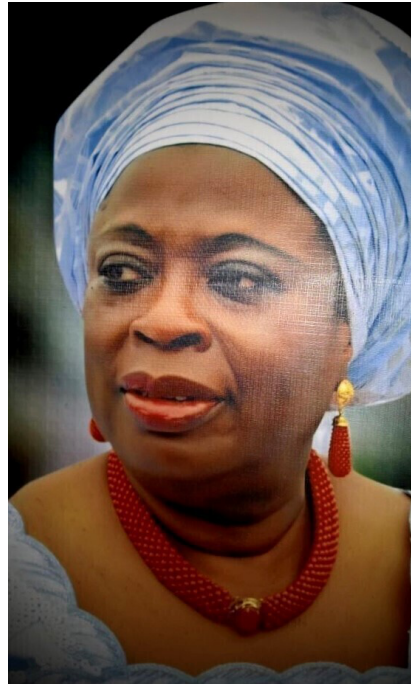


DR ROSEMARIE RITA ENDELEY

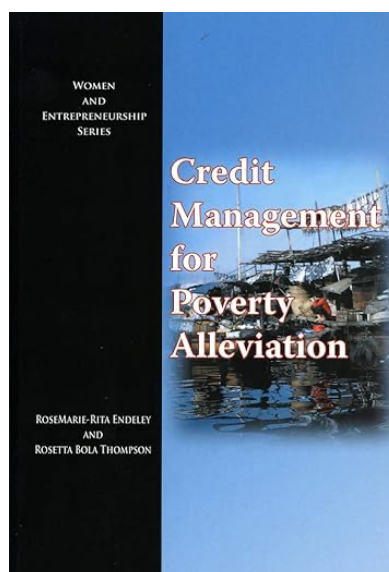
(1950-2022)



Dr RoseMarie Rita Endeley worked in several capacities during her tenure at the Commonwealth Secretariat. Her last posting was as Adviser in the General Institutional Development Division (GIDD).

- *I am so sorry to hear this. RoseMarie was a lively and friendly colleague. Condolences to her husband and family. **Cheryl Dorall***
- *Very sorry to hear about the sad loss of RoseMarie, a warm and friendly colleague. My sincere condolences to her family. **Shobhna Rattansi***
- *I am so sorry to hear of RoseMarie's passing. I had the pleasure of working on publications with her over a number of years. She was a lively, amusing and loyal friend and colleague. My sincere condolences to her husband and family. RIP. **Roy Chalmers***
- *Greatly saddened to hear of the passing of Rosemarie. There was goodness in her soul and much to admire in her happy and devout nature. I started my day with a prayer and a tear for the people of Ukraine. I will end today with a prayer for Rosemarie and her family. **Roy Rodriguez***
- *I am really sad to hear this news! RoseMarie sat on the desk opposite me for a couple of years and faced me directly... we spoke all the time as a result... and co-designed and co-delivered programmes in many countries during the time that I was there. She was my dear friend... may she rest in peace! **Devindra Ramnarine***

- *I have received a direct email this morning from Emanuel telling about RoseMarie. I will pass all of your and my regards and sad thoughts to him. RoseMarie was both my boss and my friend for many years and I knew her out of work as well as at work. She and her husband Emanuel were at my father's funeral and also at my wedding and if Covid had permitted it I know they would have been at my mother's funeral too. I am both shocked and saddened. The world has lost a strong woman, a fair and a just woman. **Annie Carlton***
- *It is a big shock and greatly saddened to hear this sad news. She was a sister to me and my family while in ComSec and continued till her last breath. May her soul rest in perfect peace, as she has gone to rest with Almighty God. Amen. **Godson Okafor***
- *Thank you very much for letting us know about the sad news of Rosemarie's passing! What a shock! She will be missed by very many former Comsec staff. She was a very happy and cheerful person, always the spirit of the party! Kindly pass my deepest condolences to her husband and her family. May she rest in everlasting peace! **Evelyn Adlam***
- *Such sad news. Rosemarie was an extraordinary woman who cared so much for everyone. I appreciated her kindness and support during the GIDD days. May she rest in peace. **Judy McNeil***



- *This is such sad, sad news. Rosemarie was a much loved, respected colleague and a good friend too. We often called each other - the most recent was a few weeks ago. She will be very sadly missed. My deepest condolences to Emmanuel and the rest of her family. May she Rest In Peace. **William Rezel***
- *With deepest sympathy for your loss. May she rest in peace. **Guy Hewitt***

- *I too join other friends in expressing deep sorrow at Rosemary's passing. She was a lovely lady, always full of good cheer. May she rest in peace and may the family have the strength to cope and to reconcile with the loss. **Amitav Banerji***
- *It is indeed a very sad news . She was a great colleague , lively , efficient and cheerful. We pray for her to rest in peace. **Mohan Kaul***
- *Like so many others I was deeply saddened by Rosemary's untimely passing away. I worked directly with her during my time as Assistant Director at the Secretariat 1988-94 and had encountered her on various occasions subsequently. My lasting memory is of a cheerful and sympathetic colleague always with a smile on her face who was dedicated to her Commonwealth professional work. My sincere condolences go to her family at this difficult time. **Carl Wright***
- *I would like to add my condolences to everyone else's. I think RoseMarie and I worked together in the same Division (FTP/MTSD/GIDD) throughout the whole of my time at ComSec. It is quite a testimony that her passing seems to have stimulated more responses than for anyone else. May God be close to Emanuel and her other family and friends in their loss at this time. **Jos Johnston***
- *Can only add support to all others in their appreciation of Rosemary. She had the biggest smile in ComSec and one of the most positive personalities. I'm sorry to hear of her passing, and at a relatively young age. May she Rest In Peace. **Chris Bowman***
- *Such sad news. I join colleagues in sending deepest condolences to Emmanuel and family at this very sad time. **Lorna McLaren***
- *Very sad news indeed. I enjoyed Rosemarie's company in GIDD; her jovial, positive personality with her huge smile. My deepest condolences to her husband, family and friends. **Françoise Chapman***
- *Thank you so much for all your kind words about the late Mrs Rosemarie Endeley. They have indeed been comforting and a reminder of the wonderful person that she was. I will definitely share them with her husband. I plan to visit him this weekend by God's grace. **Folsade Oduja***
- *Very sad news indeed to hear of the passing of Rosemarie Endeley. I fondly called her Prophetess. May her husband be consoled in knowing that her former colleagues at ComSec and beyond share in his sadness. May her soul rest in eternal peace. Amen. **Beatrice Morgan***
- *Very sad news indeed. I distinctly remember her in GIDD as a pleasant colleague and friend. I pray her soul rests in peace. **Munawwar Alam** (Kyrgyzstan)*
- *I am saddened about the news of RoseMarie's passing. She was a kind hearted person who was difficult to anger, very loving. She was my personal friend who always checked on me. We worked closely together in GIDD and travelled for*

business on a number of occasions. She will greatly be missed. May her soul rest in eternal peace 🙏🙏. May Caplin

Selected links:

[Dr RoseMarie Rita Ofunmediche Endeley \(Prophetess\), \(1950 - 2022\) - ForeverMissed.com Online Memorials](#)

[Rosemary's hearse on its way to Streatham Park Cemetery](#)

MS ROSEMARIE FERNANDOPULLE
(1954-2022)

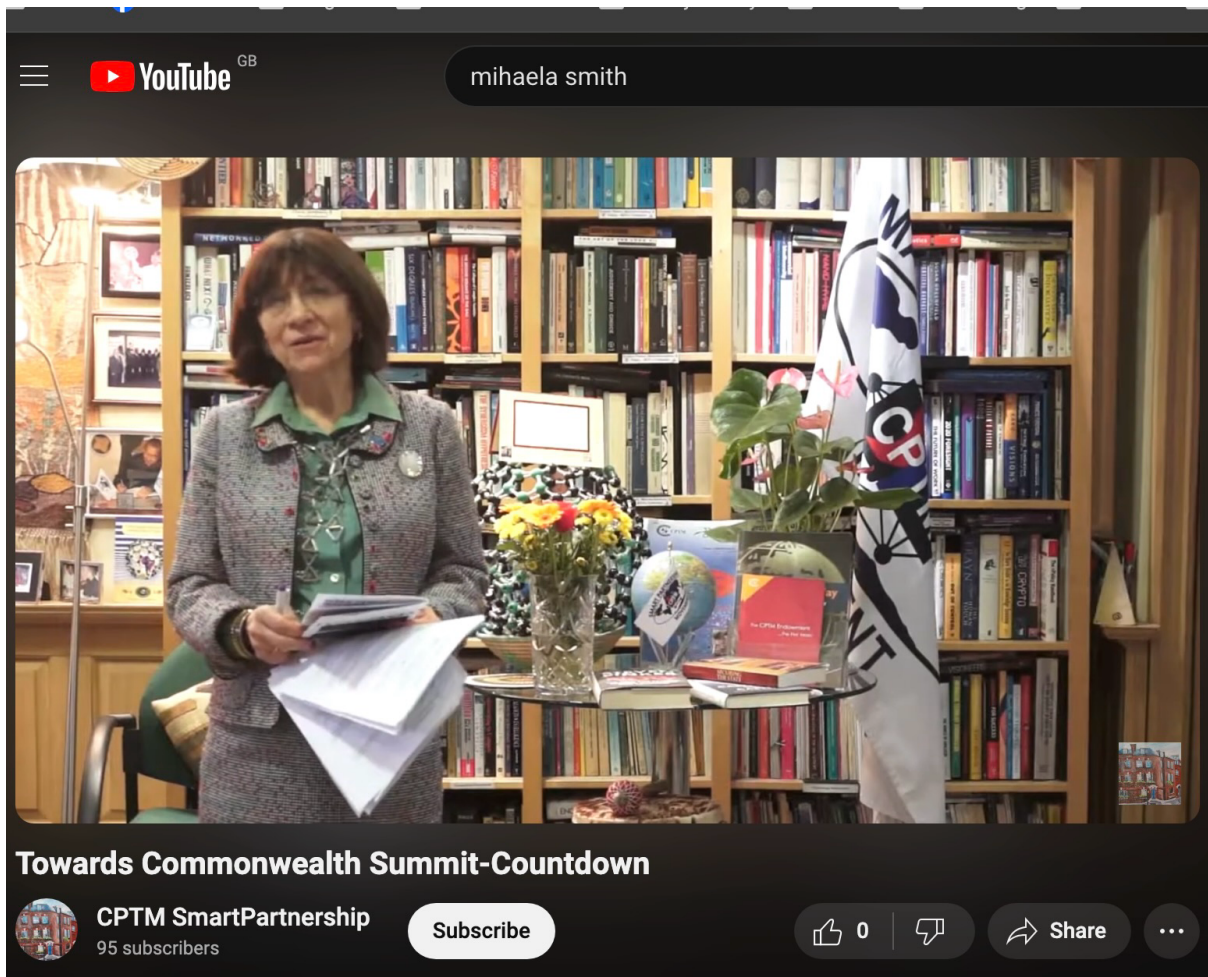


Ms Rosemarie Fernandopulle worked in several Commonwealth Secretariat divisions, including the Strategic Planning and Evaluation Unit.

- *Sad news indeed. May she rest in peace. Lorna McLaren*

DR MIHAELA SMITH
(-2022)

Dr Mihaela Smith was Director and CEO of the Commonwealth Partnership for Technology Management (CPTM) and also served in several other capacities prior to that.



Selected links

Many videos of Mihaela at work are available on the [CPTM Youtube page](#)

MS DAWN PENSO

(-2022)

Ms Dawn Penso worked in the Economic Affairs Division and Technical Assistance Group in the 1980s and 1990s.

- *It's very sad indeed to hear of Dawn Penso's passing. Such a lovely, friendly and vibrant lady! She will, I'm sure, be missed by her family and members of Comassoc. Please convey my deep condolences to her family. May her soul rest in eternal peace. Evelyn Adlam*

- *She was the aunt of one of my close friends and I used to bump into her at the opera and the Jamaican Georgian society. She was poised, gracious and will be missed. Rest in peace, Dawn. Sharon Lindahn*
- *That's so sad. I enjoyed working with Dawn at Comsec many years back. More recently she came often to listen to my band when we played at Kew Gardens market near where she lived. She and Ross also came often to my house to stock up on my 'Bees of Barnes' honey to which she was addicted. I hadn't heard from her for a while and am devastated to learn the reason why. May she rest in peace. Antony Ellman*



- *This is such sad news. As Sharon says, Dawn was poised and elegant. She was also a talented economist, who set high standards for herself. After leaving the Secretariat she decided to fulfill a dream and took up the piano, which she mastered in no time and was proud to have passed all the exams. When I told her that I harbored a similar ambition but had no space for a piano, in Dawn's typically blunt style she responded that if I really wanted to do it, I would find space. With the same determination she and Ross took up sailing and, if memory serves me well, made it all the way to Barbados. She also had ambitions to make a film about Jamaica Georgian architecture, a passion she shared with the late Patsy Robertson.*

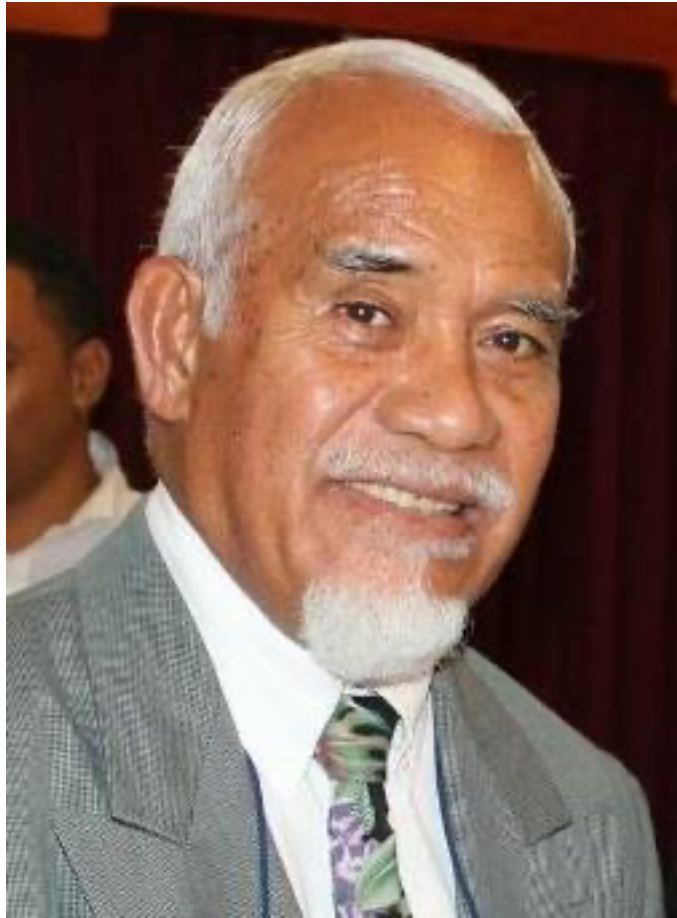
I regret that I lost touch with Dawn in recent years and am sad to learn the reason why. With deepest condolences to her family and friends. RIP Dawn. Lorna McLaren

Selected links:

- <https://cert-net.com/files/publications/conference/340.pdf>
- <https://www.facebook.com/dawn.penso/>

MR SEMISI FAKAHAU

(1948-2022)



Mr Semisi Fakehau worked in the Commonwealth Secretariat as Adviser (Agriculture and Fisheries) from 1990-2007, and was responsible for the planning, development, administration and management of fisheries and agriculture development assistance programmes across Commonwealth member countries.

- *Both Semesi and Gina were wonderful colleagues. **William Rezel***
- *I knew Semisi Fakehau less well but his full political career in Tonga after the Secretariat is a reminder of just how many former Secretariat staffers have given distinguished service elsewhere, particularly to their own countries. **Stuart Mole** (Chair, The Commonwealth Association)*
- *Sad news about Semisi and Gina, both of whom were valued colleagues. I worked more closely with Semisi in his fisheries role, especially in the Pacific. **Chris Bowman***
- *Farewell to our friend Semisi Fakehau of the Fisheries department who worked so tirelessly to improve the fishing industry particularly in the Pacific. You were all a joy to work with. **Cheryl Dorall***

Selected links:

[Semisi's Facebook page](#)

[Semisi on Wikipedia](#)

[Semisi speaking on FAO video](#)

MS GINA MASON

(1938-2022)



Ms Gina Mason worked in several divisions, including the Political Affairs Division.

- *I am so sorry to hear of her passing. Gina worked with me in PAD for a couple of years, and was always a cheerful and helpful presence. I regret I won't be able to attend her memorial service. Please convey my sincere condolences to her family.*
Jon Sheppard
- *Both Semesi and Gina were wonderful colleagues.* **William Rezel**
- *Gina Mason's death is also a real shock and we await further details. Gina was a stalwart of the Information Division too, though I believe she later moved to IAD. And wasn't it Gina who in 1993 joined Max Gaylard and the Commonwealth Observer Mission to South Africa seeking to combat the violence threatening to derail the peace process? My recollection was that Gina ran the Natal office in support of the extraordinary conflict resolution work Moses Anafu did KwaZulu-Natal. She was very much in the front line but, by all accounts, did an outstanding job.* **Stuart Mole**
(Chair, The Commonwealth Association)

- *Sad news about Semisi and Gina, both of whom were valued colleagues. **Chris Bowman***
- *It has come a shock to hear that two wonderful colleagues from ComSec's old Information Division, Gina Mason and Yusuff Ali, have passed away this week. They were pioneers in their own right. Gina had to wrestle with managing the production of documents and correspondence from the old typewriter days (complete with carbon paper and Tipp-Ex) to the computer - and after she retired she was known for producing wonderful Sierra Leone food at charity and social events, shooing away people drawn to the enticing kitchen aromas by shouting 'Health and Safety!' while brandishing a mean ladle. **Cheryl Dorall***

MR YUSUFF ALI

(-2022)



Mr Yusuff Ali worked in the Information Division of ComSec for many years.

- *Very sad news indeed. Yusuff was a charming man offering a broad smile to whomsoever he met and helpful with it. He joined ComSec about the same time as I did and so we knew each other as colleagues throughout the time I worked there. May he rest in peace. **Raja Gomez***
- *Sad news. Yusuff was among the first people I met when I joined the Secretariat in 1979. Very charming person and very Caribbean. May he rest in peace. **Rickie Sankar***
- *I'm very sorry to read this. He was a great help to many of us. I hope that the Commonwealth Association has been successful in recruiting more recent staffers in the Information (Comms) Division. **Richard Bourne***

- *Sad news indeed, of Yusuf's passing. He brought new skills to the Information Division in his time; and was an asset to the Secretariat's camaraderie. **Sonny Ramphal** (Sir Shridath Ramphal, Commonwealth Secretary-General, 1975-1990)*
- *Sad news. I do recall Yusuf as one of those people who was always positive in his approach, someone who wanted to be positive and constructive and make things happen, which is a great virtue. **Carl Wright***
- *It has been a very sad week for ex ComSec Staff - 3 deaths in a week!!! As stated by others, Yusuf was a true Gent. He treated everyone with kindness and respect - irrespective of rank or position. He will be sadly missed. May he Rest in Peace. **William Rezel***
- *Yusuf was always extremely kind to me. I am very sad about this news of his passing. **Stephen Chan***
- *As William has reminded us, it is a particular sadness to hear of the deaths of three former colleagues in as many weeks. I too remember the impact Yusuff Ali made on me - the deep, rich voice and broad smile (with a twinkle of gold?) - but also for the excellent work he did in putting together Commonwealth radio tapes on a multiplicity of Secretariat/Commonwealth-related topics and sending them around the world. His work in that respect perfectly complemented that of Asif Khan, with his syndicated articles and news items which again were part of the Information Division's formidable outreach. The technology may have changed both functions beyond recognition but I can see an echo of Yusuff's work in the insightful interviews which Arif Zaman today conducts with Commonwealth figures on Bloomsbury Radio. **Stuart Mole** (Chair, The Commonwealth Association)*
- *Thanks for the kind words Stuart. People of my relatively younger generation do indeed stand on the shoulders of Commonwealth innovators such as Yussuff Ali and Asif Khan that still inspire us and act as a clarion call to keep going through thick and thin (even if we cannot claim to know them directly). **Arif Zaman***
- *Very sad news about Yusuff. He was a delight to be around and we would catch up in person when I was visiting London, or email long after we both left ComSec. We also shared a love of golf with about the same level of expertise. I recall once he got a bit weary walking a course so asked me to continue while he had a rest waiting for me to come past a few holes later - I found him comfortably relaxing in a bunker and had trouble rousing him. **Chris Bowman***
- *I remember Yusuff Ali as a person worthy of remembering. I am sorry I cannot attend his funeral tomorrow. **Annie Carlton***
- *It has come a shock to hear that two wonderful colleagues from ComSec's old Information Division, Gina Mason and Yusuff Ali, have passed away this week. They were pioneers in their own right. Yusuff was, of course, a legend before he even joined the Secretariat, his mellifluous voice wafting across the air waves in the*

Caribbean from his beloved Trinidad and Tobago - especially Tobago where he was from. He brought broadcasting (principally radio) to the Secretariat, where he commandeered a studio in Marlborough House and turned out radio reports on ComSec projects and events which were mailed out as cassettes to Commonwealth radio stations. I do hope some of those cassettes have been preserved in ComSec archives as they are a rich history of the development work the Secretariat did for the Commonwealth. **Cheryl Dorall**

- *I was very sad to read about Yusuff's passing. I missed his funeral as I was in hospital having a stent placed in one of 4 heart bypasses that I had inserted in January this year. As Carl writes, it's a great virtue to adopt a positive and constructive approach, as Yusuff did throughout his long life and as I try to do myself.*

I worked closely with Yusuff recording some of the initiatives we took when working in the Secretariat's Food Production and Rural Development Division. In 1979 we ran a Rural Technology Exchange Workshop at the Fiji College of Agriculture, to which we brought low cost equipment from all over the Pacific Region and beyond. Farmers, engineers, equipment manufacturers, agricultural extension and research workers from the countries of the region were able to try out in the field equipment from other countries and see what was appropriate for use in their own countries. We had taro diggers from Papua New Guinea, coffee hullers from Vanuatu, coconut scrapers from Cook Islands, a fishing catamaran from Tonga, a 2 wheel tractor from China, a wood chip digester from New Zealand, simple food processing equipment from India and Japan. It was a lively event, instructive and enjoyable to all who took part. Yusuff made an excellent 30-minute film of the whole event, adding witty commentary in his rich Caribbean voice. The film was very popular in schools and colleges, and was used by Governments in promoting trade and agricultural development in the Pacific region. It had a big impact, due in no small measure to Yusuff's inspired film-making and commentary.

*I don't know what Yusuff died of, but I am sure he enjoyed life to the full right to the end, whether on the golf course or with his many friends and family. I myself took up the tenor saxophone on retirement: I play now in a lively wind band which includes several budding poets. For the amusement of readers I'll attach some of the limericks that were penned by band members to throw a positive light on my recent illness, as Yusuff would have been sure to do. I can imagine Yusuff chuckling heartedly at these poetic contributions. May he rest in peace. **Antony Ellman***

- *A familiar voice emerged from the radio as I put it on soon after checking into my hotel in Western Samoa while on a Secretariat assignment in the 1980s: the voice belonged to none other than Yusuff Ali.*

The local station was playing one of the news cassettes that Yusuff regularly sent to Commonwealth stations throughout the world, having recorded them in a Marlborough House basement to which Stuart referred in his tribute to a dear,

departed colleague. Being as far away from home as I could possibly have been and feeling a bit lonely, those familiar, measured tones cheered me up no end.

The memory of that broadcast in a faraway land nearly 40 years ago came flooding back as I learnt of Yusuff's passing which saddened me greatly. Working together in the Information Division, we were the closest of colleagues for 19 years.

However, I knew him even before joining the Secretariat in 1978 when I was a scriptwriter with Visnews (now Reuters Television) and Yusuff did an occasional stint as a freelance sub-editor at their studios in Park Royal, west London. He was well-qualified to work at Visnews - the world's largest international television news agency, having cut his teeth in tv journalism as a young man in his native Trinidad and Tobago.

A colleague there was another young reporter, a certain Trevor MacDonald who was to achieve fame as a journalist with ITN In Britain and who was to remain Yusuff's lifelong friend. When I told him that I had been invited for an interview for a newly created post at the Secretariat of feature writer and asked him for a meeting as part of my preparations for the interview, he asked me to lunch at the now defunct Ceylon Tea Centre in Piccadilly. The briefing he gave me - that too at his own expense - went a long way towards landing me the job.

About 30 years ago, I was on a Secretariat assignment in Port of Spain when, quite by chance Yusuff was there on home leave. He was kind enough to invite me home and introduce me to his family. One of their treasured possessions was an old post-card. Written in Urdu, it was sent to an ancestor, the first of Yusuff's family to migrate to the West Indies more than a century ago from India. As Urdu is my mother tongue, I was asked to translate the post card, which nobody had ever been able to do before. It was from their forbear's younger sister.

*One sentence in it remains etched in my memory to this day. " My dearest brother." It read "I miss you dreadfully. I cry myself to sleep every night, not knowing if I will ever see you again." There was not a dry eye in the house as I finished reading. I send my deepest condolences to Yusuff's children Faiz and Lisa and their mother Diana at their incalculable loss. **Asif Khan***

Selected links:

[Media colleagues remember the late Yussuff Ali](#)

MR MERRICK NEEDHAM

(-2022)



Mr Merrick Needham served as Chief Executive Officer (Conferences), Commonwealth Secretariat from 1980-83. At the personal request of Prime Minister Edward Seaga he was released from contract by the Commonwealth Secretary General, so as to return to the Jamaican Government.

Selected links:

- [Needham's passing a tremendous loss, says PM](#)
- [Colonel Merrick Needham, CD, MVO](#)
- [Prominent ceremonial and protocol expert Merrick Needham passes | Loop Jamaica](#)

MR CLYDE SANGER

(1928-2022)



Mr Clyde Sanger served as Director of the Information Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat from 1977-79. He worked with the first Secretary-General Arnold Smith and collaborated on his memoirs. His papers were donated to the Guardian News and Media Archive in 2018 and have now been catalogued.

- *This is sad news. Clyde was a towering figure whose reputation as a key confidant of Arnold Smith has never dimmed. I never worked with him but met him in later years on a number of occasions, most recently at Derek Ingram's memorial service in London in 2018. We owe a lot to early Commonwealth pioneers like Clyde, although his contribution to international understanding (particularly of Africa) ranged far beyond our doors. **Stuart Mole** (Chair, The Commonwealth Association)*
- *I am very sad about this. Back in the 1970s, Clyde looked after a somewhat younger and very trouble-strewn edition of myself. Always with offhand kindness, never with reproof. **Stephen Chan***
- *I too would like to say how sad I am to read of Clyde's death. Although caught out embarrassingly by Hammarskjold's death in an air crash (now a proven case of murder, as brilliantly shown by Susan Williams of the ICWS) when he was Guardian correspondent in central Africa he was a good journalist, and friend to many. He was one of that group of British journalists in the region, including Richard/Dick Hall and Derek Ingram, committed to African advancement, around the time of decolonisation. He helped Derek refloat the Gemini News Service with Canadian funding, after it had been forced to cease publication for a year, and me too when I was writing its history -- "News on a Knife-Edge." His father had been a significant player in the Daily Mail group in the era of the second Lord Rothermere, with whom Derek fell out over South African apartheid, and Clyde gave me access to some of his father's material when I was writing "Lords of Fleet Street" about this family of press barons. He retained his commitments to the Commonwealth and journalism into his 90s, and was a valued supporter of the Commonwealth Journalists Association. **Richard Bourne***
- *As one of those who worked closely with the first Commonwealth Secretary-General Arnold Smith in Marlborough House, I received the news of Clyde Sanger's passing with great sadness. My collaboration with him when he was the Director of the then Information Division became even closer when I became the Director of the then International Affairs Division.*

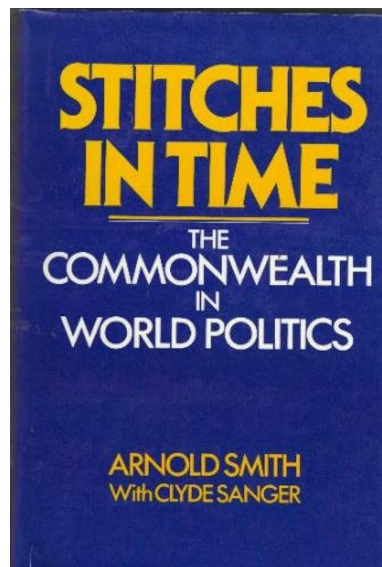
In the Secretariat's first decade of existence when the Secretary-General was tackling the international consequences of the Unilateral Declaration of Independence (UDI) by the racist minority regime in what was then Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) and its adverse impact on the Commonwealth, Clyde brought to the Secretary-General and the International Affairs Division the benefit of his intimate knowledge of the conditions in Rhodesia where he had worked for some years as editor of a magazine on politics and economics.

He was a committed and dedicated servant of the modern Commonwealth, and it was no surprise to many of us that he went on to collaborate with Arnold Smith in the latter's writing of his memoirs, Stitches in Time: The Commonwealth in World Politics.

My last contact with Clyde Sanger was at the memorial service of his fellow journalistic devotee of the Commonwealth, Derek Ingram, on 8 November 2018 at the end of which he walked up to me and said "Emeka thank you for recalling so well in your tribute Derek's outstanding contribution to journalism and the making of journalists in the Commonwealth".

*It may be said that passing at 93, he had had "a fair innings"; he certainly has left us to celebrate his legacy of strong belief in the yet to be realized potentials of the Commonwealth for service to humanity and unflinching advocacy of those potentials. I would therefore say, Adieu Clyde Sanger, the great journalist and devoted champion of the Commonwealth. **Emeka Anyaoku** (Chief Emeka Anyaoku, Commonwealth Secretary-General, 1990-2000)*

- *Thank you Emeka. I was there too at that time and remember him well. **Geoff Martin***



Selected links:

[Clyde Sanger: the Guardian's first Africa correspondent](#)

[The records of Clyde Sanger](#)

[Clyde Sanger's Reflections on the 1979 Lusaka CHOGM](#) – document held at the library of the Institute of Commonwealth Studies

[Legendary journalist, author and mentor Clyde Sanger dies at 93 | School of Journalism and Communication](#)
[Globe & Mail obituary with comments from friends](#)

[A Group of 78 Statement in Tribute to Clyde Sanger](#)

[Remembering Clyde Sanger \(1928-2022\), Lotta's Biographer](#)

[Clyde Sanger remembered - Glebe Report](#)

[Unlocking the stories behind the shorthand Archivists at the GNM Archive reflect on their project to make a former Guardian reporter's notebooks accessible to researchers](#)

[Solving the Mystery of My Father's Journalistic Shorthand and Discovering... The Beatles? Richard Sanger on the Surprises and Banalities Hidden in "Pitman" Notations](#)

MR GURUDAS BAILUR

(-2022)

Mr Gurudas Bailur worked as Special Adviser in the Food Production and Rural Development Division (which later became the Agricultural Development Unit) from 1985-95.

- *Guru was a wonderful colleague and a fine human being, who will be sorely missed. May his soul rest in peace and may the family have the strength to cope with the loss.* **Amitav Banerji**
- *Very sorry to hear this news. He was indeed a lovely person and a valued colleague who I recall very well. He was very helpful in the Staff Association back in the 90s.* **RIP. Chris Bowman**
- *Very sorry to hear about the sad demise of Gurudas Bailur .He was a great colleague and an active member of the association. May his soul rest in peace.* **Mohan Kaul**
- *Very sorry to read this. I did not know Gurudas but his daughter Savita worked with me at the Commonwealth Policy Studies Unit, ICwS which I headed from 1999-2005. She was a valued colleague.* **Richard Bourne**
- *Bailur was such a gentleman. May he rest in peace. In sorrow.* **Cheryl Dorall**
- *I was very saddened to read of Gurudas' demise. He was always friendly to everyone and was possessed of a very warm and welcoming smile. May he rest in peace.* **Raja Gomez**

- *I too was very sad to learn of the passing of Gurudas Bailur. Although our times at the Commonwealth Secretariat did not quite overlap, I met Gurudas many times after I and then he had moved on to other jobs. I always had great respect for the work he did and for his charming personality. My commiserations to his family and friends. **Antony Ellman** (Food Production and Rural Development Division, 1976-84)*

Selected links:

[Ex-IAS officer GL Bailur passes away in London](#)

[Contribution to witness seminar on the Secretariat](#)