Ismay's

When visitors come for a special dinner at Ismay's Restaurant at Galley Bay Resort & Spa they often ask how the restaurant got its unique name. Here is Ismay's equally unique story.

During the expansion of Galley Bay Resort & Spa in 2008, the Management recognized the importance of making a celebratory restaurant where guests could experience an enhanced level of both cuisine and service. The team of 188 staff were asked for suggestions of a name for this new dining option. While there were many suggestions, one was head and shoulders above any other. The staff wanted to take this opportunity to honor one of their own, Ismay.

Ismay Mason has the longest employment history with Galley Bay Resort & Spa, having initially joined the hotel staff in 1963. She has never called in sick and has always been a trusted friend to all who know her. So in April 2008 when the ribbon cutting ceremony was held, the Minister of Tourism said that this was the only business in Antigua that had ever been named after an employee.

Additionally, in 2009 Ismay received an Order of Merit from the Governor General on behalf of Queen Elizabeth II. Even though she had considered retiring she decided she really didn't want to leave at that time. Ismay then held the position of Ambassador for our hotel until 2016 when she officially retired to spend time with her family in the US. She continues to be our very own island treasure.

Today Galley Bay Resort & Spa has embarked on a foundation in the name of our retired employee, Ismay Mason. The Ismay Foundation will be used to help develop staff potential by providing training opportunities and scholarships to further their education.

A contribution of \$1 per person will be allocated from dinner charges at Ismay's Restaurant for this very worthy cause that will help to improve the lives of the staff and their families at Galley Bay Resort & Spa.