中华会馆通訊，中华会馆

CBA NEWS

JULY 2014

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UPCOMING EVENTS

160TH ANNIVERSARY Mini Film Festival
Friday, July 25, 2014 @ 7:00 pm at UWI Mona
FINDING SAMUEL LOWE: FROM HARLEM TO CHINA

Saturday, July 26, 2014 @ 2:30 pm at The Institute of Jamaica Lecture Hall, East Street, Kingston
THE CHINEY SHOP
HALF

Sunday, July 27, 2014 @ 2:00 pm at the Temple 129 Barry Street, Kingston
OPEN HOUSE (see details inside)

Wednesday, July 30, 2014 @ 6:00 pm at the Multifunctional Room, UWI Mona
DR. KEITH LOWE WILL DELIVER HIS LECTURE -1854: Jamaica, China, Panama

纪念华人抵达牙买加160周年活动

CELEBRATING THE 160TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE CHINESE IN JAMAICA (1854-2014)

This year we commemorate the 160th Anniversary of the arrival of the first group of Chinese indentured workers on Jamaican soil. When 267 Chinese men disembarked the **Epsom** on Sunday, July 30, 1854 it was not recorded in the world history books as an especially significant event. They were merely workers recruited by the British Government on three year contracts to fill the void left by the slaves who had left the sugar plantations after full emancipation on August 1, 1838.

However, this life-changing decision of our Hakka ancestors to set out for the new world was as uncharted as it was expected given our history as a migratory people – seeking a better life or moving away from danger and strife.

Life was difficult in a new country, adapting to tropical weather conditions and integrating with the local population was far from easy. This did not deter them from plodding on to complete their period of indentureship. Some returned to China, while others remained on the plantations and many opened small grocery shops - Chiney Shops throughout Jamaica which facilitated the purchase of basic goods which their customers could 'truss' (credit).

As many did not have their women-folk with them, naturally, they started families with the local ladies. In some instances, finances permitting, the male offspring were sent to China for cultural and language immersion. It must be noted that the Chinese wives eventually made it from China to Jamaica and in many instances the children of both unions co-existed, sometimes in the same household.

So in our 160th Year, we will tell the story of ***The Chiney Shop; Half: The Story of a Chinese-Jamaican Son and Finding Samuel Lowe: From Harlem to China.*** These documentaries will be shown during a mini film festival to be held from July 25-27, 2014. (See details elsewhere in the CBA News).

We hope you will join us and share in the journey undertaken by the principal players whose stories mirror that of many from our Community. There will be an opportunity to participate in a panel discussion following the screenings.

For the last 160 years we have followed the example of our pioneering forefathers in the spirit of hard work and entrepreneurship and a burning desire to succeed. Some have given in to the wanderlust inherent in us Hakka people and have travelled to far off places; however, we are still bound by our Hakka roots.

Our people have faced many hardships, but, we have survived! Chee Gah Ngin, One People!

编者话

From the Editor

So, on the 160th Anniversary, it is time to remember those who were here before us and to recall the past which has made the present possible. This theme of recognizing bygone events and personal stories will be interspersed in this issue.

We are grateful to Carol Wong, Paula Madison, Patrick Chin, Norman Hew Shue and Joy Worton for sharing their stories. Certainly, for the younger generation, these stories will be windows to the past and for the older folks, they will stir many memories and knowing smiles.

For the many visitors to Gah San, especially folks who made the journey to Jamaica, there was full agreement that the Cemetery has regained its pride of place as the final resting place of the ancestors.

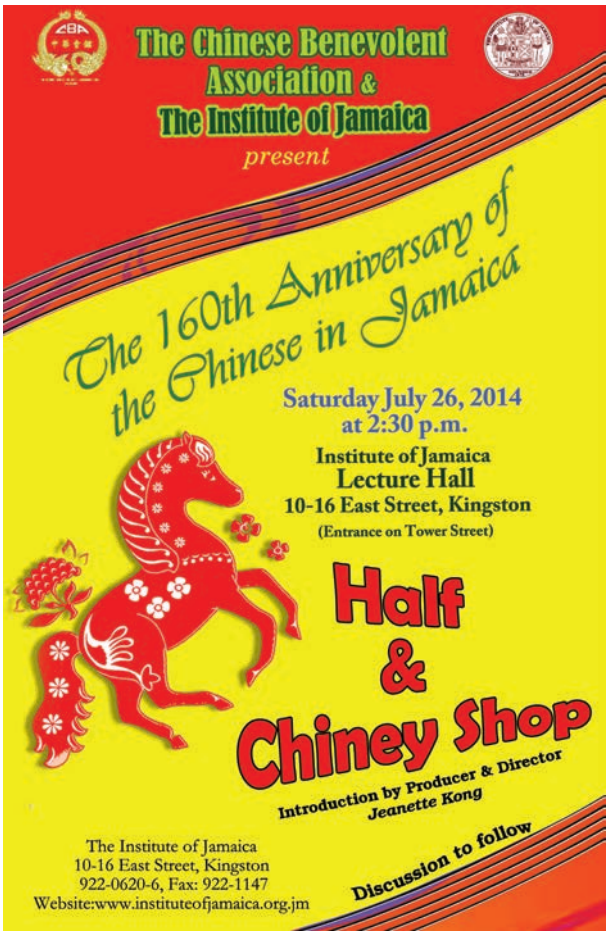
CBA News congratulates the 2014 Board of Management and the Supervisory Board and thanks the outgoing Board members. There is much work ahead, but, with teamwork all will be possible!

Do plan to attend the various events being planned in commemoration of the 160th Anniversary, they are all noted in the Calendar of Events.

The CBA building at 129 Barry Street was once the centre of activities for the Community; it was the place to socialize and to have matters resolved, to worship upstairs at the Temple and to meet newly-arrived relatives. It has gotten a recent facelift; however, this is more cosmetic as most facelifts are, but, well-needed! Members, family and friends are invited to attend the Open House planned for Sunday, July 27, 2014 starting at 2:00 pm at the location. There will be adequate parking and security.

There will be lots to do for July; we look forward to your company.

Marcia Harford



2014年度中华会馆管理委员会

2014 CBA BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

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THE SWEARING IN OF THE 2014 BOARD OF MANAGEMENT & SUPERVISORY BOARD

Past President Wilson Look Kin & President Dalton Yap

Willie Chong, Peter Hugh, Mike HoSue & Robert Hew

Lucille Jones & Neil Yap Sam

President Dalton Yap

EDUCATION FUND

The CBA will start accepting applications for educational assistance from needy students of the Community. You may download the application form from the CBA website.

All applications should be sent to The Chinese Benevolent Association, 176 Old Hope Road. Kingston 6.

The deadline for applications is August 8, 2014.

SAMUEL LOWE罗登秀的旅途：109年前一位移民牙买加的客家人遗留下的人生记忆

THE JOURNEY OF SAMUEL LOWE:
ONE HAKKA CHINESE IMMIGRANT'S JAMAICA LEGACY, 109 YEARS LATER

Samuel Lowe & Family

Wednesday, July 30, 2014, the 160th anniversary of the arrival of the first Chinese into Jamaica will hold a special meaning for me and scores of my family members from China to Australia to England to the U.S. to Canada and to Jamaica.

It is in honor of my Grandfather Samuel Lowe that dozens of his grandchildren, great-grandchildren and even great-great-grandchildren will journey from China, Australia, the US, the UK, Canada and from right in St. Ann's Parish, Jamaica, to re-trace his journey around his adopted island-home of Jamaica. His journey from being a Chinese youth to a well-to-do Chinese shopkeeper in Jamaica began with his arrival as 15-year-old Lowe Ding Chow (his Chinese name) in 1905.

As a teen, my grandfather left his parents and two brothers in the family village of Lowe Swee Hap, Guangdong Province, China. He set out for Hong Kong harbor, just 40 miles away. There, he signed up for a three-month ship's voyage to make his fortune in Jamaica. He and his fellow Hakka clansmen had signed on as contracted indentured workers cutting sugar cane on the island's many plantations. Upon boarding the ship, the British ship's clerk would have asked him his name. In China, his last name was the Chinese symbol 罗 which the British clerk heard as "Lowe" and spelled as "Lowe." (In Mandarin pinyin which translates the symbols into Western alphabet, it's spelled Luo.) As was the practice, the clerk re-named Ding Chow "Samuel" on the spot and so thereafter my grandfather was known as "Samuel Lowe."

The re-named Samuel arrived in 1905 to a bustling Kingston harbor, speaking no English and finding descendants of Africans, British, Spanish and the indigenous Arawak and Carib Indians who worked side-by-side.

Jamaica had experienced a great many racial changes during the preceding 50 years. The majority of the populace was comprised of descendants of slaves. Those Black Jamaicans were largely descendants of the Akan or Ashanti people from the region of Africa that is present-day Ghana. It was when the British abolished slavery in Jamaica in 1838 that many workers, including those from India, immigrated to Jamaica doing the work previously performed by the enslaved Africans and their Jamaica-born children.

Lowe Ding Chow had heard stories about how his countrymen had great opportunity to earn money on this tropical island in the Caribbean Sea. While it was a long way from home, he'd heard of the familiar climate -- very similar to that in Southern China where he was born -- and he seized the chance to assist his family financially. After all, at age 15 he was too young to have already taken a wife or sired children so he felt obligated to go abroad to improve his family's condition.

Ultimately, this second son of Luo Yuxiu 罗裕修 was looked after by a relative from his same village who likely worked on the same plantation in Clarendon Parish, cutting cane. The Hakka Chinese laborers worked for British and U.S. sugar companies who had signed them to three-year contracts. The Chinese would cut cane for three years, earn a meager salary and, at the end of the contract, receive passage back to China. This was the option my grandfather and others were offered and some returned to Guangdong Province to the wives, children and kin they'd left behind. Others, like Samuel Lowe, selected the other option: stay in Jamaica. They took the equivalent of the cost of the ticket home and remained on this island of temperate sea breezes.

The Chinese had been sending some of their earnings home to China; some they kept for their own sustenance and to finance

Williams Family Portrait_ Elrck's confirmation

First Reunion Dec2012

their dreams of starting their own small businesses. "Chiney Shops" is the colloquial phrase for the small grocery, dry goods stores that dotted the island. The Hakka Chinese penchant for entrepreneurship resulted in hundreds of these little shops, shacks really, which afforded the onetime plantation-workers a respectable income and greater opportunities than they had enjoyed in their own homeland.

The immigration laws governing the admission of the Chinese to Jamaica were stringent. From the time the Chinese first arrived in 1854, the laws controlling their numbers were daunting. Relatively few Chinese women and children were allowed to join the hundreds of male workers departing China for Jamaica. Families were separated for a few years, for a few decades and, sometimes, forever.

The married immigrant Chinese men often began parallel families with Black Jamaican women and, so there was a period when hundreds, even thousands of half-Chinese, half-Jamaican children were born. These children eventually joined Jamaica's middle class which had been largely comprised of Syrians, English, Irish, Scottish, Jews and now the children of Chinese and Indian merchants.

The Chinese shopkeepers became very successful, at one time controlling more than 50 percent of Jamaica's retail trade. Their children frequently were afforded the best educations their parents could provide, attending schools such as St. George's College, Wolmer's, Alpha and quite a few others. Their children sometimes were mixed-race and sometimes full-Chinese. However, then, as now, if asked they'll tell you they are JAMAICAN.

Uncle Chow Woo, Aunt Adassa, Paula.

My mother, Nell Vera Lowe, was born to Samuel Lowe and Albertha Beryl Campbell on November 15, 1918. Her birth certificate lists 24 Wellington St., Denham Town, Kingston, as her place of birth. She told us stories of her early childhood with

Paula, Cousin Arthur, Howard.

both of her parents. Her father taught her to count in Hakka language, yit, ngi, sam; one, two, three. By 1920, he had two Jamaican "wives." There was my grandmother in Kingston and there was Emma Allison in Mocho. Albertha had one child -- my mother. Emma had three -- Aston Samuel, Adassa and Gilbert.

Also in 1920, the immigration laws were slightly eased and Samuel's family sent him a bride from China, Ho Swee Yin. Their December 27, 1920, marriage was announced in The Gleaner which also reported their wedding reception was held at the Chinese Benevolent Society on Barry St. Ho Swee Yin's residence was 48 Princess St. and I believe that is the likely address where my mother and grandmother lived with my grandfather.

Nell Vera Lowe

Nell said her mother took her away from her father when she was almost three years old and she never saw him again. My grandmother, I believe, was asked by Samuel Lowe to let him and his Chinese wife raise his first-born daughter. The evidence is convincing because Emma Allison was asked to allow Samuel and his new Chinese wife to raise Adassa as their own and that is exactly what happened. Emma's eldest son, Aston Samuel, died at age 6 but Gilbert grew to live in St. Ann's Bay for decades where he raised his own family of 10 children.

I'm convinced that my grandmother's anger at her "husband" taking a third and Chinese wife resulted in her punishing him in a way that would hurt Samuel -- and inadvertently Nell -- forever.

In 1927, my grandfather took Adassa, aged, 9, and his three little sons with Swee Yin to China so they would live with their maternal grandparents while the two of them returned to Jamaica and toiled long hours in their shops.

Tragically, their largest shop in St. Ann's Bay was destroyed in an arsonist's fire as they were returning to Jamaica. He rebuilt the shop with his insurance settlement but it was the height of the Great Depression and he ultimately declared bankruptcy in Jamaica. His business, Samuel Lowe and Brothers, has numerous entries in the Gleaner during the late 1920s.

continued

THE JOURNEY OF SAMUEL LOWE *(continued from pge 5*

In 1933, my grandfather returned to China for the last and final time with his wife, Swee Yin and their two infant daughters, Barbara and Anita Maria.

In August 2012, I met my Aunt Adassa, then 94, and my Uncle Chow Woo, then 86 for the first time in Shenzhen, China, after I'd begun searching for my Lowe relatives earlier that spring. By December 2012, a party of 20 Lowes traveled from the United States to meet the Luos of Shenzhen. Nell Vera Lowe's children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and two of Gilbert Lowe's 10 children were greeted by 300 descendants of Samuel Lowe -- Lowe Ding Chow.

Aunt Adassa, now 96, finally got to meet the offspring of the little brother who she last saw in Jamaica when she was 9 and he was seven years old.

As for the children of Nell, we were as much as surprise to my Aunt Adassa, Uncle Chow Woo, Uncle Chow Kong, Aunt Barbara and Aunt Anita as was the existence of my mother, their sister Nell.

It seems that, since Samuel Lowe searched for his daughter and could not find her, he'd never told his Jamaica-born, China-raised children that they had an eldest sister. When I told my aunts and uncles a particular story that my mother told about her father, my Uncle Chow Woo knew the story was true. "Paula is my niece," he said in Hakka from his living room in Guangzhou, China. "She calls me Uncle."

With the support of my two brothers, Elrick and Howard Williams, I've shot a documentary, which was produced and directed by my Jamaican-Chinese sister-friend, Jeanette Kong. The film is called "Finding Samuel Lowe: From Harlem to China" and its international premiere will be sponsored on Friday, July 25, in Kingston as part of the Chinese Benevolent Association's commemoration of the 160th anniversary of the arrival of the Hakka Chinese in Jamaica. In February, HarperCollins will release my book, "Finding Samuel Lowe: Harlem. Jamaica. China."

And this is why dozens of my Lowe/Luo first cousins are descending on Jamaica to re-trace our grandfather's journey around the island.

And if you're wondering what was the story that convinced Uncle Chow Woo that I am his niece... Well, you'll just have to wait to see the film! Or you can read the book!!!

重修中华会馆旧址

RENOVATION OF THE CBA BUILDING, BARRY STREET

The CBA Building at 129 Barry Street which also houses the Temple will receive a facelift in time for the commemoration of the 160th Anniversary of the arrival of the first Chinese – indentured workers seeking adventure and a better life.

Although the building is unused, it is popular with visitors, hungry for a glimpse of history and tradition. So this partial restoration to return it to its former state is long overdue and a fitting token of gratitude to the elders who were passionate about the welfare of the Community.

It was the meeting place for the Community, especially, those who lived downtown. It has seen many a wedding, Chinese New Year celebrations, town hall meetings and social events and simple get togethers and if walls could talk, they could fill in the many gaps in our history.

It is also believed that when the early immigrants arrived, they were given shelter until they could join their families in the rural areas.

The Temple was a haven from the hustle and bustle of business and the stresses of life were taken before ***Kuan Kung, God of War*** and also known as the ***God of Business***.

Lee Tom Yin, in his book, The Chinese in Jamaica (1963) told us that the Community would turn out in their numbers every Chinese Year's Day to feast and worship the ***Kuan Kung***.

We look forward to seeing the Community at the Temple when the major work is completed in July.

Calendar of Events
July 2014

• FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2014 @ 7:00 PM, University of the West Indies, Mona.
To reserve tickets, send e-mail to: RSVP@PantherPR.biz.
FINDING SAMUEL LOWE: FROM HARLEM TO CHINA

Former NBC Universal executive and Black Jamaican Chinese entrepreneur Paula Williams Madison recalls that her mother Nell Vera Lowe said she was separated from her Chinese shopkeeper father Samuel Lowe at age 3 and never saw him again. Born in Jamaica in 1918 to Samuel Lowe (Lowe Ding Chow) and a young Jamaican woman Albertha Campbell, Nell Vera Lowe Williams died in 2006 always sad that she never knew her father's people. To honor her mother, Paula vowed to find her Chinese grandfather's descendants in China.

Paula and her brothers Elrick and Howard Williams grew up in Harlem on welfare and following their mother's immigrant dream, created a family of wealthy entrepreneurs.

They embarked on a journey that would take her and brothers, first to Toronto where they connected with the Chinese Jamaican community and with prompting they remembered clues to their grandfather's history, leading them to Jamaica. There they discover Samuel Lowe's humble beginnings in Mocho, Clarendon, and then his successful store in St. Ann's Bay.

Having been told by their mother Nell that her father Samuel Lowe left Jamaica for China around 1934, never to return to Jamaica, through research and family connections, they trace their 300 relatives to Shenzhen and Guangzhou, China.

A trip to China with 19 family members culminates in an unforgettable family reunion of a family with a documented lineage that dates back 3,000 years to 1006 B.C. At its heart, this is a story about familial love and devotion that transcends race, space and time.

• SATURDAY, JULY 26, 2014 @ 2:30 PM, the Institute of Jamaica, 10-16 East Street, Kingston.

Open to the public

THE CHINEY SHOP

In Jamaica, from the 1930s to the early 1970s, the ubiquitous Chinese-owned groceries were located on many busy street corners in downtown Kingston to remote towns in every parish. This documentary explores the complex relationship and social interaction between the Chinese shopkeepers and their Jamaican customers.

Drawing from interviews by members of the Jamaican-Chinese community in Canada and prominent Jamaican-Canadians and using archival footage and photos, the film attempts to illustrate the deeply-rooted connection between Chinese shopkeepers and Jamaicans not usually portrayed in mainstream media.
Trailer: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5jZNXwEaZ2U

HALF: THE STORY OF A CHINESE-JAMAICAN SON

Caught between two cultures and races – Vincent Lee was born to a Chinese father and a Jamaican mother. After his father's premature death, five-year-old Vincent sailed across the ocean to southern China where he endured a life of hardship and servitude. Separated from his mother and siblings for more than two decades, Vincent returned to his native Jamaica as an adult. In this compelling documentary told from multiple perspectives, Half reflects the complex, yet common practice of sending mixed race sons to China for acculturation in the 1930s. It reveals one man's universal search for family, identity, and belonging.
Trailer: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3n0zumaOutw

• SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2014 @ 2:00 PM, the Old CBA Building, 129 Barry Street, Kingston.

OPEN HOUSE

Tour of the Temple

The CBA Building and Temple – Perspectives – Vincent J. Chang.

A walk down Memory Lane – Dalton Yap

Screening of Jeanette Kong's Documentaries – CHINEY SHOP & HALF

Light refreshments.

• WEDNESDAY, JULY 30, 2014 @ 6:00 PM, The Multifunctional Room, The Library, University of the West Indies, Mona.

LECTURE BY DR. KEITH LOWE ENTITLED: 1854: CHINA & JAMAICA & PANAMA
Dr. Lowe will analyze the social and historical factors in China which pushed people to emigrate, as well as the factors in the Caribbean that pulled the Chinese towards the region. Comparing the global situation at that time with the present, he concludes that Jamaica and Panama can greatly benefit the Caribbean region through closer cooperation.

2014清明祭祖

GAH SAN 2014

This year the Gah San Ceremony was held on Sunday 6th April, 2014. Attendance was a bit higher than the previous year - over 150 cars' worth of people attended and saw the encouraging advances that have been made in the renovation and restoration of the Cemetery in the last few years, spearheaded by Robert Lee. This year there was a large contingent from Canada, many of whom had recently arranged for renovations of their ancestors' graves.

This year the CBA restricted the number of helpers allowed into the Cemetery, and identified each with a wrist band, in an effort to minimize the amount of hustling that took place. The exercise seemed to be effective, and fewer negative comments were heard about overly aggressive hustling. Neil Yap Sam and Peter Hugh coordinated security, and helped Willie Chong and Vincent J. Chang control the gate.

The Hakka ceremony was conducted by Dalton Yap President of the CBA, and the English translation read by Damian Chin, VP. The Christian portion of the ceremony was officiated by Fr. Alfred Lee, taking over from Fr. Kong who passed away last year. The CBA ceremony included offerings of pork, chicken, fruits, tea, rum, flowers, incense and firecrackers. Most attendees brought additional flowers and offerings for their relatives' graves.

Several attendees stopped by the tables set up in the Pavilion for help locating particular gravesites, or to arrange renovations for relatives' tombs. David Chang, Nicole Hoo Fatt, Sophie Guo, Irene Fang and Robert Hew manned the table helping to locate the gravesites, and Joyce Wong and Robert Lee ran the table handling requests for renovations. About 20 new requests for renovations are in the works. Also in the Pavilion, Doreen Chin and Lloyd Hoo managed the refreshment table.

The family of Derrick and May Chang donated a building immediately beside the Monument to the Community for use as a Columbarium. In a small ceremony, James Chin, representing the family, officially handed it over to Dalton Yap who received it on behalf of the CBA.

Among the noticeable improvements, the roads have been resurfaced, all the remaining bushes cut back and more individual graves restored. Since April significant strides have been made in breaking the vicious cycle of coral vine weed growth using systemic herbicides to kill the deeply buried roots and tubers of that particular vine, which kept on springing back. During this rainy season, the plan is to replant grass seeds in some of the open and dusty areas. However, some of the side walls of the older vaults have recently collapsed, causing the gravestones to be crooked or entirely cave in.

The CBA thanks you for your support: hopefully it made it more pleasant for you to attend Gah San, and that you will spread the word, to make it even bigger and better next year.

Rose Chen's photo album: http://bit.ly/GahSan2014

If you would like to locate or renovate a grave you can email cemeteryinfo@cbajamaica.com

If you would like to make a donation to the continuing restoration of the Cemetery, you can do so online at http://cbajamaica.com/donations

Our offerings to the Ancestors

Fr. Alfred Lee blesses the Cenotaph

President Dalton Yap & Vice-President Damian Chin

President Dalton Yap assisted by Neil Yap Sam

GAH SAN 2014 *(cont'd.)*

Brothers Tommie & Fr Alfred Lee

David Chang taking care of business

Willie Chong keeping order

Joyce Wong, Fay Chang Allen & Robert Lee greeting visitors

华人坟场骨灰墙
THE COLUMBARIUM
AT THE CHINESE CEMETERY

Outside view of Columbarium

Dalton Yap with Mr & Mrs James Chin

Dalton Yap & James Chin unveils the plaque of the Columbarium

The new addition to the Chinese Cemetery – the Columbarium, is the brain-child of the Cemetery Chair – Robert Lee who noticed the abandoned tomb beside the Cenotaph. He suggested that the building could be used for a Columbarium based on the wish expressed by some members of the Community that the Chinese Cemetery to be their final resting place.

The family of Derrick & May Chang agreed to CBA's proposal and the conversion of the building was completed in time for this year's Gah San. It still needs to be furnished with the requisite niches for the urns.

The unveiling of the plaque was done by President Dalton Yap and James Chin, a relative of the Chang family.

The CBA thanks the family for permitting us to use the building. The Columbarium will be symbolic of our desire to see the Cemetery again being considered as an option when we move onto the next life.

Inside the Columbarium

Plaque on the Columbarium

牙买加中华会馆和金斯顿中国城的回忆

Memories of the Jamaican CBA and Kingston China Town

Year 2014 is the 160th Anniversary of the arrival of the first Chinese immigrants in Jamaica via Panama. These were Hakkas, part of the large Han ethnicity with distinct culture and dialect, [but thankfully using the same writing system, thanks to the far-sightedness of the 1st Emperor of 'terra-cotta army' fame]. Hakkas also differ from current Chinese, flocking to Jamaica seemingly solely for entrepreneurial reasons, although all are still universally hailed locally as "Mr./Miss Chin". These pioneers, including my parents, took the bold intrepid step of coming to a Jamaica of queer colonial weights, measures and banter, where many opened grocery shops, filling that niche to contribute to the local culture and economy. It was a decision our later generations never regretted, as the East met West in a then paradise of laid-back island life. For centuries, we Hakkas had migrated from northern China, earning our epithet, which translates as 'guest people', sensitive to political or economic instability/changes like 'coal-mine canaries'. In this context, the fact that we migrated in droves [albeit reluctantly and after official "flight urgings" in the 70's] does not bode well for the Jamaica we all still love.

Norman Hew-Shue

Barry Street, holds many memories for us downtown-core bred Kingstonians, and bears silent witness to Hakka Chinese-Jamaican history, and Chinatown is *Tong Ngin Guy* in Hakka ["Chinese Street"]. What better way then, than to take a 1950's mental tour for fellow Hakkas, all Jamaicans and other readers, for nostalgia or historical info? The fact that I can still recount all these facts [although I have to use editorial brevity here] over 1,500 miles away and 60 years ago, is testament to the cherished memories for a Jamaica long-past. It also helps that I was blessed by the Heaven-sent parents and spoilt rotten. My father bought a 5-foot red iron-racing car that I pedaled the length of Barry Street. This is also testament to the Jamaican constancy and slow-paced timelessness where buildings remain standing for decades although their functions change [Keystone-"Estab. 1892"] unlike North America here, where moods; weather and buildings change predictably unpredictably.

The East-West Street like other early roads was named after some long-forgotten dignitary [e.g. Beeston; Sutton]. The honoree in question was most probably one Colonel Samuel Barry whose *'hog crawle'* or pen, was the site chosen for Kingston, after the 1692 earthquake devastated Port Royal. Very early colonial Kingston had streets laid out in perfect right angled grid system and was literally bounded by West, North and East streets. The areas beyond this was composed chiefly of pens or parcels of land for cultivation and/or livestock still evident in roads and towns e.g. Malvern; Fletcher; Slipe Pen; Greenwich. The city was divided by King Street, with 6 alternating North-South lanes and streets on either side, named after saints or religious themes. Barry Street was similarly roughly in the middle, and in our time, the Western end was more commercial in keeping with its proximity to the rail, bus and shipping terminals and ports, getting more residential as we go eastwards.

It started at the Railway end, which being a hub of transportation marks our forefathers' first visits to the city. It begins at **Pechon Street** and the adjoining Jamaica Government Railway [JGR] train yards, other westward roads started to depart from the strict grid as they conformed to the coastline. Along these areas ["West"] we could safely go then into zinc-fenced yards- around **Salt Lane**, for instance, on Saturday evenings to buy bait for whole-night fishing on Hanover Street or other wharves.

West Street was almost exclusively for wholesalers and horse drawn buggies [mah cha] operated out of this area by two brothers.

Matthews Lane was the home of the *Chung San Bow* or Chinese Press established by Mr. Lee Tom Yin. Further on was the establishment of the late Mr. Chang Hen Fah who was a well-esteemed scholarly elder at our Tsung Tsin association. Next-door was *Joon Fah Fwee Gon* or Chinese Benevolent Society. From its the lofty third storey heights I would look out across the reddish orange sun-burnt zinc roofs of Chinatown. Opposite was the business of the Mid- eastern Azans dealing in fabrics.

THE CBA

The organizational counterpart of Barry Street is the Chinese Benevolent Association and associated traditional temple, with respect to cultural, spiritual, educational and economic life, and established in 1891. The building was designed and constructed by Lee Yuan Hua and its beauty was commended by then Governor Sir Henry Blake. The tallest building for many years, it was damaged in the 1907 earthquake. It is maintained and will be renovated for the 160th anniversary by current dedicated stalwart members. The current CBA Centre is located at 176 Old Hope Road in Liguanea.

1905 saw the beginning of restrictions to Chinese immigration by harsher laws. In 1910 this required a 30 pounds deposit, written and oral language test for 50 words in either English Spanish or French. Although supposedly for all, this targeted Chinese who knew little of European languages. In 1921 two ships with about 600 immigrants caused harsher laws, and lengthy negotiations by the CBA allowed immigration with deposits. In 1926 then Sir Edward Stubbs [formerly from Hong Kong] was Governor of

Jamaica and relaxed migration laws. He was the guest of honour at a CBA Dinner on Sept. 21 1926, and in his speech emphasized his friendliness and support. Later In 1931, however, the government sent a diplomatic note to Hong Kong requesting that no passport be issued for immigrants to Jamaica.

The CBA was the voice of the community in these and other internal matters. It also has subsidiary organizations in the Chinese Public School [which include preparatory curriculum for English secondary schools]; Sanitarium; Old Age Home; Newspaper and Cemetery. Along with the Chinese Freemason Society [Chee Kung Tong] was the center of activity such as weddings and New Year celebrations. In 1930 CBA management was placed under an elected council and Chairman. One of these was Mr. Yap-Sam, founder of the Diamond Mineral Water Co. who was re-elected a total of seven times and whose son Clive Philip Yap-Sam is the current President of the Ontario chapter of the Tsung Tsin ['the proper/right way] a worldwide organization maintaining and promoting the Hakka values. This typifies the generational passing of the torch/baton that marks the culture.

Princess Street had Beckford Auto supplies; *Man Joong Tung* wholesalers with mountainous piles of sugar and grain, and where tall, dark and soft-spoken bookkeeper "Baboo" and the ladies would ply me with sweets. Next door were Mr. Chin Jung Yee and his daughter Daisy offering among other things, fishing lines hook and gear with which we would stock up on for our whole night fishing alluded to.

Luke Lane had a restaurant, ice cream parlour and the tonsorial establishment of Mr. Lue Fook, which in later years would become Wing Shing restaurant. Mr. Lue was one of 2 Chinese barbers that we frequented. The other being Chung Fung Gie who had his shop in the short street joining Orange Street and Luke Lane. Lee Tung Kee dealt with Chinese culinary and pharmaceutical items which traditionally were never far apart. The sidewalks around this corner would be occupied by East Indian ladies offering fresh green leafy vegetables and fruits for sale on weekends.

Orange Street had The Golden Cup restaurant; Government offices and businesses and what was to become John R. Wong- the first supermarket in Kingston.

Peters Lane had Nathan's store with one of the first elevators in which I would look for the Four Aces cigarette ad-sign flashing by- the sprawling solid concrete main Government Post Office buildings [GPO] was here before it went to South camp road; on the NW corner was The Premiere Store- which I well remember because it dealt with harmonicas or mouth organs and Viewmaster stereoslide viewers –some of the toys which my dear parents spoilt me rotten with.

King Street had the venerable Barclays Bank and Court Houses.

Temple Lane had Rothmans agency.

Church Street had the record shops Wonards and Chins, and Mutual Life Insurance with the small statue of the armoured knight protecting the kneeling woman and child over the door;

Mark Lane – and residences of Georgian architecture now began to predominate-with 2 set of concrete steps outside, forming a triangle with a flat area in front of double French doors, ceiling and cellars were roomy and the vertically sliding windows had sash weights.

Duke Street displaced Church Street as the lawyers' street. The Manton and Hart Building was one of the first high rise and I watched its construction while waiting for the No 4 JOS bus to go to Wolmers's School.

Johns Lane had the mysterious German embassy with the double-headed eagle on the glass doors. Here was also Louis Barton's selling Black and Decker and other tools. Upstairs was the office of Dr. A.G. Lee where I got the new polio shot.

East Street had Mr. Shim's Zanzibar liquor store; a photo studio, Brownies bicycles, Hercules Agency where you bought methylated spirits, Jeyes fluid and other chemicals. Now we are going beyond the ancient city limits into my home turf.

Georges Lane had a bakery and Mastertons, heavy machinery yard and retail outlet.

Hanover Street had The Rose Leon Beauticians' School - The proprietress was a lovely lady, active in politics and knew my father- she met a sad end in 1999 when she was murdered during a burglary at her home. There was also a church and Sam Isaacs's funeral parlour nearby -the juxtaposition of the brothel, church and undertaker was the butt of schoolboy jokes as it was said that the services of these establishment were required in turn by unfortunate clients of the latter. Although once exclusive, Hanover Street in the 60's was synonymous with being the red light district although there were a few decent business residence along its length, like the Chongs ice cream parlour at Tower street where I spent a lot of time, The street was also known for its car dealership - John Crook's BMC; Sinclair's VW; and Robinson's Rover.

Rum Lane had a high tenement building from the upper window of which I could see a bare chested guy playing his trombone every morning.

Rosemary Lane had the Seven Stars bakery; a bar was operated at SW corner by dear Linda May Wong an astute and kind business lady who brought class to the establishment as one rarely saw any drunk or unruly patrons- I have pleasant memories of smelling the fragrant rum and hearing records of Dean Martin's lovely crooning baritone "returnnn to meeee…." [Which she seemed to love] emanating from behind the saloon type doors; my shop and birthplace was opposite until hurricane Charlie demolished the upper story and we swapped shop with Aston a block away.

Maiden Lane had tenement yards and a bar which loved to play Fats Domino's Blueberry Hill; my shop at 28 Barry Street where I spent my teenage years was here; The Harts butchery was opposite as was a house of ill repute.

Gold Street, Foster Lane, Highholborn Street, Ladd Lane and Fleet Street follow. We end at the Barry Street or Barnes gully which is part of a drainage system which the city forefathers had the foresight to construct as it must have staved off many a catastrophic flood.

Sources: Lee Tom Yin *The Chinese in Jamaica 1963 edition; The Chee Kung Tong Centenary Anniversary 1887-1987* magazine; Jamaican Archives

重聚--中文学校

The Reunion, The Homecoming – CHINESE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Joy Worton, former Principal

Sunday June 8, 2014 was a remarkable day which took me back on the Time Machine, in fact to 1955 – 1956. Who would have thought that Lennie Chin Yee's ideal dream would have come to pass? Lennie was the only practising Chinese barrister who had approached me and appealed to my Chinese ethnicity, my cultural tradition and family origins, to give to the Chinese community the benefits of a Western education, to share what good fortune had been bestowed on a rural shop-keeper's daughter. His earnest desire and fervent wish to see downtown and uptown children share equal opportunities and scholastic challenges/favours, was enough to open my eyes to the bigger picture. Had I not profited from leaving primary school in Stokes Hall and attending Hampton in Malvern?

My first priority was staffing. Principals and class room teachers had been on shifting sands before I emerged, there had been little permanence which could not have made for happy campers or morale. Fortunately I was able to have three young graduates from the Immaculate Conception High School, certainly, a shot of youthful exuberance! The fact that they were all Chinese was also a bonus. The Misses June, Lee Joan Chang and Carole Young were my fortuitous threesome.

Already on teaching staff were Mrs. Lucille Maye, Mrs. Dez Daley, Mrs. Ione Johnson, Miss Persaudsingh and teachers of Chinese language, Mrs. Lyn and Mr. Chong.

Bearing the onerous responsibility of maintaining the school was the School Board of

Messrs. Stephen Yap, Leonard Chin Yee, Wong Chew Onn, Chang Chin Sang, Lyn Ah Woo, Gladstone Chang and Horace Chang, dedicated and united for the single purpose of educating their children.

It would be remiss of me not to mention Mr. Yap, in particular, who travelled around the island soliciting donations to ensure that sufficient funds were available for salaries, and kept the rural shop-keepers abreast of the progress of the Chinese Public School. The land and premises of the school had been bequeathed by Mr. Tai Ten Quee and it was a wonderful benefit to all Chinese.

Returning young adults from Hong Kong, children from the rural areas, Westmorland and St Thomas were in need of accommodations. Boarding became an added feature of the school. There was also a Chinese Scout troop so the formation of a junior Cub Pack by Mrs. Daley was a welcome addition. 3 North Street was a hive of activity.

Garden Parties were a source of income and an occasion for all persons, country folk and Kingstonians to meet and enjoy amenities. Apart from Gah San, I don't think there was any other activity that melded the community and gave the sense of cohesiveness. There was the Chinese Athletic Club which functioned creditably, but, as the name suggested, attracted sportsmen and women.....tennis, softball, football, mah jong, and the like. The Leahong brothers were renowned tennis players, the Primrose softball team won acclaim, other sports personalities elude me, but, they were varied and skilful.

It was up to Lennie Chin Yee's newest appointee to make his dream a reality.

Students came from Barry Street and environs, beyond Cross Roads and upper St Andrew, Bath, Petersfield, you name it, where ever there was ham tao poo. Who would have thought that 58 years later, without seeing or communicating with fellow teachers and possibly only one or two students, I would have been invited to meet them. During my two years at CPS there had been two scholarship winners, Janet Chong from St Thomas and Paul Yap from Kingston, other students had passed entrance examinations to St George's College, Alpha Academy and

other secondary schools, the Chinese Public School was on a sound academic path. Enrollment was unusually high and included Vincent Chang (Tastee), Raymond Chang and siblings Thalia and Mary-Joy, Thomas Chin, Parris Lyew Ayee, sons of Easton Lee, Bruce Lyn, Humphrey Lyn, Francis Chan, Aubrey Chang and numerous others who will forgive me for omitting, please.

Karlene Shim's chance meeting with me at Gah San resulted in a splendid, nostalgic Gathering, Reunion, and Homecoming of the Alumni of the Chinese Public School. She is Organizer, Facilitator par excellence! I was at a loss for words for as I said then, I grow older, but, you my students mature and reach for the stars. Quite frankly I can't believe that I used to cane you Bruce, what a fine, upstanding MAN I nurtured for you, Maggie! And Aubrey, I bet it was your polite, social graces that attracted Juliet! To say that I was overwhelmed is an understatement; you have excelled and surpassed my expectations, becoming professionals, doctors, medically and academically, insurance executive, entrepreneurs. While I was sailing the Seven Seas after leaving you in the very competent hands of Mrs. Daley and Mrs. Maye, you were toiling and scaling the heights of the Jamaican Economy... I would like to think this was because of your early childhood education at the Chinese Public School, the precepts of diligence, truth and honesty. May you continue on the same path and succeed in all your endeavors. Thank you and God bless you.

感谢BUTCH

Thank You, Butch

The CBA Centre now boasts state of the art bathroom amenities donated by Mr. Butch Hendrickson. The CBA expressed its heartfelt gratitude to Mr. Hendrickson for his very generous and timely gift at a brief ceremony in April, following the Swearing in of the 2014 Board of Management at the CBA Centre.

Butch Hendrickson, Vincent J. Chang & Dalton Yap

Cutting the ribbon

The Virtue of Charity

Thank you, Butch

New vanities

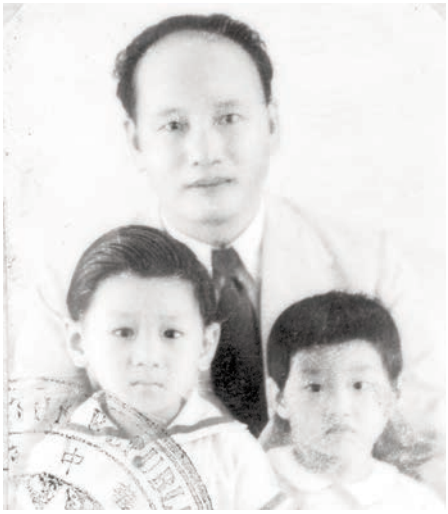
New bathroom stalls

一个牙买加出生的中国人的回忆录

Memoirs of a Jamaican-born Chinese
Williamsfield, Westmoreland, Jamaica 1941

Carol Williams-Wong

My English name is Carol Mearle Williams-Wong and my Chinese name is Ngui Lan Fuhn (meaning "the fragrance of the Orchid flower"). I was born in the Chinese Zodiac Year of the Snake on November 13, 1941 in Williamsfield District, Westmoreland, Jamaica West Indies and was christened in the Anglican Church of England. I am the second child and eldest daughter of Papa, Nathan (Ngui, Bak Tseung) Williams and Mama, Gladys (née Young) Williams.



Nathan Williams with Keith & Carol

In 1838, slavery was abolished in the British Empire. As a result, the British began contracting indentured labourers to work in the sugar-cane-fields in Jamaica. The Chinese were seen as viable indentured labourers. Many Hakka people went to Hong Kong to sign up as contract labourers. Those who went to Panama became exhausted by overwork and suffered from the prevalent tropical diseases. This resulted in a high death rate amongst the labourers but this did not deter them from seeking work in the sugar factories and cane-fields in Jamaica. By 1870, British and American companies started large-scale planting of coconuts and bananas in Jamaican so a second batch of Chinese labourers arrived. After their contracts expired, some Chinese labourers started small grocery shops of their own. The years that followed saw Jamaica entering a period of rapid development. There were no laws restricting the entry of Chinese immigrants to Jamaica, hence, it was a simple matter for Chinese to come on their own or invited by relatives and friends. In the early 1900s the first Ngui arrived in Jamaica. His name was Ngui Fwee Len; however, since he was unable to communicate in English, he readily agreed to an anglicized name, created by combining all three of his names. It was thought that "Ngui Fwee Len" sounded like "Williams" and thus, a new family line of Chinese with the surname Williams began in Jamaica. It was said that he was also given the English first name, "John" by the local postmistress who later taught him to speak English.

When our 19th Wei generation ancestor, Jackson (Ngui Hok Len) set up business in Jamaica, he invited his young nephews to join him in this tropical island in the Caribbean. With his encouragement, in the late 1920's while still a teenager, Papa and his cousins migrated from China to Jamaica. Once they arrived, they worked with their Uncle Jackson who had already established a business in Petersfield District, in the Parish of Westmoreland. Papa worked extremely hard and for very long hours, sometimes for seven days a week. He and his cousins had never seen Negro people or heard their language before, but pretty soon they learnt their Jamaican patois dialect, which is a language of "broken English" mixed with Spanish and Creole. They also learnt to do business with them and tricks of the trade as well. They learnt to get along with their customers although Papa related that he and his Chinese cousins were constantly teased and made fun of by the locals This made him so angry that on many occasions, he wanted to jump over the shop-counter, chase them with the "salt-fish machete" and chop them up! As Papa matured, however, he was able to better control his temper with the young hoodlums, especially as he grew to realize that the majority of the local people were warm-hearted, friendly, accepting of the Chinese and would, over time become valued customers. After gaining business experience and being more fluent in the local Jamaican patois dialect, the nephews scattered to open their own businesses in neighbouring districts in Westmoreland.

Papa moved to Williamsfield District and opened up a shop there. With the assistance of a young man named Ronald, the business flourished. Ronald was a quiet, polite young man Papa's age who used to come to Jackson's store as a customer and Papa liked him because he was not as boisterous as the other local boys. Papa also told me that he had to exercise great control when the local boys would constantly tease and taunt him. Ronald, Papa noticed, never joined these hooligans in this behaviour. As a result, when Papa was going to open his own business, Papa encouraged Ronald to leave home and come and work for him in Williamsfield only a few miles away.

At that time, the roads in Williamsfield were unpaved and there were no motor vehicles. On most Sundays, we would use a horse and buggy cart to travel to Petersfield to get together with other members of the Williams family. Our horse was named Neddy.

Because the roads were unpaved, we would have to stop many times on these trips to remove stones from Neddy's hooves. These visits were very important to Papa. He was always happy to meet up with his cousins again and under Uncle Jackson's guidance, they would all discuss business and exchange experiences about their new life in this strange country – including how to deal with the equally unfamiliar African and East Indian people who surrounded them! This was also a good opportunity for Papa to eat familiar Hakka Chinese food and speak freely using his Hakka dialect – Mama, as a second generation Chinese who had been born and raised in Jamaica, was not fluent in Hakka. Ronald also looked forward to these weekend trips as we would take him with us so that he could visit his friends and family in Petersfield as well.

Standing - Nathan, Henry, Lincoln & Alfred.
Sitting - Thomas, Jackson & wife May

Despite his success, Papa found shop business difficult. As a shopkeeper, Papa had to deal with the local people speaking in a local patois dialect that was still unfamiliar to him, to learn the proper English words for items in the store and to calculate in foreign British currency. Additionally, Papa had been a school teacher in Niu FooVillage so he had been trained to be a scholar and not a business man. Regardless, with the help of his young wife and the long hours that they both put into running the shop, Papa was able to overcome these and many other hardships to make a good living and raise their three children – that is, with the additional help of hired maids in the home and faithful Ronald in the shop.

Williamsfield was mainly surrounded by farms and cane-fields. The labourers, mostly Negroes, bought breakfast and lunch items at the crack of dawn en route to work, usually with a machete under their arm and a crocus bag over their shoulder. On their way home, they would stop to purchase dinner ingredients, and after supper, some would return to the shop where they would loiter and socialize in the village square which, over time, was created around our small wooden shop. The local people of East Indian descent had similar shopping patterns, but they worked in rice paddies rather than the cane-fields. One of my favourite memories of that shop was of playing in the rice room where loose un-husked rice grains were piled high in one corner. We children would try to climb to the top of the rice pile, but the adults would usually find us and chase us out of the room before we got very far! Then they would have to patiently scrape the rice grains back into a pile in the corner of the room so that the rice would be ready for sale. It was a lot of work for them.

I also enjoyed watching moths flying around the glass globe shades of the kerosene oil lamps. Some of the moths got caught inside the globe causing the cotton wick to start sputtering. The bases of these lamps were either made of glass where one could see the level of the kerosene oil or metal which had been beautifully crafted. The globes were always made of glass and were either rounded with a fluted top or fashioned with a smaller rounded globe with a tall, slim chimney. These were some of the many household items imported from England.

The local post-mistress was a spinster named Miss Dawes who was also my Christian God-mother. Miss Dawes taught Papa basic English conversation and vocabulary including names for every item sold in the shop – what we called "shop English". Despite all her teaching, he would always have difficulty pronouncing the "R" sound. Many years later, after he had retired from business and was living in Canada, he still marveled at his difficulty in differentiating between the words "soap" and "rope"! He was also astounded by the exceptions of the English language, especially how two words could sound the same but have different spellings and meanings.

Our family was also friendly with local farmers and landowners of British ancestry. As a result of these frienships, another important person in our life in Williamsfield was Granny Becky. I am guessing that her proper name was Rebecca. She was an English woman who was once married to an English landowner – I assumed that her husband had passed away– and lived on a large wooden house built on concrete stilts on a huge property. The house was surrounded by many large fruit trees, cane-fields and cow pastures. A river ran through the property and I remember that it always seemed to be moving so fast and furious. There were, however, beautiful white river lilies with bright scarlet stems growing along the banks of the river.

Granny Becky became everyone's grandmother in the district, but our family became especially close to her, her friends and family, people like Lester, Tiny and Carmen, who as a young lady later came to live with our family many years after when we moved away from Williamsfield. Some Sundays when we did not travel to Petersfield, our family and other locals from the district would get together to have a picnic under the trees at Granny Beck's home. Granny Becky owned a RCA "His Master's Voice" gram-o-phone with a cute logo of a dog listening to the brass speaker shaped like a horn and she would let me have fun winding it up. I loved to listen to all of Granny's 78 r.p.m. vinyl records. I especially enjoyed playing under the house and hiding behind the concrete stilts, listening to the music blaring away at the highest volume while the adults sat outside on the verandah talking loudly over the music. Occasionally, someone would go inside to either change or flip over the black, shiny vinyl records.

From the verandah, we children would also watch some of the adults play cricket, an English bat and ball game. When we got bored, we ran all over the fields, making sure to stay far away from the cricket pitch for safety's sake. The cricket ball was a composition of dense rubber covered in leather. It was very tough. It would

Memoirs of a Jamaican-born Chinese... *(cont'd.)*

cause you great pain if you were unfortunate enough to get hit by one! In the fields, we would also skillfully avoid the "cow-pies" and make sure to stamp on "shamo' lady" or "dead and wake", a lacey-leaf plant which grew wild all over the field which when touched, would bashfully close up its leaves in shame. There were also many animals to visit or sticks to throw over the fence. I remember the lovely sense of community during these times as people of all different races and classes came together to enjoy each other's company had have fun.. These were wonderful times for all of us.

Some time later, Papa decided to move the family to Savanna-la Mar which was the capital of Westmoreland. Savanna-la-Mar was a shipping port some eight miles away and the town was becoming a thriving place for business, so after conferring with his elders, Papa and Mama decided to move and expand their business there. Even after we left Williamsfield, however, happy times were still spent at Granny Becky's home. Sometimes my older brother, Keith, and I would be sent to spend summer holidays with Granny Becky. Everything seemed luxurious at Granny Becky's. The maid would bathe us in one of the many bedrooms after warming water in the wooden kitchen built outside and bringing it inside to pour into a white bathtub. We ate on chinaware plates, using heavy silverware and even peed in a beautiful decorated chinaware chamber pot that matched the chinaware jug and basin on the wooden mahogany washstand in the corner of the room. As when we had lived in Williamsfield, it was deemed that we were not yet old enough to use the outhouse latrine since it seemed so far away – plus, it housed many lizards and cockroaches! During those summers, we were also taught not to wear underwear to bed and to say our prayers before clambering into a very high four-poster mahogany bed.

I have wonderful memories of the time we spent in Williamsfield. I had such a carefree childhood and felt safe and loved, not only by my parents, but by the whole community around us.

向伟人致敬 – 華人音乐家

TRIBUTE TO THE GREATS

Willie Chong

Tribute to the Greats is organized by Kingsley Goodison and was conceptualized in 1998 while working with Sir Clement "Coxone" Dodds at Studio One. Kingsley knew that the artists were not being adequately compensated and recognized for the great work they did. He also saw the injustices being handed out to the artistes and players of instruments, so he made a move to recognize all these unsung heroes using the platform of Tribute to the Great using his own money without a sponsor to hold the event.

In previous years recognition was given to the Caribbean Connection, the Cuban Connection, and the Australian Connection and last year it was the American Connection which was well supported. Now this year is being recognized as the Chinese Connection. All the countries highlighted had a part to play in establishing and promoting Jamaican music. The first commercial Sound System in Jamaica was Tom the Great Sebastian owned by Thomas Wong who lived and operated the sound system at the corner of Luke Lane and Charles Street in 1948.

Each year is used to recognize different categories of persons who have made outstanding contribution to the music industry, such as, sound system operators, recording artistes, studio engineers, dance promoters and entertainment journalists. Some of the awardees in the Chinese Connection are Phillip Chen, Mikey Chung and Leslie Kong plus other outstanding stalwarts in the music industry.

This year's staging will be at the CBA Centre, 176 Old Hope Road in Liguanea on Saturday, July 26th. Gates open at 7:30 pm.

The show will commence with the Awards Ceremony; this will be followed by an entertainment package featuring various artistes backed by the Rhythm Masters. The evening will end with a grand dance party.

This event is endorsed by the CBA and you are invited to come and give your support to the musicians of Chinese descent who will be honoured for their sterling contribution to the development of Jamaican music.

OPEN HOUSE at THE OLD CBA BUILDING, 129 BARRY STREET, KINGTON

Sunday, July 27, 2014

After the doors open at 2:00pm, take a Tour of the Temple, and see the new renovations and repairs that have been completed so far: some roof and structural repairs, relocation of the old records, a thorough cleaning and repainting of sections of the building, restored pictures, and a display of a newly acquired map showing the ancestral Villages in 1866, and a modern large scale one showing today's new highways and towns, with all the villages named.

The CBA Building and Temple – Perspectives, a short talk by Vincent J. Chang, with his view of the place of the Temple in contemporary Jamaican-Chinese culture.

A Walk down Memory Lane – Dalton Yap will share reminiscences of his own and stories collected from the "old timers".

There will be a screening of Jeanette Kong's 2 Documentaries – CHINEY SHOP & HALF for those who were not able to attend the Saturday showing.

Security will be provided outside the Temple and at the recommended Parking Lot one block west of the Temple from 1:30pm. The documentaries are approximately 30 minutes each, and it is expected that the events will wind down in time for you to leave by 5:30pm.

Suggested driving directions for those not familiar with the area: drive south on East Street or on South Camp Road, then west (right) on Port Royal Street (one-way). Turn right (north) on King Street. At the 4th intersection, turn left (west) onto Barry Street. The Temple is at #129 Barry Street on the right side of the road, and some parking will be available on the curb immediately outside. Otherwise continue on one more block and on the right you will see an unpaved parking lot with security provided by the CBA. When leaving the Temple, given the 1-way streets, we recommend that you turn left just after the parking lot onto Pechon Street, and pass the old Railway Terminal on your right. When it intersects with Harbour Street you can turn left along Harbour Street and then left (north) on Duke Street, which will take you to National Heroes Circle.

体验世界杯

MY FOOTBALL EXPERIENCE

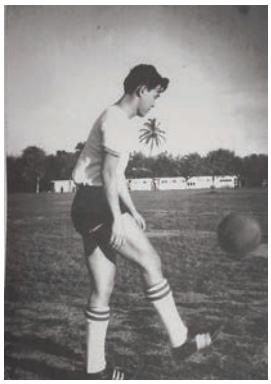
During my childhood, it was customary for all youths, especially boys, to engage in some form of sports to occupy the free time that they enjoyed either at home or at school. This enabled them to release the abundant pent-up energies, which, on most occasions, would get them into trouble with their parents and teachers through mischievous behaviors.

Patrick Chin

As a child, I participated in several sporting activities, but, my favorite pastime was playing football and on most Sunday afternoons, when my parents would close their shop to have our family dinner, I would pass the time kicking a tennis ball on the piazza against the shop doors.

At school, I would participate in "Form" and "House" matches, but, never felt that I could have made the school team that played against the other schools at varying levels, on a competitive basis.

As fate would have it, while attending St. George's College, one of the outstanding footballers, who represented the school at the highest level, suggested that I come out to training to try and make the team to represent the School in the Manning Cup Competition, which was the most prestigious football competition among the High Schools in Kingston.



While still doubtful about my ability to represent the school at that level, I reluctantly relented to his entreaties and turned out for training. This new experience started out very shakily, but, over time and with the encouragement of some of the seasoned players, I gained selection on the team and, with that, my confidence began to grow.

In that year, we failed to win the Manning Cup by one point, but, it so happened that a new Competition to vie for the Walker Cup, which was played between the four top teams in Kingston, was introduced for the first time and we duly won that event very comfortably.

In the following year, I transferred to Excelsior High School and went on to represent that school for two years, during which time, I gained selection on the All-Manning and All-Schools Teams, which consisted of the players, who were considered to be the best in the School Competitions throughout the Island. I was also invited to join the Jamaica National Senior Football Squad and was selected to represent my Country on a tour of Cuba. Prior to that, I was also selected to the National Squad to travel to Guatemala to participate in the regions CONCACAF (Confederation of Central America and Caribbean Football Association) Competition; however, due to lack of funds by the Jamaica Football Association, I was not able to make that trip.

During this time, I also represented the Chinese Athletic Club (CAC) in domestic football competitions at the invitation of my brothers, who also played the game and represented the CAC. While playing for the CAC, I had the occasion to score nine goals in a match against the Jamaica Regiment which ended in an 11 goals to 3 score line and this has probably remained one of the highlights in my career.

A few years later, a close friend, Winston Chung Fah, decided to form a football club which was named Santos Football Club after the outstanding football club in Brazil which produced "Pele", who is reputed to be the best footballer of all times. In forming this Club, Winston primarily focused his attention on the youths from the inner cities of East and Central Kingston, where he and I grew up as children, as he observed that there was an abundance of football talent which existed in these areas and which were untapped due to the environment in which they lived. One of the most outstanding products of this group is Allan "Skill" Cole, whose mother is of part Chinese origin. Allan is considered to be one of the best footballers produced in Jamaica and is reputed to be the only Jamaican footballer to have secured a football contract in Brazil.

History has proven Winston right in his assessment and his consequent actions in establishing the Club as the Club went on to win the most prestigious local Competitions in the Country within the relatively short period of three years after its formation. During these rewarding periods, I had the honor to have been appointed Captain of the Team and was proud to have been afforded the opportunity to lead such an outstanding group of footballers.

Apart from my national representation, my entire football career was spent with this Club following its formation and this turned out to be a very fulfilling albeit challenging experience at the time and I shall forever treasure the memories for the rest of my life.

I thank God for this most memorable period of my life and the friendship that was engendered between these youths and myself as these are my most sincere relations that have remained intact to this day.

Having said this, I also thank God for favoring me with the most perfect partner in the person of my dear wife, whom I shall forever cherish.

TOUR OF CBA FACILITIES

As is customary, the newly elected members of the 2014 CBA Board were taken on a tour of properties under CBA's jurisdiction. This exercise is designed to bring members up to speed on the facilities under the management of the CBA and to assist them in their deliberations and decision making.

This year, they were joined by members of the Chinese Embassy.

18 Trinidad Terrace

Dalton Yap with members of the Embassy

Cleared areas

Top Floor of Treasure Hunt

Having a look inside the Columbarium

Getting ready to tour Treasure Hunt

Robert Hew, Brandon Chang & Mike HoSue

Walking tour of the Cemetery

VINTAGE

Throughout the year, we will be publishing "Vintage" photographs of Jamaican life from the 1960's and before, with special emphasis on the Chinese Community. We are asking each of you to help us unearth and preserve these treasures. If you have some of these gems in your old family albums, PLEASE let us know and share them with everyone. If you can't scan and email them yourself, we will try to have someone scan them in high resolution for you – whether you are in Toronto, Florida, or Jamaica. Just email them to *info@cbajamaica.com* or get in touch with Patrick Lee in Toronto or Robert Hew in Kingston. For large group photos we will try to crowd-source the names of the individuals in the picture that you don't already know.

The first batch of over 30 Vintage pictures will be on display at the Open House at the Temple on July 27th. Here is a sampling to whet your appetite and hopefully inspire you to look at your old albums and boxes of photographs. Don't let them languish in the dark, unappreciated: you can bring back warm memories and beaming smiles to the faces of many people. If we collect enough, we may even print a small commemorative book.

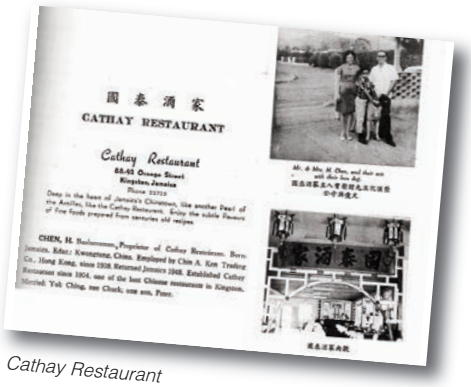
Bicycle Gang: Stanley "Bammy" Chin, Icilda Hew, Dorothy Hew, Ina Chin (daughter of William A Chin, m Hubert Wong Shui), Stanley "Wafers" Chin m Stephanie Elmore (owned Richmond Hill Inn). Taken in front of Hew-Wing grocery, Hopewell, Hanover

Part of the Scout Group involved in the "Round the Island" hike to collect money for the Chinese War Red Cross Fund (circa 1940?)

Chang's Emporium Half Way Tree – Jamaica's first Supermarket.

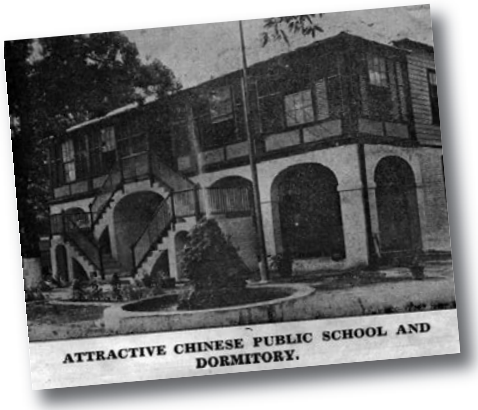
Central Trading Co. originally at 33 Princess Street

Traditional Chinese dance by the Min Chin Pang at the carnival at Denbigh on Emancipation Day 1955, with part of the huge crowd which gathered round the show ring to watch.



Cathay Restaurant

Jamaican Chinese Girls 1945



Farewell function for Archdeacon Fox, Nov-Dec 1955, Chinese Club in Montego Bay

CBA NEWS

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In Commemoration of the 160th Anniversary of the Arrival of the First Chinese to Jamaica (1854-2014)

The Chinese Benevolent Association

Presents

1854: JAMAICA-CHINA-PANAMA

A public lecture by Dr. Keith Lowe B.A., Ph.D., co-founder of the 2000 Toronto Hakka Conference. Dr. Lowe will analyze the social and historical factors in China which pushed people to emigrate, as well as the factors in the Caribbean that pulled the Chinese towards the region.

Date:	Wednesday July 30th 2014
Time:	6:00 pm
Venue:	Multifunctional Room, The Main Library, University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston 7

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TRANSITIONS

The CBA regrets the passing of the following members of our Community and extends our deepest condolences to their families.

WONG, Vincent Joseph, passed away on March 13, 2014 in Orlando, FL. He is survived by devoted wife, Carmen; children Dean and Francine; grandchildren Chloe and Carlie; daughter-in- law Pinkie; brothers and sisters; Osbourne, Elsie, Flor, Doris,Theresa, Anna, Albert, Margaret; all his nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Victor was a Wolmer's Old Boy and had a love and passion for music and singing. He was a member of the Mighty Vilkings and later the Version Band.

CHIN, Ivan Samuel, passed away peacefully June 27, 2014 at the age of 90.

He leaves Lily, his wife of 66 years; 10 children - Gary (Valli), Ivan (Sharon), Wendell (Debbie), Clifton, Kevin (Bev), Lillene (Dev), Betty (Brian), Andre (Janice), Kirk (Fran) and Brett; 32 grandchildren and 20 great- grandchildren. Brother to Veroy, Tenny, Vie, Marie, Lily and Ken; predeceased by Alvin, Harold, Harry, Stanley and Darrieux.

May their souls rest in peace.