



Coral Reef Club

THE GRAPEVINE

AUTUMN / WINTER 2018



THE SANDPIPER



It is hard to believe that another year has passed since I wrote a similar letter to you. I am delighted to tell you that all is well in Barbados with both Coral Reef Club and Sandpiper, and also the O'Hara and Capaldi families. During our brief summer closures, we carried out our usual annual refurbishment works and are all set for an exciting season ahead.

As is now the growing trend, we have a female Prime Minister in Barbados, the highly respected Ms. Mia Amor Mottley. Hers was a landslide victory, and we all have great expectations.

The highlights of my annual U.K. holiday were the occasions when I entertained my very grown up grandchildren. When choosing between red or white wine, you know you have reached a different level of friendship. What good company they are. Those who should be working are, and the last two, Jack and Gemma, are in their final year at school. With their 18th birthdays just two weeks apart, they each invited six school friends to stay with them during half term. They certainly crammed everything possible into their time at home, and their party was a huge success. I had forgotten I can still dance!

Whilst England had a very hot summer, some people found it overpowering. Meanwhile our guests in Barbados were enjoying good weather, the sea and beaches, with the added comfort of air conditioning!

On a recent social occasion I was asked how I managed to remain fit. My reply was - a swim before breakfast, dark chocolate after lunch and red wine with dinner, works like a charm.

My family and the entire team at Coral Reef and Sandpiper join me in sending our good wishes. We do hope we have the pleasure of seeing you during the course of the year.

Cynthia O'Hara

Cynthia O'Hara
Chairman



HISTORIC ISLAND HERITAGE

Barbados' rich heritage is elegantly expressed in our historical buildings. Sugar wealth coincided with the era of Georgian architecture, while the island's critical role in the wars between Britain and France led to the creation of the Barbados Garrison between 1780 and 1810. There are nearly 100 structures on a site of 141 acres, including many beautiful arcaded barracks built of brick, and an impressive St Ann's Fort and Charles Fort at the opposite end of Carlisle Bay to Bridgetown. The central core of the city - Historic

Bridgetown and its Garrison - is a UNESCO World Heritage site, one of only four in the eastern Caribbean. A highlight of our cultural life is horse racing at the Garrison Savannah, a racetrack some 150 years old. The ruggedly beautiful Scotland District is another tentative World Heritage nomination. We are also excited about the recent re-opening of the 300 year old Sunbury Plantation House which has been lovingly restored by a Bajan family who have enhanced the property sympathetically and created something special for our guests to enjoy.



ST. NICHOLAS ABBEY

Saint Nicholas Abbey, well known to rum aficionados as one of four distilleries in Barbados, as well as being a seventeenth-century plantation house museum (one of only three surviving Jacobean designs in the hemisphere) is undertaking quite a project with the creation of the Saint Nicholas Abbey Heritage Railway. Construction has been ongoing throughout 2018, with a projected opening in January 2019. Train, lunch, heritage tour, distillery, and then tea! A must do whilst on island.



BHTA 2018 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

We are proud to share the wonderful news that Cynthia O'Hara, our chairman, has been awarded the prestigious Barbados Hotel and Tourism Association's, 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award. This is awarded to an individual whose lifetime work and commitment has made a significant contribution. Extremely proud of what they have achieved as a family, Cynthia is quick to say none of this would have been possible without the incredible support of a superb team.

CORAL REEF CLUB



THE SANDPIPER



HOTEL UPDATES

CORAL REEF CLUB

Coral Reef Club re-opened at the end of September having completed another round of refurbishment and training for our team. We continue to focus on enhancing our rooms with personal touches as we believe that's the sort of detail that sets us apart. The mini library of holiday novels, for example, introduced to our guest rooms back in the 1950s, is a much loved detail which continues today.

THE SANDPIPER

The Sandpiper re-opened on 10th October after our annual closure and similar to Coral Reef, we worked on enhancements and also staff training this year. We refined our lunch menu further, tweaked recipes and created some more healthy options in addition to all of the old favourites.



THE SANDPIPER'S MURAL

The Sandpiper commissioned and sponsored a mural as a gift to Holetown. This stunning mural was painted by artist James Chuter over a period of three weeks. James had assistance from school children and other local residents and commented that it was one of the best experiences of his life. As you stroll along its 125-foot length, you move from underwater scenes with turtles to the beach, through a village and gardens into a forest populated by monkeys. The mural is located across the street from The Sandpiper and you can see more of James' work at www.chootsart.com



WE ARE PLEASED TO ADVISE THAT THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION HAS GIVEN THE ALL CLEAR TO THE CARIBBEAN WITH REGARD TO THE ZIKA VIRUS. THERE HAVE BEEN NO REPORTED CASES IN BARBADOS, OR IN TRAVELERS FROM THE CARIBBEAN, RETURNING TO NORTH AMERICA OR EUROPE, IN MORE THAN 12 MONTHS.



BEACH LIFE

Barbados has one of the 3 top surf spots in the world - Soup Bowl - a mythic stretch of water that boasts 5 metre swells. However, there are also surfing schools and the island is a great place to take surfing lessons. Beach life here also includes windsurfing and kitesurfing or for the lazier beach moments, enjoy a couple of great new beach bars which have opened on the West Coast in the past year. La Cabane for a simple, toes in the sand lunch and 1.11 East Beach Bar in Speightstown for sundowners.



CRICKET

An exciting International Home Series promises fans the opportunity to enjoy great cricket and experience the unique Caribbean culture and hospitality. West Indies fans create a unique spectator atmosphere. Please contact us if you would like us to arrange tickets.

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| 1st Test | January 23 - 27 |
| | Kensington Oval, Barbados |
| 1st ODI | February 20 |
| | Kensington Oval, Barbados |
| 2nd ODI | February 22 |
| | Kensington Oval, Barbados |



SPECIAL OFFERS

- 7 nights for the price of 6 nights at both hotels, 8 May - 1 November and 10 - 18 December 2019.
- 50% discount on 2nd room for bookings of 7 nights or longer at Coral Reef Club, 13 July - 24 August 2019.
- Children under 12 years sharing with parents free of charge at both hotels 8 May - 1 November 2019.

All of the above offers are for stays completed between the given dates and are not combinable.

Please visit our websites coralreefbarbados.com and sandpiperbarbados.com for full details and conditions.