



# ROTA NEWS



May 28, 2020

## Rotary Club of Barbados



District 7030 - Club # 6798

**Chartered March 07, 1962**

### PATRON

HE Dame Sandra Mason, GCMG, DA.  
Governor General

### DISTRICT OFFICERS

District Governor  
Trevor Blake

District Governor Elect  
Lisle Chase

District Governor Nominee  
Sonya Alleyne

Assistant Governor  
Lisa Cummins

District Secretary  
Leah Sahely

District Treasurer  
Howard McEachrane

Council of Governors Chair  
PDG Dominique Vénére

District Rotary Foundation Chair  
PDG Milton Inniss

District Special Projects Chair - NCDs  
PDG Tony Watkins

District Governor Special Advisor  
PDG David Edwards

District Training Chair/RLI Director  
DGN Sonya Alleyne



R.I Theme 2019-20

### R.I. OFFICERS

President  
Mark Maloney

President Elect  
Holger Knaack

RI Membership  
Committee Vice-Chair  
PDG David Edwards



### 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?

### Club Officers & Directors

**President**  
Peter Williams

**President Elect**  
Fiona Hinds

**Vice President**  
Elvin Sealy

**Secretary**  
Ermine Darroux

**Treasurer**  
Meryl Stoute

**Club Administration**  
Carl "Tony" Williams

**Membership/Youth Service**  
Makonem Hurley

**Public Relations**  
Arlene Ross

**Community Service**  
Adrian Skeete

**International/Rotary Foundation**  
Heather Tull

**Immediate Past President**  
Shawn Franklin

**Sergeant-At-Arms**  
Peter Arender

Weekly meetings on **Thursdays** at  
**Hilton Barbados**  
Needham's Point, Aquatic Gap,  
St. Michael  
at 12:30 p.m.

P.O. Box 148B, Brittons Hill,  
St. Michael, Barbados  
[www.clubrunner.ca/barbados](http://www.clubrunner.ca/barbados)

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

**Mar 07 - Club Charter Date - 1962 - Club # 6798**

**RI THEME: ROTARY CONNECTS THE WORLD**



**Join Zoom Meeting**

**BE ON TIME:** If you are late, please remain silent and catch up as best as you can.

**CHOOSE A QUIET LOCATION:** Please minimize distracting background noise such as radio & TV.

**MUTE YOUR MICROPHONE:** Use the mute button when you are not speaking. The moderator can also place you on mute, if needed.

**BE PATIENT:** Please be patient with others on the call.

**WAIT TO BE INVITED TO SPEAK:** Please use the "Raise Hand" feature in Zoom to let the moderator know that you would like to speak. Please don't interrupt the conversation.

**STICK TO THE AGENDA:** Please stick to the agenda so that we can complete our meeting on time

**Housekeeping- Attendance 77%**

**Prayer – Pres. Peter Williams**

**Notice is hereby given of our on-line Club meeting to be held on Thursday, May 28, 2020 via Zoom. The Agenda is as follows and our Moderator will be PDG David. Today we have a guest speaker - Sharen Lady Carmichael. She will be accompanied by Mr. George Gill. They will address the Club on composting.**

**The revised By-Laws are to be ratified.**

#	AGENDA	LEAD	TIME
1.0	Call to Order & Ground Rules	Pres Peter	12:30 p.m.
2.0	Opening Prayer	Rtn Anton	12:32 p.m.
3.0	Announcements & Updates	Pres Peter	12:35 p.m.
4.0	Ratification of Revised Club By-Laws (Vote by raising your hand in Zoom)	Pres Peter	12:40 p.m.
5.0	<b>PRESENTATION</b>		12:45 p.m.
5.1	Guest Presenter: <i>Partner-in-Service Sharen Lady Carmichael and her guest Mr. George Gill</i>		15 min
5.2	Discussion – Please "Raise Your Hand" in Zoom	Moderator	10 min
5.0	Open Fellowship – Please "Raise Your Hand" in Zoom	Moderator	15 min
6.0	Next Meeting – June 4, 2020 at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom		
7.0	ADJOURNMENT	-	1:30 p.m.

**Classification Talk- Rtn. Savitri St. John**



I'm Savitri St. John. But in my past life, in Grenada where I was born and grew up, I used to be Savitri Steele. Then I married Rotarian Leslie St. John in 1997 and moved to Barbados.

I'm currently a Partner at the largest commercial law firm in Barbados, Clarke Gittens Farmer, worked there for the past 16 years. I'm the Head of our Real Property Department. We

tend to serve institutional clients, businesses, or individuals with a business background. My work has included capital financing, management of mortgage portfolios, real estate acquisition, timeshare, commercial leases for both landlord and tenant etc.

Lawyers tend to elicit raised hackles at almost every mention. Sometimes it's justified. However, some of us are trying hard. So, I'd like to use my classification talk to try to shed some light on what is happening outside that conference room. My clients and those of my firm tend to be commercial clients, or if they are individuals, they are generally sophisticated individuals who have lots of experience in business at a high level. Nevertheless, the amount of paperwork and the wordiness of it can seem excessive, even to them, and the language is at best "turgid".

The challenge we face as lawyers, and for me one of the most rewarding moments, is to distil the 500 pages of a contract into 5, which are clear and succinct enough to help my client make an informed decision about how he wants his deal to work. Believe me, getting that 500 pages to 5 is an ART. When you have worked out what you need to say, and what you can ignore, and what's the clearest way to say it, the pages sing. But WHY, you ask, does it have to be 500 pages when 5 would do? Well, because a good lawyer is often acting a bit like a psychic, trying to anticipate the things that could go wrong down the road, or the things that the parties just never thought about, and cater for what should happen should they come to pass.

Like a Covid-19 Pandemic, for instance; there is a long definition in most commercial contract for "Force Majeure". If drafted properly, it should include a pandemic. There is no legal definition of what "Force Majeure" means, or what an "Act of God" is. So, if you don't include a pandemic in the definition in your contract, then all the careful provisions you did include excusing yourself from performing the contract in our current circumstances don't apply. At that point your remedies start to look a lot less attractive, and they may not be the ones you chose for yourself when you wrote the contract. I can't tell you how many times my finger hovered over the delete button when I had a client demanding I "make it shorter"!

I'm going to leave you with a deep secret here – apart from a couple of "Terms of Art" with judicially defined meanings we don't want to trouble, most of the time, YES, the contract CAN be written in plain, simple English! Many of us are trying to do exactly that, this is the direction the law is moving in.

So in closing, I'd like to leave you all with the idea that sometimes the lawyers are just trying to help facilitate your deal, to think about how it will play out in practice, and try to make sure that that is smoothly, and put you in the best possible position if things don't go as planned.

Many lawyers don't want to see the inside of the Court – they want the documents they drafted before things went sideways to be a roadmap that guides their client and the other side, together, to the best solution available for them both. Thank you.



## Classification Talk- Rtn. Russell Wilson

Firstly, I would like to thank all of you for welcoming me into your Club. A special mention is reserved for Ermine Darroux- my sponsor.

I am 42 years young, married with two little ones: ages six and five. My five-year-old girl, Genevieve wants to be a doctor and an artist. My boy, Geoffrey, wants to be all things, but is

particularly interested in dismantling toys – a future engineer maybe.

I am a Dominican national living and working in Barbados for over six years at the Caribbean Development Bank. I initially held the position of Senior Audit Officer with a focus on the Operations Area of the Bank. My years of service led my transition to the position of Process Improvement Lead for the ongoing Transformation Programme.

I have been practicing internal and external auditing for almost twenty years. I made a start in external auditing from around 18 at Moreau Winston & Company in Dominica, then National Bank of Dominica. After a few short years, I found myself in the development space performing internal audits for the OECS Commission for almost nine years.

In my current role as Process Improvement Lead, I now assist the Bank in delivering on its Transformation Programme. This Programme seeks to ensure that the Bank's internal systems and processes are well equipped to respond to client needs. The programme is currently focused on improving the Bank's front office to increase its operating efficiency and help ensure the attainment of the Bank's strategic objectives over the next five years. The primary targets are improvements in service delivery through implementation of new technology, shortening of the project cycle, and refinement of business processes by eliminating non-value-added steps.

The COVID pandemic and the need for new ways of working, have served to heighten the need for delivery on the Transformation Programme, particularly the component dealing with digital transformation. To that end we have doubled down on the need to install new software that allows us to work from anywhere, while not compromising on the need for active collaboration on project preparation and appraisal.

With respect to ethical issues, I can share that the standards of practice for auditing have a strong ethical base, that is founded on the trust placed in the approach to service delivery. I can't say that I am an expert on the Rotary 4-Way Test, but the experience with complying with the robust nature of the profession's ethical programme affords me a great start to active compliance with Rotary's ethical code.

It was also asked that I make mention of the characteristics needed to succeed in my profession – I would list the major ones as: emotional intelligence, communication skills, analytic skills, technical skills – accounting, finance, project and risk management, etc, stress management and time management.

With regards to my training and qualifications, I'm a Chartered Certified Accountant (with Fellowship Status), I also hold the following degrees and certifications: Masters of Business Administration, Finance (with Distinction); Bachelor's degree of Science, in Accounting (with Honours); Certified Internal Auditor, Certified Financial Services Auditor, Certification in Risk Management Assurance, Certification in Lean Six Sigma Black Belt, and a few others.

I hope I have covered all important points for the talk; providing you with a glimpse of who I am, what I do, and how I can possibly contribute to the mission of Rotary.

Thanks for your attention.

## Rotary Composting

This week we are pleased to welcome Sharen Lady Carmichael, Partner-in-Service to PP Trevor, and her guest, George Gill, to our on-line meeting to discuss the benefits of composting and how we can contribute to improving our environment by reducing the waste that goes to landfill and helping to make Barbados more sustainable.

Composting is a natural process of recycling organic material such as leaves and vegetable scraps into a rich material that augments the soil. Anyone can compost in their own back yard, as long as they understand the basics.

**Collecting your kitchen scraps:** You can start with any container with a lid that will sit conveniently on the kitchen counter. This saves you making frequent trips to the compost unit. At some point you may wish to purchase a purpose made container. The one shown is made of stainless steel with a charcoal filter that traps odors naturally in the bin so you can keep the bin in a handy place on your counter until it is full.



**The Compost Unit:** You can start with a single drum unit as shown, but ultimately you may wish to have two units. One that is in current use and one that you have filled and are giving time for the material to decompose.



The construction is simple and you can place it in a accessible location. You can also screen it behind plants if you don't want anyone to see it.

**Getting the mixture right:** Start your compost with some grass clippings and dead leaves. Composting requires keeping a mix of browns, greens and water. The recommended ratio of the mix is Brown material (Carbon): 30 parts to Green material (Nitrogen) : 1 part. Don't try to be precise, but you have to keep adding brown material as you add kitchen scraps.

**Browns** - This includes dead leaves, branches, and twigs.

**Greens** - This includes materials such as grass clippings, vegetable waste, fruit scraps (not meat waste), and coffee grounds.

**Water** - Having the right amount of water, greens, and browns is important for compost development.

When circumstances allow we will convene a session to look at composting up close and get some hands-on experience. In the meantime we wish to thank those Rotarians who have given us their names and wish to be part of the project. We are sourcing the drums needed and will be in touch so that you can get started.

# TABLETS DONATED

THE Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training has been armed to make things a bit easier for a few more households in Barbados. With the Google G Suite Tech Drive already underway, devices for the less fortunate students to be kept abreast with online learning are being provided, and close to 100 additional tablets were presented to the Ministry yesterday.

In an open-air ceremony which took place on the lawn of the Constitution Road headquarters, the Rotary Club of Barbados, the PVH Group, and Consumer General Insurance handed over a selection of tablets and Chief Education Officer (Ag.) Joy Adamson said that the Ministry was thankful for the donation at this time.

"This morning we really want to recognise the Rotary Club of Barbados for their donation. To date they have donated 41 devices that we are now receiving. They have promised that they will continue to, as long as they get the devices, continue to supply us with devices so that we can be able to distribute them. We are also grateful to the CGI company and the PVH Group who would have donated 50 devices," she stated.



President Elect of Rotary Club of Barbados Fiona Hinds (left) presenting some of the tablets to Ministry of Education Permanent Secretary Betty Alleyne-Headley.

## Announcements

**Wedding Anniversary**

- Deidre Ishmael & PP Jerry Ishmael – 15yrs – Jun 04

**Birthday - Rotarians**

- PP. Brenda Pope — May 31
- Rtn. Kim Tudor – Jun 04

**Birthday - Partners-in-Service**

- None This Week

**Join Date Anniversary**

- PEE Robin Ford – 26yrs — Jun 01
- Rtn. Scott Oran — 31yrs — Jun 01
- PP Roger Smith — 25yrs — Jun 01

**New Member**

- Job Laboyrie - Classification: Engineering-Civil.

**Job is sponsored by PEE Robin and he is a former member of the Rotary Club of Aruba.**



Watch: Italian clubs aim to protect hospital workers responding to COVID-19

Feature | 22-May-2020

Rotary clubs in districts across Italy worked together to procure state-of-the-art equipment needed to combat the deadly coronavirus disease for 26 hospitals around the country.

**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.

**PE Fiona Tablet Appeal:**

Thanks everyone and a big thanks to Rtn Jeff for reaching out and suggesting this project in the wake of Online education and Covid

And another big Thanks to team RCOB - together we can continue to assist with this project - we know that these are challenging times and if every Rotarian can by themselves or with Another Rotarian , or maybe a friend of a Rotarian , or maybe their acquaintance, or maybe an organization with whom they have a relationship can donate a Kindle Fire or \$140.00 for a primary school student up to class 2; or an Alcatel tablet @\$265 each or two )for a primary school student in classes 2 ,3 and 4 that would be fantastic but of course we know and recognize that these are difficult times and I am assuring you that no gift is too small

Donations are to trust fund - a copy of the remittance would be appreciated and will assist in reconciling the accounts.

Please email or WhatsApp information to Rtn. Jeff Evelyn.

**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.

*Bulletin Editor: Rtn. Randy Marshall*