

Windrush Day marks the anniversary of the arrival of the MV Empire Windrush at the Port of Tilbury, near London, on 22 June 1948. The arrival of the Empire Windrush 73 years ago marked a seminal moment in Britain's history and has come to represent the rich diversity of this nation.

Those who arrived on the Empire Windrush, their descendants and those who followed them have made and continue to make an enormous contribution to Britain, not just in the vital work of rebuilding the country and public services following WW2 but in enriching our shared social, economic and religious life.

Overcoming great sacrifice and hardship, the Windrush Generation and their descendants have gone on to lead the field across public life, in business, the arts and sport. Britain would be much diminished without their contribution.



The Windrush scandal was a 2018 British political scandal concerning people who were wrongly detained, denied legal rights, threatened with deportation and in at least 83 cases wrongly deported from the UK by the Home Office.

Many of those affected had been born British subjects and had arrived in the UK before 1973, particularly from Caribbean countries as members of the "Windrush generation" (so named after the Empire Windrush, the ship that brought one of the first groups of West Indian migrants to the UK in 1948).

As well as those who were deported, an unknown number were detained, lost their jobs or homes, had their passports confiscated or were denied benefits or medical care to which they were entitled.



The Windrush Project showcases the profound contribution made by the Windrush generation to business and social reform in Leeds and highlights their impact on our daily lives.

The exhibition features a wide-ranging photograph display showing the growth and variety of Windrush businesses and their impact on the communities they serve.

The exhibition also features the dramatic life stories of Windrush reformers emphasising their resilience, commitment and contribution to social change. We hope the project will enhance loyalty and pride in these businesses and strengthen community ownership and cohesion around these businesses.



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

“The Windrush Generation were indoctrinated and thought they would all be welcome after arriving after the war.

They thought they would be better appreciated then they were.

The people before me contributed, and are not forgotten but elided, we all need to be reminded

At School I applied for a scholarship, and got it. I thought it was the right thing to do at that time.

I remember sitting on a train and thinking about all the books I had read, Secret Seven, Famous Five, Edith Blyton, having picnics, drinking Ginger Beer. You never saw the coal mines, or steel works, it was a bit of a shock”

Cy Powell

DIRECTOR OF UNITY ENTERPRISE



“I was born in the UK in 1960

I have always lived in Leeds apart from living in Bradford for several months
Leeds has the largest St Kitts and Nevis community in the UK.

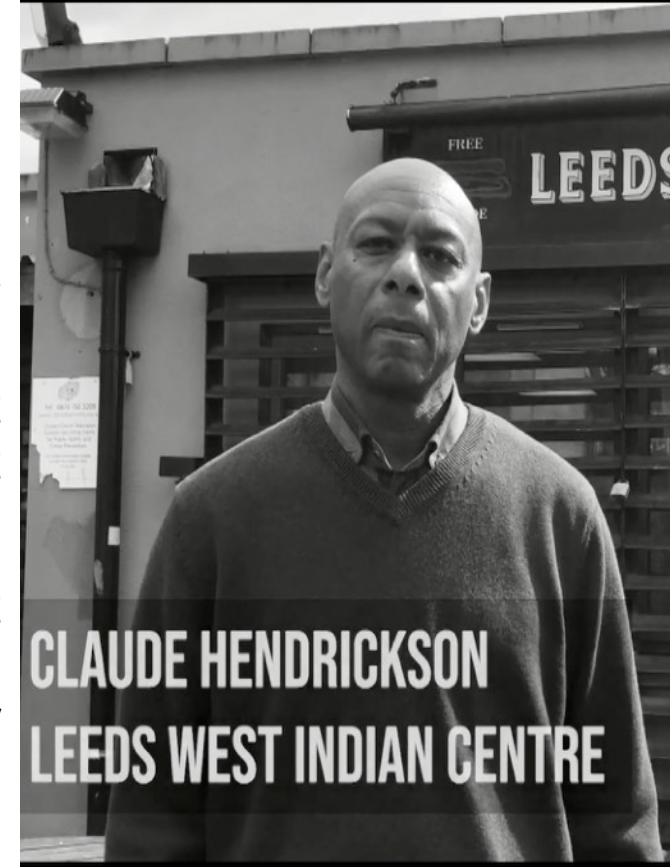
My mum worked in a cleaning services, and then worked at St James as an Auxiliary Nurse

I have run a few organisation in Chapeltown, helped support and run my first organisation when I was 18/19 years. This was a youth association. As they did not cater for Kids.

Music was important to us. So we set up our own sound system. Because of racist issues with the discotheque. White boys tried to fight us all the time. So we set up in the late 60's/early 70's. One of the things was to inspire the next generation of your people, to set up Chapeltown young people's club in 1992

I have had good mentors. Clinton Cameron and Arthur France over the years. I finished school with high grades. Even if you think the system is against you, and the teachers. You must get the most out of Education. As it's the foundation for what happens to you for the rest of your life”

Claude Hendrickson



"I am of the Second Generation of Windrush, my parents came over in the 60's and I came over a little later

My business is Domiciliary Care

From been a young person I always liked to be around the older generation. Then I had a vision which motivated me to start elderly care in the community, this started in 2017"

Christina Cambridge

CARDINAL CARE SERVICES

www.cardinalcareservicesltd.co.uk



"I have just started educating myself about the Windrush Generation.

I am now appreciating what they have been through, seen TV programmes, documentaries and it is more publicised now.

There is a lot of strength within my family.

I am now running my own Beauty business, doing make up and extending to spray tan's.

When I was younger I always wanted to run my own business.

I have researched on entrepreneurship, looked at people developing their business, which all gave me courage to go forward".

Rebekah Cambridge

ST LUCIE BEAUTY



“We run a small Caribbean Catering and Take out service and can provide food for small events. We provide employment within the area and develop young people’s skills

To enable them to see self-employment as a career option. We provide social, financial and psychological opportunities

Our experience has been that the very nature of surviving as a small black owned business is that self-reliant Links for us at Dutchpot are primarily with our customers

We provide opportunities for individuals to develop skills and gain experience to help them in turn to look at self-employment as a career option”

Sheila Grant

DUTCHPOT LEEDS



"I have lived here for 47 years and I am treated like one of their own

Kalabash's name comes from the West Indi's – if you eat from the bone the food tastes nice that's why we called our business Kalabash

When people come for holidays to Leeds they all come to Kalabash to eat, meet with family and friends"

John Jeffery

KALABASH

www.mykalabash.co.uk



"I always want to run my own business and was motivated by my mum who loved cooking for her large family.

I have now several links with other small businesses, who we give advice and help to achieve the way forward, to starting their own business

Opening my own business has given me great satisfaction in keeping the Caribbean community together. Kalabash is the place to be getting the elderly out and about to keep well and meet other. Everyone is welcome"

Sharron Smithern

KALABASH

www.mykalabash.co.uk



“My shop has been open for 4 years mainly selling flowers to the public.

The growth of the business keeps me motivated. Knowing and seeing people happy with the products we provide, just popping in to say your window display looks good, and having a few words or encouragement

Both my parents worked hard and had good ethics, which they have passed on to my sister and myself”

Bev Johnson

PETALS AND STITCHES



"I am a Self-employed Business Consultant, and started my Business Goshen09 to inspire others to start their own business. I run an incubation unit and encourage people to go self-employed by offering them Business Support, knowledge to help them achieve their goals in life

I was motivated by both my Grandparents, they both ran their own businesses. My Grandmother was a Baker and a Wedding Dress and Hat designer. My Grandfather was a Baker and a Trader. Both my Grandparents and Mother always encouraged me to work hard and be the best. I encourage my own family to do the same

My daughter was a part of the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme and is now a Marine Biologist"

Cynthia Lewis

GOSHENO9



“My Mother came to Britain in the 1950s with her family and my Father came in the 1960s with his family

I went to University to study and obtained a BSc (Hons) in nutrition, PGCE in Education and qualified teacher status

All things are possible with HARD WORK and perseverance

I design and deliver training programmes and tutoring to adults, young people and children.
Employability core skills, personal development, health and mental wellbeing”

Cynthia Augustine

ESTTA



“We offer music production, indoor and outdoor events,
Stage and production management, tour logistics and
Management video production, short films and music video’s

Establishing links with the local areas, always looking for new
developments”

Derick Lawrence

REAL PRODUCTIONS



“I always wanted to be Self-employed, I just wanted to be my own boss. My Mother always said Education, Education, study hard at school. I was not good at academics and used to fail.

But my mum said Education, Education you never give up. So I just kept going although one or two people said you will never become a lawyer – you will never make it, and it was not easy but I went for it. You must press on, and you will make it in the end. We are a defence Criminal Solicitors. We represent clients at the Police Station, Magistrates Courts and the Crown Court, dealing with offences from road traffic matters to murder

My parents settled in Leeds, My Dad was a welder, and my mum worked for the NHS as a nurse”

Patrick Bernard

BERNARD SOLICITORS



“My Father came from Jamaica and settled with his brother first in Chapeltown and then moved to his own property in Roundhay. He has now returned back to Jamaica

I run my own business's Ethical Homecare Solutions Ltd, and rent 3 office's in the Chapeltown area. I am currently supporting and encouraging my son and several other young people to open their own business by mentoring and inspiring them”

Jacqueline Willocks

ETHICAL HOMECARE SOLUTIONS LTD

www.ethicalhomecare.co.uk

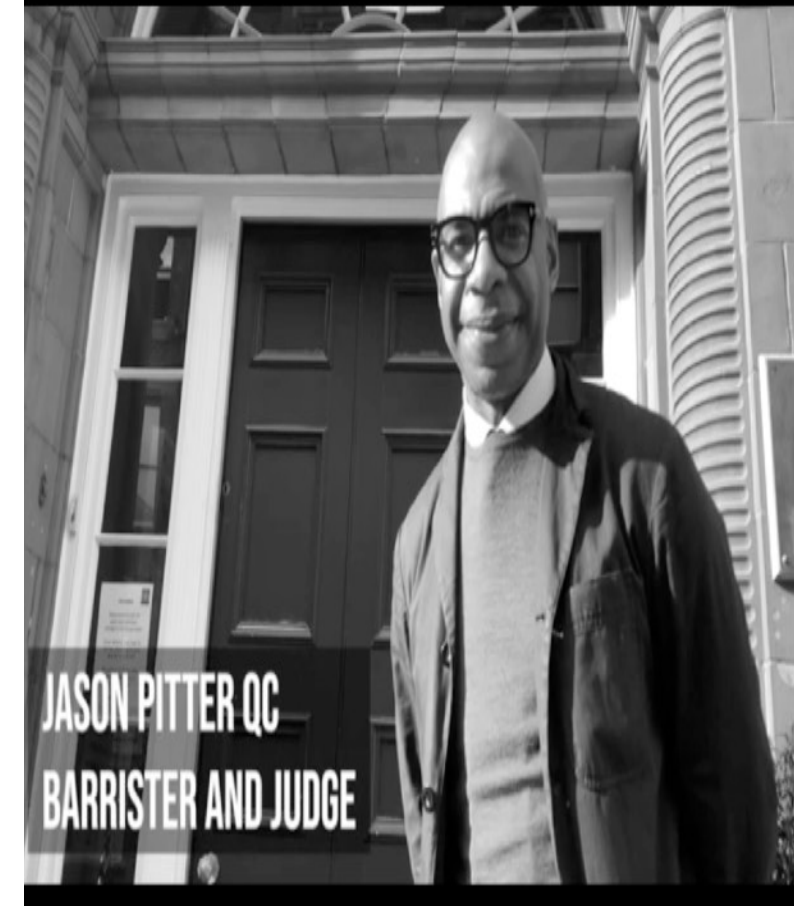


“There were not many people around who were Lawyers. So this influenced me to make that decision to do Law.

I was encouraged by people saying I had the ability to progress and achieve

I feel there is a moral obligation in the sense to open the door. But by opening the door you have to turn on the light and show them what is in the room”

Jason Pitter QC



“No job too large No job too small
Any building works required, joinery, plumbing painting
I am your man”

Ernest Adams – Better known as Moses



“Starting my own business, having the support of family and friends, and many others have given me the motivation to go out and develop myself

My business is structured around looking after client’s properties, including the legal/safety requirements to rent out their properties

Having formed links with other local businesses, and lived in the local community of Chapeltown and surrounding areas most of my life has opened up opportunities to learn more information about the industry”

Ann-Zinga Henry

MANAGEMENT AND LETTINGS SERVICES LTD



“I have always been interested in electronics from an early age. I was encouraged by a guy called Ezra Copeland, a black electronic engineer

Working with local communities, black and Asian businesses, I started doing general IT repairs/installs. Now as a self-employed person, I have taken on bigger jobs from Supermarkets to business Centres

My parents and other members of my family always inspired me to achieve better in life”

Derrick Robinson

LOGIX

www.logixcommunications.co.uk



“Black Health Initiative is a small charity organisation with a huge impact helping people with Education and social care for the BME people

Great Britain sent out an invitation to the small Islands asking people to come to Britain to re build after the War

My Grandfather was one of the first black Bishops in the UK. People worshiped in homes or in community centres”

Heather Nelson

BLACK HEALTH INITIATIVE

www.blackhealthinitiative.org



"I came over to train as a nurse, I was recruited by people who came over to the Caribbean, and trained for three years. When I arrived in England, by myself I had no coat and the weather looked muggy. I did not understand at the time this was fog, and I just wanted to turn round and go back. I settled in Basingstoke, in a remote village. After training there for a further two years. I moved to London to train for another two years. I did not see anyone looking like me in the village apart from the other nurses. There was no other African/African Caribbean people I moved to Leeds and my job was to be a community Midwife. I did it so I could be more independent, so I could move about and work in people's homes not a hospital.

I retired from midwifery through age and the direction it was going. The independence was been taken away. After I had retired I still have people stopping me in the streets saying I delivered their baby. I then went into a Care coordinator role in a care home and left in 2017. I have written a diary on my tales of Midwifery. This was published in April 2020. It is called everyone's midwife. I was also interviewed on Calendar about BLM"

Gloria Hanley

RETIRED MIDWIFE



“Phun in the Sun is a fully ATOL protected Travel Company.

We are a family run company and I am the founder and CEO.

My Grandmother came over from St Kitts and Nevis— she was my inspiration to start my travel company.

My inspiration for selling holiday's is, we specialise in group trips bringing all ethnicities together whilst traveling and making friends.

Package holidays or cruises we do it all!”
Jeanette Walker

PHUN IN THE SUN

www.phuninthesun.co.uk



“My brother inspired me to go Self-employed, by giving me 20 years’ experience. I have now run my own Cleaning, Removals, and Gardening services (Man with a Van) Business for 3 years having good community relations, there is always more to achieve if you are willing to work hard

Having a good partnership and the support this comes with, and purchasing my own home

My Grandparents ran their own small business in the Caribbean, and my mum had a shop with her dad selling bread and alcohol. My parents came from the same island, but did not meet until they came to England. They saw the streets as been paved with gold”

Gordon York

CLEANING CONTRACTOR



“I am proud to have been a part of a remarkable history.

Honoured to have led the organisation that has championed its roots and grateful to been in the company of volunteers, contributors and Carnival Committee members who have taken Leeds West Indian Carnival this far”

Dr Arthur France MBE. Hon LLD
FOUNDING MEMBER AND CHAIRPERSON
Leeds West Indian Carnival



IT IS ONE OF THE LONGEST RUNNING CARNIVALS IN EUROPE



And nobody believed it could have happened.



LEEDS WEST INDIAN CARNIVAL BEGAN IN 1967



CELEBRATING
GREAT BRITAIN'S
DNA

“I am the second generation of Windrush, my parents came over on a boat in the 1950’s

England is my first home and the Caribbean is my second home, my mother lived in a one bedroomed flat for several years, later she bought her own 4 bedroomed house for £800.00

In 1967 the carnival started, I realised there were more people than me who were of colour. This was amazing, the food, and the costumes

That is when I decided to go into costume making for all nationalities coming together as one”

Sheila Howarth
UNITY CARNIVAL ARTS



“My dad inspired me as a role model who did what he could to support his family, my mum provided a good home, ensuring that I had a better future. One of my dad’s sayings is. “If you are only as good as your teacher, you still have a lot to learn”.

He expected me to do better than he did

I am a carnival costume designer, I specialising in structured costumes. As a specialist with over 50 years’ experience in making carnival costumes, I have worked with Leeds West Indian Carnival (LWIC) carnival bands, theatres and individuals in this line of work

I love what I do, wanting to make a difference to my family and community, continuous improvement, and desire to do better”

Hughbon Condor
HIGH ESTEEM CARNIVAL DESIGN





