

HISTORY OF THE SAINT LUCIA CADET CORPS WARRANT OFFICERS' & ADULT SERGEANTS' MESS

The Saint Lucia Cadet Corps is a Para-Military youth organization for young men and women, sponsored by the Government of Saint Lucia, through the Ministry of Education, Human Resource Development, Youth and Sports. It is involved in both Para-Military and community activities.

In the military there are two classes of Warrant Officers, they are Warrant Officers Class One and Two. Each rank has a specific function at which they perform, but the main function of the Warrant Officer is training. Unlike Commissioned Officers whose duty is to seek the welfare of those under his command, the Warrant Officer is an Instructor.

An interesting and unique point is that they do not have a Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess, only a Sergeants' Mess. This is, so the tale goes, because in 1778 or thereabouts so many people wanted to join the Queen Seaforth's Highlanders that he ran out of commissions to sell to gentlemen so sold them Sergeants' Stripes!

As the Sergeants were therefore gentlemen of breeding they couldn't possibly be allowed to share rooms with the enlisted men so they were allowed to set up their own Mess, hence the Sergeants' Mess, which is also the oldest in the British Army and therefore the world.

And I would hasten to add that the current members are still gentlemen of breeding today.....honest!

The Sergeants' Mess has been likened to an exclusive club; in many ways this is true. The food is generally better because the cook has only 80 odd to worry about not 500, the accommodation is better because we pay more for it, and the bulk of the Regimental history, silver and pictures are displayed in the Sergeants' Mess. As Kipling said - "the backbone of the Army is the Non-Commissioned man!"

After the Caribbean Cadet Camp of 1995 held in Trinidad where messing was up to standard, Warrant Officer Class 2 Trevor Alfred had the responsibility to organize the Sergeants Mess in Saint Lucia. The Saint Lucia Cadet Corps, Warrant Officer's and Adult Sergeants Mess began in September of 1996. Before then the Mess was operating without any rules and guidelines.

Rules of order are essential for the stability, respect for each other and peaceful association of every Society, without which there can exist no harmony. Man will return to a state of nature where every man is enemy to every man.

Harmony and peaceful association therefore are essential factors of a well-conducted Mess. It will therefore apply that members will avoid intemperate language, angry

accusations and unseemly conduct among themselves. They should be most careful that their pleasure does not disturb the comfort of others.

The Mess is a mirror of the Cadet Corps whose image will be looked at through the general conduct of its members.

Messing Committee

1. The committee will be appointed annually.
2. The committee is concerned with the Messing of members; it will receive all complaints and suggestions for the improvement of meals and will deal with such suggestions and complaints and bring them before the management committee for a ruling or submission to a Mess Meeting for a decision.

Management

- (a) The management of the Mess will be conducted by a committee comprising of:
- (1) The President of the Mess Committee – *(Not below the rank of W.O.II)*
 - (2) The Secretary
 - (3) The Treasurer
 - (4) One other member

Messing Committee History

	RSM	PMC	Secretary	Treasurer	Other Member
1996	Howard Earl	Trevor Alfred	Richmond Felix	Solomon Chico	Craig Harman
1997	Trevor Alfred	Richmond Felix		Winsbert Pierre-Louis	Robert Thomas
1998	Trevor Alfred	Richmond Felix		Winsbert Pierre-Louis	
1999	Trevor Alfred	Robert Thomas			
2000	Trevor Alfred				
2001	Trevor Alfred				
2002	Trevor Alfred				
2003	Trevor Alfred				
2004	Trevor Alfred	Ernesto Emmanuel	Chantel John	Ramon Raveneau	Lyden Joseph
2005	Trevor Alfred	Lyden Joseph	Joel Philgence	Ramon Raveneau	Giles Cassius
2006					
2007					