



Beyond THE GREY SHIRT

FATIMA OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION // NEWSLETTER



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FOBA launches 'The Grey Pocket College Store'

ON THURSDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER 2016, FOBA OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED FATIMA COLLEGE'S STORE, THE GREY POCKET, LOCATED WITHIN THE SCHOOL COMPOUND.



After the cutting of the ribbon by school Principal, Fr. Gregory Augustine, the store was blessed. Students and alumni alike will now be able to purchase a vast variety of Fatima branded merchandise.

Store hours:
Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5 pm.
Payment methods:
Cash, credit card or Linx.

Nintendo Vinces!!



The full photo album from the launch can be viewed at
<http://www.foba.fatima.edu.tt/galleries/nggallery/album1/2016---FOBA-launches-The-Grey-Pocket-College-Store>

Living the Grey Shirt – 2015 Hall of Achievement Inductee, Dr. Andre Cropper, Ph D

INTERVIEWER: AMAR MAHARAJ



Cropper is with his wife Natalie and daughter Iala

BACK IN THE 1800’S, H.S. CROPPER WAS A GREAT INVENTOR AND SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM. IRONICALLY, A HUNDRED YEARS LATER, ANOTHER CROPPER, ANDRE D. (A.D.), TURNS UP AT FATIMA AND LAUNCHES OUT TO BECOME A WORLD OUTSTANDING INVENTOR!

A. D. Cropper followed Fatima with stints at Howard (Bachelor’s and Master’s) followed by Virginia Polytechnic and State University (Ph.D). Then his dizzying climb as expert and innovator, work in six countries with various technologies and industries; publishing technical papers, addressing professional conferences and securing patents. He has been recognized in T&T and the Caribbean and the US. In the positive sense of the expression, out of Fatima has come a Cropper.

Q What year did you enter and leave Fatima College?

A 1973-1978

Q Can you write about your memories at Fatima – pleasant and/or non-pleasant?

A I have fond memories of Fatima, the outstanding teachers, the well-kept grounds and the Fatima Crest of which I admired very much. I particularly enjoyed most of my classes, especially History, Math and Physics.

Q After leaving Fatima, you attended University. Can you explain your choice of university and your area of study?

A I choose Howard University because the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Eric Williams, had attended Howard and I believed it would offer me the greatest opportunity to prepare for a future in Academia in my native country Trinidad and Tobago (My original Career Goal).

I choose to study Electrical Engineering because of my Dad (Anthony Cropper), who inspired me by being a self-taught electrician and my Mom (Wilma Cropper) who was an Elementary School Principal and gave me the desire and drive to accomplish my dreams.

Also, I was always interested in math and physics from an early age and used to play around with electronic devices when I was young.

Q Can you tell us about your journey after your studies?

A After receiving my BS and MS in electrical engineering from Howard University, with a focus on semi-conductor materials I taught Engineering at Norfolk State University. There I learned about a scholarship for underrepresented minority students in the sciences at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech). I earned my PhD in electrical/ materials engineering in three and one-half years.

With my PhD, I returned to Trinidad as a lecturer in the department of Electrical Engineering at the University of the West Indies (my lifelong dream).

A year later I received a call from Corning Incorporated, who had seen my resume at Virginia Tech and invited me to New York for an interview as a Project Engineer.

29 years later my experiences include: 20 years in industry; 17 years of academic involvement; 12 years of research; 10 years of non-profit Board experience; and 4 years of hands-on experience within Caribbean, Asia, Europe and Canada. Stationed on two continents and worked in six countries in telecommunication; flat panel displays; and aerospace/defense industries. Developed three major value-added technologies, published over 45 technical journal and Conference articles, created 10 industry technical publications and was granted 4 patents.

I am a Technical Subject Matter Expert for the Intelligence Community, an Innovator, and a collaborator with U.S. Government’s Defense & Intelligence Agencies on next Generation Disruptive Technologies.

In 2005 Trinidad and Tobago recognized Dr. Cropper with the “National ICONS in Science & Technology” Award and in

2006 the “Caribbean ICONS in Science Technology & Innovation” Award. Also in 2006 Rochester Museum and Science Center, in Rochester NY, honored Dr. Copper as one of the “Inventors – Who Makes Things Work in Rochester”.

Also in 2014 I was the recipient of the “Professional of the Year” Award for outstanding career achievements, from American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES) and from Raytheon the “STAR Award” for outstanding Achievements within STEM Community in 2014, as well as, an “Inventor Award” in 2014 and 2015.

In 2015, I was inducted into the Fatima “Hall of Fame”

Q What would you say has been the highest point of your life/career so far?

A The highest point in my life was the birth of my daughter (Iala Cropper) in 2004.

My greatest career accomplishment includes my current role as Engineering Fellow for Raytheon Space and Airborne Systems and my first Patent in 2003 for “A Method for Manufacturing an Integrated Display Device including an OLED Display and a Touch Screen”.

Q What is your normal day like?

A If I am in the Office:

- Wake up at 4 am and head for the pool at 5 am for a workout
- At the office by 7 am, reviewing/ answering emails and outstanding action items for the previous day or update meetings with my team
- From about 9 am I head into the lab for about 2 to 6 hrs to conduct research
- Last few hours of the 9 hours day is spent with Briefings with Customers or Upper Management

I also travel at least 2 weeks per month and during these trips I spend 9 to 11 hours in customer business and technical

meetings, then get on a plane and fly to the next customer and start all over again.

After dinner, I do a last minute review of emails and assign action items for the next day.

Q With your current workload, what about family life?

A Family is the ultimate life activity. I try very hard to balance my work/travel and family life, making changes to my schedule to attend important family activities.

Q Do you have any hobbies?

A Swimming and supporting my daughter in her swimming and taekwondo

Q At Fatima what sport did you play and enjoyed the most?

A Swimming

Q What sports do you follow now and what are your favourite teams?

A Actually I have found it difficult to follow traditional sports over the past 15 years. However, I do take time off to watch the Olympics every 4 years.

Q At Fatima, who were your favourite teachers? Why?

A Mr. Harry Ramdass because he believed that I would achieve my goals

Q Did any teacher at Fatima stand out the most for you? What was that teacher's impact on your school experience, life or your career?

A Mr. Harry Ramdass because his belief in my strengths complemented those of my parents and gave me the confidence to work harder to achieve my goals.

Q Did Fatima contribute towards making you the man that you are today? What is the most valuable lesson that you have learnt at Fatima?

A Believe in yourself and leverage your strengths to achieve the confidence you need to accomplish your goals.

Q What have been your most significant accomplishments to date? Are you currently working towards other goals at the moment?

A Most significant accomplishments were the birth of my daughter, my US Patents, my Ph.D. and then the ICONS in Science Technology & Innovation

Current Goals are pursuing new Patents in the field of Hyperspectral Technologies

Q What were your fondest memories? Strangest memories?

A Fondest memory: Graduating
Strangest memory: Being hit by a stump in my forehead during a cricket match.

Q How would you advise a young student at Fatima thinking about his future?

A Follow your dream; Believe in yourself; Leverage your strengths and minimize your weakness; Failures are just opportunities to build confidence to accomplish your goals.

Q What do you feel about how Fatima has progressed? Any words of advice about same?

A Fatima is definitely a leader in academics and I am proud to be an alumnus

Q As an alumnus of Fatima, what would you like to benefit from in products (e.g. memorabilia) or services from FOBA?

A I would welcome the opportunity to mentor and/or speak to the students whenever I am in TnT and share my life story and experiences.

Q Have you ever used the FOBA website (<http://www.foba.fatima.edu.tt/>) for purchases/obtaining information? What recommendations would you make to enhance your experience?

A Not yet, but will try to in the future.

Q In what way do you think you can assist FOBA in its mission?

A Provide the tools and resources for the next generation to achieve their goals and be successful in any field they choose.

Q Are you in touch with or meet other alumni on a regular basis? If yes, can you describe the value of that camaraderie to you? If no, would you like to? How would you like FOBA to help?

A No but I would like to connect with some of my classmates.

Q Fatima College and FOBA both benefit by your continued connection to your alma mater. Any closing words of wisdom? Remarks?

A Parting Wisdom:

- Add value "...always!;
- Let "your core values" be your guide;
- Walk your own road, follow your own path;
- Satisfy a need, adapt but don't assimilate;
- Have and maintain passion always;
- Build a culture of principles/performance;
- Find a Mentor, Coach & Champion;

- Create your life vision, mission & goals;
- Always learn, learn, and learn more;
- "No limits", but work/life balance;
- Expect rejection... opportunities to excel;
- Know how you perform.... humor helps;
- Manage yourself and your expectations;
- Remember who you are and your heritage;
- Find time to give back to your community. ■

**Place your
Ads here!**

email contact@foba.fatima.edu.tt
for rates

Images from FOBA's "Ease D' Tention: House Party Edition" retro party held in collaboration with Holy Name Convent Past Pupils Association and St. Francois Girls' College Alumnae, on Saturday 9th July.



Photos courtesy Chocolate w/o Milk. Visit the FOBA Facebook page or FOBA website for full albums



Photos courtesy Chocolate w/o Milk. Visit the FOBA Facebook page or FOBA website for full albums

2016 Annual General Meeting Recap

THE AGM HELD ON TUESDAY 28TH JUNE WAS OPENED WITH A PRAYER BY FR. GREGORY. A NEW ADDITION TO THE AGENDA WAS THE PRINCIPAL'S REPORT GIVEN BY FR. GREGORY. THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 2015 TO 2016 WAS THEN READ BY PRESIDENT DWIGHT ANDREWS. FOLLOWING THE TREASURER'S REPORT, DELIVERED BY MITCHELL DE SILVA, ELECTIONS WERE HELD.

The elected Officers to the Management Committee:

- Senior Vice President – Mr. Ruthven Thompson (unopposed)
- Secretary – Mr. Hayden Alexander (unopposed)
- V.P. Sports & Extra Curricular Activities – Mr. Kevin wells (unopposed)
- Ordinary Members – Mr. Noel Aming, Mr. Graeme Ottley, Mr. Raymond Samms, Mr. Dexter Hosein, Mr. Ronald Williams

The elected sub-committee Chairmen:

- Alumni – Mr. Colin Darmanie (unopposed)
- Sponsorship – Mr. Kent Jeary (unopposed)
- Events – Mr. Carlos Cedeno (unopposed)
- Benefits and Recognition – Mr. Jason Aguiton (unopposed)

The new Management Committee stands as follows:

President – Dwight Andrews (Class of 82)
 Senior Vice-President – Ruthven Thompson (Class of 91)
 Immediate Past President – Barry Davis (Class of 81)
 Secretary – Hayden Alexander (Class of 74)
 V.P. Strategic Operations – Rawle Annandsingh (Class of 91)
 V.P. Finance – Mitchell De Silva (Class of 89)
 V.P. Sports & Extra Curricular Activities – Kevin Wells (Class of 2002)

ORDINARY MEMBERS

Burt Bushell (Class of 94)
 Christian Flemming (Class of 99)
 Dexter Hosein (Class of 78)



FOBA Management Committee:

Front row L-R: Graeme Ottley, Mitchell De Silva, Ruthven Thompson, Dwight Andrews, Hayden Alexander, Rawle Annandsingh, Kevin Wells, Kent Jeary. Back row L-R: Rene De Gannes, Noel Aming, Colin Darmanie, Ronald Williams, Christian Flemming, Raymond Samms, Carlos Cedeno, Dexter Hosein, Jason Aguiton. Missing: Burt Bushell, Kevin Crosby, Steven Luk Pat, Trevor De Landro, Keith Simpson

Graeme Ottley (Class of 84)
 Kevin Crosby (Class of 92)
 Noel Aming (Class of 68)
 Raymond Samms (Class of 84)
 Rene De Gannes (Class of 79)
 Ronald Williams (Class of 90)
 Steven Luk Pat (Class of 2007)
 Trevor De Landro (Class of 74)

Historian

Keith Simpson (Class of 68)

Congratulations go out to all the returning officers and the newly elected members!!

FIRST IN FATIMA

BY GLEN ROACH

1940s



FR. JOHN BYRNE

- 1945** - Classes started on Petra Street in a building loaned by St. Theresa's Intermediate
- Dec 1st 1945** - Formal opening of College.
 - First Principal – Fr John Byrne
 - First Lay Teacher – Fr Andy Cockburn
- 1947** - First group of students sit Cambridge School Certificate.
 - Fatima College flag hoisted for the first time on May 13th.
 - Ian Nivet and Victor Ludorum in joint sports meeting with CIC.

1960s



FR. AGUITON



FR. MOHAMMED



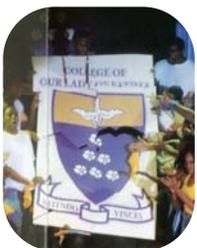
DEREK JOHNSON

- 1960** - Sydney Aguiton and Rudolph Mohammed ordained priests.
- 1963** - Playing field opened by Fr. Farfan.
 - First Sports' Day.
- 1965** - Fatima wins Intercol for first time beating CIC 2-1.
- 1966** - Mayfair started by Fr Gervase Girod.
 - Derek Johnson elected president of Fatima College Union.

1980s

- 1982** - President's Medal won by Kieron James.
 - First College Annual.
- 1983** - First Long Service Awards organized by Old Boys
- 1984** - Introduction of computers pioneered by Fr. Reginald De Four

2000s



GIFTS OF BLUE AND GOLD

- 2001** - Salt n' Pepper Cookout
- 2004** - First All Inclusive Fete on Valentine's Day
- 2009** - Gifts of Blue and Gold. A collaboration with Holy Name Convent Directors – Kwasi Noel and Myrtle Cumberbatch

FIRST ALL INCLUSIVE FETE



1950s

1ST FATIMA SEA SCOUTS



FR. TIMOTHY CORCORAN



- 1950** - Rupert Ramcharan wins house scholarship.
- 1951** - Ronald Madray is the first Principal's Cup winner.
- 1952** - Fr. Timothy Corcoran forms Dominic Savio Choir.
 - Formation of Fatima Sea Scouts.
- 1958** - Irwin Lett is the Jerningham silver medal winner.
- 1959** - Advanced level started in Science and Languages.

1970s

CLIVE PANTIN



NATIONAL INTERCOL WINNERS



- 1970** - Formal opening of Pavilion.
- 1972** - Clive Pantin appointed first Lay Principal.
- 1973** - Daphne Heywood and Jeanette Zakour are the first female teachers.
- 1974** - Opening of Audio Visual Centre.
- 1976** - Eugene Joseph and Roger Hernandez win island scholarships.
- 1979** - National Intercol winners beating St. Augustine 2-1.
 - James Camacho wins first Open Scholarship in Maths.

1990s

- 1995** - Dress Uniform reintroduced thanks to Maurice Brash
- 1998** - Formation of Parents' Support Group

2010s

- 2015** - FOBA organizes Hall of Achievement Awards in the following categories – Religion, Education, Pioneers, Business, Public Service, Sports and Culture.
 - Fr. Gregory Augustine appointed Principal, a first for a Fatima past pupil.

What's happening in Sports

NATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS INTERCOL TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS

After an absence of at least 5 years, Fatima College returned to the Secondary Schools Intercol Tennis Championships, held in June. Fatima's A Team placed 2nd to St. Mary's and Fatima's B team claimed 1st place. Congrats to both teams on their stellar return!!!!

Coach: Jerome Ward

Fatima A Team: Ethan Jeary, Sam West, Timothy Davis, Flynn Von Waldau, Adam Scott, Kaylan Leguard

Fatima B Team: Levi Hinson, Liam Sheppard, Joel Alexander, Alex-Jaden Durand, Adrian Frection, James-Micheal Sealy

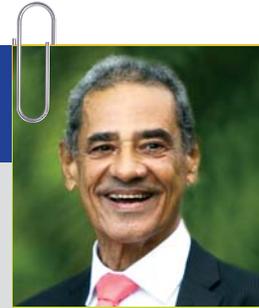


Tennis Team

Top, L-R: Jerome Ward (Coach), Ethan Jeary, James-Micheal Sealy, Timothy Davis, Samuel West, Flynn Von Waldau,
Bottom, L-R: Levi Hinson, Liam Sheppard, Joel Alexander, Alex-Jaden Durand.

UNDER-15 BASKETBALL NORTH ZONE CHAMPIONSHIP

In June, Fatima College claimed their first ever title of Basketball Under-15 North Zone Champions. They defeated QRC 39-35 in the finals. Nitendo Vinces!! ■



R.I.P. Derek Johnson

The management and staff of Fatima College and the Fatima Old Boys Association wish to extend our condolences to the family and friends of the late Derek Johnson, who passed away on 30 August, 2016.

Derek had been a household name at Fatima College—beyond the golden stretch of 60 years, with just as sparkling a reputation outside the College and in the national community.

After leaving Fatima in 1955, he took a cue from his first name and headed to the derricks in south Trinidad to work amidst the wealth-producing oilfields of the 50's. He moved back north in the early 60's, and initiated a chain of successes—from his marriage in 1961, to founding his own company Food Etcetera (Offshore and On-land catering); Exports Etcetera (seafood processing company); in community-service, including: Junior Achievement, New Life Ministries Rehab Centre at Mt St Benedict, Jaycees bodies from St Augustine to the national entity, Chairman of the Caribbean Junior Golf Tournament in 1992 and Chairman of National Quarries Ltd. from 1968 to 1991. He served as President of T&T Jaycees and Vice President of West Indies Jaycees. He also served as the first president of the Fatima Old Boys Association during the 60's and 70's (called the Fatima Old Boys' Union back then).

Derek had been a tireless campaigner for the improvement of people and places, a consistent public advisor through his lucid letter-writings to the newspapers, and himself the proud recipient of a letter of commendation from the Police Service for chasing and arresting a purse-snatcher in 1978!

In January 2014, the FOBA Newsletter, 'Beyond the Grey Shirt', featured an article by Derek that gave the history on the formation of the Fatima Old Boys Union (<http://www.foba.fatima.edu.tt/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/FOBA-Jan-2014-v3.pdf>).

On November 2015, Mr. Johnson was a member of the first class of inductees into the Fatima College Hall of Achievement (<http://www.foba.fatima.edu.tt/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/2015-Hall-of-Achievement-Book-FAW.pdf>). Page 20 of the booklet features Mr. Johnson.

May he rest in peace.

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FLOW

FOBA's 2016, 7-a-side Football Tournament

FATIMA OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION HELD IT'S ANNUAL FOOTBALL 7'S TOURNAMENT ON SUNDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER ON FATIMA GROUNDS.

As per the norm, there were 2 team categories, Under-40 and Over 40. Teams competing in the Under 40 were divided into two groups and the Over 40 in one group.

Under 40 Group 'A'	Under 40 Group 'B'
Sweaterz D'Educators Stickerz Skunks F.C. TSZ	O Four United Round 3 Sweaterans More Drinks than Goals N.P.
Over 40	
Young Ole Boys Veterans Fatima and Friends Western F.C. Expendables	

Camaraderie on the day was high as all teams were situated in the Pavilion and you know how picong is when team rivalry is on the spot.

Special Thanks to our sponsors, Lucozade, Powerade, Dasani, A.S. Bryden, & HADCO. Special mention to Richard Piper of All Sport Promotion who ran the entire event with his referees. Kudos to the Events Committee Team for making this event memorable. Looking forward to 2017.

EVENT RESULTS

Under 40

Winner ~ O Four
2nd Place ~ Round 3
3rd Place ~ Stickerz

Over 40

Winner ~ Expendables
2nd Place ~ Western F.C.
3rd Place ~ Young Ole Boys

Best Camaraderie ~ Fatima n Friends
Most Goals ~ Expendables



▲ Expendables



▲ Round 3



▲ Fatima and Friends



▲ Skunks F.C.



▲ More Drinks than Goals



▲ Sweaterz



▲ N.P.



▲ Sweaterans



▲ O Four United

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@fo-ba.fatima.edu.tt

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