

# Flags over Bermuda

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**Abstract** Bermuda is a British Overseas Territory located off the east coast of the United States in the Atlantic Ocean. Bermuda was discovered in 1505 by Spanish sea Captain Juan de Bermúdez, after whom the islands are named. In 1609, a flotilla of ships left England to America but was broken up by a storm, and the flagship, the Sea Venture, was wrecked off Bermuda. That ship became the symbol of the islands and appeared later on the coat of arms and the flag.

The first Arms were adopted around 1875 and the present, in 1910. Its evolution is seen across flags.

The Bermuda flag is unusual for a British Territory in that it is used on land in a red ensign. The blue ensign is used by Government services. That small archipelago used a lot of flags. During my visit in July 2011, I have discovered many flags described in that lecture. Outside the National flag, there are Governor's flag, different Army's flags, the Colours of the Bermuda Regiment presented during the Trooping of Colours, the Bermuda Police Service, the Bermuda Fire and Rescue Service, by Cities, Yacht clubs and Political Parties.



## 1. Introduction

Bermuda is a group of low-lying islands in the Atlantic Ocean, located off the east coast of the United States, near the western edge of the Sargasso Sea, roughly 580 nautical miles (1070 km, 670 mi) of Cape Hatteras on the Outer Banks of North Carolina.

The territory consists of 181 islands, with a total area of 53.2 square kilometres (20.6 sq mi). The largest island is Main Island, sometimes itself called Bermuda.

Bermuda is a British Overseas Territory with a population of 64,268 as of the 2010 census. There are 54% Black and 31% European. The Government is a parliamentary democracy. Its capital city is Hamilton. Bermuda is divided into nine parishes and there are two municipalities: the City of Hamilton and the Town of St George.

Bermuda's economy is primarily made up of offshore insurance and reinsurance and tourism. Offshore finance and tourism are its two largest economic sectors.

It has a subtropical climate. Bermuda makes up the eastern- and northernmost point of the so-called Bermuda Triangle, a region of sea in which, according to urban legend, a number of aircraft and surface vessels have disappeared under supposedly unexplained or mysterious circumstances. The island is prone to severe weather, including powerful hurricanes as hurricane Bertha in July 2008.

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## 2. History<sup>1</sup>

Bermuda was discovered in 1505 by Spanish sea captain Juan de Bermúdez, after whom the islands are named. He claimed the islands for the Spanish Empire.

In 1609, a flotilla of ships left England under the Virginia Company's Admiral, Sir George Somers, and the new Governor of Jamestown (Virginia), Sir Thomas Gates, to relieve the colony of Jamestown, settled two years before. The flotilla was broken up by a storm, and the flagship, the Sea Venture, was wrecked off Bermuda, leaving the survivors in possession of a new territory. Most of the survivors of the Sea Venture sailed on to Jamestown in 1610 aboard two Bermuda-built ships.

After the failure of the first two English colonies in Virginia, a more determined effort was initiated by King James I of England (James VI of Scotland), who granted a Royal Charter to the Virginia Company. The island was claimed for the English Crown, and the charter of the Virginia Company was extended to include it.

Intentional settlement of Bermuda began with the arrival of the Plough, in 1612. St George's was settled in 1612 and made Bermuda's first capital. Bermuda or, Somers Isles, was administered as an extension of Virginia by the Company until 1614.

The Somers Isles Company, named after Admiral Somers, was formed in 1615 to operate the English colony, as a commercial venture. The areas of land were partitioned off to the "adventurers" (investors) of the Company – Devonshire, Hamilton, Paget, Pembroke, Sandys, Smith's, Southampton and Warwick. The name of the Parishes came from that subdivision.

Because of its limited land area, Bermuda has had difficulty with over-population. In the first two centuries of settlement it relied on steady human emigration to keep the population manageable. The first slaves were brought to Bermuda soon after the colony was established. As a result, Bermuda's white Anglo-Saxon population remained the majority into the 18th Century despite a continuous influx of Latin American and African Blacks, Native Americans, Irish and Scots. The first Blacks to come to Bermuda in numbers were free West Indians, who emigrated from territories taken from Spain.

In the 17th century, the Somers Isles Company suppressed shipbuilding, as it needed Bermudians to farm in order to generate income from the land. Agricultural production met with only limited success, however. The colony of Virginia far surpassed Bermuda in both quality and quantity of tobacco produced. Bermudians began to turn to maritime trades relatively early in the 17th century, but the Somers Isles Company used all its authority to suppress turning away from agriculture. This interference led to the islanders demanding, and receiving, the revocation of the Company's charter in 1684, the Company itself being dissolved. The Crown assumed responsibility for the administration of Bermuda as a Crown Colony following the 1707 unification of the Parliaments of Scotland and England.

Following the loss of Britain's ports in thirteen of its former continental colonies, Bermuda was also used as a stop-over point between Canada and Britain's Caribbean possessions, and assumed a new strategic prominence for the Royal Navy. Hamilton, a centrally located port founded in 1790, became the seat of government in 1815.

With the buildup of the Royal Naval establishment in the first decades of the 19th century, a large number of military fortifications and batteries were constructed, and the numbers of regular infantry, artillery, and support units that composed the British Army garrison were steadily increased.

In the early 20th century, as modern transport and communication systems developed, Bermuda became a popular destination for American, Canadian and British



tourists arriving by sea. In addition, the customs duties enacted by the United States in 1930 to protect its own economy, cut off Bermuda's agricultural export trade and obliged the colony to develop its tourist industry

Due the geographical position in Atlantic Ocean, Bermuda became an important military base during the Second World War. In 1940, USA and Britain signed the "Destroyer Deal", a lend-lease agreement, giving the British surplus U.S. Navy destroyers in exchange for 99-year lease rights to establish naval and air bases in certain British territories. The advantage for Britain of granting these base rights was that the neutral US effectively took responsibility for the security of these territories, freeing British forces to be deployed to the sharper ends of the War. The terms of the base rights granted for Bermuda also included that the airfield constructed by the US would be used jointly with the Royal Air Force (RAF).

The Royal Naval Dockyard, and the attendant military garrison continued to be an important component of Bermuda's economy until the mid-20th century. In addition to considerable building work, the armed forces needed to source food and other materials from local vendors.

Today, the only military unit remaining in Bermuda, other than naval and army cadet corps, is the Bermuda Regiment, an amalgam of the voluntary units originally formed toward the end of the 19th century. Although the Regiment's predecessors were voluntary units, the modern body is formed primarily by conscription in which balloted males are required to serve for three years, two months part-time, once they turn 18.

In 1948, regularly scheduled commercial airline service by land-based airplanes began, helping tourism to reach its peak in the 1960s–1970s. By the end of the 20th century, international business had supplanted tourism as the dominant sector of Bermuda's economy.

Universal adult suffrage and the development of a two-party political system occurred in the 1960s. Universal suffrage was adopted as part of Bermuda's Constitution in 1967. On 10 March 1973, then-Governor of Bermuda Richard Sharples was assassinated by local Black Power militants during a period of civil unrest in the 1970s.

On 16 August 1995, a referendum was organized over whether Bermuda should become an independent sovereign state or remain a British Dependent Territory. On a voter turnout of 58.8%, 73.6% voted against independence, and 25.7% voted in favor.

Bermuda has prospered economically since World War II, developing into a highly successful offshore financial centre. Although tourism remains important to Bermuda's economy, it has for three decades been second to international business in terms of economic importance to the island.

### 3. Symbols

#### 3.1 Bermuda Company Arms

The Armorial Bearings of the Somers Islands or Bermuda Company<sup>2</sup> as recorded at the College of Arms, London, 1635 (1).

"Argent a ship in a wrought Sea wrecked between two Rocks all proper And for their Crest upon an Helme and a Torce of Argent and Gules a Bore on a Mount betweene



fig. 1



fig . 2



fig. 3



fig . 4



fig. 5



fig. 6



fig. 7

two Palmetts trees proper and also two Tritons for their Supporters". The motto 'Peri-issemus Nisi Perissemus' (We should have perished had we not persevered').

### 3.2. The Bermuda old badge (before 1910)

The original badge, introduced in about 1875, was derived from the seal of 1817. It shows three ships at sea in the background and a wet-dock, with gates closed, in the foreground<sup>3</sup> (2)<sup>4</sup> (3)<sup>5</sup>.

It is assumed that the scene alludes to the fact that the islands were a stopover base for the sailing ships when the badge was approved by the Admiralty. .

There was an unauthorized defaced blue ensign used in Bermuda from 1875(?) until 1910<sup>6</sup> (4).

There seems to be no evidence to support the theory that there was a defaced red ensign.

### 3.3 Coat of Arms 1910

The Arms of The Bermudas or Somers Islands as assigned by Royal warrant dated 4 October 1910<sup>7</sup> (5) and recorded by the College of Arms are depicted as:

*"Argent, on a Mount Vert a Lion sejant affrontée, Gules, supporting between the fore-paws an Antique Shield, Azure, thereon a representation of the wreck of the Ship "The Sea Venture" (A.D.1609) all proper, together with this Motto, "Quo fata Ferunt" (which means: 'Whither the Fates Carry')."*

Another illustration is shown on this post card edited by Heraldry Bermuda<sup>8</sup> in the 90s (6).

The British Admiralty book published the new badge in its edition of 1915<sup>9</sup> (7).

### 3.4 The Flag

The flag of Bermuda has a red background with the Union Flag in the upper left corner and the Bermuda coat of arms in the lower fly. The flag is unusual for a British overseas territory in that it uses on land in a red ensign version. The other British overseas territories use a blue ensign version for general use ashore.

The Bermuda Red Ensign was "established" as a sea flag in 1915 but have no record of by whom<sup>10</sup> (8). The motto did not appear officially on the flag.

On 19 August 1955, the Governor of Bermuda reports<sup>11</sup>; "Despite the fact that no official recognition appears to have been given to it, Red Ensign with the arms of the colony in the fly is widely used here, not only on privately owned vessels but also on private buildings ashore." Records of Colonial Office show that no authorisation has been given for the use of the Red Ensign in this manner, but its practice is evidently well established and it would probably be difficult to attempt to discontinue the practice.

The Admiralty Archivist was unable to trace any reference to the origin of the use of the defaced Red Ensign in Bermuda. On 14 September 1955 the Head of Military Branch wrote that prohibition of a long-standing custom could be resented. The position should be explained and further action left to the discretion of the Governor<sup>12</sup>. The Head of Naval Law noted that the only flags authorised for Bermuda were the de-



fig. 8



fig. 9



fig. 10



fig. 11



fig. 12



fig. 13



fig. 14



fig. 17



fig. 15



fig. 16



fig. 18



fig. 19

faced Union Flag and Blue Ensign, and Royal Bermuda Yacht Club. Red Ensign with arms was without sanction or authority from Admiralty. Admiralty would be unable to give any authority to regularise this misuse of the flag. It was therefore given for consideration, whether on political grounds the practice should be allowed to continue without interference, and if so whether such an attitude was likely to impair in any way, the Admiralty's control over British flags. It was not unlikely that similar irregularities were occurring elsewhere.

The defaced Red Ensign was "authorized" for use on land in October 1967 (no date), but again, no record of who authorized it<sup>13</sup>?

The Bermuda Race 1974; 1976; 1982 used patches with a particular shield<sup>14</sup> (9).

The Merchant Shipping Act relating to Bermuda (1988 (Bermuda) Order 1991) confirmed undefaced Red Ensign as the proper colours for ships<sup>15</sup>.

The flag is displayed across the territory and same, after the change of the badge's size in 1999 you can see flags with small badge's size (10)<sup>16</sup>, some with a black fimbriation (11)<sup>17</sup>, or as this small child sat on a wall along Duke of York street in Hamilton (12)<sup>18</sup>.

The defaced Blue ensign is used solely by the government marine services (tugs, ferries, harbour patrol vessels etc.)<sup>19</sup> (13).

### 3.5 The Flag with a white disc

During the 1960/70's the official Bermuda flag used the coat of arms on a white disc on the red ensign(14),(15)<sup>20</sup>,(16)<sup>21</sup>. I have not found any information about its use on the blue ensign<sup>22</sup>, but a card edited in the 1930's shows a Blue Ensign with a white disc<sup>23</sup> (17).

### 3.6 The 1999 Flag

In 1999 the section of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) department in charge of flags, the DCTA, decided, in consultation with the College of Arms, that the badges on many British flags were too small for identification. They also did not match the newer flags granted directly by the Queen, through the College of Arms, which have much larger badges. So the MoD decided to make the badges much larger<sup>24</sup>. The current flag is a standard 60 x 30 In the current issue of BR20 (and based on a flag of 60 units x 120 units) the shield is centred in the fly half, is 34 units high x 27 units across with the square being 25 units deep<sup>25</sup>. The shade of red on British Union flags and derived ensigns is a dark red. The Pantone reference is 186<sup>26</sup> (18) (19)<sup>27</sup>.

By virtue of the Bermuda Merchant Shipping Act of 2002, Bermuda's flag is an appropriate civil ensign for vessels registered on the Bermuda portion of the British Register.



fig. 20





fig . 21



fig. 22



fig. 23



fig . 24



fig . 27



fig. 28

A huge flagpole stands in front of the Cabinet, in Hamilton<sup>28</sup> (20).

The Government Services also use the larger shield on the Blue Ensign<sup>29</sup> (21).

A Blue Ensign flies in front of the Department of Marine & Ports Services, Royal Naval Dockyards<sup>30</sup> (22), on a mast at the base of Gibb's Hill Lighthouse<sup>31</sup>(23).

The Department of St George's HM Customs & Immigration also uses the Blue Ensign<sup>32</sup>.(24)

### 3.7 The Badge 2007

The National guidelines and regulations for the use of the Coat of arms are described in 2007 in Visual Identity Programme Policy and Guidelines<sup>33</sup> (25).

The Coat of arms is displayed on official plates through the territory as on the Opposition Leader's Office in Hamilton<sup>34</sup> (26), on government publicity signs<sup>35</sup> (27), on a seal in front of a desk in Cabinet room<sup>36</sup> (28).



fig. 25



fig . 26



### 3.8 Other Bermuda National Symbols

Bird : the Cahow, because of its perseverance, strength and endurance. Long thought to be extinct, wiped out by early 17h century colonists, until re-discovered 300 years later.

Flower: the Bermudiana. (*Sisyrinchium iridioides*) which is a member of the iris family first recognized by Carolus Linnaeus as different from the American blue-eyed iris.

This was confirmed in 1884.

Tree : the Bermuda Cedar, a unique species of juniper. It is an integral part of the landscape since 1606 and once used to create furniture, build ships and construct beams for houses.

## 4. Royal flags



fig . 29



fig. 30

When Her Majesty Queen Elisabeth II visits Bermuda, Her personal flag is hoisted<sup>37</sup> (29).

In 2002, a special flag was hoisted for Her Majesty' Silver Jubilee . It is a blue flag with a special logo: the Royal cipher surrounded by a flower composition including the national flowers of England, the rose; of Scotland, the thistle; of Wales, the jonquil; of Ireland, the clover and the motto "God Save the Queen"<sup>38</sup> (30).



fig . 31



Members of the Royal family have visited Bermuda. During such a visit their personal car flag is displayed on their official car, as HRH the Princess Royal on 5 June 2011<sup>39</sup> (31) (size 31,2 x 13 cm , white heading 3,8 cm), HRH the Earl of Wessex (32) (size 32 x



fig . 32



fig. 33

20 cm, white heading 3,5 cm) and HRH the Duchess of Gloucester who is Colonel-in-Chief of the Bermuda Regiment and uses the flag designed for "Other Members Standard" which is the Royal flag surrounded by a edge of ermine<sup>40</sup> (33) (size 30 x 20 cm, white heading 3,4 cm).

## 5. Governor's flags

The Governor has his own flag in Bermuda, it is a Union Flag defaced with the territory's coat of arms.

The first Governor's flag was used from 1875? until 1910 when a new badge was adopted for the territory<sup>41</sup> (34).



fig . 34

The Governor of Bermuda is the representative of the British monarch in the British overseas territory of Bermuda. The Governor is appointed by the monarch on the advice of the British government. The role of the Governor is to act as the de facto head of state, and he or she is responsible for appointing the Premier and the 11 members of the Senate (the upper house of Bermuda's Parliament).

The current Governor is Georges Fergusson. He was sworn in as Bermuda's 88th Governor at a ceremony held on the grounds of the Cabinet Office on Front Street, on 23 May 2012. The Regiment band and soldiers marched onto the Cabinet Grounds, while Mr Fergusson arrived in a horse drawn carriage. During the ceremony he paid a salute to the Colours of the Regiment (35) and his personal standard was hoisted in front of the building<sup>42</sup> (36).



fig . 35



fig. 36

In Hamilton I met Major Chris Wheddon, Aide-de-Camp to his Excellency the Governor. I have received a warmly welcome at Government House, Pembroke Hill, Pembroke. In his office I have discovered a treasure, a lot of flags stored in a big chest. They show the evolution of the Governor's flag and car flag. Some change, in the size of the garland and badge of the territory appeared in the history<sup>43</sup>. The pre-1999 pattern flag had a garland on a white disc (37), the same for the car flag (38) (size 28 x 18,6 cm, white heading 2,7 cm) .



fig . 37



In 1999 the section of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) department in charge of flags, the DCTA, decided, in consultation with the College of Arms, that the badges on many British flags were too small for identification. They also did not match the newer flags granted directly by the Queen, through the College of Arms, which have much larger badges. So the MoD decided to make the badges much larger<sup>44</sup>.

At Warwick Camp, South Shore Road, seat of the Bermuda Regiment I saw a flag with a special coat of arms, the shield appears rounded off (39)<sup>45</sup>.

The pre-1999 flag had no gold ring (40)<sup>46</sup>.



fig . 38



fig . 39



fig . 40



fig . 41

The official model was (and still is) that the wreath (around the disc) sits half on and half off the outer edge of the disc. In practice a lot of flags were made with the



fig. 42



fig. 43

wreath completely within the disc simply because it is easier to make. The modern specification is that the outer diameter of the gold ring is now 55% of the flag width, and the ring is 2.34% of the flag width thick. The wreath is approximately 4% of the flag width wide, so it doesn't overlap the inner edge of the gold ring<sup>47</sup>.

The flag after 1999 uses a gold ring around the wreath (41)<sup>48</sup> (42)<sup>49</sup>.

The Governor's flag flies on the top of Government House<sup>50</sup>(43).



fig. 44



fig. 45



At Warwick Camp, South Shore Road, at Bermuda Regiment Warehouse I saw a flag with a red heading which is was not usual<sup>51</sup> (44).

The Governor's car wears a license plate with the crown (45) and flies a car flag on official event<sup>52</sup> (size 30 x 20 cm, white heading 3 cm) (46) (47).



fig. 46



I have discovered a large Governor-General large flag for Bermuda. It is surely a mistake because such a flag cannot be used in Bermuda which is not yet an independent country and has no Governor-General. It is the traditional blue flag with HM Royal cypher and the word "Bermuda" on a yellow scroll<sup>53</sup> (48).



fig. 47



fig. 48

## 5. Army flags

### 5.1 Bermuda Militia Artillery(BMA)

The Bermuda Militia Artillery was a unit of part-time soldiers organized in 1895 as a reserve for the Royal Garrison Artillery detachment of the Regular Army garrison in Bermuda. Although it was titled as a militia, it was in practice a voluntary organization.

The unit was embodied during both world wars, fulfilling its role within the garrison, and also sending contingents overseas to more active theatres of the wars. By the end of the XIX century, the main body of the infantry reserve force in Britain was made up of Volunteer Force rifle units. The remaining militia units were mostly concerned with artillery. The titling of the Bermudian reserve as the Bermuda Militia Artillery, rather than the more accurate Bermuda Volunteer Artillery, therefore followed the practice then current in Britain for similar units. The other volunteer unit raised at the same time as the BMA, the Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps BVRC), restricted its recruitment to whites, and the BMA was made up almost entirely of blacks, although its officers were white. The BMA wore the standard Royal Artillery uniform, and cap badge<sup>54</sup> (49).



fig. 49





fig. 50



fig. 51



fig. 52



fig. 53



fig. 54



fig. 55

In 1939, it was decided to raise a second infantry unit, the Bermuda Militia Infantry, to recruit blacks, and this was grouped administratively with the BMA.

At the end of the war, the BMA and the BVRC were both reduced to a skeleton command structure before recruitment for both units began again in 1951. The two were then grouped together, by the Defence (Local Forces) Act, 1949, under the command of Headquarters, Local Forces. The last Imperial Defense Plan was produced in 1953, and this was the last year in which the BMA and the BVRC were tasked under it.

The local territorials might have been disbanded as their role had disappeared, but the Bermuda Government chose to maintain both remaining units, entirely at its own cost. The last coastal artillery pieces were removed from use in 1953, however, and, rather than integrate the BVRC, it was decided to convert the BMA to the infantry role. The unit continued to wear the Royal Artillery uniform and cap badge, but were re-organized, equipped and trained.

The BMA flag is blue and red, in the centre the BMA badge in gold and below it, a white scroll with the name in black<sup>55</sup> (50).

In 1965, with racial segregation rapidly becoming politically inexpedient, it was decided to end the unnecessary duplication of effort and the BMA was amalgamated with the Bermuda Rifles (as the BVRC had been renamed) on 1 September, to create the Bermuda Regiment.

A Royal Artillery Association flag (51) is hung in St.Peter's Church in St George's. That Chappell is the oldest surviving Anglican church in continuous use outside the British Isles<sup>56</sup>.

### 5.2 Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps (BVRC)

The Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps (BVRC) was created in 1894 as an all-white racially segregated reserve for the British Regular Army infantry component of the Bermuda Garrison. The flag was green and white with the BVRC badge, in white and its name in black in a white scroll (52)<sup>57</sup>, (53)<sup>58</sup>.

While local militias were raised from time to time since colonization, an Act of Parliament in 1895 formally raised organized units to supplement the regular British Army garrisons on the island. Given segregationist policy of the day, two units were formed: the black-recruited Bermuda Militia Artillery (BMA) and the Bermuda Volunteer Rifles Corps (BVRC) which was white. In 1946 the BVRC and the BMA were demobilized and reduced to skeleton command structures but were brought back up to strength in 1948. At that time, the BVRC was renamed the Bermuda Rifles. The loss of the word 'volunteer' was probably prudent, as conscription was re-introduced to both units. The Bermuda Rifles' flag was similar to the BVRC flag but with the new name (54)<sup>59</sup>,(55)<sup>60</sup>.

A new role began to appear as Bermuda moved into the 1960s, when increasing tension resulting from the racial division and inequity of Bermudian society occasionally spilled over into violence. By then, it was rapidly becoming politically, as well as economically, inexpedient to maintain two, racially-divided infantry units. As a result, the Bermuda Rifles and the Bermuda Militia Artillery were amalgamated in September, 1965, to form the Bermuda Regiment.

### 5.3 Bermuda Volunteer Engineers

The Bermuda Volunteer Engineers (BVE) was created in 1930. It was a part-time unit created between the two world wars to replace the Regular Royal Engineers detach-



fig. 56



fig. 57



ment, which was withdrawn from the Bermuda Garrison in 1928. Its original role was to operate the search lights at coastal artillery batteries. The BVE subsequently also took on responsibility for providing signals crew and equipment to all elements of the garrison.

The BVE, and the other part-time units, were mobilized at the start of the Second World War, fulfilling its role to the Garrison throughout the war. Volunteers were only accepted from those already serving in the local forces.

The BVE, as with all of the local volunteer units, was demobilized in 1946 following the end of the war. Whereas the BVRC and the BMA maintained skeleton command structures until they began recruiting again in 1951, the Bermuda Volunteer Engineers was officially disbanded<sup>61</sup>.

The BVE flag is red with two narrow blue stripes<sup>62</sup>. In the centre their badge, with the Tudor's crown and the cypher of HM King George VI, in gold and, a white scroll with the name in black. On the flag hanging in Trinity Cathedral, Hamilton, the scroll is below the blue stripe<sup>63</sup> (56).

Another BVE flag seen in Warwick Camp Warehouse shows the white scroll up the second blue stripe (57).

#### 5.4 The Bermuda Regiment

The Bermuda Regiment is the home defense unit of the British Overseas Territory of Bermuda. It is a single territorial infantry battalion that was formed by the amalgamation on 1 September 1965 of two originally voluntary units, the all white Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps (BVRC) and the mostly black Bermuda Militia Artillery (BMA). The unit is directly commanded by a Lieutenant-Colonel, as is typical of a battalion in the British Army, who is appointed by the Governor upon the advice of a Defence Board.

The badge of the Bermuda Regiment combines elements from those of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, and the BVRC. The badge is bi-metal - all brass, except a white metal Maltese cross (the symbol of rifle regiments in the British Army, and used on the white metal BVRC badge), which is set inside the wheel of a cannon (taken from the badge of the Royal Artillery)<sup>64</sup> (58) (59)<sup>65</sup>.

Flashes, and other colour marks used on dress and elsewhere (such as backgrounds on signs about Warwick Camp) are red and blue<sup>66</sup>(60), reflecting the colours of the Royal Artillery, but the stable belt (issued only to permanent staff, officers and senior ranks) worn is rifle green, with black edges, referring to the colours used by the BVRC.

#### 5.4.1 The Colours

The term "Colour" derives from the many coloured flags and banners used as rallying points for soldiers in battle. During the seventeenth century, a Colour was carried by each Company, but eighteenth century regulations provided that each Regiment would have only two Colours, the King's (or Queen's) Colour and the Regimental Colour.

When carry into battle, the Colours were often the focus of fierce hand-to-hand fighting. They flew proudly above regiments during the hottest engagements and passed through the years and survived many glorious campaigns. They are regarded as symbolic of the spirit of those who fought under them.

The carrying of Colours into battle ended at the Battle of Laing's Nek in 1881 when the Colours of the 58th Foot (Northamptonshire) became the last Colours to be carried into action by a British Regiment. The old 58th Foot now forms part of the Royal



fig. 59



fig. 58



fig. 60



Anglian Regiment to which the Bermuda Regiment is affiliated. The Regimental Colours are regarded with great reverence. They are among the most significant items within the Regiment and are highly venerated.

Following this ancient and honoured custom, the Bermuda Regiment has its own Colours. The Queen's Colour is the senior colour and carried on the right. It is a Union flag with the monarch's crown and the words *Bermuda Regiment*. The Regimental Colour is carried on the left. It has a motif similar to the Regimental Badge yet crossed gun barrels appearing under a Maltese Cross. These symbols are surrounded by a garland of roses and thistles<sup>67</sup>.

The Bermuda Regiment was not entitled to inherit the battle honours of the units amalgamated into it, they are not displayed on its colours, and are rarely mentioned. The battle honours it inherits from the BVRC, all from World War I, are *Ypres 1915, Neuve Chapelle, Loos, Somme 1916, Ypres 1917, Lys, Hindenburg Line, Messines 1917, Somme 1918*. This is ostensibly due to the gap formed by the disbandment of the BVRC and the formation of the Bermuda Rifles in 1948.



fig. 61

#### 5.4.1.1 The first Colours

The Bermuda Regiment's "Colours, standards and guidons" stand of colours was presented by their Honorary Colonel, Her Royal Highness "Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon" Princess Margaret for the first time on 21 November 1965 (61).

#### 5.4.1.2 The Second Colours

New Colours were presented to the Bermuda Regiment by Her Royal Highness, The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Colonel-in-Chief since 1984, on 2nd November 1990<sup>68</sup>, to mark the Bermuda Regiment's 25th anniversary.

After the retirement of old Colours, there was a consecration of the New Colours by the Lord-Bishop. The Regiment formed three sides of a square in the centre of which the drums were piled and on them were laid the Colours. At the conclusion of the Consecration Service Her Royal Highness moved forward to the Drumhead. The senior Major handed the Queen's Colour to Her Royal Highness, from whom the senior Ensign received it. The Regimental Colour was then received by the Junior Ensign in a similar manner<sup>69</sup>(62).



fig. 62

#### 5.4.1.3 The present and Third Colours

After the death of Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret in 2002, the position of Colonel-in-chief was assumed, in 2004 by "Birgitte, Duchess of Gloucester" HRH The Duchess of Gloucester.

The latest set of Colours were presented by their Colonel-in-Chief HRH Duchess of Gloucester, GCVO at the National Sports Centre on 13 November 2010, during a special ceremony at the National Sports Center in Devonshire. She arrived in Governor's car wearing the car flag of the "Members of the Royal Family", the Queen's flag surrounded by a white border with black ermines (63). At Her arrival, she passed the Troops in review.



fig. 63



The Guards formed at Police Field and marched onto line at the National Sports Center. The Regimental Sergeant Major (RSM) handed the parade over to the Adjutant. During the parade the RSM drew his sword, the only time an RSM will do so in peace time. His doing so is a symbolic gesture of his protecting the Colours.

The Bishop of Bermuda Rev. Dr. Patrick White, attended on by the Imam Basim Muwwakkil of Masjid Muhammad and the Bishop of Hamilton Rev. Dr. Robert Kurtz,



fig. 64

all took position in front of the Colours and offered a blessing on their service. The moments of the actual Presentation of the New Colours had a special meaning. The Colours were actually passed over by HRH the Duchess of Gloucester. the Bermuda Regiment's new Colonel-in-Chief. However, the officer assisting was the Regiment's Honorary Colonel, Colonel Eugene Raynor OBE, ED. Colonel Raynor was also present, but then as a young Lieutenant, at the Bermuda Regiment's first presentation of Colours on 24th November 1965. This link between past and present was emphasized by this simple action and participation and which was also highlighted in the short speech given by the new Colonel-in-Chief<sup>64</sup>.

The former set will be retired to the Bermuda National Museum, before being formally laid up in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess. The third set of Colours (65) have been donated by the Bermuda Regiment Charitable Trust. The Queen's Colour (66) and the Regimental Colour (67) are kept at Warwick Base Camp<sup>71</sup>. They have a gold cord, tassels and, fringe. The finial at the top of the staffs shows the Royal cypher made in a metallic gold<sup>72</sup>.



fig. 65

The belt worn by the Ensigns is dark blue bordered gold. For the Queen's colour the belt is more elaborated and is embroidered with the Queen's cypher, the name of the Regiment, the British arms and the Bermuda Regiment's badge (68).



fig. 66

fig. 67

fig. 68



For the Regimental Colour, the belt is only embroidered with the name of the Regiment and its badge. There are only use when the Colours are on parade (69).

When not in used on Parade or being exhibited they are protected by being, and are cased in a leather tube (70).

fig. 69



fig. 70



fig. 71



fig. 72



fig. 73



fig. 74



fig. 75



fig. 76



fig. 76a

#### 5.4.2 Flags

Some flags are displayed in the hall of Warwick Base Camp: the Bermuda flag, the British flag and the Bermuda Regiment flag<sup>73</sup> (71). The Bermuda Regiment simple flag is blue and red with the badge in gold (72).

The Lieutenant Colonel, commanding officer of the Bermuda Regiment uses a car flag. Its size 27 x 20 cm with a white heading of about 3 cm (73).

A Bermuda Regiment flag is displayed in the Warriors Chapel of the Trinity Cathedral<sup>74</sup>, Hamilton (74).

The Regiment also uses Practice Colours and belts which are used for any rehearsal or practice. The Queen's Practice Colour is an undefaced British flag (75) and the Practice Regimental Colour is blue and red with the Regiment's flag embroidered on it. Both practice flags have gold cords, tassels and fringe and a metallic gold royal cypher as finial (76).

#### 5.4.3. Colours' Regulations

1. *Historically, Colours, Guidons and Standards were used to show the position of the Commander and to form rally points. The Colours of British Regiments became symbolic of the spirit of the Regiment and were carried into the battle in the centre of the line, always closely guarded by the Ensigns and Escorts of a specially chosen Warrant Officer and Non-Commissioned Officer. Where the Colours stood, here the Regiment stood, come what may, and if necessary, the last man would be expected to give his life to keep them from the enemy. The last occasion on which Colours were carried into action was at Laings Nek in 1881 during the first Boer war. The Colours were those of the 58th Foot (Northamptonshire) who now form part of our affiliated Regiment, the Royal Anglian Regiment.*
2. *The Colours of The Bermuda Regiment symbolise the deeds and traditions of the Bermuda Militia Artillery, the Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps and the Bermuda Rifles. They will therefore be treated with the greatest respect at all times.*
3. *The Colours will be kept in the Armoury. When Orders are given for them to be carried on parade, the Officers detailed to carry them (Ensigns) will personally supervise their transportation.*
4. *When uncasing the Colours, the Ensigns will be assisted by the Drum Major, or the Senior Escort if not accompanied by the Band.*
5. *All ranks in uniform when passing uncased Colours will salute. All ranks not in uniform will brace the body.*
6. *On return from a parade, the Ensigns will see that the Colours are properly cared for, and that, if wet, they are dried before being cased.*
7. *Any damage to the Colours will be reported to the Adjutant immediately.*
8. *The colours and cases will be in the charge of the Regimental Sergeant Major.*



fig. 77

9. *The Regimental Sergeant Major will detail a warrant Officer as Senior Escort to the Colours on each occasion that the Colours are to be carried on parade.*
10. *The Regimental Colours belts will be stored in the Armoury and will only be used when the Colours are on parade.*
11. *Only the Practice Colours and Practice Belts are to be used for any rehearsal or practice.*
12. *At no time will the Colours (or Practice Colours) be carried whilst in civilian dress. Care must be taken to maintain the significance of both.*
13. *Any repairs to be made to the Colours must be sanctioned by the Commanding Officer, and special care will be taken by the Quartermaster to ensure that correct procedures are carried out<sup>75</sup>.*

#### **5.4.4 Bermuda Regiment Junior Leaders and the Bermuda Cadet Corps (BCC)**

The Bermuda Regiment operated its own Junior Leaders programme for many years, until it was absorbed into the separate "Bermuda Cadet Corps (page does not exist)" Bermuda Cadet Corps in the 1990s. The Junior Leaders had been part of the Bermuda Regiment, wearing the same cap badge and operating from Warwick Camp, whereas the Bermuda Cadet Corp was a separate organization, operating through the island's Secondary Schools (having been reformed from the old Cadet Corps in 1965, at the same time as the amalgamation of the BVRC and BMA).

The Colours of the BCC are light blue and dark blue, with the badge in white and gold and a yellow scroll with the name in dark blue<sup>76</sup> (77).

In 2012, due to financial constraints, the Bermuda Cadet Corps is to be disbanded, and replaced by the resurrected Bermuda Regiment Junior Leaders.



fig. 78

#### **5.5 Warriors Chapel, Cathedral of the Most Holy Trinity**

The Cathedral of the Most Holy Trinity is an Anglican cathedral located on Church Street in Hamilton.

The original building was designed in the Early English style by James Cranston of Oxford in 1844 and was completed in 1869. That building was destroyed by fire in 1884.

The present structure of the church that earlier went through several constructions and renovations, has been designed by the Scottish architect William Hay based on neo Gothic or Victorian architecture. Built between 1886-1905, to serve the state church (the Anglican Church of Bermuda, an extra-provincial diocese under the Archbishop of Canterbury).

In many British churches it is a tradition to display old military flags as a final tribute to the soldier's Units.

Inside the Cathedral, a Warriors Chapel is dedicated to the Memory of those Bermudian who served in the Defense of Freedom 1914-1918, 1939-1945. Different flags are displayed in the Chapel: Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corp, Bermuda Volunteer Engineers (reign of King George VI), Royal Air Force, Union Flag, British Ensign, Bermuda Regiment, Bermuda Militia Artillery, Bermuda Rifles<sup>77</sup> (78).



fig. 79

Two White Ensigns are also displayed on a wall of the Cathedral, one is old but, there



fig. 80



fig. 81

are no references (79). The second commemorates 200 years of the presence of the Royal Navy in Bermuda, February 19, 1995. It was dedicated October 29, 1995 by the Rt. Revd. William J.D.Down, M.A., Lord Bishop of Bermuda (80).

### 5.6 The Cenotaph

The Cenotaph war memorial is in front of the Cabinet Building (in Hamilton). It was erected in tribute to Bermuda's Great War dead (the tribute was later extended to Bermuda's Second World War dead) and is the site of the annual Remembrance Day commemoration.

It is a replica of the famous Cenotaph at Whitehall, London. Its flags are those of the Royal Navy, Royal Air Force and British Army, memorializing Bermudians in those British military services who died in World Wars 1 and 2 and whose names are on the Cenotaph<sup>78</sup> (81).

## 6. Bermuda Police Service (BPS)

The Bermuda Police Service is the law enforcement agency of the British Overseas Territory of Bermuda. It is responsible for policing the entire archipelago, including incorporated municipalities, and the surrounding waters. It is under the nominal control of the territory's Governor and Commander in Chief.

The BPS was created in 1879, as Bermuda's first professional police service. In organization, operation, and dress, it was created and has developed in line with the patterns established by British police services.

The Bermuda Reserve Constabulary was created in 1951. After the closure of Bermuda's Royal Naval Dockyard and associated military garrison in 1958, Police Headquarters and other elements relocated to Prospect Camp, the former military headquarters. A Womans' Department was established in 1961 with the first five female police officers. A marine section was formed in 1962, its first large boat, the Heron, being built by police officers in their spare time.

In the 1960s the Bermuda Police performed a new role: internal security, dealing with riots resulting from the battle for racial equality. This culminated in 1977 with riots following the hanging of two members of the Black Beret Cadre convicted of five murders, including those of Governor Richard Sharples, his Aide-de-camp Captain Hugh Sayers, and the Commissioner of Police George Duckett. The death penalty had not been used in Bermuda for three decades. As the two men convicted were black, many blacks saw the death sentences as racially motivated.

The Police's flag is dark blue with a white badge<sup>79</sup> (82).

In 1995 the Bermuda Police Force was renamed the Bermuda Police Service as it was thought that the word "force" had unsavoury connotations. The Reserve Constabulary was renamed the Bermuda Reserve Police and adopted the same uniform as the full-time Police officers. This was meant to address the common misconception they had suffered from, which was that they were not "real" police officers<sup>80</sup>.

The new Hamilton Police Station was opened in 2011 (83).



fig. 82



fig. 83



fig. 84



The BPS Colours are displayed in the hall of the Headquarters. There are the British flag with silver fringe and the Corps flag with the coat of arms and the crown embroidered in colour, the wreath, the scroll with the name Bermuda Police and the fringe, in silver (84).



fig. 85



Different small flags are displayed inside the hall. The triangular flag has a white emblem and the rectangular is similar to the Police Colour but with the name Bermuda Police Service in the scroll (85).



fig. 86



fig. 87



fig. 88

## 7. Bermuda Fire and Rescue Service

Bermuda's first evidence of fire protection is recorded in 1840. The first legislation concerning the establishment of a Fire Service appears under the Fire Brigade Act 1905. In February 1907, the Corporation of Hamilton approved a set of regulations. Other legislative clauses appeared under the Municipalities Act 1923 and the Fire Brigade Ordinance as revised in 1972.

The Hamilton Fire Brigade later came under the control of the Bermuda Government with the assent of the Fire and Rescue Service Act in 1982. This Act was brought into operation on 1 April 1983<sup>82</sup>. The Fire and Rescue Service have to improve community safety practices and to provide timely, quality and effective emergency services.

The Hamilton Fire Brigade used its own badge painted on truck's door. It consisted of an 8-pointed star in silver (or white) with the Hamilton city arms placed on it (89).

In the building I saw another badge. It consisted of an eight pointed silver star with a red ring containing, in white, the words "City of Hamilton and Fire Brigade". In the centre, the arms of Hamilton appear on a white disk<sup>83</sup> (90).

The Bermuda Fire Service flag has three horizontal stripes, blue, red, blue with the Fire Service Badge in the centre. This consists of an 8-pointed star (similar to the police) in silver (or grey) with a red ring placed over the top containing the words "Bermuda" across the top and "Fire Service" on the bottom with a small white dot midway between the sides as a sort of delineator. The centre is a white disk with the Bermuda coat of arms (in colour) in the centre, the shield being surrounded by a black border<sup>84</sup> (91).

After the change of name from Fire Service to Fire and Rescue Service it was necessary to adopt a new badge and flag. The new flag is blue with two curved red stripes. The new badge in the centre, with the words "Bermuda Fire & Rescue Service" and in the centre, a light blue disk with the Bermuda arms, and three yellow stars<sup>85</sup> (92). The star is stuck on trucks' door (93).



fig. 89



fig. 90



fig. 91



fig. 92



fig. 93



## 8. The Customs



fig. 94



H.M. Customs of Bermuda uses the Bermuda Blue Ensign as Government service but they have their own coat of arms<sup>86</sup> (94).



fig. 95



H.M. Customs & Immigration Service of St George's used similar arms but with small differences<sup>87</sup> (95).

## 9. Yachts Clubs



fig. 96



fig. 97

### 9.1 Royal Bermuda Yacht Club

The Royal Bermuda Yacht Club (RBYC) is a private yacht club that was established as the Bermuda Yacht Club on November 1, 1844. In 1846 the Club was permitted to add the adjective "Royal" to its name. The RBYC flies the blue ensign with the RBYC badge<sup>88</sup>. In 1933 the Club moved to its current site at Albuoy's Point, Hamilton. The Tudor's Crown and the Club's name are painted in front of the Club's house (96). The Blue Ensign and the Club's Burgee fly at the top of a huge flag pole<sup>89</sup> (97).



fig. 98



fig. 99

The Tudor's Crown also appeared on the pre 1952 Club's flag<sup>90</sup> (98). The Tudor RBYC ensign is based on a picture in the February 1954 edition of National Geographic. On page 218, there is a black and white picture of the ensign seen from the reverse in partial flutter over the RBYC. The text says that the picture was taken in 1952 after the end of a race from Newport to Bermuda. My guess is that the ensign was 6 x 12 feet.



fig. 100



The pre-1999 RBYC flag uses the St Edward's crown in colour with gold lettering in a straight line<sup>91</sup> (99). The Current Ensign uses the St Edwards Crown in colour with curved gold letters<sup>92</sup> (100). Here is a variant of the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club's blue ensign along with a matching burgee. If you compare this ensign image with the above image of the RBYC's (apparent) current ensign, you'll see that they vary somewhat in terms of letter placement and style of St. Edward's crown. The image looks more like what the RBYC was flying back in the early 1950's. The burgee being advertised also has the older style St. Edwards crown on it.



fig. 101



The RBYC's Burgee is blue with the St Edward's Crown in colour<sup>93</sup> (101).

### 9.2 Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club (RHADC)

The Hamilton Dinghy Club (HDC) ensign was flown by the HDC before their royal warrant was given back in June, 1954 and their name changed to the Royal Hamilton Amateur Dinghy Club<sup>94</sup> (102).



fig. 102



fig. 103

A page on the net certainly indicates that the club adopted a defaced Red Ensign in 1896, but not the period over which it was used. It is sure that the flag was unofficial, and that no warrant was issued for it<sup>95</sup>.



fig. 104



The red ensign fly by the RHADC shows a white veil with the St Edward's crown<sup>96</sup> (103).

The Club House flag or ensign is white with the crown in colour and red lettering<sup>97</sup>, there is a variation of the flag (104).



fig. 105



fig. 106



### 9.3 St George's Dinghy Sport Club

Its burgee is white with a red St George Cross and red letters<sup>98</sup> (105).

### 9.4 The East End Mini Yacht Club (St George's)

Its flag is green and red with the badge in the centre<sup>99</sup> (106).



fig. 107



## 10. Pilot's flag

When a ship is navigating within the waters of Bermuda and has on board a branch pilot, the master of the ship shall cause the International Code flag "H" to be exhibited<sup>100</sup> (107).

## 11. City of Hamilton

The town of Hamilton was founded and named after Sir Henry Hamilton who served as Governor of Bermuda from 1788 - 1794 and who was very instrumental in supporting the settlement of a town in the central parishes.

The people of St. George's strongly objected to the creation of the new town, but Governor Hamilton felt it made good sense to have a town in the central area, which would be relatively close to people from all over the Island. On 29 June 1793 the town was incorporated by Act of Parliament, with the motto "Hamilton Sparsa Collegit" meaning "Hamilton had brought together the scattered". The new town of Hamilton quickly thrived and overtook the Town of St George, becoming the capital of Bermuda on January 23, 1815.

With the building of the Cathedral of the Most Holy Trinity, the status of city was conferred on the Town of Hamilton in 1897 by her Majesty Queen Victoria. Long after Hamilton was incorporated as a town, it became a municipality in Bermuda under the Municipalities Act 1923 of the Bermuda House of Parliament.

A thriving centre, the City of Hamilton is the hub of international and local business on the Island. But Hamilton also has a unique character, as it is packed with historic buildings, churches, shops, museums, galleries, parks and gardens--all set alongside a beautiful natural harbour<sup>101</sup>.

The coat of arms of the city of Hamilton incorporate a shield featuring a golden sailing ship, representing the Resolution, surrounded by three five-petalled flowers, two above the ship and one below, also in gold, all on a plain blue background. This shield is supported by a mermaid and heraldic sea horse (i.e., demi-horse, demi-fish), and is placed on a mount in front of which is a scroll containing the motto "Sparsa Collegit". The shield is topped by a crest featuring a closed helm topped with a torque above which an heraldic seahorse is emerging from the sea holding a flower. The city's full motto is Hamilton sparsa collegit, ("Hamilton has assembled the scattered").

This Coat of Arms was designed by William Harrington and granted to the Corporation of Hamilton in the early 1950's by the College of Arms. The diploma is displayed



fig. 108



fig. 109





fig. 110



fig. 111



fig. 112



fig. 113



fig. 114



fig. 115



fig. 116



fig. 117

in the City Hall (108). The Coat of arms are seen in front of the City Hall<sup>102</sup> (109).

The city's flag is a banner of arms<sup>103</sup> (110), featuring the same details as on the shield of the city's coat of arms. The flag flies in front of the City Hall (111).

The car's flag of the Mayor of Hamilton has a size of 30,3 x 14,4 cm with a grey heading of 2,9 cm<sup>104</sup>(112). Another city flag seen at the Warwick Camp Base shows a larger boat and flowers (113).

## 12. Town of St George's

The Town of St. George, named after the legendary dragon slayer and patron saint of England, located on the island and within the parish of the same names, was the first permanent settlement on the islands of Bermuda, and is often described as the third successful English settlement in the Americas, after St. John's, New Foundland, and Jamestown, Virginia. St. George's is claimed to be the oldest continuously inhabited English town in the New World.

The town of Saint George occupies a unique place in Bermuda's history. Discovery Bay, not far away, was the first place in Bermuda where in 1609 British colonists landed involuntarily after their ship the Sea Venture, sank after being destroyed by reefs. Originally called New London, St. George's was first settled in 1612. St. George served as the capital of Bermuda until eclipsed by Hamilton in 1815. Because of the shift of business and government to Hamilton, St. George did not have its streets and buildings demolished and rebuilt as in Hamilton Due the fact of its many heritage buildings, it was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in December 2000.

The city coat of arms shows a gules cross on a silver and blue sea. The supports mix the British lion and unicorn with the queue of a mermaid and the wings of a griffin.

On the top, the wreck of the Sea Venture put on a mural crown, below the motto "*a towne antient and loyal*"<sup>105</sup> (114). The coat of arms is painted on the Town Hall<sup>106</sup> (115) (116) .

The flag shows the red cross of St George on a blue sea with white waves from the shield of the coat of arms<sup>107</sup> (117). The flag flies on the City Hall.

## 13. Bermuda - Political Flags

### 13.1 Progressive Labour Party (Bermuda)

The first political party in Bermuda, and the oldest still active, the PLP was founded on 10 February 1963. Intended to appeal to the working-class, the first election platform called for equitable taxation, an end to racial discrimination, economic parity and welfare programs, as well as housing, educational and electoral reform.

In subsequent elections, the PLP slowly expanded its share of Parliament. In 1996 Jennifer Meredith Smith succeeded to the leadership of the PLP. She led her party to its first victory in parliamentary elections in November 1998. It held power from 1998 to 2012 and is currently the official opposition. The PLP flag is green with letters in white<sup>109</sup> (118).

### 13.2 United Bermuda Party (UBP)



fig. 119

The United Bermuda Party (UBP) was a political party in Bermuda. It represented itself as centrist party in favour of a moderate social and fiscal agenda. It was founded on 21 August 1964 by 24 members of Bermuda's Parliament. Sir Henry Tucker was the leader of the new party. In 1968 the UBP formed the first government under Bermuda's new constitution and universal adult suffrage, winning 30 of the 40 seats. Tucker was appointed Bermuda's first Government Leader. It held power in Bermuda's House of Assembly continuously from 1968 to 1998.

On 3 May 2011, the UBP executive voted to disband and merge with the Bermuda Democratic Alliance (BDA), together forming the One Bermuda Alliance (OBA). It ceased operations on 30 June 2011 after the majority of its members joined the One Bermuda Alliance. Its logo is orange with green, white and blue colours. It was also used as a flag<sup>110</sup> (119).

### 13.3 Bermuda Democratic Alliance (BDA)

The BDA was founded on 5 November 2009, by six defecting members of the United Bermuda Party (UBP). It merged into the One Bermuda Alliance on 16 May 2011. It described itself as a government that stands for equality of opportunity, social and economic justice, fiscal responsibility, security and safety, environmental sustainability, transparency, honesty and fairness in government. They promoted a political philosophy that was rational, liberal and progressive.

### 13.4 The One Bermuda Alliance (OBA)

It was founded on of a 17 May 2011 after most members of the United Bermuda Party and the Bermuda Democratic Alliance merged. The party held its inaugural leadership convention on September 10, 2011. The party won the 2012 elections, taking 19 of the 36 seats in the House of Assembly.

The party's slogan is "Putting Bermuda First." Its policies include: balancing the budget in its first term; cutting Ministerial pay by at least 10%; allocating more government contracts to small business; additional resources for police; introducing a fully integrated technical curriculum and a longer school day; having fixed term elections, right to petition for referendums and recall of MPs.

The Party logo<sup>111</sup> is white with a blue, red and yellow logo. It could be used as a flag (120).



fig. 120

### 13.5 Bermuda Public Service Union (BPSU)

The BPSU was established in 1952 as the Civil Service Association (CSA). The Group met informally and one of their initial activities was to propose to Government their intention of assisting in upgarding the Professional Standards within the Civil Service.

Their objectives were:

- \* To secure the greatest measure of co-operation between the Government in its capacity as employer and the general body of Civil Servants in matters affecting the Civil Service.
- \* To provide ways and means from the general principles governing conditions of service, that is its recruitment, tenure, hours of duty, conduct, promotion, remuneration and superannuation.
- \* To enhance efficiency in the public service by bringing together the experience and different points of view of members of the service.

Very little is known about the position of the CSA between 1953 and 1961. In fact



fig. 121



trade union activity came to a standstill after the death of the father of Trade Unionism in Bermuda, Dr. E.F. Gordon in 1955. It was not until early 1961 that a group of Senior Civil Servants made strides to reactivate the Association. The reactivation of the Association led to the name change of Bermuda Civil Services Association (BCSA), which, in 1966, was registered under the Trade Union Act, 1965. On 15 January 1971 the BCSA became the Bermuda Public Services Association (BPSA). The change was to accommodate the admission of the Hospitals.

The Union took pride in flying its own flag in 1986<sup>112</sup> (121). The design was selected from entrants in a contest. The four stars on the flag depict the four Bargaining Units: Government, Communications, Hospitals, and Private Sector. The BPSA adopted its motto "Onward and Upward Together" in July 1989. On 5 March 2002 the name of the BPSA was changed to the Bermuda Public Services Union (BPSU).

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## Notes

1. Wikipedia encyclopaedia
2. Post card received by the Author from Bermuda in the 90s. Published by Heraldry.Bermuda, Hamilton from original paintings commissioned from the College of Arms, London.  
The coat of arms features on the cover of the 1624 edition of The General Historie of Virginia, New England, and the Summer Isles (the Somers Isles is another name for Bermuda, commemorating Admiral Somers), by Captain John Smith;  
.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coat\_of\_arms\_of\_Bermuda
3. Graham Bartram , David Prothero, FOTW.
4. Drawings of the Flags in use at the present time by Various Nations. Admiralty August 1889, London, printed by Draling & Sons for Her Majesty Stationary Office (HMSO).
5. Drawings of the Flags in use at the present time by Various Nations. Admiralty September 1907, London, printed by Eyre & Spottiswoode for His Majesty Stationary Office (HMSO).
6. Image by Martin Grieve, FOTW, 7 April 2008
7. 'Flags,Badges & Arms of His Majesty's Dominions Beyond the Seas and of Territories under His Majesty's Protectioni. Part II-Arms, HMSO London 1932. Plate 20A.
8. Post card received by the Author from Bermuda in the 90s. Published by Heraldry Bermuda, Hamilton from original paintings commissioned from the College of Arms, London.
9. Drawings of the Flags in use at the present time by Various Nations. Admiralty 1915, London, printed by Eyre & Spottiswoode for His Majesty Stationary Office (HMSO) 1916.
10. Christopher Southworth, FOTW 14 June 2005.
11. Colonial Office to Admiralty.
12. National Archives (PRO) ADM 1/26283. David Prothero, FOTW, 16 June 2005. Illustration Clay Moss.
13. Christopher Southworth , 14 June 2005.
14. Commissioner's House, Museum, Dockyards. Photo Michel R.Lupant 20 July 2011.
15. David Prothero, 12 August 2002.
16. Bermuda Art Centre, Dockyards, Photo Michel R.Lupant 20 July 2011.
17. Bermudian Heritage Museum, St George's. Photo Michel R.Lupant 21 July 2011.
18. Photo Michel R.Lupant, Hamilton, 21 July 2011.
19. Illustration Clay Moss



20. Collection Clay Moss.
21. Collection Clay Moss.
22. Aidan Stones, FOTW 4 Abril 2000. Image Clay Moss FOTW 25 November 2005.
23. Flags of the Empire card N 17. Authoris collection.
24. Communication David Prothero 2010.
25. Christopher Sothworth, FOTW 20 November 2005. Image Clay Moss 24 November 2005.
26. Graham Bartram, FOTW, 13 September 2000
27. Bermuda Art Centre, Dockyards. Photo Michel R. Lupant 20 July 2011.
28. Photo Michel R. Lupant, Hamilton; 19 July 2011.
29. Graham Bartram, FOTW, 13 September 2000.
30. Photo Michel R. Lupant, 20 July 2011. Illustration Clay Moss.
31. Photo Michel R. Lupant, 20 July 2011.
32. Photo Michel R. Lupant, St Georgeis 21 July 2011.
33. Government of Bermuda, The Cabinet Office, Department of Communication and Information. Letter Mrs Jackie Aubrey, dated 12 March 2013.
34. Photo Michel Lupant, Hamilton, 19 July 2011.
35. Photo Michel Lupant, Flatts Village, 21 July 2011.
36. Bermuda Government Cabinet session, being addressed by Premier Paila Cox. 2011, Royal Gazette photo.
37. Warwick Base Camp Bermuda Regiment Warehouse. Photo Michel R. Lupant, 19 July 2011
38. Government House, Pembroke Hill. Photo Michel R. Lupant, 19 July 2011.
39. Bernews photo June 2011, bernews.com/2011/Ö/princess-royal-stops-by-che
40. Ib.
41. Image by Martin Grieve, 7 April 2008, FOTW.
42. <http://bernews.com/2012/05/photos-new-governors-swearing-in-ceremony/#>. Lettre Mrs Patricia Burchall, Bernews Editor, dated 12 March 2013 given me permission to use free the Bernewsi photos.
43. Photos Michel R. Lupant, Government House, Pembroke Hill, 19 July 2011.
44. Communication David Prothero 2010.
45. Photo Michel Rf. Lupant, 19 July 2011.
46. Illustration Clay Moss.
47. Graham Bartram, 28 May 2005.
48. Illustration Clay Moss.
49. Government House, Pembroke Hill, photo Michel R. Lupant, 19 July 2011.
50. Photo Michel R. Lupant, Pembtote Hill, 19 July 2011.
51. Photo Michel R. Lupant, 19 July 2011.
52. Government House, Pembroke Hill, photo Michel R. Lupant, 19 July 2011.
53. Government House, Pembroke Hill, photo Michel R. Lupant, 19 July 2011.
54. Wikipedia encyclopaedia.
55. Photo Michel R. Lupant, Trinity Cathedral, Hamilton, 19 July 2011.
56. Photo Michel R. Lupant, St Georgeis, 21 July 2011.
57. Trinity Cathedral, Hamilton. Photo Michel R. Lupant, 19 July 2011.
58. Warwick Camp Base Bermuda Regiment. Photo Michel R. Lupant, 19 July 2011.
59. Warwick Camp Base Bermuda Regiment. Photo Michel R. Lupant, 19 July 2011.
60. Trinity Cathedral, Hamilton. Photo Michel R. Lupant, 19 July 2011.
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62. Trinity Cathedral, Hamilton. Photo Michel R. Lupant, 19 July 2011.
63. Warwick Camp Base Bermuda Regiment. Photo Michel R. Lupant, 19 July 2011.
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65. Cover of the programme of the Presentation of Colours to the Bermuda Regiment by Her



- Royal Highness, The Duchess of Gloucester, GVVO, 13 November 2010.
66. Warwick Base Camp, photo Michel R.Lupant, 19 July 2011.
  67. Programmet: '†The Presentation of Colours to the Bermuda Regiment by Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Gloucester, GCVO. 13 November 2010, page 1.
  68. Programme of the Presentation, 2nd November 1990.
  69. Set of photos received from Captain Benjamin L.Beasley, on my visit, Warwick Camp Base, 19 July 2011.
  70. Photos: bernews.com/tag/duchess-of-gloucester
  71. Photos Michel R.Lupant, 19 July 2011.
  72. Warwick Camp Base, photos Michel R.Lupant†; 19 July 2011.
  73. Warwick Camp Base, photo Michel R.Lupant, 19 July 2011.
  74. Photos Michel R.Lupant, 19 July 2011.
  75. The Bermuda Regiment, Warwick Cap base, 19 July 2011.
  76. Warwick Camp Base, photos Michel R.Lupant, 19 July 2011.
  77. Trinity Cathedral, photos Michel R.Lupant, 19 July 2011.
  78. Photos Michel R.Lupant, 19 July 2011.
  79. Letter to the author from Sergeant John R.F. Instone, Community Relations dept. Police Headquarters, Hamilton, 6 November 1985. Drawing HervÉ Calvarin, Le Perreux, France.
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  81. Somerset Village Police Station, photos Michel R.Lupant†, 20 July 2011. Drawing HervÉ Calvarin, Le Perreux.
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  83. Fire Service Headquarters (FSH), King Street, Hamilton, Photo Michel R.Lupant 19 July 2011.
  84. FOTW, Aidan Stones, 1 April 2007. Photo Michel R.Lupant 19 July 2011, FSH, Hamilton.
  85. Photo Michel Lupant, Hamilton FSH, 19 July 2011.
  86. Photo Michel Lupant, Customs Building, Hamilton 19 July 2011.
  87. Photo Michel Lupant, St Georgeís 21 July 2011.
  88. FOTW, Clay Moss 2007
  89. Photos Michel R.Lupant, Hamilton, 19 July 2011.
  90. Illustration Clay Moss, FOTW 26 September 2005 and 18 February 2006. Album des Pavilions 1923, Flaggenbuch 1905.
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  98. Photo Michel Lupant, Dinghy Sport Club,, St Georgeís, 21 July 2011.
  99. Photo Michel Lupant, East End Mini Yacht Club , St Georgeís, 21 July 2011.
  100. Photos Michel R.Lupant, port of St Georgeís, 21 July 2011.
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  102. Photos Michel R.Lupant, 19 July 2011.
  103. Photos Michel R.Lupant, City Warehouse 19 July 2011.
  104. Photo Michel R.Lupant, Hamilton City Hall, 19 July 2011.
  105. Sticker received by the author , St Georgeís City Hall, 21 July 2011.
  106. Photos Michel R.Lupant, St Georgeís 21 July 2011, the author in front of the City Hall.
  107. Photo Michel R.Lupant, 21 July 2011.
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109. Photo Michel R. Lupant, PLP National Headquarters, Hamilton, 21 July 2011.

110. Image Thanh-Tam Le, FOTW, from a UBP website.

111. Photo Michel R. Lupant, OBA office, Hamilton, 19 July 2011.

112. Photos Michel R. Lupant, Hamilton, BPSA Headquarters, 19 July 2011.

### Michel R. Lupant

Born August 1, 1944 in Frameries (Belgium). Got married on March 21, 1970; 4 children. Teacher of Geography and Sciences from June 1964 until September 2004.



- 1st Class Civic Cross, Belgian Order of Merit granted by HM the King of the Belgians, Albert II, in November 2001
- Knight of the Cross of Merit, Robert de Caluwé International Heraldry Award in the category of Vexillology, Helsinki May 6, 2005.
- "Membre d'Honneur", Centro Interdisciplinario de Estudios Culturales (CIDECE) de la République d'Argentine, 19 décembre 1994. (Member of Honour of CIDECE, Argentina).
- « Medalla conmemorativa del vigésimo aniversario de la Sociedad Española de Vexilología ». Madrid 25 de Junio de 1999. ( Commemorative Medal of the XXXth anniversary of the Spanish Vexillological Association).
- "Diploma Membru de Onore "Societatea Română de Vexilologie" Bucaresti 25 noiembrie 1999. (Member of Honour of the Romanian Vexillological Association).
- Freeman (Citoyen d'Honneur) of his City: Ottignies-Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium), January 27, 2006.
- Fellow of the Czech Vexillological Society , Pribyslav, 14 June 2008.
- Honored Guest of the State of Texas, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, Austin, October 7, 2008.
- Deputy member of the *Conseil d'Héraldique et de Vexilologie de la Communauté française de Belgique*, Brussels 2008.
- Knight of the Order of Crown granted by His Majesty the King of the Belgians, Albert II by a Royal Decree dated 26 April 2009 with rank dated 8 April 2004.
- Member of the *Conseil d'Héraldique et de Vexilologie de la Communauté française de Belgique*, Brussels 2012
  
- Hobbies: vexillology (study of flags), philately and trips (160 countries since 1962).
  
- Founder of the *Centre Belgo-Européen d'Etudes des Drapeaux* (CEBED) (Belgian-European Flags Studies Centre) in April 1, 1990.
- Collaborator to the bulletin « Gaceta de Banderas » (flags newsletter) edited in collaboration with the Spanish Vexillological Association. Member of almost all the Vexillological Associations through the world (50).
  
- Elected President of the International Federation of Vexillological Associations (FIAV) on August 14, 1997 during the XVIIth International Congress of Vexillology in Cape Town (South Africa), re-elected in 1999 at Victoria (British Columbia), in 2001 at York (United Kingdom), in 2003 at Stockholm (Sweden), in 2005 at Buenos Aires (Argentina), in 2007 in Berlin (Germany), in 2009 in Yokohama (Japan) and, in 2011 in Washington (USA).
  
- Has prefaced the "Album des Pavillons" (Navy and national flags of all Nations) édité by the French Navy Hydrographic Service, Brest (France) in January 2000 with amendments in 2001,2002,2003, 2004 and 2010 and "Nuestras banderas, vexilologia argentina" by Albert RubénPerazzo, Buenos Aires, 2002.
  
- Has written many books and articles on flags.