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Royal barbados police force band

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NationNews.com continues celebration of Black History Month, with another article written by a student from the visual and performing arts division of the Barbados Community College. All students in that section are required to take a course in Caribbean Cultures. BARBADOS IS a small nation having been accredited in many outstanding areas. One such area that has become a cultural aspect of our society is The Royal Barbados Police Force Band. It has been a national and cultural icon for the past 125 years. The general public adores their performances as this organisation has also become well-known regionally and internationally. This research paper will seek to highlight the Band through the years with illustrations of the various aspect of this great legacy in Barbadian culture. The Royal Barbados Police Band has been a prominent musical group in Barbados. It was started in Barbados in 1889 when 19 young specially chosen constables were relieved of their police duties to be trained by Mr Willocks, a band master of one of the British Regiments stationed in Barbados at the time. The British Bands left Barbados in 1905 with their parent regiments and the Barbados Police Band became more or less the chief entertainers. Their mission was to provide the highest quality music for the Force with all community The bands headquarters, the St Cecilia's Barracks is located at the District A Police Station in Station Hill Barbados. This building has three floors which house a performing hall called Prince Cave hall on the top. Various practice rooms are on the centre floor and dorms and store rooms for the equipment used by the band are on the bottom floor. It is thought that this building is no longer adequate to house the current complement of the band which ranges between 45 to 65 members. The uniform of the band was linked to the British regiments. At that time they wore regulation police uniforms which are preserved by the scarlet braid worn on the cap and trousers of the bandmen in addition to their ceremonial waist belt. The crest of the force may be seen on the sash of the drum major, on his mace and on the drums. This uniform is still used today. In the formative years the band comprised males only. But all of this changed in 1984 when it embraced its first three young women, Yolande Bourne, Dorian Seale and Juan Wairond. The organisation was proud to have the professional skills of not only men but women as well. Like most organisations succession planning is vital for its continuation. The Royal Barbados Police Band is no exception and boasts of having a number of distinguished conductors/Band masters. 1889-1892 Band Master Mr Willocks 1892-1892 Band Master Canon Doorley 1892-1901 Band Master George Glumeau 1901-1915 Band Master John Mandeville 1918-1944 Band Master Sgt Major James E. Bennernagel 1944-1946 Band Master Sgt Frank Elias 1946-1961 Band Master D.O.M Captain Charles Raison (A.R.C.M) 1961-1964 Director of Music Lt Joseph Griffith (L.R.A.M) 1964-1968 Director of Music Lt Joseph Greasley (L.R.A.M) 1968-1982 Director of Music Supt Prince Cave (ARCM) 1982-1987 Director of Music Sr Supt Gordon Lovell (L.R.S.M, L.T.C.L) 1987-1991 Director of Music Sr Supt Kenrick Moore (L.T.C.L, A.V.C.M) 1991-2012 Director of Music Sr Supt Christopher Atherley 2012-2014 Director of Music Sr Supt Keith Ellis The Director of Music/Senior Superintendent of Police is responsible for the band, while the Deputy Director of Music/Superintendent is responsible for training and development. The assistant Director of Music/Assistant Superintendent helps both the Director and his Deputy. The Police Inspector is responsible for assigning instruments and storage and the Station Sargent manages the bands finances. The Barbados Police Service Band[1], previously known as the Royal Barbados Police Band part of the Barbados Police Service, has been a prominent musical group in Barbados since its foundation in 1889 and is one of the oldest police bands in the world.[2] Police bands are common throughout the Anglophone Caribbean, and are known for playing a wide variety of Caribbean music, as well as marches and popular songs. History When the RBPF was first established it was with a complement of 19 serving Policemen.



At that time they wore regulation police uniforms, and their selection was due to the love for music and the knowledge of the art. The first Bandmaster was Capt. Willocks who came to the Island with the 2nd. Battalion of the West Riding Regiment, as its Bandmaster. In 1914, Sergeant Major Emmanuel Bennernagel of the British Guiana Militia Band was appointed as Bandmaster, and took it on its first overseas tour to St. Lucia in 1945.



He was also responsible for instituting the Band Cadet system of recruitment. Captain Charles E. Raison replaced Sergeant Major Bennernagel in 1946, and since then the band has had a number of Directors of Music which included Lieutenant William Griesley and Lieutenant Joseph Griffith. Since December 2012, Superintendent Keith Ellis has held the post of Director of Music. In 1967 the music of the Barbados National Anthem was re-arranged by Inspector Prince Cave.



He gave the Anthem a more sustained harmony while at the same time retaining the original tune. In 2016 for the 50th Anniversary of Independence, Constable Steve Sobers arranged a special descant to the 2nd verse of the anthem. The band today is made up of 54 Officers, men and women, along with 10 band apprentices and tours extensively, visiting countries like the United Kingdom, Virgin Islands, Suriname, St. Kitts, Grenada, Canada and Germany. On 30 November 2021, the band was renamed the Barbados Police Band to reflect the transition of Barbados from a monarchy to a republic.[3] References ^ "Rwanda's President Kagame Arrives In Barbados". Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and International Business (Barbados). 16 April 2022. Retrieved 24 July 2022. ^ Carrington, Sean; Fraser, Henry (2003). "Police". A-Z of Barbados Heritage. Macmillan Caribbean. p. 153. ISBN 0-333-92068-6. ^ "Name change for Police Force under republic". www.nationnews.com. 2021-09-30. Retrieved 2022-03-02. Notes Carib Zone Calypso World This article on a Caribbean band or other musical ensemble is a stub. You can help Wikipedia by expanding it.vte Retrieved from " We and our partners use cookies to Store and/or access information on a device.



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