

**NMM** NATIONAL  
WINDRUSH  
MUSEUM

# WINDRUSH 75:

International Conference: Reforming our Futures  
Rewind and Remix Festival







**I take great pleasure in having this opportunity to praise the organisers and sponsors of this International Conference to raise the profile of the Windrush Generation. In pursuing the theme of "Reforming our futures" there is a clear intention to promote greater understanding of their arrival, settlement and presence in Britain; their contributions and legacy to British Society.**

**My personal arrival from the Caribbean was in 1957 as an eleven-year-old. I was so grateful for the solidarity and support available from the early settlers. They used their learning experiences of having to overcome all sorts of racial discrimination to help those sisters, brothers and families who came to Britain subsequently.**

**There are many achievements to record and the proposal for the establishment of a permanent independent National Windrush Museum would be invaluable to Britain. The most important and most valuable thing I learned from those well-informed members of the Windrush Generation was facts about the Black presence in Britain over centuries. It helped me to overcome my ignorance about our history and armed me with information with those people who were frequently telling me to "go back to where you came from" and as they supported those campaigns to "keep Britain White". They also had to be helped to overcome their ignorance about the Black presence in Britain, their contributions, legacy and their positive impact on all aspects of British society.**

**There is so much to tell and so many people of all backgrounds still to be educated about The Windrush Generation. Bring it on!**

**- Lord Herman Ouseley**





# Welcome

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the inaugural International Windrush Conference, hosted by the National Windrush Museum. This year holds special significance as we commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Windrush pioneers landing at Tilbury, Essex, UK.

Our conference aims to celebrate the diversity and rich heritage that define our nation. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the participants who have played a vital role in making this conference a resounding success. The support we have received from our sponsors has been truly remarkable. Their generosity and humility have made this event possible, and we eagerly look forward to future collaborations with them.

This project has been a journey fuelled by the power, depth, and commitment of individuals who have dedicated themselves to discovering, exhibiting, preserving, and showcasing the Windrush legacy. The development of the National Windrush Museum and our upcoming collaborations and projects are a testament to the unwavering determination of our partnerships and teams.

I would like to express my special thanks to the National Windrush Museum Director, Ms. Denize Ledeatte, whose tireless efforts behind the scenes have been invaluable in shaping the program and historicizing the Museum's legacy at this early stage. I also extend our gratitude to our colleagues and partners at the University of West Indies, particularly Sir Professor Hilary Beckles, for his warm words of encouragement. Special thanks also go to the Director of the Institute of Caribbean Studies, Dr. David Gosse.

The idea of a National Windrush Museum was born out of a passion and desire to create a lasting legacy for our parents and elders. The encouragement from a dedicated board, along with a comprehensive feasibility study, led to my decision to invest in this endeavour.

The initial development was guided by the wisdom of Lord Herman Ouseley and the remarkable tenacity and graciousness of Baroness Floella Benjamin. We are grateful for the support and encouragement received from various celebrities, High Commissioners, and organizations. Our National Windrush Museum Chief of Ambassadors and Patrons, Levi Roots, has been unwavering in his inspiration and support. His efforts in gathering celebrities, financial supporters and interested parties at the highest levels have propelled our project forward rapidly towards building a National Windrush Museum, which will serve as a vital cultural repository and important historical institution on the British cultural landscape.

As we embark on this exciting journey, we anticipate a busy year ahead, with numerous programs and initiatives in the pipeline. We eagerly look forward to the impact the National Windrush Museum will have on Global Britain and the preservation of our shared history.

I encourage you to visit our website for more information and opportunities to contribute and donate. Should you have any questions or require assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us. Let us move forward with positivity and optimism, knowing that our united efforts will make us stronger.

Thank you for your support, and we invite you to join us in this significant endeavour.

**Warm regards,**  
**Dr. Les Johnson Founder and Chair of the National Windrush Museum Visiting Research Fellow,**  
**Birmingham City University**

## Planning Committee

### Dr Les Johnson

Founder and Chair  
National Windrush  
Museum

### Sue Liburd MBA DL

National Windrush  
Museum, Regional  
Director

### Dave Gosse-Director

The Institute of Caribbean  
Studies. The University of the  
West Indies, Mona, Jamaica

### Denize Ledeatte

FRSA National Windrush  
Museum, Museum Director

### Dr Lisa Tomlinson

The Institute of Caribbean  
Studies. The University of the  
West Indies, Mona, Jamaica

## Board



Dr Les Johnson -  
**Founder and chair**



Denize Ledeatte,



Sue Liburd



Zak Offe-Buroby



Trevor Walters



Bertram Leon



Linford Anderson



## **Development Council (Ambassadors and Patrons)**

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Keith Taylor  
Ms Paulette Simpson

Wade Lyn  
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## **NWM NextGen Council**

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Elise Brown  
Gordon Edwards  
Jennifer Walker  
Zaena Ledeatte-William

(NWM has a number of standing and advisory boards please contact the museum director if you want to give your services)



# Programme

# Day 1

07.45 – 08.00 Press Briefing

08.00 – 08.30 Registration, Tea & Coffee

08.30 – 09.00 **Welcome**

Sue Liburd MBE DL & Denize Ledeatte, Directors, National Windrush Museum

Welcome & Opening Comments Dr Les Johnson, Chair National Windrush Museum

09.00 – 09.45

**Keynote: Windrush Reforming our Futures**

Lord Simon Woolley CBE

09.45 – 10.30

**Panel 1: Keynote Response:**

Chair: Dr Les Johnson, Founder & Chair, NWM

- Dr Debbie Weekes-Bernard, Deputy Mayor for Communities and Social Justice.
- Paulette Simpson CBE, Executive Director, The Voice Newspaper

10.30 – 10.45 **Break**

10.45 – 11.30

**Panel 2: Service & Sacrifice -**

Windrush pioneers, echoes, memories, and narratives.

Chair: Sue Liburd MBE, Director National Windrush Museum

- Eddy Smythe, Family Historian
- Peter Devitt, Curator Royal Air Force Museum
- Deanna Lyncook, PhD Candidate, QMUL

11.30 – 12.15

**Panel 3: Arrival, Settlements & Scandal**

Chair: Patrick Vernon OBE, Campaigner & Cultural historian

- Pauline Campbell, Senior Litigation Lawyer, LB Waltham Forest
- Sunder Katwala, Director, British Future



**12.15 – 13.15 Lunch**

**13.15 – 15.30**

**In conversation spotlight sessions:**

**Session 1: The evolution of migration opportunity.**

- Dr Audrey Allwood, Goldsmiths, University of London
- Montel Gordon, Journalist, PhD Candidate, University of Glasgow
- Olivia Wyatt, Teaching Associate and PhD Candidate, Queen Mary University London
- Catherine Grant-Wata, PhD Candidate, University of Toronto.

**Session 2: Artists in Conversation.**

- Michael Elliot, Artist, Kingston Creative
- Mary Evans, Artist, John Hansard Gallery, University of Southampton

**Session 3: Building community trust and understanding.**

- Rosalind Croker-Ahmed, Senior Manager, Partnerships and Public Engagement. National Maritime Museum, Royal Museums, Greenwich
- Pamela Franklin, Founder, Caribbean Social Forum, Royal Museums, Greenwich
- Gill Webber, Executive Director, Imperial War Museum

**Session 4: Reforming our Futures.**

- Audience co-creation session – How to design a museum

**15.30 – 15.45 Break**

**15.45 – 16.30**

**Panel 4: Windrush 75 is NHS 75**

Chair: Sue Liburd MBE DL, Director NWM & NED NHS Lincs

- Prof Jacqui Dunkley Bent, Chief Midwifery Officer, NHSE
- Karen Bonner, Chief Nurse, Bucks Healthcare
- Patricia Miller, CEO, Dorset ICB
- Michelle Bateman, Chief Nurse, Derbyshire Community Health NHS Foundation Trust

**16.30 – 17.00**

**Conference Summary & Close**

- Paulette Simpson CBE, Executive Director The Voice Newspaper
- Dr Les Johnson, Chair National Windrush Museum



# Programme

# Day 2

**07.45 – 08.00** Press Briefing

**08.00 – 08.30** Registration, Tea & Coffee

**08.30 – 09.00 Welcome & Opening Comments**  
Bertram Leon OBE, Director National Windrush Museum

**09.00 – 09.40 Keynote: Windrush Culture and Society**  
Levi Roots, Entrepreneur

**09.40 – 10.30 Panel 1: Keynote Response**  
Chair: Dr Les Johnson, Chair National Windrush Museum

**10.30 – 10.45 Break**

**10.45 – 11.30 Panel 2: Windrush Arts and Culture**  
Chair: Dr Denise Noble, Cultural Sociologist & Author

- Professor Julian Henriques, Goldsmiths University
- Dr Ian Randall, Director IRPublishers, Jamaica
- Jo Adetunji, Editor, The Conversation UK

**11.30 – 12.30 Panel 3: Windrush Transitions within the Caribbean diaspora**  
Chair: Dr Dave Gosse, Director Institute of Caribbean Studies, University of West Indies.

- Nicole Plummer, University of West Indies
- Schontal Moore, University of West Indies
- Corrine Barnes, University of West Indies
- Dr Alpha Obika, Lecturer, University of West Indies



**12.30 – 13.30 Lunch**

**13.30 – 14.15**

**Panel 4: Service and Sacrifice - Echoes, memories, and narratives.**

Chair: Dr Lisa Tomlinson

- Kandace Chimbiri, Author of The Story of the Windrush and The Story of Britain's Black Airmen children's books
- Mark Johnson, historian, former soldier, and author of Caribbean Volunteers at War
- Cashain David, Rum Entrepreneur, Black History story collector and storyteller

**14.15 – 15.00**

**Panel 5: Museums without walls, technological repositories of culture**

Chair: Dianna Djokey, Trustee, Museums Association

- Roshi Naidoo, Decolonisation lead, Museums Association
- Joshua Robertson, Policy and Campaigns Officer, Museums Association
- Sharon Heal, Director, Museums Association

**15.00- 15.15 Comfort Break**

**15.15 – 16.00**

**Panel 6: Rethinking our Futures - The Next Generation**

Chair: L'myah Sherae

Panellists: NWM Youth Council – Chloe, Elise, Menelik, Rachael, Shari, Shelby.

**16.00 – 16.45**

**Panel 7: Windrush Music Narratives -Reggae Rewind & Remix**

Chair: Professor, Tim Wall, Birmingham City University

- Ben Torrens, Birmingham City University
- Rachel-Anne Charles, Birmingham City University
- Matt Grimes, Birmingham City University
- Juan Pablo Viter, Birmingham City University

**16.45 – 17.00**

**Summary and Close**

Sue Liburd MBE DL, Director National Windrush Museum

Vote of thanks Cynthia, Denise and Sue



## Special Thanks go to:

All our speakers and panellists

Social media and Digital media- **Zaena Ledeatte-William**

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Coding and Google Analytics - **Romone**

Art Direction- **Dr Les**







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