

Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**NEWS RELEASE**

**A DAY AT THE OVAL WITH SIR GARRY**

As the West Indies romped to a 2-1 series win over England at Kensington Oval earlier this week, there was yet another interesting story unfolding beyond the boundary at the 'Mecca'.

And involved in the subplot were two of the most unsuspecting characters: cricketing icon Sir Garfield Sobers and Banks Beer ambassador, Faith Callender.

During Thursday's dead rubber, the 2014 Banks Calendar Girl, and avid West Indies supporter, stumbled upon the 'greatest cricketer the world has ever seen' as she made her rounds at the historic ground.

"I guess you can call it fate," said an excited Callender, adding that "since I was a little girl, Sir Garry has always been one of my heroes."

Currently pursuing her bachelor's degree in accounts and finance at the University of the West Indies, Callender said the time she spent with Sobers was nothing short of inspirational.

"A while back I remember looking at his statue outside of the Oval and imagining what it must have been like to play the game in his time," she said, flanked by a team of Banks Beer ladies.

"It was an unexpected honour for me to share some time with Barbados' only living national hero, especially during a match against England at the Oval. He told me to believe in my dreams and commended me for my dedication to my studies and craft. It's a moment which will stay with me forever."

Callender, an aspiring singer/songwriter was featured prominently in Banks Beer's marketing campaign for the Home Series, penning the original song, '*My Barbados, My Banks*'.

The accompanying video, which features the exquisite 20-year-old beauty enjoying some lively atmosphere in a Banks Beer-themed rum shop, was played periodically throughout the series in the venues and on regional television.

"The response from the fans, both locals and visitors, has been overwhelming. In every corner of the ground, people have been recognising me and asking for photographs," she said.

"It was a very positive experience which was made even better as the West Indies won!"

(ENDS)

*\*Sir Garfield St. Aubrun Sobers made his first-class debut for Barbados at the age of 16 in 1953, and his Test debut for the West Indies senior team the following year.*

*Against Pakistan in 1958, Sobers scored his maiden Test century, progressing to 365 not out and establishing a new world record for the highest individual score in an innings, which was not broken until Brian Lara scored 375 in 1994.*

*Sobers was appointed captain of the West Indies in 1965, a role which he held with distinction until 1972. In an expansive career, Sobers scored 26 Test centuries with the bat and took 235 scalps with the ball, making him 'the greatest cricketer the world has ever seen'.*