

## HISTORICAL CORNWALL COLLEGE – A Schoolboy’s Dream



Did you know that Cornwall College is the third oldest high school in Western Jamaica? This great, boys only high school dates to the 18th century when secondary education

was greatly needed in the parish and George Miller, a teacher from Scotland, opened the Montego Bay Academy at the Presbyterian House, which was at the time located at 56 Union Street.

In 1871 the Academy closed its doors when representatives from Scotland encouraged the government of Jamaica to establish a Queen's College in Spanish Town. This institution also did not last long and again government-sponsored secondary education was lacking in the country.

In 1895, a Presbyterian Minister, Rev Adam Thompson and a government representative for St. James and Trelawny, Hon. John Kerr, petitioned the government to allocate 500 pounds for secondary education in Montego Bay. Hence, in 1896, the second city gave birth to Cornwall College which was at that time located on Barracks Road (site of the Public Works Office) and was called Montego Bay Government Secondary School.

Mr. E. Lockett, B.A., was named the first headmaster and he served until 1903. He was succeeded by Anglican priest, Rev. George Hibbert Leader in 1904. He served some 19

years at the institution which ran into difficulties due to lack of space in the classrooms. It was then that the Hon D.H. Corinaldi stepped in and used his status to procure 2,500 pounds from the government in 1909 to assist in the provision of a new school site.

Jamaica and also the first high school to offer Chemistry and Physics as subjects in its curriculum in the West Indies and for many years the majority of doctors and pharmacists in Jamaica were graduates of the school.

The school also excelled in sports and was named the top male institution in football (soccer), holding the famous Olivier Shield over 11 times in the sporting fraternity. Upon the inception of the schoolboy daCosta Cup competition, Cornwall College also displayed their talents and skills to grab a hold of the trophy in 1953, 1955, 1956, 1958, 1959, 1963, 1982, 1983, 1995, 2000 and 2001.

Cornwall College is now one of the top institutions in the Caribbean working with the motto “Learn or Leave”. It now houses some 52 classrooms and 1,245 students. The current principal of the institution is Mr. Denham McIntyre and he took over the helm at the start of 2006. The buildings are very colourful, sporting the school colours of red and gold.

Many popular figures have passed through the gates of Cornwall College including: Chief Justices Sir Rowland Phillips and Sir Herbert Duffus; Ambassador Derrick Heaven; the late Garth Taylor, Ophthalmologist; Kenneth Smith, former Chief Justice.



### Cornwall College OBA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 2012

Sunday, April 15	<b>Church Service</b>
Sunday, May 6	<b>Annual Brunch</b> , 1:00 – 4:30p.m. Crowne Plaza Hotel, 33 Carlson Court Tickets: \$45
Sunday, July 8	<b>Family Fun Day Picnic</b> Greenwood Conservation Park, Ajax
Sunday, July 15	<b>Soccerfest</b> G. Ross Lord Park
Saturday, September 29	<b>Annual Dinner/Dance</b> Sts. Peter & Paul Banquet Hall 231 Milner Avenue, Scarborough
Sunday, November 11	<b>Annual General Meeting</b> 42 Division, Recreation Room 242 Milner Avenue, Scarborough

For more info – [www.ccobacanada.ca](http://www.ccobacanada.ca)