



Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago

Inside this Issue

Irish Minister
visits T&T 2

Shree Krishna
Ragbir presented
with Letter of
Appointment 3

T&T souvenirs for
tourists 4

Defence Diplomacy
at Heads of Missions
Conference 5

Mark Your
Calendar 6

Temporary visa
requirement 7

It's a family affair 10

The complete
guide to Tobago 11

E-mail the Editor at:
tthc.information
@btconnect.com

London Mission

Volume 23

January 2007



www.tthighcommission.co.uk

Thank you for your valued support and involvement

- H.E. Glenda
Morean Phillip SC



Message from the High Commissioner:

In this first edition of our Newsletter (The London Mission) for 2007, I wish to take the opportunity to express my gratitude to all our subscribers and contributors, whose support has greatly enhanced the output, and, of course, not forgetting the contribution of the staff of the Public Affairs, Culture and Tourism Unit at the Mission, Ashton Ford, Geoff Lowe and Donald Chambers, and IT Specialist, Gavin Barker, to whom I extend sincere congratulations for their display of commitment and professionalism to the task in hand.

I therefore wish everyone, including all the other members of staff at the Mission and of the wider Diaspora, a HAPPY NEW YEAR and rich blessings throughout 2007.

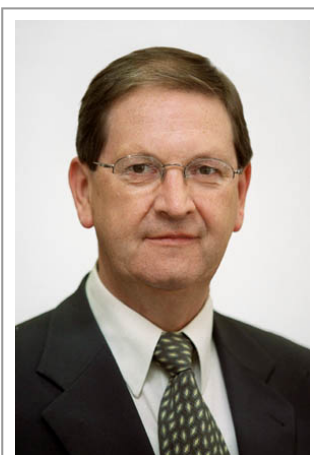
The year 2006 presented us with some unique challenges as well as with some pleasing accomplishments. The greatest challenge to this Mission was coping with the illness and subsequent passing of Mr. Evans King, the Deputy High Commissioner, a very competent and dedicated officer, who spent half of his half century in this world in the Foreign Service of Trinidad and Tobago. My sympathy is with his widow and three daughters, who are faced with the even greater challenge of coping with their loss.

On the happier side, the High Commission has pressed on with its goal of reaching out to the several Trinidad and Tobago associations as well as the many nationals in the United Kingdom by encouraging the participation of a wide cross-section of the members of

(Continues on page 3)

T&T and Ireland share similar economic development

Former St. Mary's College teacher, now Irish Trade and Commerce Minister, addresses seminar in T&T



*The Hon. Michael Ahern,
Trade and Commerce
Minister, Ireland*

Irish Trade and Commerce Minister, the Hon. Michael Ahern, addressed a seminar at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Port-of-Spain recently, entitled “The Irish Model of Economic Development — Lessons for Trinidad and Tobago.”

The seminar, which was co-hosted by the governments of Trinidad and Tobago and Ireland, formed part of the

activities when an Irish trade mission headed by Minister Ahern visited T&T. The visit of Ahern’s mission was the direct result of a similar mission which Trade and Industry Minister Kenneth Valley led to five European countries in September 2006. Those countries were Ireland, Spain, Germany, France and England.

The Irish Trade Minister who started off his career at St Mary’s College in Port-of-Spain from 1970 to 1972, was impressed with the level of development which had taken place in this country since that time. He also indicated that the type of economic development which Trinidad and Tobago was undergoing was similar to that which was taking place in his country and there was much which both nations could learn from one another.

Dubbed the “Celtic Tiger” for its radical economic transformation since the 1950’s, Ireland has moved from a predominantly agricultural economy to one with well-developed manufacturing services and international services sectors and can convincingly claim to be a knowledge economy. From 2004 to 2006, Ireland’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew from 4.5 to 5.6 percent. During the same period, Trinidad and Tobago’s GDP grew from 8.8 to 12 percent. Trinidad and Tobago and Ireland’s GDP growth figures exceed those of the USA, France, Germany, Spain and Japan from 2004 to 2006.

Ahern said that Ireland had moved from a position of being one of the poorest countries in the European Union (EU) to a point where it was often cited as an economic role model in the EU. Ahern said that Ireland had today managed to reduce its unemployment levels from ten to

four percent and increase the living standards of its population to amongst the highest in the world. The introduction of high tariffs on imported goods and other measures ensured that Irish-made products got preference in home markets.

Now, with incentives for investment, Ahern said that the Irish government’s new pro-business policies had paid off handsomely, with over 1,050 foreign companies choosing Ireland as their European base of operations.

The Irish Trade Minister stated that of these companies, over 600 were US companies that directly employed more than 90,000 Irish citizens — some five percent of Ireland’s workforce. He also said that 13 of the world’s top pharmaceutical companies and 25 of the top 50 have established a presence there.

“Exports in the pharmaceutical sectors now account for around 40 percent of total manufacturing exports from Ireland,” Ahern said. The Irish Trade Minister also spoke about the establishment of a Competition Authority to deal with monopolies and mergers.

Ahern said that while there was no simple formula for economic success and trade liberalisation alone was no panacea, “It is clear that over recent years those countries with the highest level of integration into the world economy have achieved the fastest growth in economic development.”

He further stated that “trade liberalisation does not automatically mean higher growth because trade liberalisation has little benefit if the domestic policy is wrong.”

“Economies need to build local institutional and infrastructure framework in order to reap the benefits of trade opportunities,” Ahern added.

Ahern said that while many European citizens were sceptical about the benefits of globalisation, the key benefit of globalisation was its increasing trade openness, results in cheaper imports which creates greater consumer power and boosts the demand for goods and services. The Irish Minister explained that this meant Europe’s prosperity was intrinsically linked to that of the emerging economies in other parts of the world-
(Continues on page 4)
including the Caribbean.

HC presents Letter of Appointment to Shree Krishna Ragbir

On Saturday 6th January 2007, Her Excellency Glenda Morean Phillip attended the monthly Satsangh of the Maha Lakshmi Vidya Bhavan in Honor Park, South London.

She was invited to present the letter of appointment as a trustee of the Mandir to Shree Krishna Ragbir, Office Manager at the High Commission. He is the first national of Trinidad and Tobago to hold such a post in the twenty five year history of the organization.

In her speech to the devotees, Her Excellency noted the peace and sanctity of the temple and was encouraged by the participation of the young children in the Hindu community.

The members of the Maha Lakshmi are residents of the United Kingdom with roots from countries such as



H.E. Morean Phillip (above right) with Shree Krishna Ragbir at the ceremony in Honor Park.

Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Fiji, Mauritius, Kenya and Uganda.

Her Excellency's New Year Message continued...



H.E. Glenda Morean Phillip SC receives the TTPNUK report from Mr. Nigel Guy.

Guy and Mr. Ancil Barclay, under my patronage, is not only serving to augment the Trinidad and Tobago networking web, but it is also seeking to provide a link between all professionals from the Diaspora who want to make a contribution to their country and the different institutions in Trinidad and Tobago which could utilise the services of such professionals in a way that would be beneficial to both parties. A highlight of the activities of

our communities in the activities organised by or held under the patronage of the High Commission. I am pleased to report that by and large this effort has been met with great success. In particular, the establishment of a new organisation, the Trinidad and Tobago Professionals Network in the United Kingdom, (TTPNUK), spear-headed by two young

nationals, Mr. Nigel Guy was its initiative, in collaboration with the High Commission, of holding a forum between health care professionals in the United Kingdom and a delegation from the Ministry of Health (T & T), led by the Minister, who outlined some of the personnel needs of and the Ministry's plans for health care in Trinidad and Tobago.

For 2007, the collaboration and communication effort has been taken to an even higher level to secure greater participation and involvement of our nationals and supporters in the promotion of the Mission's efforts in the areas of trade, culture and tourism. In addition to the monthly meeting of nationals at the High Commission, regular quarterly meetings are proposed for the several T & T associations to interact with each other and plan their activities in terms of scheduling in such a way as to maximize individual participation. The first meeting was held on January 18, 2000, at which several of our associations were represented. This augurs well for the activities planned for the coming year.

Once more, I extend warmest greetings to all and I look forward to a year of further successful cooperation and collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago community and extended community in the United Kingdom.

Glenda Morean Phillip

T&T souvenirs for tourists

At all of our ports of entry, visitors to our shores for Carnival 2007 will receive a Trinidad and Tobago Country Pictorial Calendar. Produced by the Ministry of Tourism and themed “**SMALL COUNTRY ... BIG PASSION**”, the calendar encapsulates images of how a country with a mere 1.5 million persons is perhaps one of the “richest countries” in the world in terms of our passion for life, our achievements, our religious and cultural diversity and the multidimensional beauty of Trinidad and Tobago.

Senator the Honourable Howard Chin Lee, Minister of Tourism, noted that “This Country Calendar is wonderful memento of Trinidad and Tobago and a treasure piece for the T&T diaspora who are always eager to recall memories of their homeland”. The Calendar has been sent to our Overseas Missions and to all our marketing representatives at our tourism source markets for use in promotional road shows.

Several of Trinidad and Tobago’s leading media photographers contributed to the calendar.



Senator the Honourable Howard Chin Lee, Minister of Tourism, and Jacqueline Ganteaume-Farrell, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Tourism, watch with pride the various calendar shots of the Trinidad and Tobago Country Calendar.

Some of the stunning images captured on the calendar include:

- The unity enjoyed by the nation as **SOCA WARRIORS** fever enveloped Trinidad and Tobago and the football world;
- Carnival;
- Cricket Action at the Queen’s Park Oval;
- The Temple of the Sea;
- The 2006 Chinese Bicentennial Celebrations; and
- The Jig Dance in Tobago.

Irish Minister’s visit to T&T continued...



The Hon. Minister Ahern is greeted by the Hon. Diane Seukeran, Minister of State in the Ministry of Trade and Industry. In the background is the Hon. Minister Kenneth Valley, Minister of Trade and Industry.

Noting that Trinidad and Tobago is focusing on developing its education sector as it seeks to shift from energy to a knowledge-based economy, Ahern said this was the reason why the Irish government moved to implement free secondary education in the 1960’s and free tertiary education in the 1970’s.

In his address to the gathering, Prime Minister Patrick Manning said efforts are being accelerated to attract higher value investments in the downstream energy and non-energy sectors of the economy.

Referring to the Trinidad and Tobago government’s recent establishment of a research development fund to help stimulate business in the non-energy sector of the economy, Ahern said this was a step in the right direction towards a knowledge-based economy.

Ahern also said the social partnership process launched by the Irish government in 1987 has been one of the key pillars in Ireland’s economic transformation since the 1950’s. This brings together all of the key actors in society- the government, employers, trade unions, the farming sector and the representatives of the civil and voluntary sector. “The agreements have helped build a national consensus around economic and social policies, paying rich dividends in terms of employment, growth and social cohesion.”

Defence Diplomacy at Heads of Mission Conference

by Lt. Colonel Sharon Alfonso



Above: Lt. Colonel Sharon Alfonso, Defence Attaché, Trinidad and Tobago High Commission, London.

Vision 2020 envisages a balanced, nimble, adaptable, flexible and multipurpose National Defence Framework, which is capable of conducting its business to advance the national interest. In order to achieve this end, our Defence Force has to be postured for forward deployment both in defence of the national interest and in support of national, regional and international objectives of the State. It is against this background and in the light of the development of a robust foreign policy that the military officers involved in defence diplomacy were invited to the Heads of Mission conference that took place in Port-of –Spain over the period 4-8 December 2006.

It was the first time that the military had had such a profile in the forum of foreign policy discussions and it was timely. In Britain, Defence Diplomacy is seen as a worthy activity that can create meaningful change for institutions and states. The end, though, is to further Britain's national interest. It is the same for Trinidad and Tobago; the Defence Diplomacy function seeks to advance the interests of the state, primarily in the areas of security and defence. This may take the form of technology and knowledge transfer, information sharing or development of goodwill networks, to mention a few

At the conference, all present were exposed to presentations on state activity such as what is developing in the energy sector, housing, national infrastructure, technology and the national strategy plan Vision 2020... Of great importance were the many discussions on what was necessary to advance the foreign policy objectives of the state. In this area, there was much lively discussion and debate.

The military is a highly structured organization with a dominant and strong culture. One can say the same for what I observed of the Foreign Service at the conference. It was a delight to listen and to learn about this environment. The military was asked to make a presentation on the function of defence diplomacy and were available for questions from the Heads of Mission. The principal point of the presentation was the usefulness of the defence diplomacy function to Heads of Missions in advancing the interests of our state.





The Minister of Foreign Affairs animated all the events of the conference and his energy was easily transferred to everyone. The connection begat by the development of an active defence diplomacy mission was evident through the presence of the Minister of National Security at the Opening Ceremony. Clearly this is an exciting time.

The highlight of the conference was the address made by the Prime Minister at the opening and his availability to listen at the closing. His remarks at the opening provided direction for the conduct of the conference and at the closing he gave the diplomats an opportunity to give him feedback. Our diplomats are certainly articulate and eloquent.



*The Hon. Patrick Manning
Prime Minister*

For those of us involved in the defence diplomacy function, Brigadier Ancil Antoine, Director-General of the Inter American Defence Board, Lt Colonel Anthony Phillips-Spencer Defence Attaché, Washington and I, Defence Attaché, London, it was a privilege to participate in such a signal event. Brigadier Antoine took the opportunity on behalf of all of us to thank the Honourable Prime Minister and the Honourable Ministers of Foreign Affairs and National Security for affording us the privilege.

<p>FEBRUARY</p>	 <p>TRINIDAD & TOBAGO CARNIVAL</p>  <p>1st NATIONALS MEETING 2007</p>	<p><i>Mark your calendar</i></p> <p>The year 2007 has a lot in store for the Trinidad and Tobago community in London. Keep following the <i>London Mission</i> for exact times, locations of these and other events.</p>
<p>MARCH</p>	 <p>EDUCATION SUMMIT</p>  <p>SPIRITUAL SHOUTER BAPTIST SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING</p>  <p>ICC Cricket World Cup WEST INDIES 2007</p>	
<p>MAY</p>	 <p>LUTON CARNIVAL</p>  <p>INDIAN ARRIVAL DAY CELEBRATIONS</p>  <p>CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW</p>  <p>W.I. TOUR OF ENGLAND</p>	
<p>JULY</p>	 <p>HAMPTON COURT FLOWER SHOW</p> <p><i>Are you a member of a Trinidad and Tobago organization in the UK? Do you have an event planned for 2007 that you would like listed on the Trinidad and Tobago High Commission Calendar of Events? If so, please contact:</i></p> <p><i>The Public Affairs, Culture & Tourism Division at the High Commission for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, London.</i></p> <p>E-mail: tthc@btconnect.com</p>	
<p>AUGUST</p>	 <p>EMANCIPATION DAY CELEBRATIONS</p>  <p>T&T SCOUT ASSOCIATION RECEPTION</p>  <p>NOTTING HILL CARNIVAL</p>  <p>LONDON CALYPSO TENT</p> <div data-bbox="687 1469 904 1581" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>FLAMBOYAN COSTUME SPLASH</p> </div>  <p>LONDON PANORMA FINALS</p>	
<p>SEPTEMBER</p>	 <p>INDEPENDENCE DAY CHURCH SERVICE</p> <div data-bbox="616 1666 884 1800" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>G&H PROMOTIONS' INDEPENDENCE DANCE</p> </div>  <p>MISS TRINIDAD & TOBAGO UK</p>  <p>REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS</p>	
<p>OCTOBER</p>	 <p>BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATIONS AT THE YAA CENTRE</p> <div data-bbox="679 1917 916 2029" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>CARIBBEAN FILM FESTIVAL</p> </div>  <p>EID CELEBRATION</p>  <p>RACES AT PONTEFRACT</p>	
<p>DECEMBER</p>	<div data-bbox="296 2107 541 2186" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>STUDENTS' RECEPTION</p> </div> <div data-bbox="735 2107 975 2186" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>NATIONAL'S RECEPTION</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1118 2107 1358 2186" style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>DIVALI (tba)</p> </div>	

TEMPORARY VISA REQUIREMENT

As of February 1st 2007 until May 15th 2007, anyone visiting Trinidad and Tobago for any reason from any country except CARICOM nationals and residents (except nationals or residents of Haiti) and nationals of eleven (11) countries or their dependent territories listed below will need a **Special Caricom Visa** to enter Trinidad and Tobago. Persons visiting Trinidad and Tobago for less than 24 hours by cruise ship do not need a special visa.

This will impact two groups of persons:

1. Those persons who previously did NOT need a visa to enter Trinidad and Tobago will now need one if they intend to arrive in Trinidad and Tobago between February 1st and May 15th. This will include nationals of such countries as Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Colombia, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and Venezuela.
2. Those persons who previously needed a visa to enter Trinidad and Tobago and who applied for a Trinidad and Tobago visa through our overseas embassies and consulates. They will now need to apply for a special CARICOM visa to designated issuing locations as listed on the CARICOM website www.caricomimpacs.org.

Who will need a visa?

If they are not from one of the exempt countries shown below:

- Friends and relatives visiting Trinidad and Tobago for Carnival or for any other reason.
- Persons visiting Trinidad and Tobago for a beach vacation.
- Persons visiting on business.
- Persons visiting to attend meetings, conferences, or trade shows.
- Persons participating in sporting events or tournaments.
- Persons attending school or other places of education.
- Persons visiting for any other reason.

So if you know anyone intending to visit Trinidad and Tobago between February 1st 2007 and May 15th 2007 who fits into any of these categories please get in touch with them and tell them to visit the CARICOM website www.caricomimpacs.org or www.visitnt.com to see how to obtain the required visa. Because it will take a minimum of three days to process the visa application (not including the time required to send and get the documents back again) it is recommended that persons requiring a visa apply as soon as possible.

EXEMPT COUNTRIES

Nationals or residents of CARICOM member states (except Haiti) will **NOT** need a special visa. Nationals of Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Spain, South Africa, the Netherlands and its overseas territories, the United Kingdom and its overseas territories, and the United States of America, and its dependent territories will **NOT** require a special visa.



New Machine –readable passports to be issued from TTHC London shortly



Immigration Attaché at the TTHC, Mr. Nirmal Bhaggan

The Trinidad and Tobago High Commission, 42 Belgrave Square, London, has been designated as one of the capture sites for the new Trinidad and Tobago Machine Readable passport which should be in operation shortly.

All first time applicants for the machine readable passport must appear in person at this Mission to be interviewed and to have his or her photograph taken. This will be done on an appointment basis.

In the first instance, appointments will be made for the following persons:

- Applicants who have never applied for a Trinidad and Tobago passport;
- Applicants whose passports have expired;
- Applicants whose passports do not have a six- month validity;
- Female applicants who wish to change their name because of marriage; and
- Applicants who have lost their passports.

Please note that the old Trinidad and Tobago birth certificate is acceptable but it takes about six (6) weeks to obtain the machine readable passport because all information on the old birth certificate must be verified by the Registrar General in Trinidad and Tobago.

It is advisable to apply for the free computerised birth certificate through this Mission.

It must be noted that the old Trinidad and Tobago passports will be valid until the 31 December 2009.

The cost of the machine readable passport in London for adult applicants sixteen (16) years and over and a child under sixteen (16) years of age will be £40.00 for a thirty (32) page passport. Processing time is three (3) weeks. Original documentary evidence of your Trinidad and Tobago citizenship must be submitted and will be returned to you upon delivery of the passport.

Nationals born in Trinidad and Tobago must provide the following documents:

- Birth certificate – Computer generated with pin number or old birth certificate;
- Affidavit(s) or deed poll(s) where applicable;
- If you acquired citizenship of another country, you must produce the citizenship certificate of that country. The date of acquisition must be stated;
- Female applicants who are married must submit their marriage certificate(s) including decree absolute where necessary.

Nationals who acquired Trinidad and Tobago citizenship through the following listed below must submit:

Descent:	Long Form Birth certificate, proof of parents Trinidad and Tobago Citizenship, their birth certificates, marriage certificates and Trinidad and Tobago passports;
Registration:	Certificate of registration, birth certificate
Naturalization:	Certificate of naturalization, birth certificate;
Adoption:	Certificate of Adoption, birth certificate where applicable.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Information provided by the Ministry of National Security, Trinidad and Tobago

Q. Who sets the standards for machine-readable travel documents?

A. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) is the international authority charged with developing global standards for machine-readable travel documentation. More information can be found at www.icao.int

Q. Why are machine-readable passports being issued?

A. The ICAO has mandated its member states, which includes Trinidad and Tobago, to begin issuing machine-readable passports before April 01, 2010. Member states will not be allowed to use eye-readable passports for travel after April 01, 2010.

Q. Can I bring my own passport-sized photograph for the processing of the new machine-readable passport?

A. No. The immigration Division at the High Commission is responsible for capturing the applicant's image in keeping with ICAO's specifications. For subsequent renewals however, the applicant will supply his/her photograph according to specifications.

Q. If I do not have the new birth certificate, can I apply for my passport with the old birth certificate?

A. It is in the applicant's best interest to have a computer-generated birth certificate. Using the old birth certificate will entail the applicant waiting 21 working days for the passport.

Q. How long will it take from the time I apply for the machine-readable passport to the time I receive it?

A. First time application with computer-generated birth certificate - 10 business days
 First-time application with old format birth certificate - 21 business days
 Lost/stolen/mutilated application - 6 weeks
 Applications supported by deed poll - 3 weeks
 In special circumstances, a person can request to have a passport prepared before the standard 10 business days. In such a case, the applicant will pay an additional cost to expedite the preparation of the passport.

Q. What will happen to the visas I now have in my existing passport, for example my US visa?

A. Individuals are required to contact the relevant embassies. Every country has its own requirements with regard to this subject.

Q. Right now, my child is on my passport. I was advised that this was valid for travel until my child reaches 16, or the passport expires, but with the new machine-readable passports, do I need a new passport for my child?

A. Yes. You should obtain a new passport for your child. As machine-readable passports typically have bio data for only one traveller in the machine-readable zone, children will therefore require their own individual passports.

Q. Can a previously issued passport still be used for travel as long as it is still valid?

A. Yes, previously issued passports that are still valid can be used for travel. It is important to note that the existing Trinidad and Tobago passport is increasingly being subject to international scrutiny and you may experience delays at international ports of entry. **All valid non-machine-readable passports can be used for travel until December 31, 2009.**

Q. Will this passport allow me entry to any country in the Caribbean?

A. Yes, subject to that country's other entry requirements.

Q. Is the machine-readable passport and the CARICOM passport the same thing?

A. Trinidad and Tobago is a member of CARICOM. The inclusion of the CARICOM logo on the front cover identifies Trinidad and Tobago as a member state.

NOTE: The Trinidad and Tobago High Commission, London, has NOT yet started the issuance of the machine –readable passports. Nationals will be advised as to the start date.

MOVING TOWARDS EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

by Ashton Ford



Sen. the Hon. Hazel Manning, Minister of Education

While several countries worldwide are grappling with the infiltration of drugs, alcohol and violence in schools, the Ministry of Education in Trinidad and Tobago has

already implemented a programme on Drug Abuse and Prevention since 12th June 2005.

The programme is part of the ongoing reformation of the Ministry entitled "Excellence in Education" initiated by the Minister of Education, Senator the Honourable Mrs Hazel Manning.

The objective of the programme is to create an ideal learning environment in all schools and also to take a holistic approach to the development of

all children in the school system, that is, paying adequate attention to the total well-being of the child. The policy emboldens the Ministry's initiative to combat the presence of illegal drugs in our nation's schools.

All schools in Trinidad and Tobago have been directed to organise programme and activities designed to create *drug free*, smoke free leaning environment. The illegal activity of drug abuse in schools is also gaining the attention of the authorities the United Kingdom according to a published report in The Times newspaper of January 25 2007.

Under the headline "9-year-old children used by dealers to deliver hard drugs," the report stated that criminal gangs were infiltrating schools and using children as young as nine years to run messages between members and act as drug mules. This startling information was revealed to parents by the Minister

responsible

for schools, Mr. Jim Knight, who further stated that the problem had been identified in several parts of the UK. He said that the situation called for urgent action to prevent an escalation in the phenomena to the point where it becomes a genuine worry for parents and pupils.

However, in the case of Trinidad and Tobago, the Ministry of Education's programme is utilizing the medical and pharmacy students of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, UWI, in addition to students of the Addiction Studies Programme of the School of Continuing Studies, to educate the students of Primary and Secondary Schools.

The use of technology and the implementation of peer counselling are some of the other methods that are being used as part of the programme.

Trini...a synonym for excellence!



Duonne Alexander

It's a family affair

Duonne Alexander to receive MBE

Her father received a MBE, her husband (Rudolph Walker) too was so honoured, and, not one to be left out, Duonne Alexander will officially receive the MBE for outstanding services to the British Food industry on 9th February, 2007.

A mother, author, philosopher and groundbreaking entrepreneur, Duonne's persona and achievements have seen her included amongst the 10 most influential black people in British history for the millennium archives. Her books have been described as 'inspirational' and 'masterful', her work in healthcare - 'revolutionary.'

The High Commissioner for the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Her Excellency Mrs. Glenda Morean Phillip, and the staff at the High Commission wish to congratulate Duonne on all her accomplishments, topped off by her receiving the honoured MBE.

Duonne Alexander, showing once again why Trini is a synonym for excellence!

The complete guide to

With its choice of Caribbean or Atlantic, palm tree or rainforest, dozing or diving, and three types of sand, this is a paradise island in the sun like no other, says Marian Amos of *The Independent Traveller* magazine

PART I**WHAT'S DIFFERENT ABOUT TOBAGO?***Tobago*

So much more than simply another Caribbean island in the sun, Tobago offers a wealth of reasons to escape winter in Britain. Little sister to Trinidad and, thankfully, still relatively untouched by developers' claws, the island is home to picture postcard-perfect beaches (complete with obligatory palm trees), pristine coral reefs, and an abundance of

flora and fauna -as well as the oldest protected rainforest

in the western hemisphere.

Tobago, which takes its name from the Carib *tavaco* (originally meaning a pipe, then tobacco) also has shackloads of charm. The ease and pace of Tobagonian life hits you the minute you step off the plane.

The dimensions of Tobago, 41km long and 12 km wide, are uncannily close to those of the Isle of Wight. But Tobago has the advantage of lying just 11degrees north of the Equator. The island has the Caribbean Sea on its leeward (western) side and the Atlantic Ocean on its windward (eastern) shores. And very different they are too. (*See PART II in next issue*)

*Ellis Chow Lin On***Soca world mourns Ellis Chow**

Lost one of its most faithful sons on January 4, 2007 when Ellis Chow Lin On, 69, passed away.

brother to renowned Carnival engineer/artisan, Aldwyn Chow Lin On and father of record producer/radio company owner, Anthony "Chinese Laundry" Chow Lin On.

Ellis could be described as a spindle which significantly supported the genesis, development and proliferation of soca music. With New York-based producer Rawlston "Charlie" Charles, he formed Roots back in the '70s, a musical powerhouse that was subsequently known as Manhattan Charlie's Roots.

His funeral took place on January 9, 2007 and was attended by a star-studded cast which included Shurwayne Winchester, Roger George, David Rudder, Christopher Tambu Herbert, Kerwin Trotman, Natalie Yorke and Carl Jacobs.

Culture Minister, Senator the Honourable Joan Yullie-Williams and Minister of Tourism, Sen. the Honourable Howard Chin Lee as well as international producers Rawlston Charles and Ralph MacDonald were also present.

VACANCIES

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
AT ST. AUGUSTINE, TRINIDAD

The University of the West Indies is actively looking for persons to fill the following positions:

LECTURER IN ENGINEERING

Department: Mechanical Engineering

Faculty: Engineering

Deadline Date: Saturday, February 10, 2007

SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER IN GOVERNMENT

Department: Behavioural Sciences

Faculty: Social Sciences

Deadline Date: Friday, February 16, 2007

LECTURER IN PSYCHOLOGY

Department: Behavioural Sciences

Faculty: Social Sciences

Deadline Date: Wednesday, February 28, 2007

For further details and information on other opportunities, please visit -
www.sta.uwi.edu/jobs

Focus on the Mission



H.E. Mrs. Glenda Morean Phillip is presented with the TTPNUK report by Mr. Nigel Guy, co-founder and Director. Also pictured are board and executive members of TTPNUK.



Strengthening ties: Trinidad and Tobago's Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Hon. Arnold Piggott, exchanges business cards with Ireland's visiting Minister of Trade and Commerce, the Hon. Michael Ahern.



Left: The first of this year's CARICOM Heads of Missions was held at the Trinidad and Tobago High Commission on 31st January, 2007. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Dr. James E. Williams of St. Kitts and Nevis (far right). Also pictured from left are: H.E. Carl Roberts (Antigua & Barbuda); H.E. Cenio Lewis (St. Vincent and the Grenadines); and H.E. Burchell Whiteman (Jamaica). Right: H.E. Joseph S. Charter (Grenada); H.E. Edwin Pollard OBE (Barbados); H.E. Glenda Morean Phillip SC (Trinidad and Tobago); and Ag. High Commissioner Ms. Agnes Adonis (Dominica). Also present at the meeting was H.E. Lawrence A. Sylvester (Belize).



Left: TTHC's Simon de Guglielmo with former TTHC employee Alcía Cochrané at Brian Danclair's Christmas party in London. Picture provided by trinijunglejuice.com

Right: The High Commissioner recently hosted a New Year's Reception at her residence to toast the staff of the Mission. The event was a great success thanks in no small way to the effort of her residence staff: Eufemia Felarca, Marlon Walke and Salis Argallon.



Trinidad and Tobago High Commission
42 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8NT
Tel: 020 7245 9351 Fax: 020 7823 1065
E-mail: tthc.information@btconnect.com