



Coral Reef Club



THE SANDPIPER

It was my intention to write this on my return flight to Barbados after my holiday in England but the inspiration did not come until I had soaked up some Bajan sunshine, been welcomed by my family, followed by greetings from the staff - and there are a lot of them. I knew September had been a very quiet month for business but the staff were cheerful and very optimistic about the forthcoming season.

Coral Reef Club and The Sandpiper were closed for their usual time in the summer for staff holidays and to give us the opportunity to refurbish. Coral Reef was closed for six weeks from June and The Sandpiper from mid August. It has been "the year of the bathrooms" and where new bathrooms have been installed we are thrilled with the results. Our breaking news at Sandpiper is that we have acquired the house on the south side of the beach, more details on this good news inside the newsletter.

In July I returned to Barbados for a week to celebrate my son Patrick's 50th birthday, which was highly successful. It is many years since I was here in the summer and I was very impressed at the number of delightful families staying and how many of them had been before and knew one another, making it great fun for the children and teenagers. In fact I was the only person who did not know anyone! The weather was also very good.

One of the highlights of my time in England was after the parents of my five - out of eight - grandchildren had returned to Barbados, leaving me with the five at school in England and their

occasional exeats. They are such good company and great fun. I am thrilled that they find time for their old grandmother and I had better make the most of it as they are growing up so fast and boyfriends and girlfriends are definitely on the scene. Fortunately they still enjoy a little shopping spree which appeals to me too.

I am so proud of all of them and that includes their parents.

It is probably not correct to say this in my letter - but I am going to anyway - their father, my husband Budge, would be overwhelmed and thrilled at the success they have made of the two hotels, together with the dedicated enthusiasm of all our staff and management. What a long way we have come since Budge and I arrived in September 1956 on a passenger cargo ship, newly married with a contract for three years to turn Coral Reef into a



The O'Hara Family

hotel. At that time it was little more than a house with a few cottages in the grounds.

My sincere thanks, along with those of my family and staff at both hotels, to our guests, for your amazing loyalty in returning year after year, to first time guests who hopefully we will see again on future visits and to our friends in the travel industry who have supported us during the year.

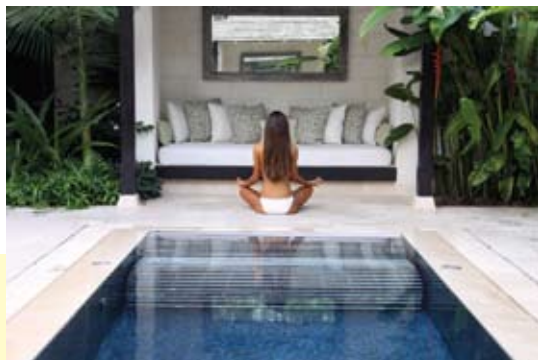
Cynthia O'Hara

Cynthia O'Hara - Chairman

The Spa



The Outdoor Double Treatment Pavilion



Yoga by The Hydro Pool

We are thrilled with the feedback that we continue to get from guests frequenting The Spa and from journalists. Tatler Magazine in the UK says of the Spa - "Coral Reef has an exceptionally good spa – it really is beautifully designed – with proper treatments using the niche but fabulous Natura Bisse products and expert therapists who offer pampering facials and knot busting massages."

Nicole Warin, our new Spa Manager, who has worked internationally, hails from the U.K. Nicole brings with her a wealth of knowledge and The Spa staff have benefitted from her training skills.

The morning yoga sessions twice a week have proven to be very popular, overlooking the garden and water feature in the centre of The Spa. The other area that is now coming into its own is The Pavilion for couple's massages. For those travelling to Barbados looking for a special experience, a couple's massage in The Pavilion is a memorable way to indulge.

The Luxury Plantation Suites

The Plantation Suites at Coral Reef Club have been refurbished with stunning new interiors and whilst the essence of the original style has been retained, there is a fresh, more contemporary approach. Helen Green Designs has developed inspired schemes that ensure that the Plantation Suites remain at the forefront of the world's most stylish suites.



*Left: Luxury Plantation Suite Pool
Right: Coral Reef Club's Beach*



The Sandpiper's Beach House

The Beach House is located on the southern side of the seafront at The Sandpiper. When our longtime family friends decided to sell at the beginning of the summer, we were thrilled to be able to acquire the three bedroom house. Incorporating The Beach House to Sandpiper involved building a boardwalk access from the hotel, echoing Sandpiper's colour scheme in the woodwork and installing new landscaping. These alterations have resulted in The Beach House perfectly integrating to The Sandpiper.



View from The Beach House



The Beach House

The Beach House consists of a luxurious master bedroom which leads directly onto a large wrap around terrace, located immediately over the beach with the sea just feet away. The master bathroom consists of a tub and walk-in shower. The bright and spacious living room also opens directly onto the terrace with a series of French doors. Dining and comfortable chaise longue chairs make this a most enticing place to relax. A fully fitted kitchen allows for independence should guests wish to cater for themselves.

There are also two double bedrooms with king or twin beds that share a bathroom with tub/shower combination. The house has been completely re-decorated in a style reflecting relaxed beachfront living.

The Beach Restoration Project



Coral Reef Club's Beach

It is certainly no secret that 2010 was equally as difficult a year, if not more so, for the Barbados economy than 2009. The ongoing downturn has resulted in a number of Government initiatives to be postponed and not least of which is the beach restoration project that we have been speaking about for the past two years.

The good news is that we are reliably informed that funding for the entire project is being secured through the Inter American Development Bank (IADB) and all things being equal, it is proposed that it will be full steam ahead in the Spring of 2011.

In the meantime, we have not been sitting idly by and during the course of our summer works this year we installed two 20m groynes on the North and South boundaries of the Sandpiper Hotel. These groynes form part and parcel of the overall project works and their construction is expected to stabilize and rejuvenate the beach and encourage the build up of additional sand.

The Hometown Bridge

On another note, many of you will be happy to know that the long awaited improvements to the bridge at Hometown are well underway. You will recall that this is one of the projects being funded by the Tourism Enhancement Fund which many of our guests so kindly contribute to. It is anticipated that all works on this bridge should be completed in time for Christmas and will certainly restore the bridge to its former glory in keeping with Hometown's historic importance, being where the first settlers landed in 1625.

Staff News



We should like to congratulate Mitchell Husbands, Coral Reef Club's Sous Chef, who represented Barbados at the "Taste of the Caribbean Competition", held at the "Rio Mar Hotel", Puerto Rico, in September this year. We are delighted to report that the team won three awards including "Team of the Year" and "Most Innovative Menu". The team members won scholarships from the "American Hotel and Lodging Educational Institute" and will be going to study in Orlando, Florida.

Mitchell also represented Barbados in the "Americas Chef Competition" held in Miami in November this year and he won a silver medal.

Mitchell Husbands

Employee of the Year



Coral Reef Club:
Maxine Haynes, Commis Chef

Supervisor of the Year



Coral Reef Club:
Linora Barker, Accountant



The Sandpiper:
Livingston Austin, Carpenter



The Sandpiper:
Yvette Clarke, Housekeeper



We should like to give a warm welcome to Nicole Warin who joined us in June as our new Spa Manager. Nicole has been in the spa and beauty industry for over twenty years and her passion for therapies has taken her to all corners of the globe, reaching as far as Mauritius, the Middle East and the Caribbean.