



THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED

BEYOND THE PIPELINE

Shaping the Future

A **Newsletter** for Our Pipeline Communities



Today's children are
tomorrow's future.

What's Inside



CULTURE



COMMUNITY



SPORT



ENVIRONMENT

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Beyond the Pipeline is NGC's Community Newsletter, produced by the Corporate Communications Division of The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC)

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Photo by Marlon James

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Message from the Manager, Corporate Communications

Dear Stakeholders,

Accountability and responsibility, along with its impact on society, are now more than ever, firmly entrenched in the corporate sector of Trinidad and Tobago. I am confident that this is not a phase, especially not at The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC). In a brand survey conducted in 2018, the Company's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme was widely recognised as adding value to the wider society and contributing to shaping the future of national development.

For the first half of 2019, NGC assisted with panyard limes for its sponsored steelpan bands and partnered with The University of the West Indies (The UWI) to carry out, for the first time, a music scoring programme. NGC supported the zonal games in the Moruga, St. Patrick and Caroni Education Districts; continued its signature Right on Track programme in five educational districts: North Eastern, St. George East, South Eastern, St. Patrick and Caroni; worked with the NGC Bocas Literary Festival; and launched Shooting Stars, its film production programme, in conjunction with partner, the Trinidad and Tobago Film Festival.

We maintained our partnership with the National Amateur Athletic Association of Trinidad and Tobago (NAAATT), with full sponsorship of the Championship Series from May to July, and our continued support to the athletes under the NGC Youth Elite Programme. A carbon sequestration study, borne out of our



MS. LISA BURKETT
MANAGER, CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS, NGC

reforestation programme, was completed, and positive results shared at all public fora. We also hosted, as part of our National Heroes Project, the launch of the Hasely Crawford comic book, an epic journey into the lead up to his 1976 Montreal Olympics 100-metres win and the country's first Olympic Gold medal.

The second half of the year looks to be even more action-packed as we seek to create a greater foundation for arts and culture, sport, education, empowerment, youth development and environmental preservation. NGC practises CSR. It is not just about good intentions. It is about national development and shaping the future of our youth. We hope our readers see this as we look back at our activities in this issue.

Ms. Lisa Burkett
Manager, Corporate Communications, NGC

Photo by Marlon James



Fun at the Primary Schools Games

NGC supports the Primary Schools Track and Field Games in the Moruga Zone, and the St. Patrick and Caroni Education Districts. The Caroni Education District Games is the most long-standing recipient of NGC's sponsorship — over 24 years. At these games, primary schools in a zone come together to compete against each other in track and field. They often provide an environment for coaches to identify and recruit talented individuals for local clubs, which can lead to opportunities for athletes to land national/Olympic team spots in the future, as well as have access to scholarship opportunities at foreign universities with sporting programmes.

One of the winners noted: "These games are fun! And we get to meet children from other schools and see if we could beat them!"

The Moruga Zone's Primary School Games were held on February 15th, 2019. The St. Patrick Education District Games were held on February 18th and 20th, and March 8th 2019. The Caroni Education District Games were held on March 15th and 20th, 2019. The overall winner of the Moruga Primary Schools' Zonal Games and Zonal Marathon Games was Marac Baptist Primary, defeating Basse Terre R.C. who had won the games for the past six years. Winners of the Caroni Zonal Games and the St. Patrick Education District were Couva/Preysal and Point Fortin, respectively.



Moruga Games



St. Patrick Games



St. Patrick Games



Caroni Games

Run, Jump, Throw – NGC/NAAATT Championship 2019 Series Update

Are you a fan of track and field games? Do you wonder how athletes are selected to represent our country at Carifta, NACAC or the Olympics? The National Association of Athletics Administrations of Trinidad and Tobago (NAAATT) is the governing body that manages and administers track and field in Trinidad and Tobago. NGC has been a sponsor of the NAAATT since 2013, with NGC/NAAATT Championship Series being the highlight of the local track and field season.

The Championship Series is the main track and field opportunity on the national track and field calendar for our athletes to benchmark their ability against that of their peers and identify areas for improvement. This series also is an opportunity to learn from the experience of others in their field and to get noticed, spotlighted and supported.

The NGC/NAAATT series was held at the Hasely Crawford Stadium in Port of Spain per below:

- NGC/NAAATT Junior Championships was held from June 8th to 9th, 2019.
- NGC/NAAATT Juvenile Championships was held from June 15th to 16th, 2019.
- NGC/NAAATT Open Championships will be held from July 26th to 28th, 2019.

At the first set of games, the NGC/NAAATT Junior Championships, supporters were treated to riveting performances by the juniors. Some of the youth athletes broke national records — Jamal Alexander set a new national record in the Boys' Under-20 hammer throw. Alexander, representing track and field club, Toco TAFAC, had the day's best effort of 34.62 metres, bettering the previous distance of 31.44 metres which was set by Allister Joseph on August 31st 1980.

Another record-breaker was NGC Youth Elite athlete Rae-Anne Serville. She broke the national junior record in the Girls' Under-20 400-metres event. It was the second gold medal for Rae-Anne, who won the one-lap event, clocking 52.89 seconds to lower the time achieved by Adia Mc Kinnon back in 2000.

At the NGC/NAAATT Juvenile Championships, Jenique Mc Laren of Toco TAFAC, was one of the top athletes on day two of the NGC/NAAATT Juvenile Track and Field Championships. The Cougars Track and Field Club finished with the most points to win the title. After 51 events in the two-day meet, the Cougars ended with 321 points, Memphis Pioneers finished second with 188.5 points and Zenith came in third with 178 points.

We will give you a full rundown of the Championship Series in our next issue.



Athletes at NGC/NAAATT Juvenile Championships



NGC/NAAATT Junior Championships
First place winner, Rae-Anne Serville, broke the national junior record in the Girls' Under-20, 400-metres event



Athlete at NGC/NAAATT Junior Championships

Winners of the NGC Shooting Stars Secondary Schools Film Competition

In November 2018, NGC partnered with the Trinidad and Tobago Film Festival to host the NGC Shooting Stars Secondary Schools Film Competition.

The participating schools and the names of their films were:

- Couva East Secondary School – *Tainted Reality*
- Holy Faith Convent, Penal – *Woe Be Gone*
- San Juan North Secondary School – *Simon's Gift*
- Signal Hill Secondary School – *Choosing Destiny*

The winner of the competition was Couva East Secondary School. The film's focus was on peer pressure, domestic violence and teenage love drama.

During the competition, each school was assigned a mentor (experienced filmmaker) who taught them about filmmaking, story development, scripting, shooting, equipment, production, editing and post-production.

The films focused on major social issues and counsellors were made available to participants as part of the programme to explore students' understanding of the social issues in Trinidad and Tobago.

The winner received a cash prize of \$15,000 which goes towards the purchase of film equipment for their school. Also, consolation prizes \$2,500 each were given to the remaining participating schools. A prize for best actor was awarded to Connell Shade of Couva East Secondary School and the prize for original score was awarded to Holy Faith Convent, Penal.

The films will be shown at CARIFESTA on August 14th, 2019, then shared with schools across Trinidad and Tobago from September 2019.

Congratulations to the winners and all schools for participating in the competition.



Winners — Couva East Secondary School



Signal Hill
Secondary School



San Juan North
Secondary School



Prize for best actor —
Connell Shade of Couva
East Secondary School



Prize for original score
was awarded to Holy
Faith Convent, Penal

NGC and IAMovement Award Essay Winners



Winners from Holy Faith Convent, Couva and North Gate College



Winner from SWAHA Hindu College

Delving into the realms of energy efficiency and renewable energy, is part of NGC's commitment to becoming a sustainability leader in Trinidad and Tobago. To begin its journey, NGC noted that education was key to influencing behavioural change.

In 2018, NGC partnered with IAMovement to produce a three-part video series called the Rethinking Energy Video Series. This entailed three videos:

- Rethinking Energy 01 - 'The Opportunity Cost' – Trinidad and Tobago's natural gas shortage and our opportunity cost (which can also be thought of as our opportunity lost).
- Rethinking Energy 02 - 'The Electricity Subsidy'
- Rethinking Energy 03 - 'Solutions' - Solutions for Trinidad and Tobago, guided in part by roadmap studies carried out by the EU Technical Assistance Facility (TAF) working with the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries (MEEI) in Trinidad and Tobago.

The series was used with the "Small Change" programme in several school outreach forums. At these school visits, open floor discussions about climate change and renewable energy were encouraged. It is estimated that over 1,200 students and individuals across the island viewed the videos.

Secondary school students were invited to participate in the Rethinking Energy



Winners from Holy Faith Convent, Couva and North Gate College

essay competition. Essay entries were open from December 15th 2018 to January 31st 2019. In total, 34 essays were received from five schools. Entrants were required to answer one of the following questions:

1. What is the importance of energy efficiency to Trinidad and Tobago?
2. How is the electricity subsidy contributing to the economic "opportunity cost" in Trinidad and Tobago?
3. What role do renewable energies have to play in the future of Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean?

The winners were:

- 1st Place — Ms. Britney Beekhoo of Holy Faith Convent, Couva

- 2nd Place — Ms. Shivani Maharaj of SWAHA Hindu College
- 3rd Place — Ms. Seraphina Seuratan of Holy Faith Convent, Couva

There were two 4th place consolation winners (a tie):

- Ms. Serita Maraj of Holy Faith Convent, Couva
- Ms. Amaris John of North Gate College

NGC and IAMovement representatives visited the successful students at their respective schools to present the renewable energy-themed prizes at Holy Faith Convent, Couva on May 9th 2019 and SWAHA Hindu College, Sangre Grande on May 15th 2019.



Mature trees in the forest — older trees hold more carbon

Plant a Tree

Would planting trees contribute to carbon sequestration? The answer is yes, according to Professor John Agard, Director and Professor of Tropical Island Ecology, The UWI. In 2018, NGC decided to measure the impact of its reforestation project in terms of carbon sequestration and potential benefit to the island and climate change.

Testing was conducted at four main sites — Rio Claro, Moruga, Rousillac and Mayaro. Once the study was conducted, the data was compiled and analysed.

According to Professor Agard, "This project initiated by NGC revealed that the total carbon sequestered was 2,243,169 kg — an equivalent of 8,232 tonnes".

NGC also asked The UWI to project how much carbon will be sequestered by 2030. The projected figures are 5,228,173 kg — an equivalent of 19,187 tonnes.

NGC continues to contribute to reducing our carbon footprint through continuous planting and maintenance of those areas reforested via its reforestation programme.

Please plant a tree today!

CSR | ARTS AND CULTURE

Many notes, one song!



Couva Joylanders Steel Orchestra members play while being recorded by The UWI's Department of Creative and Festival Arts



Equipment used to record the music for transcription

The Carnival season has come and gone and so has the live music from the steel bands. NGC did not want the music to be lost and embarked on a mission to capture the steelpan music of its sponsored bands on paper, so it can be read and played anytime. To achieve this, NGC partnered with The University of the West Indies (The UWI) Department of Creative and Festival Arts to carry out a music scoring programme.

This required the team from The UWI to record the bands playing and transcribing the music into visible notes on paper. The scores could then be used by individuals at professional levels and students at primary and secondary schools.

The songs for which notes were recorded and scored were "Party Start" played by the NGC La Brea Nightingales Steel

Orchestra and "Fire in the Area", played by NGC Couva Joylanders Steel Orchestra. Richard Scion, executive manager of the NGC Couva Joylanders Steel Orchestra, shared his sentiments saying, "I feel elated and proud to know that the music of an orchestra will be utilised by other individuals through the music scoring initiative, bringing about the development of musical knowledge and skills".

Steelpan music ... Time to Lime

NGC currently sponsors three steelbands: the NGC Couva Joylanders Steel Orchestra, the NGC La Brea Nightingales Steel Orchestra and the NGC Steel Xplosion Steel Orchestra, and assists the Gonzales Sheikers Steel Orchestra.

During the Carnival season, the NGC-sponsored bands prepare for the annual Panorama competition during the months of January and February. To show support for the bands' participation in Panorama, NGC hosted panyard limes on the eve of the various Panorama competitions, specifically, the judging in the panyards.

At the panyard limes, well-wishers were greeted to a vibrant atmosphere of steelpan music and local food. The players benefited as they get to show off their talent and receive feedback from the crowd.

The panyard limes were held as follows:

- NGC La Brea Nightingales Panyard Lime was held on February 6th, 2019 at the Bandstand opposite Tanty Park, La Brea.
- NGC Steel Xplosion Panyard Lime was held on February 8th, 2019 at the Buccoo Integrated Facility, Buccoo Village, Tobago.
- NGC Couva Joylanders Panyard Lime was held on February 11th, 2019 at NGC Couva Joylanders House of Steel, Railway Road, Couva.

The results of the Panorama competition 2019 for the Medium Bands Panorama finals are as follows:

- NGC Couva Joylanders playing "Fire in the Area" placed 3rd with 275 points.
- NGC Steel Xplosion playing "Sing in the Party" placed 8th with 268 points.

Congratulations to all the bands, community, and NGC staff for their support.

For further information and to keep updated on NGC's activities, please visit:

NGC's website: www.ngc.co.tt

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ngctrinidadandtobago/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NGCGascoNewsTT>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/ngc_tt/



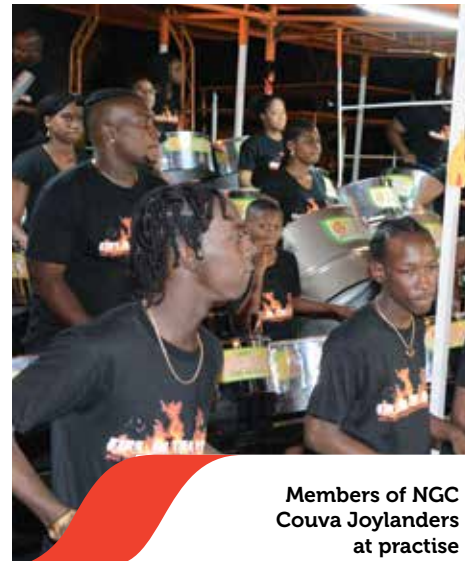
NGC La Brea Nightingales at practise



Community members turn out to support Couva Joylanders



Members of NGC Steel Xplosion at practise



Members of NGC Couva Joylanders at practise



Hasely Crawford stand with pupils at the launch of his comic book

'A Runner's Life - Lessons from an Olympian'

Trinidad and Tobago's first Olympic Gold Medallist, His Excellency Hasely Crawford, TC, was the first hero to be celebrated in NGC's National Heroes Project. The aim of the project is to honour persons who have contributed to national development in the field of sport, art, culture and social improvement.

In 2017, the life and achievements of Hasely Crawford were displayed throughout the country at libraries and exhibitions. To mark the end of his exhibition, a comic book titled, *A Runner's Life – Lessons from an Olympian*, was launched.

The graphic novel shares Hasely Crawford's life lessons in his mission to achieving success. At a launch held on April 25th, 2019 at the National Library and Information System Authority (NALIS), Port of Spain, Hasely's journey to Olympic glory was celebrated among family, friends and children from several primary schools.

Along with the launch of the comic book, the Hasely Crawford exhibition, a central



Primary school students receive autographed books from and take pictures with Hasely Crawford

piece of Hasely's celebration as NGC's first national hero, was also handed over to NALIS.

The book can be viewed online at www.ngc.co.tt under the tab CSR and on the National Heroes Project page.

NGC Bocas Lit Fest 2019

NGC's President, Mr. Mark Loquan, is passionate about the NGC Bocas Lit Fest. At the OCM Bocas prize giving ceremony, he made the following statement: "By facilitating the exchange of experiences and ideas in this way, Bocas will have contributed to the enlightenment, sensitisation and personal development of hundreds over the years, not to mention the opportunities it will have created for the storytellers themselves. For this reason, we at NGC are proud to be associated with the NGC Bocas Lit Fest and will continue to support the work of the Bocas team".

A total of 72 books were entered for this year's prize across the three genre categories by writers from 14 different Caribbean territories.

The annual NGC Bocas Lit Fest Storytelling Caravan was held during the period April 30th to May 4th, 2019 and is an exciting island-wide storytelling caravan aimed at getting children aged 5-12 years across Trinidad and Tobago to fall in love with reading and writing. Children are treated to expertly told stories by much loved storytellers such as Aunty Thea, Joan Osbourne, Lalonde Ochoa and Lylah Persad. The children also get an opportunity to create their own stories which are compiled and published annually. For 2019, the caravan visited local libraries in Couva, Chaguanas, Scarborough, Mayaro, Debe, Cedros, Mt. Lambert, Arima and San Fernando.

Ayanna Andrews, Administrative Assistant II, Corporate Communications, recounts



Mr. Mark Loquan, President, NGC, speaks at the 2019 OCM NGC Bocas prize-giving ceremony

her experience at the storytelling caravan held at the Carnegie Free Library, San Fernando: "On Saturday 13th April, 2019, 23 children of various ages attended the storytelling caravan. Some of them have participated in the festival for the past four years. The storyteller was Ms. Avion Crooks who told the story, *The String Bank*. After the storytelling was completed, the children were asked to create their own stories. Avion was able to engage the children and encourage them to express their ideas. The creativity that came out of that session was astonishing. Some children were very participative, while others were more observant and reserved. Overall, I would encourage parents to take their children to the NGC Bocas Lit Fest Storytelling Caravan. It's a great way to get their creative juices flowing".



Children participate at the NGC Bocas Lit Fest Storytelling Caravan
Photo by Marlon James

Winners of the NGC Bocas Lit Fest 2019

The winners of the OCM NGC Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature were announced during the Festival in May. These are the category winners:

POETRY

'Doe Songs' by Danielle Boodoo-Fortuné (Peepal Tree Press)

FICTION

Theory by Dionne Brand (Penguin Random House Canada)

NON-FICTION

High Mas: Carnival and the Poetics of Caribbean Culture by Kevin Adonis Browne (University Press of Mississippi)

The overall winner of the 2019 OCM Bocas Prize was Kevin Adonis Browne.

The 2019 longlist, previously announced in March, included nine books by writers from four countries:

POETRY

'Doe Songs' by Danielle Boodoo-Fortuné (Peepal Tree Press)

'Ricantations' by Loretta Collins Klobah (Peepal Tree Press)

'Giant' by Richard Georges (Platypus Press)

FICTION

Cut Guavas by Robert Antoni (Peepal Tree Press)

Theory by Dionne Brand (Penguin Random House Canada)

Kitch by Anthony Joseph (Peepal Tree Press)

NON-FICTION

High Mas: Carnival and the Poetics of Caribbean Culture by Kevin Adonis Browne (University Press of Mississippi)

The Slave Master of Trinidad: William Hardin Burnley and the Nineteenth-Century Atlantic World by Selwyn R. Cudjoe (University of Massachusetts Press)

A Response to Enslavement: Playing Their Way to Virtue by Peter A. Roberts (University of the West Indies Press)



THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED

Energy Brain Buster

TRUE OR FALSE

1. The goal of NGC's music scoring programme is to transcribe steelpan music into visible notes which can be used by other players.
2. The National Heroes Project was not established by NGC.
3. Planting a tree would not help with carbon sequestration.
4. NGC held a panyard lime in Port of Spain.
5. Panyard limes are held to support and boost the morale of steelpan bands participating in Panorama.
6. NGC has been supporting primary schools' track and field games for many years.
7. The primary school games add no value to the community.
8. Carbon sequestration testing was conducted at four main sites — Rio Claro, Moruga, Rousillac and Mayaro.
9. The NGC Children's Storytelling Caravan is not a free event.
10. NGC Bocas Lit Fest Storytelling Caravan visits local libraries throughout Trinidad and Tobago

Answers: 1. True 2. False 3. False 4. False 5. True 6. True 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. True



PHOTO OF THE MONTH

NGC/NAAATT JUVENILE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Members of the Cougars Track and Field Club run onto the track in sheer joy after winning the 2019 title.