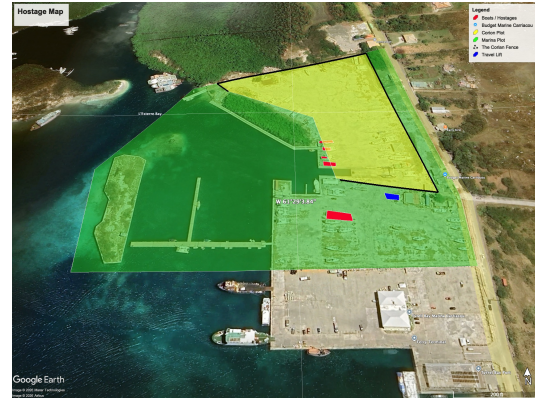


A LOVE LETTER TO CARRIACOU

FROM THE HOSTAGE BOATERS IN TYRELL BAY

Dear Carriacou,

We are the people held hostage in your lovely Tyrell Bay. We are American, German, French, British, and Portuguese/Cape Verdean. We came to your island to support your economy in the form of maintaining, and in some cases rebuilding, our vessels. We hire your skilled workers, eat in your restaurants, get our laundry washed at Zip, shop in your supermarkets, buy fruit and vegetables at your friendly roadside stands, and buy lots (and lots) of boat supplies. You have seen us in the streets, and may even recognize the grey dog, Doodl, being towed behind the bicycle in her doggie carriage on the streets of Harvey Vale.



We like it here just fine - but please let us leave.

Over the weekend of April 25th, a fence was built bisecting the yard in Tyrell Bay Marina. There was no warning, no communication, and no chance to put our boats back into the water before access was completely restricted. We do not take sides in the years-long land vs lease vs remuneration dispute - and yes it is still legally ongoing despite the common misconception that title ownership determined in 2023 settled the whole matter. (It's not that simple, unfortunately). That fiasco was here long before us and will continue long after we have left, but right now that fight has taken us hostage. We live permanently on our boats and they are our homes, our places of business, and our primary mode of transportation - we have no where else to go nor any way to get there. Our detainment has, and continues to, affect our well-being, cost us employment, jeopardize our immigration status, put our property at risk, and potentially even put us physically at risk. We have lost jobs, delayed medical procedures, and cancelled that once a year visit where we were finally able to convince our family to come to us. We lost vessels in Beryl and know personally the dangers of hurricane season. We are angry, frustrated, and bewildered hostages.

So we enter the fighting ring.

You ask what have we done to help ourselves so far? Well, we are now extremely familiar with your laws, your government organizations, your public services, and your judicial system. We have read your Constitution and know that it is illegal for anyone to be detained against their will (Article 12 Protection of Freedom of Movement) or for property to be impounded without cause (Article 6. Protection from Deprivation of Property). We have read your Planning & Development Act 23 and know that the fence was illegally erected as it was done without authorization from the Planning & Development Authority (Part V ENFORCEMENT OF DEVELOPMENT CONTROL Article 31). We have appealed to our various foreign Embassies and they have spoken with your Prime Minister. We have corresponded with your Foreign Affairs Office and through them with your Minister of Carriacou. We have visited your Police force on both Carriacou and Grenada, and have even heard that the Commissioner of Police is aware of our situation.

And still we sit and wait.

We and the marina have appealed directly to the Corion Estate to allow us to leave through the temporary removal of the fence and the quick relaunching of our vessels. There has been no response to those requests. Since the end of April, it has been complete silence.

The marina applied for temporary relief to the civil court, which included each of our stories of hardship and harm at being held hostage. The court ordered a dismissal of that application, not ruling one way or another.

And still we have hope.

The marina has the manpower, the equipment, and the desire - and yes, even the support of your laws - to launch us. They are the only ones able to do so, and are not yet able to act due to the barriers.

Their blockage is our blockage.

So why do we now write a letter of love to you? You are a power in your own right and we have not yet asked for your direct support. You have welcomed us with kindness and compassion from the very beginning - this is not your fault and we want you to know that we don't blame you for it. You as a society have treated us with kindness and empathy. You have sympathized with our situation, have expressed outrage that such a thing could occur here, and have provided guidance from afar. Even your street dogs and sheep greet us as friends. You are the people, the heart and soul of Carriacou, and we see you being harmed just as we are by this shameful, and quite frankly flabbergasting, situation. The economic trickle-down affect is real, whether you are personally experiencing it yet, or not. Your reputation as a hospitable and safe destination for

visitors is being quickly and significantly deteriorated. Trust in your laws is being eroded for locals and foreigners alike. The longer it continues, the longer it will take to recover, and we prefer to see Carriacou thriving.

No, this is not your fault, but we ask you to consider harnessing your power to move mountains, or in this case, remove barriers and open access to oceans. We need the fence removed, at least temporarily, and we need agreement from the Corion Estate to support the launching our vessels. These are the short-term barriers and are our prison walls.

We ask you to help us raise the noise against those forces that are actively working against a hostage resolution, or whose apathy is resulting in the same lack of progress. You can support those allies who are working hard towards a solution, but are somehow still not able to remedy the situation. You can reach out to the names we have listed below and ask them how they are involved, what they are doing, and whether they see themselves as allies, or blockers, to our release. We have not designated them here as such, but every one of them is aware of the situation and has a role to play. We are simply asking your authorities to do their jobs, obey your laws, and act with the urgency we feel the situation demands. (Today it is us, tomorrow it could be you.)

We know there are yet heroes out there who can help us!

Sincerely yours,

The Tyrell Bay Hostages (and Doodl)

Corion Estate (family / representatives): Trust Admin - Stephanie Nerverson-Young Estate Representative - Nellie Adams Estate Representative - Margaret Corion Local Representative - Clarence (Policeman)	Government of Grenada: Minister of Carriacou - Tevin Andrews Prime Minister - Dickon Mitchell Foreign Affairs, Trade & Export Development Chief of Protocol - Lyndeon George-Bellamy Permanent Secretary - Roxie McLeish-Hutchinson
Planning & Development Authority: Technical Operations Manager - Naomi Dorival CEO - Allen Gilbert	Foreign Embassies: US Principal Officer - Cindy M. Diouf French Consul, St. Lucia - Kévin Billières French Attaché to OECS - Hilda Henri German Hon. Consul - Jochen Lenz
Royal Grenada Police Force: Commissioner of Police - Randy Connaught Staff - Carriacou Staff - Grenada	
Tyrell Bay Marina: Owner - Jerome McQuilkin	