



Rotary

Club of Princes Town





The Four Way Test

of the things we think, say and 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?



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Public Image Team: Jamir Ousman, Ryan Assiu, Crystal Harper, Rhea Nobee,
Rishi Ramlogan, Narisha Mohammed, and Ambika Ramdass.

Additional Photography/Videography: Ryan Soodwah, Brian Ramatally, & Guanfranco Media

Cowen Hamilton Secondary Interact Charter

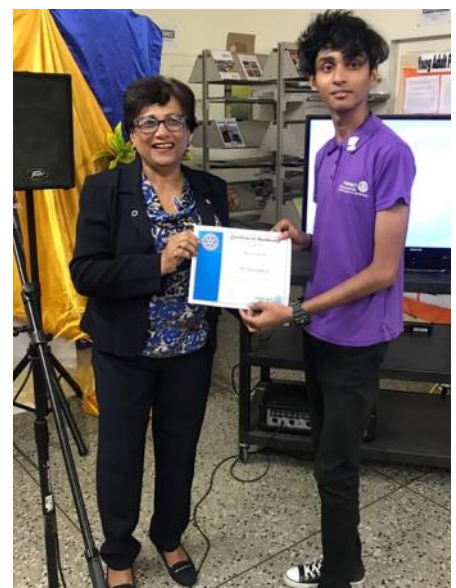
Princes Town, (14 June, 2019) — Cowen Hamilton Secondary School officially joined the ranks alongside Princes Town West Secondary School and St. Stephen's College as the third school with a chartered Interact Club under the patronage of the Princes Town Rotary Club.

The Charter Ceremony of the Interact Club of Cowen Hamilton Secondary School took place at the School Library before a modest crowd of Rotarians, teachers and students. The function was chaired by the school advisor, Ms. Leotaud. Acting Principal, Ms. Williams brought greetings and spoke of the importance of service to humanity and the community. These sentiments were echoed by the Club's Incoming President, Mr. Jamir Ousman, who encouraged the students to put service above self. Rotarian Zobida Ragbirsingh offered words of wisdom to the nascent club and presented pins to the Interactors, Principal and School Advisors.

Rotarians in attendance were Jamir Ousman, Zobida Ragbirsingh, Patsy Chankersingh, Dr. Stefan Nanan and Partner in service Mrs. Tara Ousman. Members of the club were presented with tokens of appreciation by the Interactors and refreshments were also provided.

ABOUT INTERACT:

Interactors form the Secondary School arm of the Rotary tradition. Interact is a service club for youth ages 12 to 18 who want to connect with other young people and have fun while serving their communities and learning about the world. Clubs, which meet at least twice a month, are sponsored by local Rotary clubs. Interact clubs organize two projects every year, one that helps their school or community and one that promotes international understanding. Members of sponsor Rotary clubs mentor Interactors as they carry out the projects and develop leadership skills.



Presidential Handover 2018—2019

Ste. Madeiline, (29 June, 2019) — Rotarians, Partners-in-Service, and Friends-of-Rotary all gathered at the National Energy Skills Centre (NESC) Auditorium to witness the Rotary Club of Princes Town's Presidential Handover Ceremony.

The final event for the 2018-2019 Rotary year saw the induction of Mr. Michael Cooper-Ochiengh, and Dr. Nicholas Bridgemohan by North Cluster Assistant District Governor, Gordon Paul. This brought the Club's total inductions for the year to eleven new members; a milestone achievement in the Club's 26 year history. Outgoing President, Crystal Ann Harper, reflected on her bumper year which earned the Rotary International Platinum Presidential Citation—Rotary International's highest accolade for annual performance. IPP Crystal noted: "The successes of this year are not my own, but are as a result of a truly unified team effort from all Rotarians." Club members were then given awards for their service. In-coming President, Jamir Ousman, received the prestigious "Rotarian of the Year" award, while Membership Director, Dr. Ronald Gobin, was awarded a Paul Harris Fellow pin with 4 sapphires.

The highlight of the event was the presentation of \$10,000 to Ms. Nekeisha Simon from the Club, and \$2000 from Haygem Travel Agency, a long-time friend of Rotary. Nekisha found herself in the national spotlight earlier in the month when it was reported that she, and her mother, took to selling nuts in Princes Town in an effort to raise tuition fees for med school. This donation was prominently highlighted in both the Newsday (4th July, 2019) and Express (6th July, 2019).

Decorations and dinner was provided by Partner-in-Service, Tara Ousman. Photography was captured by Rotarian Ryan Soodwah of the Rotary Club of San Fernando, and our Club's own Rhea Nobee.



Above: IPP Crystal Harper presents scholarship cheque to Ms. Nekeisha Simon

2018—2019 AWARDEES

Rotarian of the Year

✓ Jamir Ousman

Paul Harris Fellow

✓ Ronald Gobin

Spirit of Rotary Service

✓ Amraz Ali-Bocus
✓ Ryan Assiu
✓ Rhea Nobee
✓ Rishi Ramlogan

Quiet Tree Rotarian

✓ Judith McGilvery
✓ Bashir Mohammed
✓ Stefan Nanan

Heart of Rotary

✓ Carlyn
Rajnarinesingh
✓ Lindsey Aziz

100% Perfect Attendance

✓ Lindsey Aziz
✓ Capildeo Beharry
✓ Ronald Gobin
✓ Crystal Ann Harper
✓ Rudranath Maraj
✓ Jamir Ousman

New Member Sponsors

✓ Lindsey Aziz
✓ Ronald Gobin
✓ Crystal Ann Harper
✓ Nazim Mohamed
✓ Bashir Mohammed
✓ Stefan Nanan
✓ Jamir Ousman
✓ Carlyn
Rajnarinesingh

2018—2019 RI CITATIONS

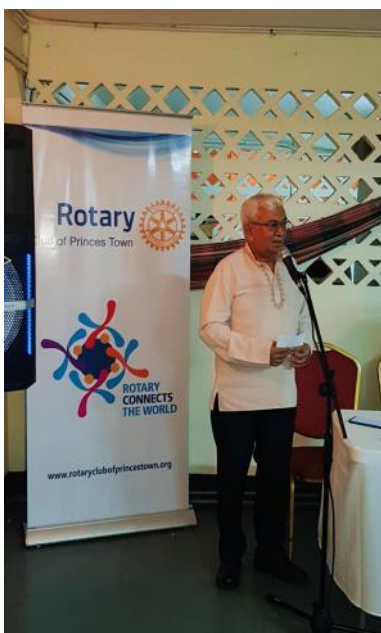
✓ PLATINUM
Presidential Citation
✓ PLATINUM Public
Image Citation

Presidential Handover 2018—2019



EID Fellowship

Ste. Madeline, (03 July, 2019) — The first meeting of the 2019–2020 year was hosted at President Jim's home at Ste. Madeline in honor of Eid al-Fitr. Rotarians gathered in traditional East-Indian wear to share in food and fellowship. The event featured an address by former Minister of Health, Dr. Hamza Rafeeq.



Interact Clubs' Joint Presidential Handover Ceremony



Above: Mr. Trevor "Rex" Baddaloo delivers a rousing feature address to the Interactors

Ste. Madeline, (27th July 2019) — The Interact Clubs of St. Stephen's College, Princes Town West Secondary School, and Cowen Hamilton Secondary School convened at the NESC Auditorium in Ste. Madeline to celebrate their achievements over the past year and welcome their new student presidents.

The combined hand-over ceremony was the first of its kind for the Rotary Club of Princes Town which sponsors all three clubs. In his opening remarks, Rotary Club of Princes Town President, Jamir Ousman, noted that the transition from each club holding its own event to a single shared celebration promoted interschool fellowship. This, he said, was in keeping with the 2019/2020 Rotary theme "Rotary Connects the World".

The baton of presidential responsibility passed from Ms. Ariel Mahabir to Ms. Lara Lee for the St. Stephen's College; from Ms. Melinda Ramlakhan to Mr. Vidal Ramkissoon for Princes Town West Secondary School;

and from Mr. Matthew McDowell to Mr. Chris Ramdeen for Cowen Hamilton Secondary School. Incoming and outgoing Interact Presidents reflected on their achievements and hopes for the future through masterful speeches punctuated by the musical entertainment of Mr. Kiel Sutherland. The students thanked their families and classmates for the unwavering support and dedication that made the 2018/2019 year a success.

Over the course of the 2018/2019 year the three Interact Clubs demonstrated initiative and great leadership as they collaborated on two community service projects. In December 2018 the students raised \$1500 and led a Christmas Treat for kids at Hope Centre, San Fernando. Later, in February 2019, they met again to clean-up the Moruga beach and paint the Christopher Columbus and St. Peter's monuments. Under the guidance of their Rotarian mentor, Dr. Carlyn Rajnarinsingh, the students were also actively involved in a Peace Symposium, Diabetes Awareness Walk, and Career Fair. The succeeding Interact Presidents will continue to serve their schools and communities in the 2019/2020 year alongside the Rotary Club of Princes Town's Director of Vocational Services, Dr. Lindsey Aziz.

Mr. Trevor "Rex" Baddaloo of *Mettamorphosis Leadership* delivered an inspiring keynote address urging the young leaders to be mindful of their decisions, and to always remain true to philosophy of "Service above Self". He adds, "As Interact you have a sacred responsibility to initiate positive change in your community. Believe me you have a lot going for you and have done a fantastic job. If you look at the newspaper, it's scary; there are lots of things to worry about. Some of those things you have little or no control over but there are some things you can control: your lifestyle and how people see you. You can make a difference."

Interact Clubs' Joint Presidential Handover Ceremony



Guardian Media Feature



Above: Pictures from the Club's medical out reach clinics and student education initiatives featured along side the article published in the T&T Guardian.

Source: <https://tinyurl.com/y2b9ggaqr>

Princes Town, (17th August 2019) — The Rotary Club of Princes Town was showcased in both the T&T Guardian and via Radio Interview as part of Guardian Media's wider showcasing of towns across Trinidad and Tobago. The following was published under the title "PRINCES TOWN ROTARY MAKES ITS MARK WITH CHARITABLE WORK":

For the past 26 years, the Rotary Club of Princes Town has made and indelible impact with its various charitable works and contributions targeted towards the princes Town community and surrounding environs.

According to Jamir Ousman, the President of the club, their main charitable projects are furthering education

and medical outreach clinics. Since its inception, the club has contributed more than \$650,000 towards the field of education by providing scholarships to deserving students pursuing their tertiary education, giving them assistance to advance their professional lives. With the removal of GATE funding from the Government, the Rotary Club has noted an increase in scholarship assistance annually and more so throughout the year for additional funding and support from deserving students. Funds generated for this venture is from one of the clubs annual fundraiser— Chokhifest, Ousman said.

"The medical outreach programme spearheaded by members of the Princes Town Rotary together with very faithful professional volunteers is another important aspect of the Rotary Clubs's impact on the Community", he said.

The Rotary Club typically conducts four to five medical outreach programmes annually primarily aimed at rural communities in south Trinidad where people have little to no access to medical care and other professional relief services. Services include provide medication, counselling, referrals, doctor's examination, dental examination, legal advice and testing or high blood pressure and cholesterol. As these project, toiletries and gently worn clothing are also provided for community members.

Given the recent surge in the involvement of youths in crime in T&T over the past three years, the Rotary Club of Princes Town has directed its efforts to ensure our youths are fully engaged and have other positive aspects of personal growth and development. Consequently, over the last three years, the Rotary Club of Princes Town together with dedicated principals and teachers of the Princes Town West Secondary School, St. Stephen's College, and Cowen Hamilton Secondary School have formed three Interact Clubs—comprising youth between ages 12 and 18.

The interact Clubs work under the umbrella and guidance of the Rotary Club to foster the development of these young people through various aspects of leadership and the various work they do in their school and local communities.

Service Outreach

Hermitage Village, (20th August 2019) — Service Director, Rhea Nobee, delivered a brand-new wheel chair to 19 year old, Priya of Hermitage Village. Priya had spent most of her life confined to a wheel chair after a hip adjustment surgery left her with one leg four inches shorter than the other. As time went by her wheel chair suffered damage, restricting her from moving around her humble home and preventing from her from going out to the mall with her friends. The delivery of this wheelchair restored not only mobility, but also the zeal for life for this effervescent teen.

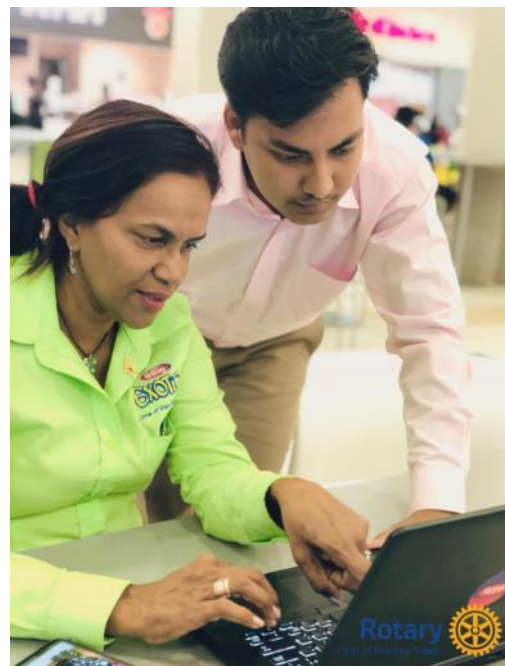


Membership Blitz

San Fernando, (30th August 2019) — In honor of “membership month”, the Rotary Club of Princes Town conducted a social media blitz throughout August to highlight both the members of the club as well as the unique membership philosophies that make our club such a vibrant organization. Custom graphics were made to showcase the strong mentorship program installed by the Sergeant-at-arms, Amraz Ali Bocus which paired club-veterans with recently added members through a “buddy system”. Members also gave shared their views in short video segments under the hash tag #RotaryMinute which gained traction throughout District 7030 and the wider Zone 33/34 as a model to be adopted elsewhere. As a result of the social media blitz, the profile of the club was elevated among the global rotary network, and inquiries for membership increased several fold.



Above: Thumbnails from the August #RotaryMinute video segments featuring Rot. Amraz and Rot. Michael



Above: Social media graphic for the Rotary Club of Princes Town's “buddy system” featuring Rot. Ryan and Rot. Rhea

Chokhafest on San Fernando Hill

San Fernando Hill, (24th August 2019) — Hundreds of men, women and children came out on Saturday to San Fernando Hill as the Rotary Club of Princes Town hosted its Annual Chokhafest Charity Fundraiser.

First held 26 years ago, the event provides an opportunity for the Rotarians of the Princes Town to connect with the community and donors who enable the Club's charitable work by serving chokha dishes prepared by the members themselves. Rishi Ramlogan, Coordinator of the event, explains "Over the years as the event scaled up it became more challenging for the Rotarians to prepare food in such high volumes, so some dishes are now catered. Generally, we still have Rotarians preparing their own dishes. One tradition we maintain is the personal touch of having our Rotarians and their families literally serve our guests. This year we even had students from the Rotary Interact Club of St. Stephen's College help share a variety of East Indian dishes and then some."

This year's spread included: pepper roti, aloo chokha, tomato chokha, eddoes chokha, bhaigan choka, bhaji, pumpkin, ochro chokha, caraille chokha, smoke herring chokha, geera chicken, saltfish-buljol, two types of coconut chutney, kuchela and home-made pepper sauces. Hot sada roti and fry bakes were prepared on-site with ingredients provided by 'Persad D Food King'. Beverages and snacks were also provided by Crystal Waters, Coca-Cola, AS Bryden, Holiday Snacks, Bermudez Biscuits and Kiss Baking Company.

Patrons of the event enjoyed lunch overlooking the city and Gulf-of-Paria as well as an evening of live entertainment, giveaways and family-friendly fun. From bouncy castles to live entertainment there was something for everyone to enjoy. Satnarine Ragoo and Anuradha Hansraj delighted audiences with their vocal prowess; DJ Shawn mixed modern and classic music; and Simmy the Trini Comedian brought raucous laughter to the crowd. Door prizes and Raffle prizes were distributed as the day progressed thanks to the kind contributions of Massy Distribution, Bermudez Biscuits, Rash Electronics, and Ms. Tara Ousman.

The Club was especially proud to once again host the El Shadhai Restoration Home for Children as their specially invited guests. President of the Rotary Club of Princes Town, Jamir Ousman, notes "Having the kids come out and have a good time and enjoy good food together with others. This is what Rotary is about."

The profits of 'Chokhafest' go exclusively into the Club's scholarship program that assists secondary school students in pursuing higher education. Last's years earnings totaled over \$50,000 and was distributed to six students pursuing degrees in medicine, law and social sciences. Given the bumper turn out at this year's event, the Club expects more students to benefit moving forward. Mr. Ousman reiterates "The work we do cannot be done without you, the patrons of our events and the sponsors who enable our events. We thank you all for working with us, and we know that with your continued support our next fundraiser, the Annual Tea and Fashion Show, will be just as successful."

This write-up was re-published in the Trinidad Express on 11th September, 2019 under the title "PRINCES TOWN ROTARY CLUB HOSTS CHOKHAFEST". See it here: <https://tinyurl.com/y2oleqew>
Video coverage was also prepared Guanfranco Media for the Rotary Club of Princes Town.

Chokhafest on San Fernando Hill



Chokhafest on San Fernando Hill



Chokhafest on San Fernando Hill



International Coastal Clean-Up

Caroni Swamp (21st September 2019) — “It was a real eye opener. My group alone collected 16 pounds of glass bottles in this small area”. These were the words of Vidal Ramkissoon, President of the Interact Club of Princes Town Secondary School when asked to reflect on his morning cleaning up the Caroni Swamp as part of the International Coastal Clean-up (ICC). The ICC is a global effort to collect and characterize the solid waste present in our coastline to help further our understanding of how humans impact the environment. This year, the Environmental Management Authority (EMA) facilitated a clean-up of the Caroni Swamp.

In the space of 45 minutes, the 25 Interactors from Cowen Hamilton Secondary, St. Stephen’s College and Princes Town West Secondary School collected, sorted and weighed almost 100 pounds of trash along the access road to the Caroni Visitor Centre. But the 7 AM activity was not all work. Guided by the club’s Vocational Director, Dr. Lindsey Aziz, the shared experience brought the students together. “It was a great bonding experience and a great introduction to what Rotary Interact is about for our new members”, said Cowen Hamilton Secondary’s Interact President, Chris Ramdeen. President of St. Stephen’s Interact Club, Lara Lee added, “it was was a really fun experience. I am glad we did it.”

The ICC coincided with World Peace Day. Though the two might at first appear totally unrelated, it is well established that peace and a healthy environment are the foundations for enduring social and economic growth. The opportunity for conflict arises when environmental pollution threatens the ecosystems upon which livelihoods depends. Observing a family of oysters fixed to a discarded rubber slipper, Rot. Ryan Assiu lamented “It is heartbreaking to see how nature is forced to adapt to our pollution. More so, when people realize these are the conditions that some of our food comes from it can either result in abstinence or indifference. If people avoid eating oysters, it affects the financial security of these communities; if they eat it regardless, they may end up ill. Either way we lose.”

The day’s efforts were chaperoned by Rotary Club of Princes Town members Jamir Ousman, Crystal Ann Harper, Ryan Assiu and Lindsey Aziz.



International Coastal Clean-Up



South Cluster Peace Walk and Symposium



South Cluster Peace Walk and Symposium

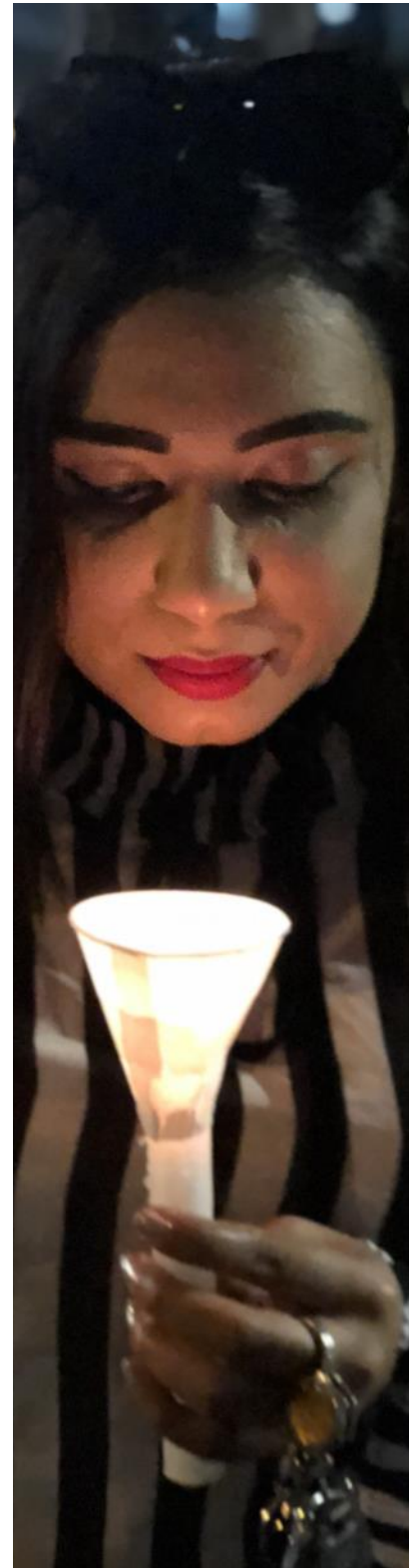
San Fernando (21st September 2019) — Scores of youth gathered at Naparima College in San Fernando to listen to distinguished speakers from various disciplines discuss ways to build a better Trinidad and Tobago in honor of the International Day of Peace. The largely student crowd also held a peaceful candlelight vigil around the city to demonstrate their desire for a more peaceful society.

Present were dozens of students from the Interact Clubs of Princes Town West Secondary School, Cowen Hamilton Secondary School and St. Stephen's College. The Barrackpore Police Youth Club and other youth centric organizations were also well represented for the evening's proceedings. During the symposium segment, President of the Rotary Club of Penal, Dr. Akenath Misir, discussed the Global Peace Index report and its implications for Trinidad and Tobago. South Cluster Assistant District Governor, Rot. Debbie Roopchand then moderated a panel discussion featuring Justice Hon. Mr. Frank Seepersad, and noted economist, Dr. Roger Hosein.

In their contributions the speakers echoed core philosophical sentiments of Rotary as the way to create a more peaceful society. Dr. Hosein encouraged the audience to be brave and truthful; pleading with the youth to hold adults accountable for a stable financial future. Among his insights, Justice Seepersad reiterated the mantra of Rotary in saying, "A better Trinidad and Tobago will be achieved if we are all able to put Service Above Self".

The success of this event is owed to the combined effort of the Rotary Clubs of Princes Town, Penal, Point Fortin, Point-a-Pierre, San Fernando, and San Fernando-South—who each had a distinct role to play in seeing it through. Poetically, unity and cooperation are tenets of positive peace, and so this joint venture also represented a 'bringing to life' of the core message of World Peace Day. As legendary coach Vince Lombardi is noted as saying, "People who work together will win, whether it be against complex football defenses, or the problems of modern society."

Refreshments were generously provided by Kiss Baking Company, Holiday Snacks, and Blue Waters. Full coverage of this event was captured by Mr. Brian Ramatally, and Guanfranco Media. The feature addresses of the panelists were reported on September 25th by CNC3. See <https://tinyurl.com/y2qvqb5a>



Upcoming Events



Rotary Club of Princes Town

HOLLYWOOD

TEA & FASHION 10

HYATT REGENCY, PORT OF SPAIN
3:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Tea Served at 3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**SUNDAY
NOVEMBER
10TH, 2019**

GREAT ENTERTAINMENT BY QUATTRO MUSICA

Fashion by:

- CLD
- ZADD & EASTMAN
- AFRO FUSION BY LARRY RAMPERSAD
- JUDY'S FORMAL & BRIDAL
- VANVEER
- KIDS ZONE

Contact for Tickets:
RISHI - 684-6555 CRYSTAL - 764-7945 JAMIR - 355-9649
OR ANY MEMBER OF ROTARY CLUB PRINCES TOWN

Net Proceeds to Charity
Contribution: \$400.00 Special Reserved Seating: \$500.00



Rotary Club of Princes Town

HOLLYWOOD

TEA & FASHION 10

HYATT REGENCY, PORT OF SPAIN
SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER, 2019

Fashion by:

- CLD
- ZADD & EASTMAN
- AFRO FUSION BY LARRY RAMPERSAD
- JUDY'S FORMAL & BRIDAL
- VANVEER
- KIDS ZONE

Contact for Tickets:
RISHI - 684-6555 CRYSTAL - 764-7945 JAMIR - 355-9649
OR ANY MEMBER OF ROTARY CLUB PRINCES TOWN

Net Proceeds to Charity
Contribution: \$400.00 Special Reserved Seating: \$500.00

OCTOBER

- October 9th*
 - DG Trevor visits Club
 - Interact Career Day
 - 33rd Anniversary of the Rotary Club of Point Fortin
- October 11th*
 - South Cluster Cocktail w/ DG Trevor
- October 16th*
 - Dinner and Discussion Forum feat. His Excellency Mr. Bishwaishwar "Cammie" Ramsaroop-Maraj
 - New Member Inductions
- October 21st*
 - Cunjal Divali Celebration
- October 23rd*
 - Club Divali Celebration at President's home

NOVEMBER

- November 3rd*
 - Medical and Professional Services Clinic #1
- November 10th*
 - HOLLYWOOD—Tea and Fashion Show
- November 13th*
 - Club General Elections
- November 30th*
 - Vocational Awards

DECEMBER

- December 7th*
 - President's Dinner
- December 14th*
 - Parang at the Princes Town Triangle
- December 15th*
 - Christmas Community Treat



Board of Directors 2019—2020



President
Jamir Ousman



**Immediate Past
President/ Secretary**
Crystal Ann Harper



Club Administration
Rishi Ramlogan



Treasurer
Capildeo Beharry



Membership
Ronald Gobin



Sargeant-at-Arms
Amraz Ali Bocus



Service Projects
Rhea Nobee



Public Image
Ryan Assiu



Vocational Services
Lindsey Aziz

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