



# THE GRAPEVINE

WINTER 2024



Another year has passed with great haste but not without some drama. My 'children' are very busy with the job of running the 2 hotels and 2 of my grandsons, Sebastian and Charlie, are also involved in the hotels now. Charlie had a serious car accident this year, and whilst he hasn't walked for nearly 6 months, he is recovering well which we are all very grateful for. The longer you live and the more offspring you have, the more joy they give you and equally the more anxiety!

Caroline, Sebastian's sister has been managing the Boutique and assisting with special projects and my other grandchildren are busy working in London, and one in Spain. They do find time to enjoy themselves with busy social lives and I wouldn't expect otherwise. The grandchildren definitely keep me young with their chat and stories and I'm happy to have them home for Christmas.

I travelled to the UK in September when the hotels were closed and enjoyed some special times at The Goring, Fortnum & Mason and went to a West End show with the family for my 94th birthday and I enjoyed spending time with the family in a different environment, as they were all holidaying in London. It was equally even better to come home to Coral Reef and see all of the friendly faces of our lovely team returning from their holidays, ready to work hard to create the home from home that our many repeat guests consider our hotels to be, and to make new guests feel equally as welcome. They are also very caring and make me feel well looked after as I walk through the gardens and move about the hotel.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and all the very best for a healthy and happy and most importantly peaceful 2025 for us all.

*Cynthia O'Hara*

CYNTHIA O'HARA  
CHAIRMAN



PICTURED THE O'HARA & CAPALDI FAMILIES



# THE GRAPEVINE



EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC OF THE  
FESTIVE SEASON



## CORAL REEF CLUB X THE HIDE'S CHEF OLLIE DABBOUS

Cheers to another year with a successful collaboration between Coral Reef Club and Hide Restaurant. On October 25th and 26th, Chef Ollie Dabbous, Co-Founder and Executive Chef of the Michelin-starred [@hide\\_restaurant](#) in Piccadilly, London, collaborated with our very own Executive Chef Hance Bannister at the Coral Reef Club. Together, they crafted a menu of locally inspired dishes, blending their exceptional talents. Click below to view an interview with both Hance and Ollie!



[Click here to view interview!](#)



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## CORAL REEF CLUB UNVEILS EXCLUSIVE WELLNESS RESIDENCIES FOR 2025



Coral Reef Club is delighted to announce two exclusive wellness residencies for Spring 2025.

Nicola Russell (3–10 March): The award-winning facialist, known as The Skin Geek, will bring her innovative, results-driven treatments to The Spa at Coral Reef. Guests can enjoy advanced facials featuring Hydrodermabrasion, Radio Frequency, Oxygen Therapy, and more, using luxury brands Natura Bissé and Bioeffect.

Ross J. Barr (7–15 April): Acclaimed Health Expert and sought after Registered Acupuncturist from London combines Five Element Acupuncture with a deep understanding of individual needs to promote overall wellbeing. Ross' selection of wellness patches to help aid sleep, calm & healing are renowned.

[Click here for more information.](#)

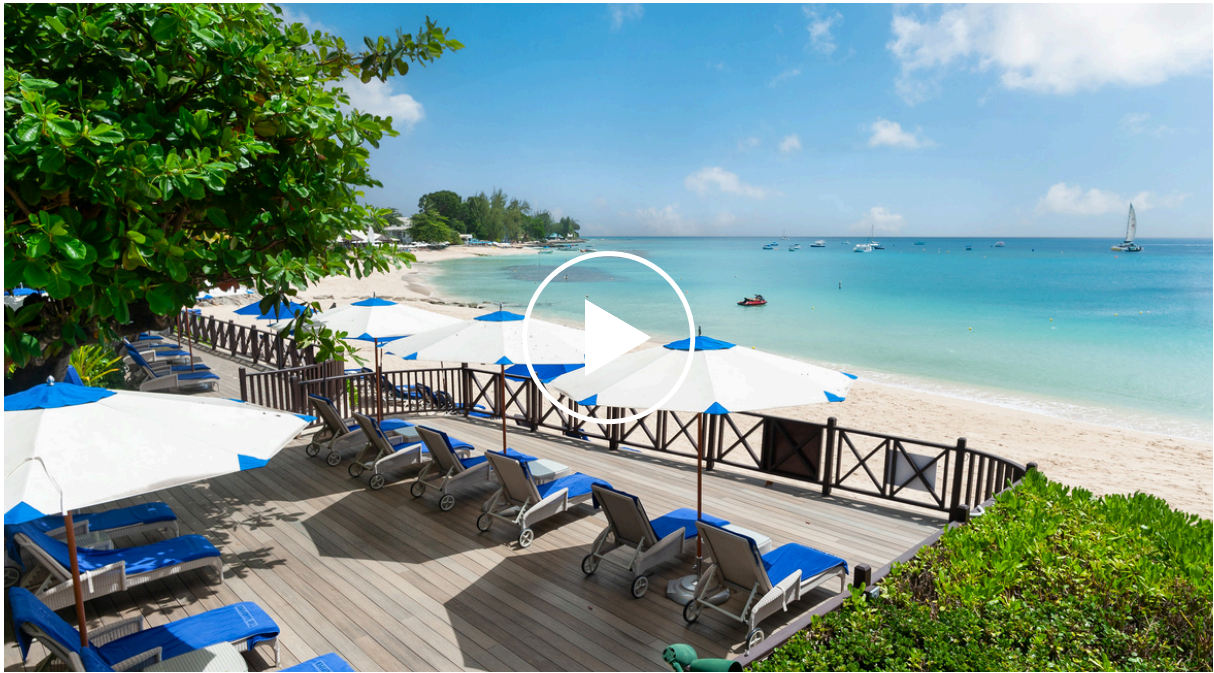


# THE GRAPEVINE



## THE SANDPIPER

### EXPERIENCE CHRISTMAS ISLAND STYLE



#### OCEAN FRONT ONE BEDROOM SUITES

We are delighted with the transformation of 3 of our One Bedroom Suites that are on the sea front, which previously didn't take full advantage of their beautiful views. We have reconfigured the suites, opening up stunning vistas, giving greater height and improving the flow of the interiors. These are now a new category – Oceanfront One Bedroom Suites.





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## THE SANDPIPER'S EXPERIENCES

### TOP OF THE WORLD

We are fortunate enough to have one of the most exclusive oceanfront suites in Barbados, Curlew, with its expansive first floor, oceanfront terrace.

When it is vacant, some of our guests have enjoyed an upgrade to stay in the suite for a special night or have indulged in an evening with a private lunch or dinner served on the terrace, from between 2 and 6 guests. This experience is exclusively available to our resident guests.

**[For more information click here!](#)**



### YOU & I

We invite couples to experience a stay which includes wonderful, romantic activities including dinners at both Coral Reef Club & The Sandpiper, a luxury catamaran cruise, a special picnic in beautiful lunch gardens in the islands interior and more, creating a truly magical getaway for 2!

**[For more information click here!](#)**





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## MASTERCHEF UK 2024 MR. BRIN PIRATHAPAN

We were thrilled to host MasterChef UK 2024 winner, Chef Brin Pirathapan. From December 5th to 8th, Chef Brin graced us with his culinary brilliance, joining forces with our acclaimed Executive Chef, Andrew Jean, for an exclusive showcase of one of Brin's delicious lamb dishes, using other local ingredients for the Sambal-Crusted Rack of Lamb, paired with the delicate Anise Carrot Purée, and finished with a Red Wine & Tamarind Jus. Brin and his fiancée Anna loved their honeymoon at The Sandpiper and we hope to welcome them back, as we do with so many of our long standing repeat guests.

Watch the exclusive interview with both chefs—simply click the play button.



## INTRODUCING THE NEXT GENERATION

The continuation of the family business has never been foisted on any generation but there is clearly a natural passion within what is now the 3rd generation. Grandsons to Cynthia O'Hara and children to The O'Haras and Capaldis, Sebastian O'Hara and Charlie Capaldi have joined the team.

Growing up within the hotels, they are excited to continue the family legacy of warm hospitality and creating an environment for guests to return year after year by keeping standards high while bringing fresh ideas and energy to the mix.



[Click here to view Charles and Sebastian's interview highlights](#)



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## THE KING'S TRUST

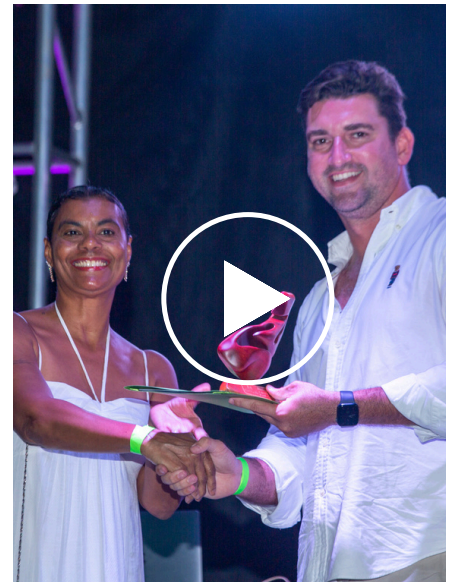
As a family-owned and managed company that understands the intricacies of passing down knowledge to create legacies, we are committed to nurturing the next generation of hospitality professionals in Barbados. Through partnerships with The King's Trust (formerly the Prince's Trust), the Barbados Vocational Training Board, and the Jean & Norma Holder Hospitality Institute, we provide training and opportunities for young talent. This year, we welcomed 13 interns with 2 from The King's Trust now on job attachments. We are proud to celebrate Ke-Yan Browne, who completed her internship in May 2024 and was named Intern of the Year. Building futures, shaping hospitality.

## THE TEAM

### A NIGHT OF CELEBRATION...

We came together at Coral Reef, under a beautiful full moon, to celebrate and recognize our teams from both hotels. Our staff party was a night filled with awards, laughter and good vibes as we honoured our incredible team members.

We are immensely proud of our teams for their unwavering commitment to excellence. Every day, they bring their passion, commitment, and warmth, creating unforgettable experiences for our guests and making our hotels feel like home.





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## 2024 AWARDS

### THE BARBADOS TOURISM AWARDS & GALA DINNER

On Saturday, 4th June, Coral Reef Club and The Sandpiper basked in well-deserved recognition, embodying our commitment to exceptional service and the dedication of our valued employees. At the Barbados Tourism Awards & Gala Dinner 2024, both hotels and the following team members were honoured with nominations in the categories listed below:

Sheldon Davis - Coral Reef Club- Employee of the Year  
Kedane Wood - Coral Reef Club - Mixologist of the Year  
Rodney Corbin - The Sandpiper - Chef of the Year  
Lemar Francis - The Sandpiper - Special Award in any Endeavour  
The Sandpiper - Luxury Hotel of the Year

### ELEGANT RESORTS CLIENT CHOICE AWARD

In November, Leading luxury tour operator in the UK, Elegant Resorts hosts its Annual Supplier Awards Ceremony each year, in recognition of those going above and beyond for the luxury company's clients and the industry.

It is truly a huge achievement for Coral Reef Club to have received one out of just eleven awards categories, and the 'Client Choice Award' is extremely coveted, holding great prestige for those in the industry.

### CONDE NAST TRAVELLER'S 2024 READERS CHOICE AWARDS

We are immensely grateful to our loyal guests and all those who voted for Coral Reef Club and The Sandpiper in the 2024 Readers' Choice Awards. It is a tremendous honour to see Coral Reef Club recognised among the top 5 best hotels in the Caribbean and The Sandpiper achieving 2nd place. These accolades would not have been possible without your continued support and trust.

On behalf of the Directors, Management, and our entire team, we extend our heartfelt thanks for making this possible. We look forward to welcoming you back to create more cherished memories with us.

These extraordinary achievements wouldn't have been possible without the collective effort and dedication of our entire team. These accolades not only reflect our commitment to excellence but also to delivering outstanding service to our guests.







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## AIRLIFT TO BARBADOS



### BRITISH AIRWAYS, VIRGIN ATLANTIC & AER LINGUS

Both British Airways and Virgin Atlantic will run increased direct flights from London's Heathrow. Virgin Atlantic is increasing its frequency to Barbados with upwards of 24 flights per week including four weekly flights from Manchester. Virgin Atlantic is also making it easier to island-hop this winter thanks to their inter-regional flights to nearby Caribbean islands such as Grenada and St. Vincent.

Aer Lingus has also resumed its direct Barbados flights from Manchester until May 2025.

### UNITED, AMERICAN, DELTA & JETBLUE AIRLINES

American Airlines direct Barbados flights include direct services from Miami, Charlotte, Philadelphia, and New York. This means that the airline now offers direct flights to Barbados daily from New York JFK as of November 5, 2024, and a weekly service from Philadelphia on Saturdays from November 9 to complement their Miami and Charlotte routes.

Delta Airlines will offer daily flights from Atlanta and a weekly Saturday service from New York's JFK beginning in December 2024. JetBlue will operate direct flights from Boston and New York, and United Airlines' direct flights to Barbados are available for persons traveling out of New York and Washington.

### AIR CANADA & WESTJET

Canada's expanded schedule of direct flights to Barbados includes frequent flights from five major Canadian cities. Air Canada and WestJet offer frequent Barbados flights from Toronto's Pearson International Airport. Air Canada's increased winter services also include direct flights to Barbados from Montreal, Ottawa, Vancouver, and Halifax, starting from December 2024 running until April 2025.

### UK AIR-TO-SEA

If you are looking to cruise and then stay in Barbados, you can benefit from direct charter services from Manchester and London Gatwick. As usual, TUI Airways and Virgin Atlantic are the charter partners of P&O Cruises offering these direct services. Similarly to winter 2023, Norse Atlantic Airways will also return to partner on P&O's winter fly-cruise programme with scheduled weekly flights to Barbados for the season.