

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs



The Bermuda Day Heritage Parade 2018





MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

Greetings and welcome. Bermuda Day is one of my favorite Bermuda holidays.

There are so many reasons to love Bermuda Day, from the intricately-designed parade floats, the show of physical strength and determination during the half-marathon race, and the hypnotic beat of the Gombey drum - there is something for everyone.

But the best thing about Bermuda Day is that it highlights the culture we have in common, something which is captured in this year's theme, What We Share.

There really is no other place on earth like Bermuda. We are a melting pot of traditions and we all share the same welcoming and generous nature, and at no time is this more apparent than on Bermuda Day. If you get thirsty or hungry along the parade route, there will always be someone to offer you shade and refreshment. I am always struck with a profound sense of pride when I hear a Bermudian explaining the history of the parade to a tourist, or sharing with them memories of parades gone by.

Indeed, the parade is something that I grew up watching as a little boy, and now something I can share with my children. Having that continuation of tradition through the generations is truly special.

There aren't many parades around the world where people will set up camp on the side of the road the night before to ensure a good viewing spot!

On behalf of the Government of Bermuda, I wish everyone a Happy Bermuda Day. Have a happy, safe holiday.

The Hon. E. David Burt, JP, MP
Premier of Bermuda and Minister of Finance

WHAT WE SHARE BERMUDA DAY 2018 1



MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER

Greetings and Happy Bermuda Day!

Bermuda Day is one of our most anticipated and celebrated public holidays because it reflects our shared pride and love for Bermuda. This day is filled with thrills, rhythmic sounds, much laughter and joy!

I am delighted that this year our theme for Heritage Month and Bermuda Day is What We Share; because it causes us to reflect on the notion that the ties that bind us together are far more important than that which separates us.

Our cultural heritage reflects the rich and diverse tapestry of people including those from the Caribbean, Europe, Portugal and the Azores; as well as people of Amerindian descent. We celebrate our diversity which has uniquely shaped us as a people. We see this diversity in the foods we enjoy and the festivals that we embrace. These are elements that we share. We are also united by family bonds that extend from St. George's to Sandys; and friendships which span many generations.

Our traditions that we hold dear, such as flying kites on Good Friday, eating Cassava Pie at Christmas, taking our first dip on May 24th, following the Gombeys on Boxing Day, greeting any and every one with "Good morning" or "Good afternoon", are some of the ties that bind us; that set us apart as Bermudian.

I am pleased that for the first time, Bermuda Day will be celebrated on the last Friday in May. The long weekend therefore provides the opportunity for people to come out and support our Bermuda Day Parade replete with wonderful participants and beautiful artistic floats. I extend my sincere gratitude to all parade participants and float builders for their hard work and enthusiastic participation.

I wish to thank the Heritage Advisory Committee members and the staff at the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs who have organized a wonderful month of activities; and worked tirelessly to ensure that this Bermuda Day Parade is the most dynamic and exciting one yet. To all who line the streets of Hamilton cheering your favourite group or welcoming the beautiful pageantry of floats "Thank you" for your support and encouragement.

Enjoy the Bermuda Day festivities; or however you choose to celebrate this most special holiday in our island's cultural calendar. As you do I urge that we will take time to give thanks for our rich heritage that we share.

The Hon. Michael Weeks JP, MPMinister of Social Development and Sports



MESSAGE FROM THE OPPOSITION LEADER

As the Leader of the Opposition, the One Bermuda Alliance, I would like to offer my warmest greeting to the people of Bermuda as we celebrate Bermuda Day and the Bermuda Day Parade.

Regardless of our age, The Bermuda Day Celebration means relaxation and fun – a marathon, a parade with floats, gombeys and majorettes, sailing and beaching. It is a day to reflect on and celebrate our culture and heritage.

Since 1979, the Bermuda Day Parade has entertained locals and visitors alike with a display of the warmth, beauty and genuineness of our spirit and the diverse culture of our country. Performers practice routines and competitors decorate floats in preparation for the one day of the year that they can proudly and artistically present their heritage to cheering crowds, supporters and friends.

The theme for this year, "What We Share" resonates with me. It is not only timely, but it allows us to focus on our community as a whole and what links us - "for what we share is far more important than what divides us".

The Bermuda Parade gives us an opportunity, for one day a year at least, to reflect on and highlight what we have in common, what we don't always talk about - We are a diverse group of Bermudians but we are all one people!!

While overseas, when asked "Where are you from?", it is with pride that we say, "I am a Bermudian!!!". We may be just 21sq miles but "we hold our own with the rest of the world". We have acclaimed scholars, world class athletes, musicians, artists, and designers. We have family traditions and picnics and community celebrations. We have a helpful spirit! We are a progressive community that is intentionally moving forward.

Our island is a beautiful place and we are committed to improving it. Together we strive to promote its success, protect it, and maintain its beauty, and its traditions. We celebrate the legacy from those who looked for resolutions, were committed to the causes that touch our hearts and spirits, addressed disparities and deficits, and promoted excellence.

So, with all of this in mind and with great pride, I wish you a Happy Bermuda Day!!

The Hon. Jeanne J. Atherden, JP, MP Leader of the Opposition

BERMUDA DAY 2018



MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT

Warm holiday wishes to you on this 39th annual Bermuda Day.

White rooftops, pink sand in every crevice, impossibly large servings of snapper sandwiched between slices of sweet raisin bread, the hum of kites on a crisp Good Friday, the first dip after Bermuda Day, the relentless urge to follow the Gombeys: these fundamental Bermudian experiences are an important part of what we share. But you can also find us connected in the love of family, the salty breeze on North Shore, hurricane supplies, bonfires, barbeques, and our babies playing in the freedom of innocence. We are connected in road rash, in heartbreak, in cancer, in tragic loss, and if we're lucky, in old age. We are loved or lonely or feeling a little lost, but we are not alone in that. We are united in Johhny Barnes, Sally Bassett, Pauulu Kamarakafego, Ajax, Mentor, Dame Lois Browne-Evans, Kingsley Tweed, Barbara Ball, Georgine Hill, in heroes, revolutionaries, and ordinary Bermudians that have helped to shape our island in the sun; the island we celebrate today.

The Bermuda Day Parade is our annual celebration of all we share, comprised of over 1000 talented participants and many more behind-the-scenes that help to shape, rehearse, and create the spectacular floats, costumes, and performances that we get to enjoy today. As always, I wish to give a special thank you to the participants who, for a few brief hours, turn the City of Hamilton into a space of magic, imagination, and possibility. There would be no parade without spectators, and there is an infectious enthusiasm about camping for spots, the provisions of well-tasting picnics, and the playful sound clashes between camps during gap time. This holiday is an opportunity to connect with family and friends and share a commonality of national pride.

Many thanks go to the passionate and helpful Heritage Advisory Committee members and my colleagues at the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs. Our appreciation and gratitude is also extended to our partners at the Department of Corrections, the Department of Communication, the Royal Bermuda Regiment, and the City of Hamilton.

We may not all have the grace of a dancer or the artistic talent of a float builder, but today we share a deep, unifying pride in claiming their talents as part of what makes our culture and community so diversely rich. Happy Bermuda Day to each of you – I wish you abundant inspiration, limitless national pride, and boasty vibes.

Carlita LodgeCultural Affairs Programme Manager

THE ORIGINS OF Heritage Month and Bermuda Day

Civil unrest in the 1960s and 1970s prompted the Bermuda Government to commission a report examining the social conditions in Bermuda and make recommendations to promote a more unified and peaceful social atmosphere. The Pitt Report of 1978 gave an accurate representation of the social and racially tense atmosphere at the time, and included feedback from many Bermudians that suggested an event should be organised to bring Bermudians together in harmony and to build a sense of civic pride.

It was decided that a parade would provide an opportunity for camaraderie and celebration, similar to the Easter Parade that ran from the 1930s through to the 1960s. During that time, many farmers grew flowers so that they could be in full bloom for the Easter period. It was also suggested in the Pitt Report that the proposed event capture the unifying spirit of the existing May 24 half-marathon. These events both served as inspiration for the Bermuda Day Heritage Parade which replaced Empire Day, the annual public holiday recognising Queen Victoria's birthday. The first Bermuda Day

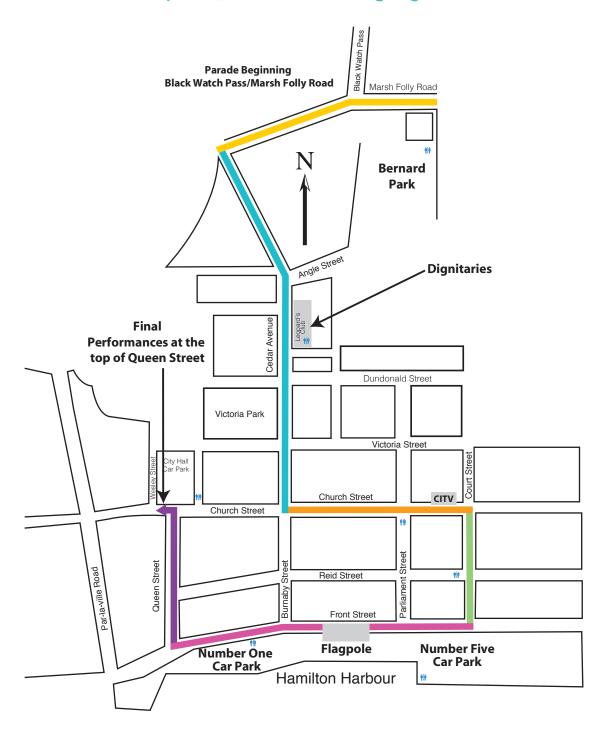
Parade took place in 1979. It was historically celebrated on May 24th but from 2018 onward will be celebrated on the last Friday in May.

Bermuda quickly realised that one day of celebration was not enough time to recognise the broad spectrum of Bermudian heritage and traditions. Heritage Week was born, celebrated in the last week in May. By the mid-1980's, this was expanded further into Heritage Month with a calendar full of events through May that celebrates Bermudian culture, heritage, and traditions.

Bermuda Day has become the culminating point of Heritage Month and one of the most beloved cultural holidays alongside Cup Match (Emancipation Day & Somers Day). On Bermuda Day, Bermudians showcase their pride in the beauty and diverse culture of our island – whether they participate in the parade, the half-marathon, go for their first swim of the year, attend the season's first fitted dinghy boat races, or follow the Gombeys through the streets crying, "Ay-oh!".



Parade Route



The **2018 Bermuda Day Parade** will begin **1:30 PM**. The parade will begin along Marsh Folly Road and continue right through to the top of Cedar Avenue. The parade then turns left onto Church Street, takes a right down Court Street, a right along Front Street, and finally up Queen Street where dance groups will do a final performance. Floats will make a right turn on Church Street, park in front of City Hall and remain there on display throughout the afternoon. (Trucks will turn left onto Church Street, then move back through the City via Par-La-Ville Road).

Parade Order

- 1. Bermuda Long Riders Motorcycle Club
- 2. St John's Ambulance
- The Royal Bermuda Regiment Band and Corps of Drums
- 4. Grand Marshal: Judith James
- 5. Seniors of Bermuda Train
- 6. Nirvana
- 7. Cybertips: Department of ICT Policy and Innovation- *Art Float*
- 8. Bermuda Rifle & Drill Team
- 9. The Bermuda Shrine Club
- 10. The Berkeley Institute Marching Band
- 11. The Berkeley Institute Dancers
- **12.** The Berkeley Institute Natural Heritage Float
- **13.** Bermuda Dance Academy
- 14. Grand Marshals: Filipino Association of Bermuda, Sonia Loudermilk and Genoveva Edwards
- Piece of the Rock: Drive for Change Road Safety - Upcycled Float
- 16. XPT Dance Group
- **17. Grand Marshal:** Honorary Consul to Ghana, Dr. Leonard Teye-Botchway
- 18. Somerset Brigade Band
- 19. Current Vehicles LTD. Art Float
- 20. Vision Summer Dance Crew
- **21.** Grand Marshal: Vasco da Gama Club, José Pavão
- 22. Vasco da Gama Natural Heritage Float
- 23. Bermuda Nurse's Association Nurse of the Year
- 24. Bermuda Squad
- 25. Bermuda Motocross Club
- 26. Club Hobby Zone
- 27. Grand Marshals: Caledonian Society of Bermuda, Elizabeth Adderley and Peter Profit
- 28. John A. B. Woods Sr. Classic Car

- **29.** Prospect Primary School Natural Heritage Float
- **30.** PHC Majorettes and Drum Corps
- 31. Bermuda Motorcycle Racing Club
- 32. Dellwood Middle School Art Float
- **33.** Grand Marshal: House of Azores, Joe Benevides
- **34.** Casa dos Acores da Bermuda (The House of Azores)
- **35.** Phenomenal People
- **36.** For God's Purpose Dancers and Natural Heritage Float
- 37. Roger Francis-Classic Car
- 38. Troy O'Donnel Francis Burgess Mobylette
- **39.** Johns Hopkins Medicine International-Natural Heritage Float
- 40. Rated E
- **41.** Department of Community and Cultural Affairs- *Art Float*
- 42. !Xquisite Styles Dance Group
- **43.** Lotus Mind Body Wellness Art Float
- 44. A Celebration: Marvin's Party Truck
- 45. ABC Football Foundation
- **46.** Roots to Shoots to Fruits Natural Heritage Float
- 47. Anchor Boys Club
- **48.** St George's Original Dancerettes with St. George's Prep Cheerleaders
- **49.** Sandy's Middle School *Natural Heritage Float*
- 50. United Dance Productions
- **51.** Warwick Gombeys
- **52.** Wilson's New Generation Gombeys
- 53. Place's New Generation Gombeys
- **54.** Gombey Evolution
- **55.** Gombey Warriors
- 56. HnH Gombey Troupe

WHAT WE SHARE BERMUDA DAY 2018



Honouring Contributions to Preserving Bermuda's Traditional Art of Play from Judith James



In our era of plentiful ready-made toys and organised games and activities, it could be easy to assume that in the past Bermuda's children did not have the same opportunities for play as they do today. Older adults, who remember childhoods during a time when money was not plentiful at all, assure us nothing could be further from the truth. One such adult is **Mrs. Judith James**, retired primary school teacher, who taught at Northlands Primary, the Ord Road School, now Paget Primary, the Elliot School, and at Victor Scott. By sharing her childhood memories, she has made a vital contribution to

Bermuda's heritage. In 2001 she was chosen to participate in the Bermuda Connections Programme in the Smithsonian Folklife Festival, held in Washington. There she explained and demonstrated many of the games she played with her friends while growing up on Angle Street in Hamilton. More recently, she has been featured in the Bermuda Folklife documentary, *Traditional Bermuda Games and Crafts*. She describes, for example, playing various "ring" games, rolling hoops made out bicycle wheels, skipping with bluebell vines, and making dolls out of weeds and mineral bottles, or out of rope. Her memories show us that before the advent of televisions, computers and iPhones, arguably children were more inventive and imaginative, as well as being better able to make magical toys out of very little. Recalling her childhood, she says, "Oh we had 'de' fun!"

Honouring Contributions to the Filipino Association of Bermuda from Sonia Loudermilk and Genoveva Edwards

Working in a country whose language and culture are not your own can be challenging. That is why the Filipino Association of Bermuda was first formed as a non-profit charitable organisation in 1997. They first participated in the Bermuda Day Parade in 1996, with the purpose of promoting unity among Filipinos and Bermudians in Bermuda. The Association represents Filipinos coming to work in Bermuda and helps them settle within the local community. It also encourages and develops the skills and talents of its members through a variety of social, cultural, athletic, and educational programmes.



Ms. Sonia Quintos Loudermilk, who has been on the island for 32 years and is one of Bermuda's longest serving leaders in the Filipino community, was a former President of the Filipino Association and currently sits as one of the Board of Trustees. In that role she is like an ambassador to Filipinos arriving on the island. She assists with their employment issues, passport applications, and other consular matters, while generally helping them make a home from home. In addition, she has assisted distressed seafarers and workers sometimes providing them with temporary shelter and guidance. Sonia

has been working at the Marketplace as Customs Clearance officer for 29 years and could be credited as the first individual to introduce Filipino food in the island's Marketplace grocery stores.



One important aim of the Association is to share Filipino culture with Bermuda residents. To that end, **Genoveva (Ghenie) Edwards**, founding member, former Vice-President and current President of the Association, has been very active in organizing Filipino social and cultural events. She has also served as Chair of the Filipino Club 2000, whose main objective is to help its members in time of need and bring about closer cooperation between members and the community. She, too, has been on the island for 32 years and, as a devout Catholic, serves in St. Theresa's Cathedral as a Proclaimer and a

Eucharistic Minister. Married for 28 years, she and her Bermuda-born husband James Edwards have two daughters and three grandchildren. She has worked as an accounts clerk at Colonial Medical Insurance for 11 years.



Honouring Contributions as the Honorary Consul-General of Ghana, Dr. Leonard Teye-Botchway



In September 2012, Ghana became the first nation in Africa to have an honorary consulate in Bermuda when well-known local eye specialist, **Dr. Leonard Teye-Botchway**, was appointed Honorary Consul-General in Bermuda. As a consequence, connections between Ghana and Bermuda have been strengthened to the benefit of both countries. For example, the Honorary Consulate of Ghana is able to provide entry visas, a vital service for individuals and tour operators visiting Ghana.

Born in Ghana, Dr. Teye-Botchway is an experienced and distinguished ophthalmologist who has been providing excellent ophthalmic care in Bermuda for over twenty years. He is the founder of the Bermuda International Institute of Ophthalmology (formerly the Bermuda International Eye Institute). In 2014, he was given the prestigious International Scholar Award by the American Academy of Ophthalmology. He has promoted continuing education and professional development for his staff through supervision, training and funding. Through his sponsorship, several Bermudian technicians have obtained various qualifications from the Joint Commission for Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology.

He has organised charitable events and regularly made donations to Age Concern, most notably to the Annual Eye Institute Race and Walk. In collaboration with Age Concern, his Institute has been regularly providing free health care services in the community.

For eight years he has served as technical advisor to the Bermuda Society for the Blind. He was the first Bermudian to be appointed an international classifier in visual impairment with the International Paralympic Committee and the International Blind Sports Federation, thus officially representing Bermuda in these organisations.

Honouring Contributions to Vasco da Gama Club from José Pavão



Portuguese skilled agricultural workers, first arriving aboard the *Golden Rule* in 1849 from Madeira and later from the Azores, became a significant part of Bermuda's demography. In 1935 a club was born dedicated to developing and preserving the Portuguese language and culture and to assisting any member of the association during a time of need. Named after Vasco da Gama, the famous Portuguese explorer whose first voyage to India between 1497 and 1499 was the first to link Europe and Asia by an ocean route, Vasco has over the years shared its cultural traditions with

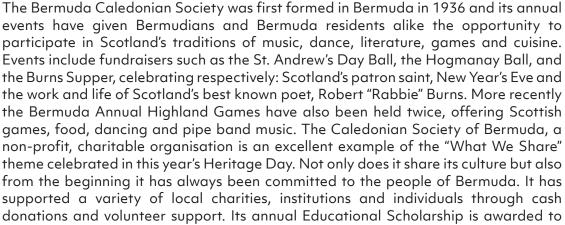
other cultures in Bermuda. For example, the Vasco da Gama Folklore Dancing Group was formed in 1979, thus celebrating and sharing Portuguese culture through music, song, dance and traditional costumes from the Azores. The Portuguese School ensures that the Portuguese language is taught in Bermuda while acting as a liaison with Bermuda's community. The floats created by the Club for the Easter Parade and more recently for the Bermuda Day Parade have always been beautiful, winning creations. In fact, Vasco participated in the very first Bermuda Day parade held in 1979.

Mr. José Pavão helped to maintain Vasco's Bermuda Day floats during the 1980s and was also one of the founders of the Vasco da Gama Folklore Dancing Group, which first performed at the 1979 Agricultural Exhibition. It is therefore fitting he is one of this year's Grand Marshalls. He is a long standing member of the Club and can always be seen providing music and sound engineering at important Portuguese cultural events, such as the Santo Cristo Festival at the Bermuda Athletics Association, and the Espirito Santo Festival in St. George's. But he also offers his services to other organisations' events held in Bermuda.



Honouring Contributions to the Caledonian Society of Bermuda from Elizabeth Adderley and Peter Profit







Bermuda-based students who wish to pursue their post high school studies in Scottish universities. The Society also sponsors the Bermuda Islands Pipe Band and Dance Division, while supporting Highland Dance, Sports and Pipes/Drums initiatives in general. Membership is by no means restricted to Scots, its only condition being a shared love of fun, community, Celtic culture and, of course, Bermuda. Funds are raised through member donations and events, which in addition to the Balls include various ceilidhs, golf tournaments, quiz nights, and other Scottish-themed entertainments held throughout the year.

Business owner **Mrs Elizabeth (Liz) Adderley**, currently once again President of the Society, has been a member of the Caledonian Society since 1987, holding the positions of Committee Member, Secretary, Vice President and President. **Mr. Peter Profit**, well known for his passion for music and his nineteen years as a drummer for the Bermuda Isles Pipe Band, has been Vice President for two years and a member for ten.

Honouring Contributions to House of Azores from Joe Benevides



The House of Azores ("Casa dos Acores da Bermuda") was founded in March 2015 as a non-profit organisation and registered as a charity shortly thereafter (Charity #967). Its mission is to promote and preserve Azorean culture and heritage, and to commemorate the Azorean community's contributions to Bermuda ever since the early days when skilled agricultural workers began to arrive in Bermuda in the late 1840s. In the last 170 years of Bermuda's history, the Portuguese Azorean community of Bermuda and its descents have contributed enormously to Bermuda in some many different

aspects and have had a tremendous affect in shaping the Bermuda of today. Through the various activities and events, the House of Azores of Bermuda celebrates and shares its history and culture with the whole of Bermuda's community. It also embraces everyone in Bermuda through its support of other local charities benefiting all Bermudians, which include Age Concern, the Coalition for the Protection of Children, SCARS and the Friends of Hospice. The House of Azores has received official designation from the World Council of House of the Azores.

Mr. Jose (Joe) Benevides was there at the founding of the House of Azores; in fact, the organisation formation in Bermuda was a dream of his and he is now an honorary member of the Board. He often provides staff to work at Portuguese Azorean cultural events while also assisting in obtaining entertainment for them and the organizing of such events. He is known for his deep love of Portuguese Azorean culture and for his commitment to sharing it with everyone in Bermuda which has been evident with his involvement in the community for over 30 years. He also worked at Belmont for



over 30 years and has recently started his own lawn care and maintenance business. He is deeply committed to his family, including his two daughters and four grandchildren.

Honouring Contributions to the Legal Community from Jamaican-Born Justice Norma Wade Miller



Bermuda's connection to the Caribbean is one of the most important and enduring, and Bermuda has found herself lucky over the years to have attracted outstanding members of the Caribbean community to make Bermuda their home. One-such individual is Jamaican-born **Justice Norma Wade-Miller, O.B.E., J.P.** Justice Wade-Miller has made important contributions to the local Bermudian and international legal communities. She has exemplified characteristics of professionalism, independence and empathy while serving on the Bermudian judiciary throughout her extensive tenure.

Justice Wade-Miller's exceptional contributions to the judicial life of Bermuda spans over 30 years. During this time she served as a judge in the Supreme Court. Her most recent service on the Bench was as Senior Puisne Judge immediately preceding her retirement. Prior to that (from 1985-1991), she served as Registrar of the Supreme Court.

She has further distinguished herself as a pioneer and role model in Bermudian society, racking up a string of firsts. She was the first woman to be appointed as a permanent magistrate. She was also Bermuda's first female Supreme Court justice, and finally the first female Acting Chief Justice.

Justice Wade-Miller led the development of Bermuda's new Integrated Family Court. She is a Fellow of the Commonwealth Judicial Education Institute and a member of the International Hague Network of Judges. She has also been active in other Commonwealth legal institutions, notably as President of the Commonwealth Magistrates and Judges Association (CMJA), serving from 2009-2012. She is now its Honorary Life Vice President.

Within Bermuda, she has taken on a range of reforming tasks: as Chair of the Judicial Task Force on Alternatives to Incarceration; as a member of the Law Reform Committee; as Chair of the Justice System Review Team; and as Chair of the Law Reform Sub-Committee on Family Law Reform. She was one of the founders of Project 100, which promotes mental health awareness and raises funds to combat mental disabilities. Her passion for young people and developing their potential led her to set up a programme, Spelldown Bermuda, designed to promote spelling in schools, inspired by a similar programme operating in Jamaica. For these and many other reasons Justice Wade-Miller is being honoured this Bermuda Day.

 $\textbf{Note:} \ \textbf{Unfortunately, Mrs. Wade-Miller is off-island and cannot participate in the Bermuda Day Parade.}$



BERMUDA DAY!







HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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> Vanessa Bartley Ronnie Chameau DeShae DeShields Jill Dill Glenn Fubler

Zina-May Parsons Milton Raposo Robert Wilson

Heather Whalen - Director - Community and Cultural Affairs

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The Royal Bermuda Regiment

ADDITIONAL THANKS

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Staff
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Department of Communications
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Corporation of Hamilton





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