

# ROTA NEWS



District 7030 - Club # 6798 **Chartered March 07, 1962** 

#### **PATRON**

HE The Most Honourable Dame Sandra Mason, FB, GCMG, DA. QC. President of Barbados

#### DISTRICT OFFICERS

**District Governor** Sonya Alleyne

District Governor Elect Leslie Ramdhanny

District Governor Nominee Brian Glasgow

**Assistant Governor** Peter Thompson

**District Secretary** Paul Ashby

District Treasurer Brian Robinson

Council of Governors Chair PDG Lisle Chase

**District Rotary Foundation Chair** PDG Milton Inniss

District Disaster Relief Chair PDG David Edwards

District TRF Annual Fund Chair Brian Glasgow

**District Conference Chair** Neal Griffith



# **SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**

R.I. Theme 2021-22

## **R.I. OFFICERS**

**President** Shekhar Mehta

President Elect
Jennifer Jones



# THE FOUR WAY TEST

Of the things we think, say or do:

- 1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
- 2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
- 3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
- 4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

## December 02, 2021

# **Club Officers & Directors**

**President**Robin Ford

President Elect Tracey Knight-Lloyd

Vice President Algie Leacock

**Secretary** Ermine Darroux

**Treasurer**Peter Arender

**Club Administration** Savitri St John

Membership/Youth Service Stanley MacDonald

Public Relations
Arlene Ross

Community Service Anton Nicholls

International/Rotary Foundation Carole JnMarie

**Immediate Past President** Fiona Hinds

**Sergeant–at–Arms** Randy Marshall

# Weekly meetings on **Thursdays** at **Hilton Barbados**

(Meetings via Zoom from July 15, 2021 to present)
Needham's Point, Aquatic Gap,
St. Michael
at 12:30 p.m.

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

# THE ROTARY CLUB OF BARBADOS WELCOMES ALL VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS

Mar 07 - Club Charter Date - 1962 - Club # 6798 RI THEME: SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES





Today, Thursday, December 02, 2021, at our lunchtime Fellowship Meeting we will have a Guest Speaker, the second in our Counselling Series. Ms Sonya Cadogan, Counselling Psychologist will speak on - Demystifying Counselling! How to know when it's time to seek counselling?

The Meeting which commences at 12:30 p.m. will ONLY be presented via Zoom.

The Attendance will be taken by PP John Cabral & Rtn. Michael Mercer

Next week those On Duty will be Rotarians Waldo Clarke & Jason Martin

# SUMMARY OF THE FELLOWSHIP MEETING WITH GUEST SPEAKER ON - NOVEMBER 25, 2021

Pres. Robin called the 20th meeting to order

Rtn Nigel gave the prayer

Sergeant-at-arms Randy then introduced our guests Rtn Donna King– Brathwaite gave the Rotary Foundation Minute

PP Tony Williams welcomed our Guest Speaker Professor Eddy Ventose

# **Summary of Presentation - From Monarchy to Republic in Barbados**

- Barbados was colonized in 1627 in the name of his Majesty Charles I
- In 1966, Barbados became independent by way of the Barbados Independence Act passed by the United Kingdom
- The Parliament Barbados comprised of Her Majesty, Senate and the House of Assembly
- Executive authority is vested in Queen Elizabeth II
- Her Majesty appoints a Governor General who shall be the Queen's representative in Barbados
- Post-independence some commonwealth countries relinquished the ties with the Crown
- 1977 Commission of Inquiry was established. The Corks Commission reported in 1979
- This Commission recommended retaining the Queen as the Head of State. It indicated that any proposal to change the status quo should be sent to the electorate by way of general election
- This statement was not a constitution position but rather a recommendation
- In 1996 another Commission of Inquiry was established again. The mandate was broad but there was a specific mandate to advise and make recommendations of maintaining Barbados links to the Crown

# Continued next page

# SUMMARY OF THE FELLOWSHIP MEETING WITH GUEST SPEAKER ON - NOVEMBER 25, 2021, CONT'D

- Ford Commission submitted a report in 1998 there was an overwhelming preference for a system of governance where Barbados would have a President as Head of State which would replace the Queen. There was a recommendation to have a parliamentary republic. The commission set out provisions to guide the transition it made reference to qualification including the person must be Barbados, no less than 40 years of age to name a few
- Why would an independent country still have the Queen as our Head of State a symbol of our colonial past
- Over the years attempts have been made to delink ties to the Crown
- In 2005 the Referendum Act which was set to coincide with General Election in 2008. However this never took place
- That argument that the 2005 Act represented the laws of Barbados was rejected recently by a High Court Judge.
- A challenge was made regarding the legislation Constitutional Act 2021 to make adjustments to replace Her Majesty to the President
- One of the arguments made was that the Referendum Act 2005 called out the holding of a Referendum. The High Court judge noted that that Act was never brought into force and therefore could not govern the holding of any referendum to the transition of monarchy to republic
- In August 2021 a bill entitled Constitutional Amendment Act was tabled in Parliament and its function was to alter the constitution to provide that Barbados would become a republic where a President shall be the Head of State of Barbados.
- Section 21 of the Act which relates to Governor General is repealed and replaced with a new Chapter 4 which includes the qualifications of the President. Some differences were outlined surrounding the qualification as noted in 1998 Constitutional commission for example it was previously stated that the person must be a Barbadian, no less than 40 years of age and must be living in Barbados 5 years prior. In this 2021 bill, the qualifications are adjusted the person must be a citizen of Barbados. Regarding holding office the Commission referenced a fixed term of years, the new legislation made provisions for 4 years and the person is eligible for re-election.
- The commission made reference of an Electoral College made up
  of the Senate and House of Assembly for the purposes of electing a President. The 2021 legislation does not make reference to
  an Electoral college but the President is elected by both houses
  of Parliament
- All the other sections of the new legislation relating to the election of a President, removal of office, immunities, the acting President etc. almost exactly mirror the recommendations of the Ford Commission
- Pursuant to Constitutional Amendment Act which provides for the election of a new President – which has already taken place. On 30<sup>th</sup> November Dame Sandra Mason will become the 1<sup>st</sup> President of Barbados.
- Professor Ventose then went on to address three main issues:
- 1. Whether the Parliament of Barbados lawfully amended the Constitution of Barbados for us to become a Republic

Section 49 of our Constitution makes provisions for its amendment. It makes it very clear in section 49.2 – which provisions requires the vote of less than 2/3 of the members of the House. The sections amended were outlined and the changes were all based on replacing the words "Governor General" the "Queen" and "Her Majesty" to the "President". When the Parliament of Barbados met in October and passed the Constitutional Amendment Act it was indeed passed with a vote of at least 2/3 of all members of the House. Yes, the Parliament lawfully amended the Constitution of Barbados.

# **SUMMARY OF THE FELLOWSHIP MEETING WITH GUEST SPEAKER ON - NOVEMBER 25, 2021, CONT'D**

2. Whether consultation was required as a matter of constitutional law? Many people may have their opinions on whether consultation should be done generally. **However, No, there is not a legal requirement for consultations.** 

3. Is there a requirement of a Referendum? Unlike other Caribbean Commonwealth countries, the Barbados Constitution uniquely does not require a Referendum for the changing of any of its provisions. Most other countries have to submit this to the public for determination. The provisions relating to the GG references being removed only required a 2/3 vote from Parliament. No, there is no requirement in Barbados for a Referendum.

 Barbados on 30<sup>th</sup> November will cease to be a constitutional monarchy with the Queen as the Head of State and will have its first President and would have completed the long road to independence. With formal independence in 1966, the removal of Privy Council as Barbados final court and now the full circle of independence removing. Her Majesty as the Head of State of Barbados and replacing with the President, Dame Sandra – a citizen of Barbados

# Q&A

- PP Anthony Reece, asked a question regarding the former requirement of the Government of Barbados to seek the ratification by the Queen for diplomatic appointments? No - appointments made by the GG, will now be made by the President
- PP Michael Can the British parliament stop Barbados from becoming a Republic as the Constitution was an Order in Council, laid in the UK Parliament? No, Barbados does not need permission from British parliament
- Rot Glyne Swearing allegiance to the Queen? Appeal for removing the President – Privy vs CCJ? CCJ is the final court of Barbados – and comprises various regional judges including a Barbadian
- PP Paul level of communication is limited and the ordinary person is not aware. Will there be any disadvantages that could be experienced due to this change? Essentially the only things that has changed is deleted the words her Majesty and replacing with the President. Additionally the qualifications of a President were outlined. In essence the effect to the ordinary Bajan should be the feeling of pride knowing that the Head of our State is a Barbadian. All Caribbean nationals should aspire to have similar changes
- Pres Robin Will we remain a member of Commonwealth?
   Yes, we can retain our status as a part of the Commonwealth
- Rotarian Anthony Clarification that diplomatic assignments do require the Queen's approval
- Suzanna People who hold dual citizenship are not allowed to hold certain offices or even have dual citizenship – is that of any concern here? It does not appear that there would be a concern based on interpretation
- PP Erskine Has the transition been made without the strong support of the people? There is no requirement to be made directly by the people of Barbados – the requirement is for the members of parliament to vote in accordance to the constitution.
- PP Stanley What will this move cost the country? None
- IPP Fiona gave the Vote of Thanks

For the sake of time, Sergeant-at-Arms will discipline the club next week

**Announcement** – Dance Fellowship completion has been canceled due to lack of entries

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Rotaract Club of Barbados** 



BREAKING **BREAD** TAKEOVER. Items will be pre-packaged. **Donations** are required for about 90 persons. Required 1.Masks, 2.Food Containers, 3.Juices. 4.Bottled water and 5.Personal Care items. Please contact **President Scott Chan**dler @ 233-

0536 to arrange delivery by Friday.



Bringing the Joy of Christmas!!!

The countdown is on to the most anticipated Christmas event in Barbados!!! CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Rotarians holding tickets for Carols by Candlelight - Please advise PP Tony Williams the number of tickets sold or committed for sale and on which dates. Would appreciate receiving this information as soon as possible. YIR PP Tony



Today's Member Fun Facts are compliments of the Fellowship Committee. Our hope is that you will enjoy learning more about your fellow club colleagues weekly.

10 Fun Facts about Director Savitri St. John

- I cannot live without: Pets and Books!
- My superpower is: OCD - There are lists for EVERYTHING and I have to triple check everything to feel secure – But it means I'm generally exceptionally well organised.
- **I** am best at: Writing. I love concise, precise, yet elegant paragraph.
- **I love a**: party, but also a quiet weekend.
- My alternate career would be: Historian.
- Most people do not know that: I'm an introvert.
- Best vacation ever: Malaysia, Thailand and Cambodia, 2000. We spent 6 weeks out there.
- Favourite addiction: Powered by Caffeine!

  Bucket List item #1: A month long tour of Italy
- 10. **Best Rotary moment to date**: Beach clean-up last year removing trash from our environment is really important to me.

# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Dec 9th — Elections for the BoD — 2022-23

## **DISTRICT 7030 EVENTS:**

- District Conference 2022 Barbados Apr 06-09
- \*\*More Information on upcoming events will be published as soon as the details are available.

### **Announcements**

#### **Wedding Anniversary**

- T. Florine Moe & PP Lionel— 53 years—Dec 07, 1968
- Ferida Fernandes & PP Vic —26 years—Dec 09, 1995

#### **Birthday - Rotarians**

- Rtn. Carlos Depeiza Dec 05
- Rtn. Michael Mercer Dec 08

### Birthday - Partners-in-Service

None this week

# Join Date Anniversary

- Rtn. Dr. Carol Belgrave 13 years Dec 04, 2008
- Rtn. Dr. Albert Best 9 years Dec 06, 2012
- Rtn. Winston Warren 9 years Dec 06, 2012
- Rtn. Chrispen Hackett 5 years Dec 08, 2016
- Rtn. Donna King-Brathwaite 16 years Dec 08, 2005
- Rtn. Malcolm Vaughn 5 years Dec 08, 2016

#### **ROTARY GRACE**

O Lord and giver of all things good We thank Thee for our daily food May Rotary friends and Rotary ways Help us to serve Thee all our days.

## **ELECTIONS — DECEMBER 09, 2021** BY-LAWS — THE ROTARY CLUB OF BARBADOS

Article 3 Election of Directors and Officers and Appointment of Sergeant-at-Arms Section 1 – At a regular meeting one month prior to the meeting for election of officers, the presiding officer shall ask

for nominations by members of the club for president, vicepresident, secretary, treasurer, and five (5) directors.

**Article 5 Meetings Section 1 – Annual Meeting.** An annual meeting of this club shall be held not later than 31st December in each year, at which time the election of officers and directors to serve for the ensuing year shall take place.

Following the Nomination Meeting of November 11, there were multiple candidates for the position of Treasurer (2) and Directors

# Elections will be held on Thursday, December 09, 2021

Candidates

**Treasurer** — PP Peter Williams & Rtn Barbara Trieloff-Deane

# Directors - (5 required)

- Rtn. Keri Mapp
- Dir Savitri St.John
- Dir Anton Nicholls
- Rtn. Dr. Beverley Agard
- Rtn. Barbara Trieloff-Deane
- PP Oliver Jordan
- Dir PP Carole Jn Marie



Dear Rotary member,

There is still time to complete the 2021 Rotary All-Member Survey. This is your opportunity to tell us what you like about being a Rotary member and how we can improve your membership experience.

To begin the survey, click the link below. The survey will take 15 to 20 minutes to complete and will be open until 10 December 2021.

https://rotary.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\_5C3Nsmp9vID6ijQ?

Q\_DL=5Xpf4FzM0VFdPGZ\_5C3Nsmp9vID6ijQ\_CGC\_4kAJTM0Vaz3tUjg& Q\_CHL=email

Only one survey can be submitted using the link, so please do not forward or share this email. If you any have questions, contact us at <a href="mailto:surveys@rotary.org">surveys@rotary.org</a>.

Sincerely,

Chief Participant Experience Officer, Rotary International

## **OBJECT OF ROTARY**

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and in particular to encourage and foster:

FIRST: The development of acquaintance as an opportunity of service;

SECOND: High ethical standards in business and professions, the recognition and the worthiness of all useful occupations, and the

dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD: The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business and community life; and

FOURTH: The advancement of the international understanding, goodwill and peace through a world of fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Bulletin Editor: PP Michael W. Browne