





As we draw near the end of another remarkable year, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for what we have achieved together. 2025 has been nothing short of historic, a year in which we celebrated 70 years of DWICA and 50 years of the Derby Caribbean Carnival, milestones that speak to the endurance, creativity, and unity of our community.

This summer, the Carnival once again brought our city to life in spectacular fashion. Yes, the skies opened and the rain came pouring down, but so too did the love and support of the Derby public. Crowds lined the streets, their spirits undampened, their hearts as bright as the costumes on display. That moment captured everything our Carnival has stood for over five decades, resilience, joy, and togetherness, whatever the weather.

Between July and October, our community's calendar was alive with meaning. We came together for the Windrush Thanksgiving Service, honouring those whose courage and sacrifice laid the foundation for generations to come. Our Summer School gave our young people the chance to explore their heritage through art, music, and culture, sowing seeds for the next seventy years of DWICA's story.

What a season of recognition it has been. We've proudly received the Caricom Award, the Derby Civic Award, and the EMCCAN Award, as well as the DHIP Certificate, each one a tribute to the collective effort of our volunteers, funders, and supporters. This year, it was also our turn to host the EMCCAN Regional Carnival Costume Showcase at Derby Theatre, a truly vibrant and memorable event that highlighted the incredible artistry and collaboration within our region. A huge thanks to Tamara Rashford for her outstanding work in organising it and ensuring it was a resounding success. All these honours remind us that what we do matters, not only to our own community but to the wider tapestry of Derby's cultural life.

As we now look ahead to the festive season, we invite everyone to join us for our Dinner and Dance in December, a joyful celebration of how far we've come and where we're heading next.

Seventy years of service, fifty years of Carnival, and countless stories of strength, love, and community spirit. Here's to every volunteer who gives their time, and every partner who believes in what we do. Together, we've made history, and together, we'll continue to shape the future. With gratitude and pride,

Mr George Mighty

Chairman, Derby West Indian Community Association





Highlights











MONDAYS 11:30-12:30PM | £4

Stay fit and focused in our Tai Chi class. Light refreshments available.



TUESDAYS 12:30-2PM | FREE

Get the most out of your devices. From booking an appointment to playing music, we;ve got you covered!



TUESDAYS 6:30-8PM

Join our band and learn **Steel** Pans note for note.



WEDNESDAYS 12-2PM

Come with us for a scenic walk to connect with nature and the community.



THURSDAYS 11-4PM

Join our weekly Warm Hub for a hot meal, some gentle exercise, games and opportunity to connect.



SATURDAYS 10-12PM | FREE

'Get on ur bike' in our Cycling **Club** and explore Derby. Bikes available on request.





The Derby West Indian Community Association hereby gives notice that its Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on above named date at 3pm.

The purpose of the meeting is for:

- 1. Presentation and consideration the Annual Report and Social Club for the year 2024-2025.
- 2. Presentation of the Annual Accounts and Reports of the Auditors.
- 3. Election of Officers and SIX members of the Executive.

Members are encouraged to attend and participate in shaping the direction of our community.

Those wishing to submit motions or nominations must do so in writing to the Secretary via email to: info@DWICA.co.uk.

By Order of the Management Angella Mighty (Secretary)

D.W.I.C.A





The Centre will be closed for the Christmas Holidays on 25th and 26th December 2025 and 1st January 2026.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Before wrapping up this newsletter, we'd like to:

- Congratulate Derby Theatre on their 50th year serving our community.
- Wish Dr Arthur France MBE, Leeds Carnival founder a Happy 90th Birthday! What a blessing.
- Acknowledge the passing of some of Derby's loved and respected members of the West Indian Community. Condolences to the bereaved family and friends. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.



Mrs Georgia Francis 25/10/34 - 11/10/25



Mr Herbert Gayle 'Tom' 21/01/38 - 28/08/25



Mr. Donald Percy 06/01/50- 29/08/25



Mr Caleb Alexander 20/02/32 - 25/04/25

UPCOMING EVENTS





