

FRIDAY 9th JUNE 2006

Queen pops in

Caribbean centre in Ladbroke Grove gets special visit

Rebecca Daniel

WEST LONDON'S celebrated Pepper Pot Day Centre was honoured with a visit from the Queen last Friday to celebrate its 25th anniversary.

It was started to cater to the needs of the high numbers of predominantly Caribbean people who live in the Ladbroke Grove and Notting Hill areas.

In this joyful event the local community and members of the centre gathered round waiting for the Queen to arrive, although the celebration had already started.

After 25 years of serving the African and Caribbean elderly community this day centre was rewarded for its hard work and dedication.

The Pepper Pot Centre was established in the borough of Kensington and Chelsea in 1981 and championed through the drive and initiative of the life president Pansy Jeffery. She aimed to provide a comprehensive and high quality service to the elderly community to enable them to live more independently which she has done successfully.

Situated under the Westway in Ladbroke Grove the centre strives to look after the elderly while serving the best African-Caribbean food. Their hot nutritious meals meet all dietary needs and are provided daily for members. The centre also ensures that the elderly who are housebound, frail or unwell are also fed from a meals on

wheels service. Carers entertain members of the organisation with arts and crafts, outings and trips, leisure and many more fun activities.

Once the Queen had arrived she greeted the community and members of the Pepper Pot before entering the centre for a guided tour by the centre director Louise Farray where she presented them with a plaque. In the midst of excitement.

I managed to steal a few words from Ms Farray who if not for her this event would not have been possible. She said: 'Today has just brought this awesome feeling for me and everyone around us, I am so excited and just ready to party. We here at the Pepper Pot are planning to celebrate all day and all night long.'

The gentlemen who first played steel band at the Notting Hill carnival were present to give a pan performance which got everyone up and dancing. They were called Nostalgia. The members of the centre sang a medley of Happy Birthday and One More Step to the community and the Queen before her departure. This truly was a party that Pepper Pot will not forget.

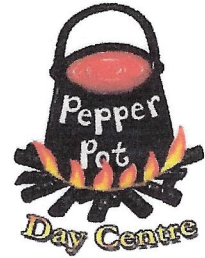
If you want to be part of this centre and the joy that they bring all year long then their address and contact details are below. I would like to take the time to congratulate the Pepper Pot Day Centre for all their hard work and here at the Caribbean Times Newspaper we wish you all the best of luck in the forthcoming future.



QUEEN: Enjoyed visiting the Pepper Pot Centre in West London

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Welcome to the Pepper Pot's 11th quarterly special edition news Bulletin. Its purpose is to keep members and relevant organisations informed of activities and services available at the Centre.

*****Her Majesty The Queen visits Pepper Pot Day Centre*****

The tropical rays of the Caribbean shone over North Kensington to the lively sounds of calypso on the steel pans when Pepper Pot Day Centre played host to her Majesty the Queen On Friday 9th June, 2006.

Her Majesty arrived to cheers from hundreds of people gathered to wish her well and participate in the Centres Silver Jubilee celebrations. This commemorative visit was an intimate one for the Members of Pepper Pot Day Centre. Life President Mrs. Pansy Jeffery and Director Louise Farray gave Her Majesty a grand tour of the Centre. The Queen was most delighted to view a pictorial history, activities, Art and Craft work and chat to staff about our work and to members about the services. Our distinguished guests included the Royal Borough of Kensington Mayor Tim Ahern, Cllr Cockell Leader of the council, Cllr Doreen Weatherhead Chairman of the Friends of Pepper Pot, Key Officers from the Older Peoples Service Department and Children from St. Clement and St. James School.

The Queen unveiled a commemorative plaque and enjoyed a song from all the Members. The celebration day continued with an all day party.

