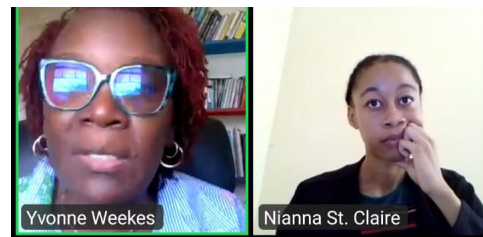


# ALLIOUAGANA EXPRESS

Montserrat's Community Newspaper

\$3.00



# Yvonne Weekes: Poet of Purpose

By: Nianna St. Claire

Montserratian poet Yvonne Weekes has had quite an impressive career from being Montserrat's first Director of Culture, to travelling around the world to represent the island while also being an advocate for human rights and world peace.

## Practice what you Preach

Weekes, who was born in London to Montserratian parents spent most of her early life between both countries.

After completing her Certificate in Education as well as a B.A majoring in both English and Drama, Weekes started her teaching career in 1980 as an English and Drama teacher in North London. It was here that her interest in poetry writing sparked: the education authority sent an adviser to observe the classes she was teaching and during her English class she was advised to write while the children were also writing.

She stated, "It was obvious to him that English teachers were the only teachers who asked their students to do an activity that they themselves cannot do." She continued, "I started writing poetry in my classroom with my students... at the time they were considered really good poems and I was able to present them at an activity called Rock against Racism".

The young teacher was further encouraged to write and send her poems to a book editor she met during the event, "She encouraged me to send (poems) to her in the post and then she sent

*cont'd. on page 2*



In Columbia at the Municipality of El Carmen de Viboral. Teatro Tescyps Luís Filipe Sarmento (Portugal), Mónica Lucía Suárez (Colombia), Karel Leyva (Cuba), Yvonne Weekes (Montserrat) Lunch before the readings with translators.

## Lee Bowyer on being appointed the Emerald Boys new Head Coach



*story on page 7*

# Dr Weekes describes Columbia event as 'red carpet treatment experience'

cont'd. from page 1

back notes. Her feedback was so instrumental, instructive and helpful."

Later in 1983, she continued her studies at the Central School of Speech and Drama in London completing an Advanced Certificate in Voice and Speech in Drama Education.

Weekes eventually returned to Montserrat in 1987 where she taught English and Literature at the secondary and tertiary level. While in Montserrat she became the first Director of Culture and also formed



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## ISLAND OF MONTSERRAT

A.D. 2023

### [PROBATE DIVISION]

#### LEGAL NOTICE

In the Estate of **ELIZABETH ANN CLARISTA SKERRITT** deceased

**NOTICE** is hereby given that after the expiration of 14 days from the date of this notice, an application will be filed at the Registry, High Court of Justice for an ORDER that Grant of Letters of Administration in the Estate of **ELIZABETH ANN CLARISTA SKERRITT** late of 42 Nevett Street, Preston, Lancashire who died on the 18th day of July 2020 be issued to **LINDA ROSEMARY SKERRITT** of 44 Dawson Walk, Preston, PR1 1NJ, daughter and personal representative of the deceased and one of the persons entitled to a share in the Estate.

**ALL** persons claiming to be beneficially interested in the Estate are requested to send written particulars thereof to the undersigned within 14 days from the date of this notice.

**FURTHER** any person objecting to the issuance of a Grant of Letters of Administration to the said applicant should notify the Registrar of the High Court of Justice whose address is: Office of the Registrar General, Brades, Montserrat not later than fourteen (14) days from the publication of this notice.

Dated the 15th day of September 2023

**Watts & Associates Ltd**  
Attorneys at law for the Applicant

the Rainbow Theatre Company where she directed and produced plays.

In 1996, shortly after the volcanic eruption, she fled to Barbados. "I think I started writing seriously when the volcano erupted, that's when I started paying attention to the craft, the skill."

As it relates to the rest of her academic history, Dr Weekes also holds an MA in Educational Leadership from the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus. She also completed the Post-Graduate Diploma in Arts and Cultural Enterprise Management at the St. Augustine Campus in 2006 and later completed her PhD (Education) in 2016.

### Let us Vote

On July 5th of this

year Weekes attended the 33rd annual Medellin International Poetry Festival in Columbia which she described as a "red carpet treatment experience". She presented work from her poetry collections "Nomad", published by the House of Nehesi as well as "Pandemic Moments" which she collaborated on with the late Sir Howard Fergus.

She shared her experience, "They were literally hundreds of people listening to me read poetry and wanting to know about Montserrat... it was a challenge for me to speak and understand what they were saying but my Spanish got better." She continued, "It was really like teaching, not just presenting with poems but teaching about

Montserrat. There was an excitement about the fact there was a place in Spain called Montserrat as well."

Nomad was the result of a very close-knit Montserrat community in Barbados fighting for the right to vote. Led by Weekes' former student at MSS who became a lawyer, they sued the government. "That kind of propelled me to start to examine my position here in Barbados, my sense of self as a Montserratian living in Barbados."

Pandemic Moments, as the name suggests, is a compilation of poems that focuses on the experiences of Weekes and Sir Howard Fergus during the covid-19 pandemic. They both wrote their own poems and placed them in the appropriate section of the book, "My section of poems speak to his section, in fact, It was like a conversation."

### Impart Wisdom

Weekes visited the World Poetry Movement in Venezuela from the 16th - 21st of July and has since been asked by the movement to provide support for new and emerging poets in Montserrat. As the National Coordinator for Montserrat's World Poetry Movement, Weekes has been working with poets -Zelma White, Kimmora



*In Columbia at EAFIT University. Building 38. Auditorium: Sphiwe Nzima (Lesotho), Carolyn Forché (US), Shirani Rajapakse (Sri Lanka), Yvonne Weekes (Montserrat), Nigar Hasan Zadeh (Azerbaijan),*

Ward and Ronel White.

She stated, "Because I'm not physically in Montserrat I spoke to poets I knew, I didn't reach out to every poet and to people writing dialect poetry because it cannot be translated into Spanish easily."

The three poets did their first reading at easiLiving in St. Peter's earlier this year in March and are expected to participate in a virtual workshop scheduled for October. Two poets from Jamaica and St. Lucia will be facilitating the event, which will also be opened to the public.

### Admirable Victories

Dr. Yvonne Weekes,

theatre Arts educator with over 40 years' experience, is also an actor, award winning and published writer of prose, poetry and drama, aspiring film maker and stage director.

A few of her most notable achievements:

- Developed the Associate Degree in Theatre at the Community College in Barbados
- Key figure in the development of the Caribbean Examination Council Theatre Arts Syllabus and instrumental in the training of teachers for this examination in St. Lucia, Trinidad and Barbados
- Successfully combined all of her skills

to offer unique workshops dealing with a number of social issues in order to empower, train and educate. Most notably she has run workshops for the University of the West Indies UWI/HARP project that deals with the HIV/AIDS pandemic. She has also facilitated workshops dealing with domestic violence against women.

- Produced plays about domestic abuse and skin bleaching which can be viewed in the waiting room of the Accident and Emergency Department of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Bridgetown.

# Dear Pastor

Reprinted from [jamaica-star.com](http://jamaica-star.com)

## Terrified of my ex

Dear Pastor,

I am in a situation in which I feel extremely vulnerable and intimidated by my ex. A few months ago I ended the relationship because I couldn't take it anymore.

I was assisting my dad with my niece and nephew because their father went abroad to work. I stayed at my parents' house to make it easier to assist the children. My ex and I were not having a good relationship for a very long time. He said he does not know how to communicate and I can't see through it. He likes to argue about everything. He did not provide food or pay utilities. We did not resolve any of our problems; he swept them underneath the carpet. If I tried to have them resolved, he ignored me or an unrelated argument developed.

After I ended the relationship with him, he said he wanted to talk, but it did not turn out very well. He became aggressive and angrily kicked a bucket, so I left. I told him that he needed to leave and he asked how he could leave and I would be living in the house that he put his labour into. He is an electrician, and I remember asking him to give me a price to wire the one bedroom, bathroom, and verandah. He didn't give me a price and then he got upset. So I said nothing else.

A notice was served for him to leave, but he didn't vacate. I went back to court and took out a recovery of possessions order. I got a court date for next month. I left the area for a few weeks, and when I returned, I stayed at my parents' house. I decided that I was not going back to my place, but I finally did. He is still at my house. He comes and goes any hour of the night.

I told him he needs to find a place to sleep, and he ignored me. To be honest, I am avoiding all trouble. I fear for my life, and I feel threatened, vulnerable, and intimidated by his presence. An officer told me that the police can't do anything because he is not physically abusive. I will not allow him to batter and bruise me, and if it reaches that point, I will defend myself to the last breath.

I eagerly need advice and assistance. I want something to be done before the court date and before the unexpected happens. I wanted to pack his things and put them on the verandah, but I was advised not to do so because he may say his things got lost or damaged, and I would have to replace them or pay for them. I wanted to change my lock and I was told that I must give him a key. That honestly doesn't make any sense to me, so I didn't change it. However, he changed the lock and locked me out. It was replaced after I made a report at the police station.

I took two loans to complete this house, and I am currently repaying the second one. He never assisted me with any of the loan payments. I think I am losing my mind. I can't sleep at nights because I have to be watching over myself. I am in so much pain. I need counselling, therapy, and everything. I am holding on to my mental health and faith in God, but if this continues, I don't know how long I will be sane. I need urgent help. I want him to leave my house. I want the judge to hear both sides of the story. Isn't there something that can be done? Shouldn't the police see to it that he moves his things until court day? What am I to do?

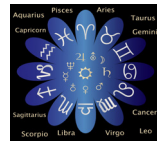
Pastor, please, I am asking you for help. I keep quiet and avoid him because I know once an argument starts, I may lose my life, and I don't want to die. I am terrified. I am 34 and he is 49. We have no children together, but he has two daughters and a grandson. Please assist and help me in any way you can before it's too late.

Initial Withheld

Dear Writer,

I don't need to tell you that you can't handle this matter on your own, but I will say so nevertheless. You need the help of a lawyer. I can hear you say, "But Pastor, I can't afford it." My response would be, "You can't afford not to have a lawyer because judging from what you have written, this man will fight you to the very ground." You may not receive justice. So it is not just the police who should assist you. You need your own lawyer. I further suggest that you should not stay in the house. Go back to your parents' home. You should be safer there. I need not say any more except to assure you that I will be praying for you.

Pastor



## Your weekly Horoscopes

**ARIES** (Mar 21 – Apr. 20) Now you must go all out to impress other people with your financial verve and personal generosity. The sub-text today is written by the Sun, which is about to bring fresh light to a special relationship. I hope very much that you like what you see!

**TAURUS** (Apr. 21 – May 21) The fact that the perfect passionate alignment occurs tomorrow doesn't detract from today's splendid emotional prospects. Joy, happiness, nostalgia and sentiment vie with each other. Don't be too sensitive, though. By hoping for the best, you will actually help the best to happen.

**GEMINI** (May 22 – June 21) It's a day of work for most of you. If regular employment is not on the agenda, go for a traditional day of practical and household chores. Also, take one or two sensible measures to boost your physical well-being. The point is that you want to do something worthwhile, and not feel as if you've wasted your time.

**CANCER** (June 22 – July 23) I'd like to remind you that you're now moving through a deeply prosperous phase, even though there are bound to be weekly and monthly fluctuations. That said, today's stars are wonderful for all partnership affairs and friendly meetings – as I hope you'll find.

**LEO** (July 24 – Aug. 23) The Moon swoops over your horoscope, reminding you of the importance of harmonious and meaningful family connections, but don't demand commitment from those who are not prepared to give it. The best influences are saved for domestic spending and investments.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 24 – Sept. 23) You are under the poetic sway of Mercury and Venus, that most charming of celestial combinations. If you want to convince anyone of your finer qualities and persuade them that you are in the right, now is the time. Family members should be especially susceptible to your charms.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 24 – Oct. 23) Everything looks terribly favourable. Social and emotional developments augur well for the future and may be more significant than they seem at first sight. Shopping sprees are just the thing to lighten your mood. You'll also be shuffling your opinions, causing a spot of confusion along the way.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 – Nov. 22) If you please one person who is important to you now, you are almost certain to offend another. If I were you, I'd avoid all controversial acts and potentially ambiguous statements for the next few weeks, and stick to tried and tested methods of getting your way.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 23 – Dec. 22) Before very much longer has passed you may have had one or two little intuitions on the way your life is going and what you should do to improve things as you go along. Nurture your spirit and allow time for quiet, meditative thought, healing your inner hurts.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 23 – Jan. 20) One special relationship is undergoing a process that is bound to strengthen it in the long run. Even casual acquaintances may have more than you expect to offer in the emotional department. Combine maturity and stability with a child-like delight in the romantic potential that's soon to come your way.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 – Feb. 19) Many of you may be working hard this weekend. Those of you at home may be concerned about your, or a partner's, professional prospects. Financial potential is exceptionally bright and social trends are good – as long as you let partners take first place from time to time!

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 – Mar 20) Your lunar alignments today are intense, emotional and sympathetic – and very enthusiastic. At the end of the day you will emerge stronger and happier in yourself. Foreign news should be arriving, and you might have a chance to heal a rift with a loved one.

# Statement from the Commissioner of Police Dr Nicholas Caveney

**Tuesday, September 12 2023** - The Royal Montserrat Police Service (RMPS) is aware of a victim safety briefing document that has been circulating on social media and was also broadcast by ZJB today, Tuesday, September 12th 2023.

The RMPS would like to make clear to the public that this document was produced in line with our standard police safety briefing intended as a private and confidential document for a specific and small number of individuals.

As such, this private police document was not intended to be shared in any way and was not for public distribution.

The RMPS is conducting a full investigation into how, why

and by whom this document was made public.

The safety and protection of the Montserrat community is the key purpose of the Royal Montserrat Police Service.

We understand that the publication and unauthorized circulation of this document may have caused individuals distress and we are sorry that this has happened.

We would like to remind the public that this is a private police document and it should not be shared, posted on social media or aired in any way.

We appreciate the public's understanding and patience as we work to resolve this matter and uphold our duty to serve and protect the community of Montserrat.



## Lee Bowyer on being appointed the Emerald Boys new Head Coach

Football writer Jon Arnold of the "Getting CONCACAFed" blog made a call to new Montserrat coach Lee Bowyer after the game against Dominica Republic. Bower was a top player in his day and subsequently managed Charlton Athletic and Birmingham City. In the interview he said:

"I'm not dreaming too far ahead. I'm literally going to take each camp at a time because I have to put this puzzle together," he said. "I have certain pieces at

the moment, and these pieces have got to learn what I demand from them."

"I know what (Lyle Taylor) brings. He brings goals, and you need to score goals to win games," Bowyer said. "It's good to see him in this environment because he really cares about Montserrat."

"He's the captain, but he leads by example and all the players look at him and respect him. He was in a Premiership club last season – you can't take that away from him

– and that's why the other players look up to him, especially the younger ones. He's a good person to have around."

I'm interested in trying to improve these players as quickly as possible in the short time we have together," he said. "If people are confused, maybe it's because it's completely different from what I've done before."

"There are (also) things that I've got to try and guide people behind the scenes on: Itinerary-type things so it's better for players' recovery and

things like that," he said. "I've been in the game so long, and I know what they need, so I'm going to try to bring a bit of that side to the organization as well."

"But, for me, it's a good challenge, something different for me, being a national manager. If I do well here, you don't know what opens up in the future because there's no reason why we couldn't maybe qualify for the World Cup. Can you imagine if that happens? What a story that would be!"

# EDITORIAL

## MONTSERRAT: WHAT'S YOUR ISSUE?

Montserrat has lost its way. There is a road to successful recovery from every disaster. Yet successive political leadership of Montserrat lacked the wherewithal to find and follow that road with an intention to succeed. But our situation is a matter of collective consciousness; all Montserratians are to blame, resident or diaspora. Please join in to the A Express conversation pointers below.

Montserrat is a nation with a population of about 4000 persons; nevertheless, the government needs more than \$150 million to provide goods and services each year. Therefore, Montserrat is likely to be the most expensive nation in the world, per capita, with regards to government spending for goods and services. Montserrat cannot purchase an ambulance, or a police van, or a school bus unless the UK government provides the money. Montserrat is not sustainable without the direct support of the UK taxpayers. **Montserrat, the foregoing is your issue... your reality; accept it and yield to superior modern management principles and practices.**

Montserrat, your circumstances is almost etched in granite. And having one thousand discussions on your constitution during the next 30 years will not change the issue. Likewise, allowing 5,000 diaspora Montserratians to vote in the next 10 general elections will not change the issue either. Yes, the circumstances of our population size, and government tax revenue significantly determine the issues of our dear old fashioned isle, Montserrat. But things can change! Look in the mirror! Talk among yourselves!

The matter of population size is taking care of itself, naturally. Our population will remain small, for which there is no foreseeable remedy. **Tinkering and tampering with our immigration laws will worsen the situation.** In fact, Mott Donald in its report warned that the Montserrat population will not rise above 4500 persons [any time soon].

The **A Express** now considers another conversation pointer. If the diaspora Montserratians are given the right to vote in our elections, will they be required to pay one dollar in income tax each year? If their names are placed

on the voters list, would they be willing to pay fifty cents income tax for that privilege? After-all, every resident Montserratian contributes significantly to governments' tax revenue, indirectly and or directly. And while on the matter of taxes [government revenue], the A Express reminds of this: Between the years 2010 and 2020, the MCAP governments forgave their cronies almost \$20 million of unpaid governments' revenue. MCAP is the epitome of political cronyism and selfishness.

As you can see, beyond the issues of small population and our inability to raise enough revenue to sustain ourselves **lurks the political leadership mindset.** A mindset of non-accountability and corruption pervades the political and administrative management of Montserrat; so much so, that the police force is now under UK management. In fact, the Business Case Financial Aid 2022/23 (the Memorandum of understanding) signed by the present MCAP government, revealed that information. And very soon the Department of Customs and Revenue will be totally managed by UK administrators. Why? Because Montserrat has made a **mess of itself** administratively and politically. Again, this situation is a consequence of our collective consciousness.

**Dear old fashioned Montserrat, again here is your issue... your reality.** Montserrat is a very small and unsustainable UKOT. 'The buck' stops at UK taxpayers for financial aid and support, we accept that. Similarly, for good administrative management the ultimate responsibility (the buck) is UK politicians... we are afraid of that. Furthermore, understand... no nation on earth will support a change in the political status of Montserrat, no, not a single CARICOM nation or any member of the United Nations. So Montserrat, 4000 people, face reality!

In the opening paragraph, we said that there is a recovery road following each disaster. But after 28 years of dithering, we still do not have a clue about that road to rebuild a nation. Clearly, we need help. We must allow the UK government to take over the rebuilding process of Montserrat, now rather than later. They know what is best for their UKOT.

Montserratians, for your 'tea, lunch, and dinner', please consider the contents of this editorial as vital conversational ingredients.

So what's the **A Express** Issue? The A Express unapologetically willingly invites and accepts the increased involvement of the UK government in all levels of the administrative management of Montserrat. It will do Montserrat good, much good.

**That's all for now!**

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# OPINIONS/LETTERS TO EDITOR

## It's starting again

It's almost Christmas and a shot across the bow. Is it a warning shot or a flare to remind us of the incoming deluge? The ferry is tendered for but like everything else the fulfillment of clauses. The reminder of the insurance and every other British, European clause that can be stalling us even the inclement weather. A promissory statement that lacks positivity. When will we find a leader that have some form of testicular fortitude to say, we will have a ferry and make it happen?

\$300 hush money because of incompetence in a government that fail to righten the electrical wrong, or was it penance? Let's check and

see who have their fingers, eyes, legs and toes all crossed hoping we do not have an engine failure. When a government is top heavy the people carry the burden. When the governor and the premier are smiling it'll only be a while before the citizens cry.

Two years of a promissory ferry service still we perform in limbo balancing on top a see saw yes and still we pray

Today we learn we will not be able to see our national football team play in September ask our sports ministers, or Is it the political wing of control? Refusing to pave the way so our youths on island can see our

national team play even though they aspire to be part of it someday.

Our youths again are being penalized by bad governance not caring about the children of tomorrow. But, we will be glad to export them to England and cry of population falling. Our national pride is at a reduced price some people are only loving Montserrat from a distance. Even if they are living here

William Bubalicious Galloway

*The views and opinions expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of Alliouagana Express Printing & Publishing, its owners or employees.*

## Update on the Montserrat Port Development Project - mitigating weather challenges

**Wednesday, September 6, 2023** - The Montserrat Port Development Project faces temporary setbacks due to challenges arising from heavy sea swells and adverse weather conditions. The project team has been managing these issues to ensure the successful completion of the project.

The ongoing construction of the causeway has encountered material loss attributed to the impact of heavy sea swells. The project's contractor, in a proactive measure, had anticipated the possibility

of such occurrences, given the nature of marine construction and the chosen construction methodology. In light of this development, no immediate actions will be taken until the pending storm subsides, and sea conditions become more favorable. Ensuring the safety and efficacy of the construction process remains the highest priority.

Furthermore, the silt fences, a crucial element used to prevent silt from entering the water at the causeway works site and impacting the bay's environment,

will not be re-deployed until weather conditions permit. The silt fences, designed to a specific height with weighted anchors, are vulnerable to elongation beyond their intended design under the influence of heavy sea swells, posing a risk of damage.

The next phase of construction for the causeway coastal protection works, involving the laying of the bedding layer, geotextile fabric, filter layer, and rock armor layer, will commence as soon as the geotextile fabric arrives. Large boulders

designated for use as the rock armor layer are currently being stockpiled on-site, assuring the necessary protection against future weather events.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation for the concerns expressed by the public during this period. The support and understanding of the community are invaluable as we navigate and address these temporary challenges. The Montserrat Port Development Project remains dedicated to its mission of "Community Progress is our Purpose".

# Cases of Dengue Confirmed on Island

— The Ministry of Health and Social Services has reported the presence of laboratory-confirmed dengue fever as well as probable cases of the virus on island.

Dengue fever is a potentially life-threatening illness, spread to humans via the bite of an infected *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito. Infected persons experience high fever, intense headaches, bone and joint pain, pain behind the eyes, nausea and/or vomiting as well as rash.

Health Officials noted that there is no specific treatment for dengue; however, the timely detection of cases to identify any warning signs of severe dengue infection is important to prevent fatality. Individuals experiencing symptoms should therefore access medical attention as soon as possible at a Health Centre or Private



Doctor.

In light of this health threat, Principal Environmental Health Officer, Mr. Garrett Stanley, urged residents

to take the necessary precautionary measures to prevent spread of the vector borne disease. He stated, "To control the spread of the virus we must decrease the mosquito index on island. At this time residents must give the utmost priority to eradicating breeding sites at their homes and places of business. They must conduct inspections and eliminate all sources of standing water that allows mosquitoes to breed". Common breeding sites that home business owners should pay attention to include garbage bins, vases and drip trays, dish drainers, bottles, buckets and drums for water collection, pet bowls, drains and guttering, swimming pools and old tires.

Mr. Stanley also indicated that the Vector Control Team was on stand-by to assist residents with inspections should they be unable to locate breeding sites on their premises. The team can be contacted at 491-6057.

It was further recommended by Health Officials that residents protect themselves and persons in their care from bites by using repellents containing DEET, using screens and mosquito nets and wearing long, loose, light clothing to cover the arms and legs.

## Dengue fever

Information for the general public

**Source of infection** Vector-borne diseases transmitted by infected mosquitoes.

**Type of exposure & prevention**

Bite of an infected *Aedes* mosquito. Dengue can be transmitted by pregnant women to fetus during pregnancy or around the time of birth. To prevent dengue:

**Reduce mosquito breeding:**

- Cover water containers, including tanks and buckets
- Safely cover and dispose of all items that can collect water
- Dispose of unused water
- Regularly clean all items that contain water. Change water regularly

**Reduce mosquito bites:**

- Use window screens, repellents, insecticide treated bed nets, coils and vaporizers
- Wear light coloured clothing that covers your arms and legs

It bites throughout the day, especially between 6 and 8 am & 4 and 6 pm sunrise & sunset

**Symptoms**

Symptoms of severe dengue include:

Bleeding in gums

Blood in vomit

Severe abdominal pain

Rapid breathing

Symptoms of mild dengue include:

Fever with a drop in body temperature (Below 38 °C, 100 °F)

Headache

Sore muscles

Fatigue

Persistent vomiting

**Actions to take in case of symptoms:**

Seek medical advice immediately.

World Health Organization  
Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean

# Montserrat volunteers launch global campaign offering message of hope

At a time when the desire for better government is on the minds of people the world over, Jehovah's Witnesses have launched an international campaign to bring attention to a universal solution. The Witnesses are featuring a special edition of "The Watchtower" magazine, available in over 780 languages in print and online, with the theme "What Is God's Kingdom?"

Local volunteers from Montserrat are distributing this special-edition magazine during the month of September.

"I feel that the topic of better government is timely because no government in power on earth right now is successfully addressing the challenges that we, the human race, are facing and even struggling with," said Amy Golebiowski, a resident of Montserrat. "Knowing I can assist others in the community who are struggling from the negative effects of poor human rulership and share with them the hope of a better future to come, is a truly satisfying work."

Throughout the centuries, millions of Jesus' followers have prayed the words "thy Kingdom come" but wonder what that Kingdom is, what it will accomplish, and when it will come. To answer those age-old questions, the Witnesses' special-edition magazine reference key Bible passages. The clear and simple explanations have been designed to appeal to both new and experienced



Bible readers.

"I am excited to share in this campaign because of how fascinating and awe inspiring the Kingdom arrangement is, it will solve all of mankind's problems," said Alexander Wild, spokesperson for Jehovah's Witnesses. "That's why I love to share this message so much."

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Jehovah's

Witnesses distributed millions of this special-edition magazine through letters, even sending copies to thousands of government officials worldwide. Now that they have returned to their door-to-door public ministry post-pandemic, this is the first in-person campaign where they have the opportunity to discuss this important and very timely subject with their

neighbors.

A free digital copy of this special issue of "The Watchtower," as well as information about the activities of Jehovah's Witnesses, is available at [jw.org](http://jw.org). The Witnesses' site offers practical Bible-based content for people of all ages and beliefs in over 1,070 languages.



# MONTSERRAT CELEBRATES TOURISM WEEK, 24 – 30 SEPTEMBER, 2023

**Montserrat, 13 September 2023** – Montserrat Tourism Division is gearing up to celebrate World Tourism Day on September 27, 2023, with an exciting week of activities designed to highlight the theme, “*Tourism and Green Investments*.” This year’s theme focuses on making investments in tourism sustainable, benefiting people, the planet, and prosperity. Montserrat’s Tourism Week promises an array of events and initiatives that emphasizes the island’s commitment to responsible and eco-friendly tourism.

The Montserrat Tourism Week of Activities offers a diverse lineup of events from September 24 to September 30, 2023, with activities designed to engage residents and visitors alike. Here’s a glimpse of the schedule:

## **Sunday, September 24:**

**Church Service:** The Montserrat Tourism Division as well as stakeholders in the Tourism Industry will join the Wesleyan Holiness Church family in St. Peters for a special church service at 9:00am to kick off the week’s activities.

**Walking Tour of Salem and / or St. John’s:** Join Mr. Eustace Dyer and Mr David “Jaxxon” Gerald at 5:00pm for an enlightening village walking tour. There is so much to learn as you traverse these villages.

**Double Feature Movie Night, Little Bay Playing Field:** Join the Tourism Division for a captivating evening under the stars at the Little Bay Playing Field. On the screen at 6:30pm, will be a family-friendly movie, perfect for children and their parents. Later in the evening,

at 9:00pm, a film tailored for a more mature audience will be shown. It’s a cinematic experience for everyone! There will be popcorn, sweet treats and drinks on sale.

## **Monday, September 25:**

**Tourism Radio Address on Radio Montserrat:** The general public is asked to tune in to Radio Montserrat, for a feature address by the Director of Tourism, Mrs. Rosetta West Gerald. This will be followed by a Radio Quiz in the morning and afternoon, and Radio Tidbits throughout the week.

## **Tuesday, September 26:**

**Montserrat National Trust Garden Tour (9am) and/or Elvis’ Orchard Tour (10am):** Explore the lush beauty of Montserrat with the National Trust Garden Tour at 9:00am or, Elvis Gerald’s unique Orchard Tour in Mongo Hill at 10:00 AM. Throughout the day, we’ll shine a spotlight on our valued tourism stakeholders with engaging social media posts.

At 5pm The Tourism Division will collaborate with community groups and the Department of Environment to clean a beach or ghaut to make a positive impact on our local environment. Our beautiful beaches have always been a source of pride, and this event provides an excellent opportunity for everyone to give back to the community and nature.

## **Wednesday, September 27 (World Tourism Day):**

**Radio Address by:** The Hon. Premier, Joseph Taylor Farrell, who will make a special radio address to mark World Tourism Day.

**Careers Day – Open**

**Day:** Starting at 9:00am, approximately 30 students will embark on an ‘island tour’ to learn about various stakeholders’ products and services.

## **Thursday, September 28:**

**Restaurants Showcase Day from 12 noon:** A delectable culinary experience awaits as some of Montserrat’s restaurants, including Summer Breeze, Scoreboard, Grand Phoenix, Olveston House and Dip and Althea’s Kitchen, take center stage on Restaurants Showcase Day. From 12:00pm onwards, these renowned restaurants will tantalize the public’s taste buds with specially crafted dishes featuring either the breadfruit, avocado, sweet potato, or mango.

## **Friday, September 29:**

**Island Tour:** Starting at 2:00pm at the Brades Arts and Education, residents and visitors will have a unique opportunity to visit the Buried City, Plymouth, for a special price of EC\$75 per person. Interested individuals can register with the Montserrat Tourism Division via email at [info@montserrattourism.ms](mailto:info@montserrattourism.ms) or telephone 664 491 4703. The tour will end at Marine Village at the Vendors Fair where local arts and craft will be on sale.

**Boat Tour, Kayak Tour, Snorkel Tour:** Throughout the day and also on Saturday, snorkeling, kayaking and scenic coastal boat tours will be offered. Details on prices to follow.

**Turtle Watching (Woodlands Beach):** Join John Jeffers and James “Scriber” Daley for an exciting evening

observing the turtles as they crawl ashore to nest.

## **Saturday, September 30:**

**Treasure Hike:** Embark on a treasure hike with James “Scriber” Daley and Dr. Thiffanie Skerritt. Participants of the treasure hike will be solving clues along the Oriole trail to win a grand prize. Cost for the ‘Treasure Hike’ will be announced at a later date. The hike will conclude with breakfast/brunch at the Weekend Takeout at Hill Top. Tickets will be available for the breakfast/brunch event.

**Tourism Appreciation Reception:** Ending the week at 7:00 pm, the Tourism Division will host a reception to appreciate tourism stakeholders who have contributed to Montserrat’s vibrant tourism industry.

Montserrat Tourism Week promises to be an exciting and educational celebration of the island’s rich culture, natural beauty, and commitment to sustainable tourism practices. Join the Tourism Division in recognizing World Tourism Day and celebrating Montserrat’s unique heritage. For all registrations and updates, please visit the Montserrat Tourism Division Facebook and Instagram pages or contact 1 664 491 4703.

The Montserrat Tourism Division is committed to promoting Montserrat as a premier eco-friendly destination while ensuring the sustainability of the island’s tourism industry. Through responsible tourism practices and community engagement, the Division strives to create a vibrant and prosperous future for Montserrat.

# ECSRC Officially Welcomes New Commissioner

The Eastern Caribbean Securities Regulatory Commission (ECSRC) officially welcomes its newest appointee, Mrs Linda Dolland. The ECCB Monetary Council, the highest decision-making body of the ECSRC, at its 105th Meeting held in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on 21 July 2023, appointed Mrs Dolland to serve as a Commissioner of the ECSRC. Mrs Dolland's appointment is for a term of three years, with effect from 1 August 2023.

Mrs Linda Dolland is a citizen of Grenada, and an Attorney-at-Law practising in every facet of civil law for over fourteen (14) years, with a particular focus on corporate and commercial advisory services, transactions and litigation.

Commissioner Dolland holds a Bachelor of Law from the University of Southampton, England, and a BVC Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Legal Skills from The City University, London, England. Commissioner Dolland is currently completing a Master's degree in International Financial and Commercial Law from King's College London.



*Mrs Linda Dolland*

Mrs. Dolland is called to the Bars of Grenada, Saint Christopher (St Kitts) & Nevis, and England & Wales.

The ECSRC congratulates Mrs Dolland on her appointment. Mrs Dolland joins Mrs Lucia Livingston-Andall (Chairman) of Grenada, Dr Vincent Richards (Deputy Chairman) of Antigua and Barbuda, Mr Isaac Anthony of Saint Lucia and Mr John Venner of Grenada, who comprise the five Commissioners of the ECSRC.

## Last week's answers

**Word Twist:** Best word: Photoreception Longest word:

BITO (6), BOTCH (4), BOTE (6), BOTH (3), BOTO (6), CERT (3), CHIN (3), CHINO (5), CHINTZ (8), CHINTZY (10), CHIP (3), CHIT (3), CHIZ (9), CHOP (3), COPE (3), COTE (3), COTH (4), CREE (4), CREEP (4), CRETIN (5), CROP (3), ECHO (3), EPOCH (4), ETCH (3), HINT (3), HIPT (6), HOBO (3), HOPE (3), HOTE (6), ICER (6), INTI (3), ITCH (3), ITER (6), NITE (3), NITER (5), NITRE (5), NITRO (6), OBIT (3), OBOE (3), OINT (6), OPTER (8), OPTION (5), ORTHO (8), PECH (6), PECTIN (6), PEER (3), PEYOTE (6), PHOT (3), PHOTO (4), PHOTORECEPTION (26), PINT (3), PITCH (4), PITH (3), PORCH (4), PORE (3), PORT (3), POTCH (8), POTE (6), POTION (5), PRECEPT (7), PREE (6), PROTO (8), RECEPT (8), RECEPTION (8), RECTO (5), REECH (8), REECHO (6), RETCH (4), RETINT (10), ROPE (3), ROPEY (5), ROPY (3), ROTCH (8), ROTE (3), ROTI

(6), ROTO (6), TECH (3), TECHNO (6), THIN (3), TINT (3), TITCH (5), TITE (6), TITER (5), TITI (4), TITRE (5), TOPE (4), TOPH (6), TOPI (3), TORC (6), TORCH (4), TORE (3), TOTE (3), TOTER (5), TREE (3), TROP (3), TROPE (5), TROY (3), VINO (3), VINT (6), YIPE (3), YITE (6), YORE (3), ZITE (9), ZITI (7)

H	A	D	J		C	L	A	S	S		C	L	E	F
U	L	E	E		R	A	N	C	H		H	A	V	E
M	A	M	A		O	S	K	A	R		E	V	E	N
P	R	I	N	T	W	H	A	L	E		B	E	A	R
					S	I	B				A	W	L	S
J	E	T	P	L	A	N	E			S	E	E	S	A
A	C	U	E		R	O	M	A			A	G	O	R
D	O	N	N	A		R	I	P			T	R	A	I
E	L	E	C	T		A	L	E	S		A	P	S	E
D	E	S	I	R	E		E	X	C	E	S	S	E	S
					L	I	S	A			A	L	S	
S	T	R	E	A	K	S	K	Y	R	I	B	B	O	N
A	W	A	Y		I	S	A	A	C		O	A	H	U
B	A	K	E		M	E	R	L	E		O	B	I	T
U	S	E	D		O	T	T	E	R		K	A	O	S

5	6	1	2	9	3	4	8	7
3	9	8	4	7	6	1	2	5
7	4	2	8	1	5	3	9	6
8	3	9	1	6	7	5	4	2
2	5	6	3	4	8	7	1	9
1	7	4	5	2	9	6	3	8
9	2	5	6	3	1	8	7	4
4	8	3	7	5	2	9	6	1
6	1	7	9	8	4	2	5	3

# Arts & Entertainment

## Antiguan Calypso icon to receive honorary degree by UWI Five Islands

Latrishka Thomas

September 10, 2023

Antiguan Calypso icon Sir McClean 'King Short Shirt' Emanuel will be the country's lone recipient of an honorary degree from the UWI Five Islands campus, as part of the wider UWI's upcoming Class of 2023 graduation ceremonies, starting next month.

The announcement came on Saturday afternoon in a media statement from the UWI, in which it was revealed that King Short Shirt is part of a notable list of recipients from the entertainment sector across the four landed campuses.

Soca star Alison Hinds is set to be honoured by the Cave Hill campus, Trinidad & Tobago-born R&B singer/actress Heather Headley by the St Augustine campus and Jamaican reggae legend Beres Hammond by the Mona campus.

The other honourees are Ian Hickling and Trisha Tannis at Cave Hill, Baroness Floella Benjamin and Lawrence Scott at St Augustine, Professor E. Dale Abel, Lascelles Chin (posthumous), Rachel Manley and Ambassador Audrey Marks at Mona, and Dr Patrick Anthony and Dame Janet Gwennett Bostwick at the Global Campus.

The annual tradition of conferring honorary degrees, the statement said, will "commemorate the outstanding contributions made by these individuals to their communities and the wider society". It also coincides this year with the UWI's 75th



jubilee celebrations.

In the statement, King Short Shirt - who has amassed more than two dozen titles as a fierce competitor - is described as a colossus of calypso, having won the competition 15 times in Antigua and Barbuda, becoming the first to win three successive competitions and also the only to boast three separate Calypso 'hatricks'.

It was noted too that, since entering the calypso arena in 1962, the 81-year-old has copped the Caribbean Calypso competition seven times, as well as winning seven Road March crowns.

For several decades, King Short Shirt has thrilled

audiences in Antigua and Barbuda and across the region with hits such as 'Lamentation', 'Tourist Leggo', 'Power and Authority', 'Nobody Go Run Me' and the personal favourite of many Antiguan, 'Vivian Richards'.

He gained so much popularity over the years that "he has been twice invited by the Prime Ministers of fellow CARICOM countries to their Independence celebrations: Belize in 1981, where he performed 'A New Beginning' (a song he wrote especially for the occasion), and Saint Lucia in 2023".

Born and raised in Antigua's Point community, King Short

Shirt was a champion for social justice, with many of his songs hitting out at oppression, poverty, and politics.

He is held in high regard by a wide cross-section of Antiguan and Barbudan society and can count figures including Prime Minister Gaston Browne and cricket legend Sir Vivian Richards among his fans.

The veteran retired from the competitive Calypso scene in 1994 after a more than 30-year career but continues to write and sing, acknowledging the difficulty in leaving the art form altogether.

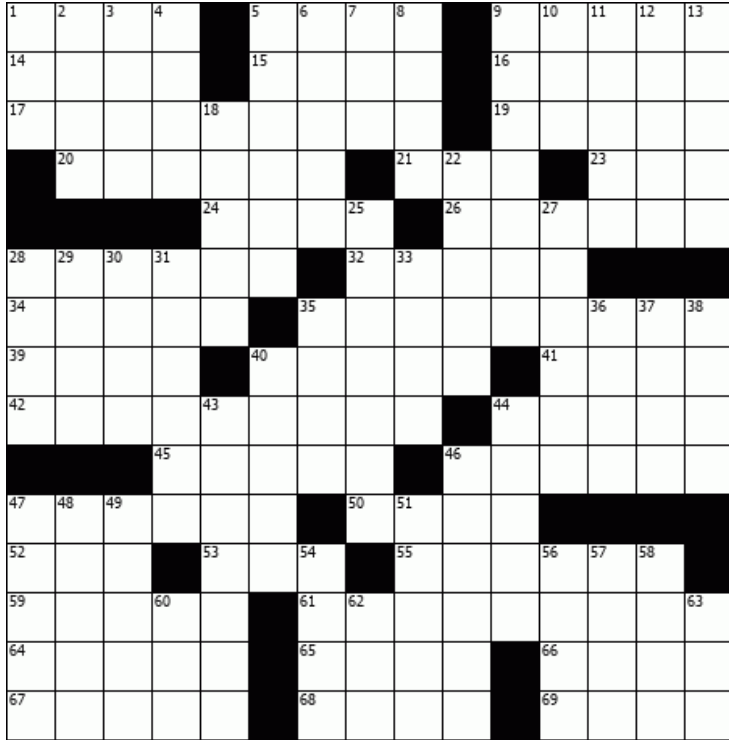
He received a knighthood from his government in 2014 for his contributions to the promotion of Calypso, and calls have repeatedly been made - including from the aforementioned PM Browne - for that status to be elevated to National Hero.

If those desires are to be fulfilled in his lifetime, King Short Shirt would join Sir Viv as Antigua and Barbuda's only living national heroes, while he would become the first entertainer to receive the country's highest honour.

King Short Shirt, along with the other honourees, will join the hundreds of students across the UWI campuses who are graduating and marking the end of their studies.

The Five Islands Campus kicks off the graduation ceremonies on October 7, followed by Cave Hill on October 21, St Augustine from October 26-28, Mona from November 3-4, and the Global Campus on November 11.

# Crossword Puzzle



## ACROSS

1. It might be square
5. Just one of those things?
9. Is afraid of
14. Suspicious of
15. Hebrides island
16. Individual of a clone
17. Pitfall!
19. Oranjestad's island
20. Thread holders
21. Horton's worry
23. Verne's lunch?
24. "Disco Duck" songwriter
26. Rosie's hardware

28. Afflicts with a heavy blow
32. Sheer fabric
34. Czech writer and president
35. Pitfall!
39. Jelly for germs
40. Bering Sea ice cubes
41. Fill to the gills
42. Pitfall!
44. Mortise's partner
45. Moses' mount
46. Burning with desire
47. Merciful
50. Oyster color

52. Compass dir.
53. Time frame
55. "Eye of newt" may be a part of it
59. Lots and lots?
61. Pitfall!
64. Olympic sleds
65. Bear up there?
66. Italian resort
67. Inscribed tablet
68. Mont Blanc's range
69. "If all \_\_\_\_ fails ..."

## DOWN

1. Teeming group
2. Seth's boy
3. Cherry placement
4. Timber wolf

5. Dust jacket headings
6. It may be taken for a ride
7. Literary miscellany
8. Cassette contents, perhaps
9. Word on a crate
10. Mr. Potato Head attachment
11. Entertain
12. Offer refutation
13. Guesstimates
18. Alpine song
22. Crisscrossed frameworks
25. Rat fink
27. Proficient
28. Spurious imitation
29. They made a star trek?
30. Terrible czar
31. Noted Mother
33. Was behind, in a way

35. One is often copped
36. Batman's creator
37. British prep school
38. Swell fop
40. Of higher quality
43. Diplomacy
44. Convoy member
46. Betel nut palms
47. Becomes well
48. Like a film before editing
49. Highway sign
51. Like new dollar bills
54. Water color
56. Wight or Avalon
57. Vessel for Jack and Jill
58. They may be loose or split
60. Sea creature
62. Internet address
63. Legalese surname

# Sudoku

7						5		
5	3			2			7	
			7				3	1
	1			5				6
	7		4			8	2	3
2				8			9	
			5	7			8	
8		7						4
		4		6	8		5	

**Word Twist:** How many words can you find? A five-by-five square of letters, with three minutes to find as many words as possible. Each word must have at least three letters.

E	U	K	P	V
S	Q	E	S	M
E	V	S	S	I
I	H	E	O	G
D	D	T	S	G

# Teenager Coco Gauff comes from a set down to win US Open title

Coco Gauff's day of destiny arrived as she came from a set down to beat Aryna Sabalenka and win the US Open on Saturday night.

The 19-year-old became the first American teenager to triumph at Flushing Meadows since Serena Williams in 1999.

Williams' final farewell to tennis at the same championships last year left a colossal void in tennis in the US.

So it felt only natural that Gauff, the heir apparent to the 23-time grand slam winner, stepped into her shoes 12 months later.

Sabalenka will be the new world number one on Monday after a remarkably consistent year in which she won the Australian Open and reached the semi-finals in Paris and at Wimbledon.

But that will be scant consolation for the 25-year-old from Belarus after she put herself in position to win her second grand slam title, only to fold as Gauff claimed her first, thrilling a raucous crowd with a memorable 2-6, 6-3, 6-2 victory.

Gauff said: "It means so much to me, I feel like I'm a little bit in shock. My French Open (final) loss was a heartbreak for me, and all



the trials and tribulations make this moment all the sweeter for me.

"I just knew if I didn't give it my all I had no shot at winning. Aryna is an incredible player and deserves to be number one.

"Today was the first time I ever saw my dad cry. He thinks he's so hard but...he took took me to this tournament when I was young to watch Serena and Venus (Williams) compete, so it's incredible to be on this stage.

"Thank you to the people who didn't believe in me. I'm here with this trophy now. Those who thought they were putting water on my fire, they were putting gas on it and I'm burning so bright now."

The pattern of the match

was set out early on, Sabalenka hitting the ball incredibly hard and Gauff chasing after it.

Sabalenka's unforced error count kept Gauff interested in the early stages, but once she settled her firepower saw her race off with the opening set.

Gauff saved two break points after twice double-faulting at the start of the second.

But it was double fault from the racket of Sabalenka, just after Gauff had the crowd inside Arthur Ashe on its feet with a stunning cross-court backhand winner, which gave the sixth seed a way back into the match.

Gauff saved a break point to lead 4-1 before Sabalenka held with the shot of the match.

Chasing a lob to the back of the court and with her back to Gauff, she sent the ball high over her opponent and right into the corner.

But it was Gauff who was in control and extracting more errors from the second seed as she confidently levelled the match.

Gauff's incessant scrambling had Sabalenka scrambled and she broke twice at the start of the third.

Aryna Sabalenka returns a shot to Coco Gauff.

Sabalenka took a medical time-out at 4-1 behind and immediately retrieved a break only for Gauff to hit straight back, almost taking the closed roof off Ashe.

A confident hold of serve later and she was the champion, the enormity of which hit Gauff almost immediately as she wept tears of joy before racing into the stands to celebrate her stunning achievement with her ecstatic family.

A tearful Sabalenka said: "I'm most proud I was able to handle my emotions most of the time this year, and focus on myself and not on my ranking.

"I felt the love through this couple of weeks. Coco played unbelievably and deserves the title."

## Kings secure playoff qualification

The Saint Lucia Kings confirmed their place in the 2023 Hero Caribbean Premier League (CPL) Playoffs following a comfortable seven wicket victory over the Guyana Amazon Warriors.

The Amazon Warriors won the toss and opted to bat first and it was a decision that was to backfire as the innings never really got going until the final five overs. Despite some late power hitting the Amazon Warriors could only post 167/5 which appeared subpar at first glance.

That proved to be correct as the Saint Lucia Kings

confirmed that by chasing down the 168 to win with 15 balls remaining.

Earlier the Amazon Warriors suffered a slow start as Matthew Nandu was run out for three inside the PowerPlay and that setback contributed to the Warriors only reaching 35/1 at the end of the initial six overs.

That sedate start was difficult for the home side to overcome as the CPL's top run scorer, Saim Ayub, fell for 16 in the ninth over with the score on 50/2.

However, Shai Hope and Azam Khan then Khan and

Shimron Hetmyer helped rebuild the innings before late fireworks from Keemo Paul and Romario Shepherd ensured 72 runs were added in the final five overs to set the Kings 168 to win.

That 168 proved to be well under par as the Kings made easy work of the chase.

Although Johnson Charles fell for 1 in the second over that was to be as good as it got for the Amazon Warriors as Colin Munro and Bhanuka Rajapaksa put on a devastating partnership of 132 runs from 82 balls.

Rajapaksa holed out for

86 to deep mid-wicket and Munro followed shortly after for 55, but the job was done. It allowed Sean Williams and Sikandar Raza to see the chase home with three overs remaining.

The win ensures the Kings qualify for the playoffs with one game to spare.

Summarized scores: Saint Lucia Kings 170/3 (Rajapaksa 86, Munro 55; Shepherd 1/15, Tahir 1/34) beat Guyana Amazon Warriors 167/5 (Khan 40, Hope 38; Joseph 2/31, Raza 1/14) by seven wickets

Source: Caribbean Loop News

# Barbados 2 Montserrat 3: Lee Bowyer starts his international coaching career with a win

On Friday night, former England international Lee Bowyer kicked off his international coaching career with a stunning and hugely important win away to Barbados. The Montserrat FA's policy of not announcing changes in the coaching set-up meant that Bowyer was uncovered as the new man in charge only after pictures of a training session were posted on Facebook. The UK media picked up on the story after Montserrat fans started posting on social media that Bowyer appeared to be the new coach. It's likely that no one will ever know what happened to his predecessor, Matt Lockwood, who left the job with no goals, one point, and very few shots at goal, albeit against tough opposition.

Barbados was always going to offer a less challenging baptism than Haiti did for Lockwood, and with relegation reintroduced this season, Montserrat needed to take points from a team that would likely be their relegation rivals this time around. Until a year ago, Bowyer was the manager of Birmingham City in the English Championship, where he was managing Lyle Taylor for the second time in his career, so in the few hours we had to digest the news of his appointment, we sensed things would be different.

There were a few surprises in the squad, which was also announced only a few hours before kick-off, and there were some experienced players missing. Most notably the Comley brothers. Their loss would inevitably cause



a problem in the centre of midfield for the new manager. But Bowyer went with a radical change to the usual lineup. At the back, we had two new centre-halves, both on the books of League clubs in England. These were Nico Gordon, who also played for Bowyer at Birmingham City and Jeriel Dorsett of Reading. The two youngsters, both aged 21, lined up in front of teenage goalkeeper Kymani Nelson, who again got the nod over the experienced Corrin Brooks-Meade.

The two new centre-halves represented a decent piece of recruitment and allowed Craig Braham-Barrett to give up his usual makeshift centre-half duties and slot into the left back role, where he excelled. Playing striker Massiah McDonald at right back, however, didn't work out so well, and he was targeted by Barbados ruthlessly and to great effect until he was

relieved of his duties in the second half. Braham-Barrett moved over to successfully close down that Barbados route to goal. Joey Taylor, who usually plays as a defender, took the central midfield spot between Lewis Duberry and Alex Dyer, who was making his record-equalling 24th appearance for the team.

The other formation change, perhaps signalling the new attacking intent, was to play winger Brandon Barzey in an advanced attacking midfield role behind Lyle Taylor and Jamie Allen. And it seemed to work at first, with Montserrat's first goal coming after just six minutes. Barbados failed to block a flicked-through ball from Dyer, leaving Allen to chip the ball to Lyle Taylor at the far post. Unfortunately, by half time, Montserrat was 2-1 down, with Barbados exploiting Montserrat's weakness at the right of their defence for both

goals. Also, no one wants to see a centre half appealing for offside when Thierry Gale is lining up to shoot from 12 yards out. Yes, it probably was offside, but the priority should have been to block the shot.

Both sides had further chances, although the keepers weren't too stretched, and in the final 20 minutes, and in the Willie Donachie style of old, two set pieces turned the game for Montserrat. Joey Taylor won two free kicks 30 yards out and to the left of the Barbados penalty area. The first kick, taken by Joey himself, found substitute Adrian Clifton at the far post, whose low cross was deflected in for an own goal. Seven minutes into added time, the second freekick, a little closer this time, presented Lyle Taylor with a direct shot at goal.

The Barbados keeper, Liam Brathwaite, seemed to give Taylor a big target to aim for, and Taylor took the chance to make goalscoring look easy. The ball nestled in the top corner of the net with Brathwaite barely moving. By this time, Bowyer seemed to have settled for a draw, with Allen and Lyle Taylor dropping deep to support a visibly tiring midfield, but the Taylor brothers had other ideas. Whoever had lost this game was going to face an uphill task to stay in League B, but this season can now be seen as an adventure. There is no Gold Cup qualification this season, so it is first or nothing. Next month's back-to-back games against Nicaragua could be thrilling.

# Montserrat 0 Dominican Republic 3: Youth takes centre stage

If Montserrat is to progress to the newly expanded Nations League A at some point, it will have to beat teams like the Dominican Republic. Like Montserrat, it is stuck in League B, unable to top the group, but far better than the teams dipping in and out of League C. When Montserrat qualified for the Gold Cup Prelims in 2021, it did so by beating the Dominican Republic along the way. That day, Montserrat put out an experienced team of players in their late 20s and 30s, including both the brothers Comley and Taylor. This time was different.

On Monday, DR was a cut above Montserrat. Were it not for some wayward shooting, the crossbar on two occasions, and another outstanding performance from Kymani Nelson in the Montserrat goal, the scoreline could have resembled the fateful game against Trinidad and Tobago two years ago. That game was the reward for beating DR last time around, and the Emerald Boys lost 6-1. Lyle Taylor said in a post-match interview that "we lay down and let them tickle our bellies".

Since then, Montserrat has been recruiting younger players, some of whom have come and gone, and most have offered a glimpse of a promising future. But it is only a glimpse, and Montserrat struggles when too many experienced players are unavailable. Nelson has been a fine recruit, and so has Brandon Barzey, who has brought much-needed pace and movement to the side. Nelson is 19, and Barzey is 24. Monday's starting lineup also featured Nico Gordon and Jeriel Dorsett, who are both 21, and Lewis Duberry, who is 20. Two 19-year debutants, Lucas Kirnon and local boy Siegel Rodney, came off the bench. Rodney was only on for a few minutes but got himself in an excellent attacking position after a few seconds, and soon after created a good chance for Adrian Clifton.

There was no belly tickling this time, but DR was able to cut through the Montserrat defence far too easily. The wet conditions didn't help, and DR seemed better suited to them. Perhaps they are, or maybe they were just better prepared. The ball was often stuck in puddles on a poor pitch, but DR constantly looked to clear their lines and move the ball forward quickly. DR's third goal came from a pass from the outfield player furthest back to the player furthest forward, and which bypassed every man in between. Montserrat's current access problems (or should I say policy?) forced a change of venue for this game, and rarely has such a change been so beneficial to the supposed away team. Montserrat has a great pitch, even if it is little used these days.

Montserrat played a high defensive line, a high-risk tactic, particularly with an inexperienced centre-half pairing who had only played together once before. The tactic gives the opposition less space to play in but inevitably creates situations where the defenders are facing their own goals. It also leaves the goalkeeper exposed to attacking players running at them. Dorney Ribero is a regular starter in Bolivia's top professional division and it will be understandable if Nelson has nightmares about his constant one-on-one duels with him. Both did well.

DR also played its system well, and the long forward passes tended to find attackers moving quickly in anticipation. Montserrat's long balls were fewer in number and seemed to be hit more in hope. But even DR's hopeful balls fell kindly for them. Their first goal was an own goal in the opening minutes, but the other two came from long balls. Both started after Montserrat lost the ball in attacking positions. For the second goal, Montserrat had a couple of good chances to break up the

play before Ribero came in on the DR right for another one-on-one with Nelson. For the third, Ribero ghosted behind the Montserrat defence, again on the right, to pick up a long ball a full five yards behind the chasing defenders.

The only, and unsurprising, change from the previous game was Jernade Meade coming in for Massiah McDonald in defence. He took up the left back position, with Braham-Barrett switching to the other side. Coach Lee Bowyer must have been frustrated that DR's first goal came from the Braham-Barrett side of the defence just three minutes into the game. Oh, the best-laid plans! Dean Mason, Joey Taylor and Kaleem Strawbridge-Simon have all played at full-back recently, but two were unavailable this time, and Taylor was deputising in centre midfield. Bowyer will

be hoping for more options for next month's big games against Nicaragua.

We have no way of knowing whether Bowyer will stick around as coach, but if I can be impertinent, I'd say that we probably all liked how Montserrat played under him. Hopefully, this young team can grow together like the previous generation, but some managerial consistency would help. Bowyer faces the same problem as his predecessors: too few goal-scorers in the team these days. Since the COVID-19 break, Montserrat has scored 18 goals, with Lyle Taylor getting 11 of them. Clifton, who is no longer a starter, got four of the rest, with the others coming from three players not in the current squad. Taylor and Clifton have a few years left in them yet, but the alternatives look limited at the moment.



**EMERALD BOYS**

**SQUAD LIST**

GOAL KEEPERS	DEFENDERS
1 Corrin BROOKS-MEADE	5 Joey TAYLOR
13 Kymani NELSON	4 Jernade MEADE
21 Josiah PERSUAD	22 Craig BRAHAM-BARRETT
	6 Nico Gordon
	19 Jeriel DORSETT
	16 Lucas KIRNON
MIDFIELDERS	FORWARDS
18 Alex DYER	9 Lyle TAYLOR
7 Brandon BARZEY	17 Adrian CLIFTON
11 Jamie ALLEN	8 Bradley WOOD
3 Lewis DUBBERY	15 Jermahri MEADE
12 Siegel Rodney	
14 Vashirn ROACHE	
20 Missiah McDONALD	