



CRANBERRY Chronicles





What's Inside?

- 2 A FINAL WORD FROM THE EDITOR
- 3 A WORD FROM THE SECRETARY
- 4 A WORD FROM YOUR PRESIDENT-ELECT
- 5 CRANBERRY Q₄ BIRTHDAYS
- 6 Q₄ CRANNIVERSARIES
- 7 CRANBERRY CORNER
- 10 A LOOK BACK AT Q₄ 2020/2021
- 20 OUR AWARDS 2020/2021

A FINAL WORD FROM THE EDITOR

I genuinely do not have the words to express what the experience of this RI year has been for my life; no words seem big enough to do it justice. We have been tested in ways we never could have imagined... but boy, have we grown! It's true that pressure creates diamonds and this Club truly has some real gems in our ranks.

I first want to thank the **Executive Team** for their steadfast commitment to the cause and sterling service in ensuring that the trains stayed on the tracks as this year ended. To the rest of the **2020/2021 Board**, I don't know what we would have done without your determination and pure grit in seeing this year through! It was tough but we made it to the end and you should all be proud of what you've accomplished; I am certainly proud of all of you for making it to the finish line! Finally, to our **Members**... you guys and gals are truly **AMAZING!** I am awe-struck by your complete willingness to push through the craziness to meet the bigger challenge of true service

This Club has completely stolen my heart in new ways this year. Your support of one another is unmatched and your commitment to **#ServiceAboveSelf** is inspiring. Service does not look the same for everyone but the joy it brings feels the same wherever you are and however you can participate. Remember, "*small acts, when multiplied by millions of people, can transform the world*" - Howard Zinn

Yours In Rotaract,

Danielle C. Donawa

President (Ag.) | **Rotaract Club of Barbados** | 2020-2021
Assistant District Rotaract Secretary | **Rotaract District 7030** |
2020-2021





Rotaract

Club of Barbados



A WORD FROM THE SECRETARY

RI Year 2020/2021 was one for the books. We navigated under the themes of Rotary Opens Opportunities, Always Do Your Best and Passion in Action and in reflection we certainly embodied these in so many aspects of our life, not only club wise but in our personal lives. As we were finally trying to cope with the Covid-19 Pandemic, we then had to live through the effects of the eruption of the La Soufriere Volcano. What a time to be alive!

Although this year tested us immensely emotionally, mentally, spiritually and even physically and financially, we all found a way to push through to the light at the end of the tunnel. So many of our plans had to be either revamped and in some cases cancelled but our resilience as Cranberries kept us and we adapted as best as we can.

As we close out this year and begin a new year with so many plans and ideas and lots of uncertainty let's keep that hope alive, let's stick together as a family, be supportive, lend a listening ear/hand, just be there for each other in whatever small way we can.

Life is a lot easier when we do it together and not alone.

So as PE Scott and his board seek to Lead, Empower, Nurture and Serve, let's find back our passion and our why as we begin this new journey stronger together.

It will be remiss of me to not give a **big and hearty thank you to the Outgoing Board and Secretariat**, you guys were an amazing support system. **Special mention must be given to President (Ag.) Danielle, PE Scott, IPP Kareem and Dir./VPE Mario, I definitely couldn't have done it without you guys, so thanks a mil!!**

So to you my Cranberry Family, thanks for bearing with me this year as your Secretary and for having faith in me to do it again.

#CranberryStrong

#RotaryOpensOpportunities

#AlwaysDoYourBest

#PassionInAction

#ServeToChangeLives

#MixUp&Blend

#LENS

Yours In Rotaract,

Shaunté Carter

Secretary | **Rotaract Club of Barbados** | 2020-2021



A WORD FROM YOUR PRESIDENT-ELECT

The past year has been interesting and challenging, and there is no doubt about it as we were tested in ways like never before imagined. But we persevered, albeit a bit tattered, but we made it. Despite the challenges, we saw triumphs, new partnerships as we push the limits of how we could operate.

I want to thank the amazing work, courage and commitment of the Board of Directors and recently the Board-Elect. Each of you has shown just how much of shining lights and beacons you all are. My fellow Executive Members, we persevered and came out stronger.

We saw projects such as the PCOS Dollar Drive, in which we sought to educate and bring greater awareness to this silent disease, affecting the female populous of our society. This year, as part of our World Water Day, we saw a Community Tank installation in a rural community and most recently our donation to the Geriatric District Hospital. These projects showed us how innovative and impactful we could be despite all the adversity we faced personally and together as a Club. As a board, we will seek to promote this kind of innovation in the year to come.

So as we end this year let us learn from it and focus on the future. Let us stay the course, reevaluate our purpose and come together as one.

My team and I are already hard at work in finalising our plans for next year and they promise to be new and exciting opportunities for us to serve and bond together.

So join me along this journey as we all seek to Lead, Empower, Nurture and Serve.

"Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will." - Mahatma Gandhi

Yours In Rotaract,

Scott Chandler

President-Elect | Rotaract Club of Barbados | 2020-2021
Rewards & Recognition Officer | Rotaract District 7030 |
2020-2021



Cranberry Q4 Birthdays



GO CRANBERRIES! IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY! WE GONNA PARTY LIKE IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY!

- **APR 01** PM Tadesha Hurdle
- **APR 02** Sec. Shaunté Carter
- **APR 06** Rtr. Danielle Walwyn
- **APR 08** PM Rykia Thorpe
- **APR 09** CS Charida Selman
- **APR 17** Dir./TE Shakira Hall
- **APR 29** Rtr. Tonya King

- **JUN 14** Rtr. Saskia Spencer
- **JUN 23** PM Darren Bradshaw
- **JUN 25** PP K. Tremaine Gilkes
- **JUN 27** PM Deshaniqua Nowell

- **MAY 04** DE Galen Hare
- **MAY 07** CS Cherise Vanderpool
- **MAY 07** PM Leah Browne
- **MAY 08** Rtr. Cheyanne Francis
- **MAY 09** Dir./VPE Mario Murray
- **MAY 18** Rtr. Shakera Kellman
- **MAY 20** Dir. Melanie Goodridge
- **MAY 24** Rtr. Regina Farley



Q4 Cranberryzaries

4 YEARS- JUNE 30, 2017

ADRR Zahir Jackson



3 YEARS- APRIL 3, 2018

President (Ag.)/ADRS/PN Danielle Donawa

3 YEARS- JUNE 24, 2018

Rtr. Dave Boyce
Rtr. Curtis Forde
Rtr. Andre Seale
Rtr. Crystal Waithe
Rtr. Robyn Weekes

2 YEARS- APRIL 1, 2019

Dir. Joeleita Agard
Rtr. Shakera Kellman

2 YEARS- JUNE 23, 2019

AD Dario Brathwaite
Rtr. Kiana Chewitt
Rtr. Poshia Doyle
Rtr. Regina Farley
Rtr. Oliver Holder

1 YEAR- JUNE 20, 2020

CS Gabrielle Hinds
DE Alvaro Holder
CS Shaddia Morris
Rtr. Tiffani Smith
Rtr. Keisha Springer



Cranberry Corner

Danielle Walwyn

Committee- International Service

Danielle is a Consultant Advocacy Officer at the Healthy Caribbean Coalition and a fitness instructor who is passionate about health and wellness. When we asked why she joined RaCOB, Danielle said, *"I had recently moved to Barbados, and I wanted to get to know the country, the people and meet other passionate and driven young people. I have gained that and more since joining RACOB! I have met so many people who care about building a strong, well-connected generation of leaders and just all-around good people who support and celebrate one another."*



Galen Hare

Committee- International Service

Galen is a Network and Systems Assistant Administrator specialising in computer systems engineering.

Fun Fact: Galen was the UWI Robotics Team Captain (2019-2020)

Galen joined RaCOB because he likes helping people and wanted to give back to the community.



Celina Burke

Committee- Club Service

Celina is a Junior Corporate Administrator at Chancery Corporate Services Limited. She enjoys reading and watching thriller/crime/mystery-related things and watching cooking competitions in her free time.

When asked why she joined RaCOB, Celina said, *"I was involved in clubs devoted to community service/volunteer work in secondary school and university and have always enjoyed it. RaCOB seemed like a great opportunity to continue!"*



Cranberry Corner



Corey Sobers-Smith

Committee- Finance and Fundraising

Corey is a Risk & Quality Supervisor and Teacher. He joined RaCOB to "*seek an additional outlet for giving back.*"

Dominique Charles

Committee- Community Service

Dominique is a Clinical Coordinator at Ross University School of Medicine. She loves babysitting and "LIVES" for a good Netflix series :)

When asked why she joined RaCOB, Dominique said -

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

- Martin Luther King Jr.

Volunteering gives purpose to our lives and provides a unique perspective. There is always a good feeling when we put our lives aside and give what we have to others who don't. I joined the Rotaract Club of Barbados to utilize my free time to participate in service projects and build relationships with other like-minded individuals. As a member of the Rotaract Club, I would be part of an organization that continues to advocate for service to the community and encourages Barbadians to share with others."

Cranberry Corner

Stephen Beharrysingh

Committee- Professional Development

Stephen is a Leading Seaman in the Barbados Coast Guard and specialises in Computer Science. He also enjoys diving and fishing, is the owner of a small farm and does security work as a side hustle.

Stephen joined RaCOB as an opportunity to contribute positively in our society.



Juanita Samrodia

Committees- Professional Development, Club Service

Juanita is a Concierge Agent at Beach View Hotel and is the proud owner of Jasmines Collection.

When asked why she joined RaCOB, Juanita said *"I wanted to find a way to give back to my community. Joining RaCOB I am able to not only give back to my community but also enjoying the fellowship. Y'all the real MVPs"*



A LOOK BACK AT Q4 2020/2021



The Future is Fit - Childhood Obesity Project

Rotaract encourages 'Love thy neighbour'

ON April 9, 2021, following significant seismic activity, the La Soufrière volcano in the neighbouring islands of St. Vincent and the Grenadines experienced the first of a continued series of explosive eruptions.

In response to the adverse effects of these eruptions, the Rotaract Club of Barbados decided to take a three-pronged approach to relief efforts which included a clothing and water drive, donation of sanitary products and child care items and a cash donation, between April 12, 2021 and April 24, 2021. Over this pe-



President Danielle Donawa (left) and Secretary Shaunté Carter (right) of Rotaract Club of Barbados with some of the donated clothing and water



Secretary Shaunté Carter of Rotaract Club of Barbados with the 5 litre bottles of water donated

Love Thy Neighbour - SVG Relief

A LOOK BACK AT Q4 2020/2021



Virtual Cook Off



Project Elevate - Phase 4

TOQUES FINALES

APRIL 24 - MAY 4, 2021
DIRECTOR-ELECT ALVARO HOLDER

On Saturday, April 24th, 2021, we commenced **'Toques Finales' (Final Touches)**, an initiative engendered by the **Community Service Committee** to enhance the beautification of the Grounds at the **Luther Thorne Memorial School**. The objective was to restore the School's garden and construct a wooden pallet fence as a protective barrier around the garden. 3 Cranberry teams were mobilized for the execution of this exercise.

Team 1 got the ball rolling on Saturday, April 24th, with the majority of the groundwork ensuing. After some heavy lifting by DE Chevon Graham, the wooden pallets were ably cleaned, washed and primed (treated). Concurrently, the 2nd half of the team was preparing the plant beds with the manure (and some ash) to facilitate the later planting of seedlings.

The following day, the Painters stormed in and quickly took to the brushes and cans to complete a pearly white finish on the pallets. The fellowship, of course, was not to be forgotten as **Dir. Kavita Singh** brought the music vibes via Spotify and, in true Cranberry fashion, **Rtr. Zahir Jackson** sang and danced as he dipped and brushed. Yes, we all joined in on the act...

On the morning of the final day, May 8th, the fence was assembled and erected by our very helpful carpenter, Rodney, under the strict supervision of **CS Cherise Vanderpool**, aka 'The Foreman'. In the evening, the Planting team assembled and got to work in the dirt with the assistance of guest Omar, who lent us his planting expertise and ensured the seedlings were planted in the right groupings with the right spacings as we made the final touches to the plant beds.

As the dust and ash settled, we stood and watched over the newly restored garden enclosed by the white 'picket' fence. What a sight to behold! **Now for the children to reap what we sowed!**



A LOOK BACK AT Q4 2020/2021



Breaking Bread Takeover



A LOOK BACK AT Q4 2020/2021



Family Portrait Day



A LOOK BACK AT Q4 2020/2021



Toast: The Prosecco Experience



ADDRESS BY PRES. (AG) DANIELLE DONAWA

JUNE 20, 2021
TOAST: HANDING OVER AND
AWARDS DINNER

District Governor Lisle Chase, District Governor-Elect Sonya Alleyne, Past District Governor David Edwards, President of the Rotary Club of Barbados Fiona Hinds-LaFonde, President-Elect of the Rotary Club of Barbados Robin Forde, Youth Service Director of the Rotary Club of Barbados Past President Stanley MacDonald, Other Rotarians Present, District Rotaract Representative Kevan St. Brice, Immediate Past District Rotaract Representative Anya Blankendal, District Rotaract Representative-Elect Mario Boyce, Other District Board Members Present, Members of the Board of the Rotaract Club of Barbados, Members, Prospective Members and Guests of the Rotaract Club of Barbados, Visiting Rotaractors, Specially Invited Guests, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Good Evening -

"American author, organisational specialist and scholar **Warren Bennis** is quoted as saying "*Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality*", and I must say that this year has demonstrated that clear vision is a key component to effective leadership. It's almost ironic then that the year which challenged the vision of many around the world was 2020. We all know that this Rotary Year has been the most challenging for us, not just in service but in our everyday lives. We had Rotaractors who were working in overdrive at the front lines of this global pandemic; some who were out of work, and many who dealt and are still dealing with all the struggles that came with lockdowns and work-from-home mandates, including mental health issues... but these Cranberries... this family has shown the absolute resilience and fortitude granted by the common belief in service above self. Together we personified the 2020 buzzword, pivot, and were able to execute innovative and transformative projects through the leadership of our Directors whose vision became clearer and clearer as we navigated each challenge, with the constant support of the members.

The **Club Service Committee** navigated the online space and took advantage of the times we could be together to bring us initiatives to support our health, our bond as a family and the fellowship we desperately craved with our "**Cranberry Crash Course**" sessions, the "**Step It Up!**" Challenge, "**Beach, Please!**" "**O' Christmas Tree**" and "**Let's E.A.T. Pasta**" - Virtual Cook-Off.

The **Community Service Committee** allowed us to not only be of service to others through our continued "**Breaking Bread**" partnership, "**Cookies & Canvas**" "**Rota-Gift**", "**The Future is Fit**" and "**Add a Little Spice/Toques Finales**" projects, but also to be of service to ourselves, beginning the year with "**Gratitude is A Must**" which allowed us some real self-reflection and focus on the importance of gratitude and recognising some positive part of each day.

Finance and Fundraising had perhaps the biggest challenge of this year as many of our partners were unable to assist as they would have liked due to the devastating economic effects of the pandemic. I would venture to say that this Committee was hardest hit, with many of the ideas having to be reworked, postponed and even cancelled but the Committee did not let this bring us down and was able to do a lot of good this year! The "**PCOS Dollar Drive**" exceeded expectations thanks to the generosity of the Barbadian public and allowed this Club to help raise awareness for this condition which affects more of our mothers, sisters and friends than we realise. "**Shoot Your Shot**" provided Rotaractors and friends of Rotaract opportunities to come together and try something new and our most recent project, under the leadership of the Committee's Director-Elect, overcame many... (and I mean many) hurdles to form new partnerships and raise funds to assist the **Geriatric Hospital** with much-needed supplies.

ADDRESS BY PRES. (AG) DANIELLE DONAWA

JUNE 20, 2021
TOAST: HANDING OVER AND
AWARDS DINNER

What can I say about **International Service**, other than well done to **Dir. Kavita** and her team... I am in awe of the dedication and the strength of leadership and character demonstrated by this committee. With many sleepless, tear-filled days and nights, support from committed members and real, true grit and determination, this Committee made the best of the circumstances and allowed us to connect and grow through its initiatives. "**Thumb Pals**" was a hit once again, showing the strength of Rota-Friendship across the globe. "**No Sugar November**" helped us connect with our District and raised awareness for childhood obesity and the importance of our health in general. The "**Once Upon A Time: Young Writers Project**" connected us with future leaders and we celebrated **World Water Day** with a donation of a 1,000-gallon water tank to provide clean water to disadvantaged communities in Barbados.

The **Professional Development Committee** pulled out all the stops to revamp a favourite of last year, our "**Pass the Mic**" series. Even though 3 of the 4 sessions had to be online, they went out with a bang with a fresh look at Financial Literacy at the only in-person session for our first in-person meeting of 2021!

Special thanks to our **PR Committee** for always doing your best and presenting us with the amazing graphics throughout the year. The bright colour schemes really lifted our spirits in these trying and uncertain times

This Club also showed up and showed out for our special projects the "**Give A Pint, Save A Life**" blood drive (which is ongoing this month) and our "**Love Thy Neighbour**" initiative to assist our brothers and sisters in St.Vincent & the Grenadines.

Thank you to our **Rotary Sponsor Club** for also opening a plethora of opportunities for us to put our passion for service into action! We appreciate you and all your guidance and support, particularly in the difficult days we have had this year.

Last but not least, to MY Executive Team- **Kareem, Scott and Shaunté** I don't know what the state of me would be without you three! Thank you for always encouraging me, lifting me up and for pushing through to the end by my side. I could not have made it through this year without you! You helped show me the true definition of leadership and unwavering support... y'all the real MVPs!

What a year this has been. We laughed and we cried, suffered loss and frustration but most of all, we learned. We learned so much about ourselves and each other. We learned the true strength of our bond as a Club, particularly when we listen and work together towards our common goals. **United States President John F. Kennedy** once said, "*Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other*", thank you for the lessons.

ADDRESS BY PE SCOTT CHANDLER

JUNE 20, 2021
TOAST: HANDING OVER AND
AWARDS DINNER

I stand here today humbled by the task before me, grateful for the trust you've bestowed, and mindful of the sacrifices borne in this past year. I first want to publicly thank Past President Rashida for her service to our Club and President (Ag) Danielle for stepping up to the plate during a difficult time.

To the Board of 2020-2021, thank you for your year of service and, most of all, your strength and perseverance. You've all shown what it truly means to be a Rotaractor by embracing and embodying the motto, "Service Above Self". Your unwavering dedication was often my inspiration and served as a constant reminder to never give up, for when we all work together, we can achieve the extraordinary.

To the incoming board I say, thank you, and welcome to a year of endless possibilities and challenges. Thank you for peering through this LENS with me and believing in my vision and plans for our Club. A special welcome to those serving for the first time, and a special thank you to those who have dutifully stepped up to serve for another year.

When I ran to be this Club's 6th President, it was because I wanted to make a difference, and that's what Rotary and Rotaract does; but more specifically, my personal growth goals drove me to step to the forefront of these difference-makers and world changers. As a child growing up, I learned first-hand the feeling that one gets when someone extends a helping hand in a time of need or just believes in you, and how these seemingly small acts can cause waves that ripple throughout our lives. I want to make a difference in the lives of others, within our communities and our community, this Club.

Looking to the future, I can't deny that there is some anxiety about the year ahead, but I believe that nerves are a reflection of wanting to do well, and when I look at the team I have around me, I am filled with confidence. Team LENS is focused and ready.

We aim to refocus our efforts on our membership and our communities. Finding and promoting opportunities for every one of us to discover ourselves and grow into what we aspire to be. Like a *Lens*, we must be **adaptable to keep our goal as the focal point** and **at the centre of all that we do**. Emphasis will be made on **protecting our environment, building our members' Leadership skills, and developing innovative ways to Empower our communities and ourselves, Nurturing the bonds and ideas we have all while Serving our communities in new ways.**

ADDRESS BY PE SCOTT CHANDLER

JUNE 20, 2021
TOAST: HANDING OVER AND
AWARDS DINNER

Over the past year, we've all suffered, and we've all struggled. The challenges have been both unprecedented and innumerable. They may not go away in the coming days, weeks, or even months, but they will in time. They will go away because we, as Rotaractors, have the capacity now, as we have had in the past, to do whatever needs to be done to persevere beyond these minor setbacks. Therefore, during this time, we seek to build back what we had, better. Thus, I ask that each of us accept what we have been through, learn from it and use it to fuel our future endeavours to reignite our passions as we seek to **Lead Better, Empower More, Nurture All and Serve Many.**



OUR AWARDS 2020-2021

At the recently concluded District 7030 Assembly our club was recognized with the following awards:

Award of Excellence: Peace Projects

- Rotaract Club of Aruba
- Rotaract Club of Barbados
- Rotaract Club of Central POS
- Rotaract Club of Maraval
- Rotaract Club of Montserrat
- Rotaract Club of Mount Hope
- Rotaract Club of Penal
- Rotaract Club of San Fernando
- Rotaract Club of San Fernando South



Most Outstanding Finance & Fundraising Project

The P.C.O.S Dollar Drive

Rotaract Club of Barbados



OUR AWARDS 2020-2021

Award of Excellence: Rotary Foundation Giving



Rotaract Club of
Barbados

Total Donation of USD 665.00



Club of the Year Award: Large Club Category



Rotaract Club of
Barbados

District Citation with **Platinum** Distinction



OTHER AWARDS 2020-2021

District 7030 Diamond Awards:

The PCOS Dollar Drive - 1st Place (Q1) - FIN

District 7030 Platinum Awards:

PTM: Carving Your Digital Footprint - 2nd Place (Q2) - PD

Fuh De Culcha Independence Quiz - 3rd Place (Q2) - CLS

PTM: Family, Life Love - 1st Place (Q3) - PD

District 7030 Gold Awards:

Step it Up Challenge - 1st Place (Q1) - CLS

#ThumbPals - 2nd Place (Q1) - IS

Breaking Bread (Q1) - CS

Take A Minute Campaign (Q1) - IS

PTM: The Mask of Change (Q1) - PD

○ Christmas Tree: A Caribbean Christmas (Q2) - CLS

Shoot Your Shot (Q2) - FIN

The Future is Fit (Q3) - CS

Water Tank Project (Q3) - IS

District 7030 Silver Awards:

Beach, Please! (Q1) - CLS

Gratitude is a Must (Q1) - CS

Service Saturday (Q2) - CS

District 7030 Bronze Awards

RotaGift (Q2) - CS

No Sugar November (Q2) - IS

Once Upon A Time's Handled (Q2) - IS

Feel the Beat and Move Your Feet (Q3) - CLS

Club of the Quarter Awardee - Q1 2020-21

2020-21 Rotary International Citation for Rotaract Clubs



Thank you for Reading

See you in R I Year 2021/2022!

Did you miss our last issue? Click the cover below to catch up!



CONTACT US

P.O. Box 148 B, Brittons Hill, St. Michael

Email: club@rotaractbarbados.org | rotaractbarbados@gmail.com

Facebook | Instagram | LinkedIn: [RotaractBarbados](#)