**, Carriacou, Grenada – 1(473)443-8288 – carriacoumuseum@gmail.com

Welcome to "The Carriacou Museum" Newsletter! Our mission is to bring you closer to the past, present and future of life in Carriacou. The Museum here in Carriacou provides a fascinating glimpse into Carriacou's past. Numerous exhibits highlight the diversity, talent and energy of the communities of yesteryear and provides inspiration for today and tomorrow. You are invited to invest a little interest in the past and come in for a friendly tour!

Featured Exhibit:

The featured museum exhibit in this issue is an Amerindian well casing. Mrs. Margaret Andrews, a Carriacou Historical Society member, discovered this well casing in Harvey Vale, Carriacou. Workers digging a new cistern uncovered the top pot. Further excavation revealed that there was a series of bottomless pots stacked one on top of the other. Water from a fresh water spring located less than 50 feet from the sea, flowed up through the pots. These pots are all of the Arawak Barrancoid style dating from approximately 500 A.D. More pots of the well casing remain at the original well site.

Constant Springs Guest house preserves the original well site. Prior to the discovery of this well, similar pots and bowls were found, some of which are on display in the Museum.



A Bit of History: by Dr. Edward Kent
(Continued from the last issue) About a thousand years ago the Arawaks were displaced by the

Caribs who were a different South American Indian Tribe. They were very war-like and easily conquered the peaceful Arawaks. They killed all the males and kept the women as their slaves and wives. The women preserved their language and could converse between themselves without letting their Carib Masters know their thoughts. Later, European settlers observed that the Caribs they encountered spoke two languages. They could not understand why the men and the women spoke different languages. The Caribs lived in thatched huts in settlements near the sea. They slept in hammocks and ate fish, turtles, iguanas, manioc and many other animals that fell prey to their arrows, spears and traps. A visit to one of these settlements will reveal hundreds of the "beaks" of parrot fish lying all around the camps. The Caribs hollowed out silk-cotton trees with fire and stone axes to make their canoes and cultivated cassava and tobacco. The Caribs are also reputed to have been cannibals.

Old Words: "Manioc" (Say **man**-ee-coo for the correct "Kayak" pronunciation) is a descendant of the South American marsupial or opossum and was probably brought here by the Caribs as they migrated north from South America.

Archeology: Every year for the last number of years, a team of both professional and aspiring archaeologists have come to dig at Arawak sites on Carriacou. They have uncovered many interesting artifacts that now need to be recorded and cataloged. The Museum needs help with this fascinating job. These historical items belong to us all and it is the responsibility of the whole community to care for them. Are you interested in archeology? Can you spare a couple of hours a week or fortnight? If so call 443-6784 or email delphis@spiceisle.com to volunteer.

News: The General Director for UNESCO, Mr. Koichiro Matsuura visited the Grandbay excavation site in January. The Museum is working on phase one of an expansion and renovation project, thanks to the help of our new sponsor, Grenada Co-operative Bank, Ltd. Phase one involves

upgrading the restroom facilities. Phase two will add storage space for artifacts. Future renovations will involve updating the showroom and replacing the roof. Your help would be greatly appreciated! All donations will be acknowledged with a receipt.

Subscriptions: "The Carriacou Museum" is published bi-annually. We hope that your curiosity has been peaked, your mind stimulated and your life enriched! Membership in the Carriacou Historical Society is only \$25ec or \$10us per year. In return, you will continue to receive the newsletter, have the right to vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), and be eligible to hold an office not to mention the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to preserve Carriacou's history.



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