



Derby West Indian Community Association September Newsletter

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# Reopening Edition

The centre will reopen its doors on September 7th



## Chairman's Remarks

“The centre is finally set to reopen to the public for the first time in many months. We have been working hard and have several new activities for you all to enjoy, see our notice board (page 2) for a full timetable. I look forward to welcoming you all back to the centre soon.”

## Obituaries

### Mavis Barnaby (20th January 1938-27th July 2020)



The Association lost a true pioneer and advocate of the organisation. Mavis Barnaby was a fantastic woman who touched everyone she encountered in her 82 years of life. Defiant until the end, she will be sorely missed at the centre. A committee member and talented dominoes player, Mavis, could always be found at Carnival and was Queen at the event. All involved at the centre send our condolences to her family.

**We offer our thoughts to DWICA Treasurer Mable Slater and her family on the loss of their Uncle in America. Our thoughts are with them at this sad time.**

## DWICA Notice Board

*At DWICA we are continuing to support the community, here is what's coming up this next month. (Times listed and classes are subject to change.)*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Tai Chi</b> 11.30am-12.30pm 14/9/2020	<b>Computer Class</b> 2-3pm 8/9/2020	<b>Dominoes and Darts</b> 7-9pm 10/9/2020		<b>Monthly Class/One Love Tea and Coffee Club</b> 1pm-3pm 11/9/2020

Computer Class: **This will be an introductory class on how to use computers. This will include using the basic computer functions, setting up email and social media accounts as well as navigating the internet smoothly.**

Monthly Classes: **These will include once monthly classes. These include, Bake off Caribbean, Lessons from Elders, Social Care advice, Arts and Crafts Class: painting, sewing and more...**

Coffee and Tea Club: **This coffee club will also have other weekly themes, these include: Music from our Youth; Book Club; Black History and will act as a safe space for ideas.**

## **George Mighty (MBE) Awarded Major Honour from Jamaican Government**



*DWICA Chairman George Mighty has been handed an Order of Distinction for his services to the Jamaican Diaspora*

Derby West Indian Community Centre Chairman George Mighty has received a prestigious award from the Jamaican government in recognition of his services to the nation's diaspora in the UK.

Announced in Jamaica's national newspaper, The Gleaner on independence day (August 6th), Mr Mighty was handed the Order of Distinction (Officer rank) title. The official letter from the Prime Minister, Andrew Holness, arrived at Mr Mighty's Derby residence a few days ago.

The Order of Distinction is the sixth highest honour a Jamaican citizen can receive in the Orders of Societies of Honour and has been a long standing award since 1968. Other recipients for the lower class of officer in the past include sports stars, Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce and Chris Gayle as well as musicians like Sean Paul and Shabba Ranks (Rexton Gordon).

The notable figures that make up the list of recipients in the past only highlight the importance of the award and puts into perspective the huge amount of effort and work that Mr Mighty has put into serving the Jamaican diaspora in the UK for the past decades.

Speaking on his award, Mr Mighty said: "It was a surprise to receive this award. It is always a great honour to be recognised by your country and it is an incredibly humbling and proud moment for my family and myself."

The official ceremony and awarding will take place on Monday 19th October at the King's House in Kingston, Jamaica, the home of the Governor-General who chooses the awardees each year.

## Top News Stories from the West Indies

### ***Jamaica's Election set for September 3rd***

Jamaica's 18th general election will go ahead on September 3rd despite the current COVID 19 situation. The People's National Party (PNP) and the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) are expected to field a full slate of 63 candidates. The newly formed Jamaica Progressive Party may also have candidates in two-thirds of the seats. The PNP's Dr Peter Phillip will be looking to oust the incumbent JLP Prime Minister, Andrew Holness. Holness was forced to postpone his campaigning in August after concerns his supporters were not taking the necessary precautions after a drive through on nomination day had large numbers of unmasked attendees. Despite this, many predict another term for Holness and the JLP.

### ***Haiti still yet to hold Elections, US calls for an immediate start***

It is not just Jamaica's heading to the polls this year. Haiti, who is long overdue for an election after their initial date in January was postponed, will have to hold elections soon. President Jovenel Moise has continued to delay the all important vote and now the US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, has called on the nation to hold elections calling it "critical".

### ***Guyana Officially Swears in new President Irfaan Ali***

After five months of delay and political infighting, Guyana's incumbent President, David Granger, has finally sworn in opposition rival Irfaan Ali on Sunday August 2nd. The country had long been in turmoil over the disputed election, with allegations of fraud levelled against Granger. The election fiasco was played out against the backdrop of Exxon Mobil's oil production which could bring untold wealth to the nation. The new President's most pressing task will be allocating this new wealth garnered from the oil production. As for Granger and his allies, a number of court hearings will no doubt come about soon with regards to election fraud.

## **This Month in Black History**

- *St Kitts and Nevis gained their independence on the 19th September 1981 and Belize on the 21st September 1983. Both celebrate Independence day this month.*
- *Cuban, Arnaldo Tamayo Méndez, was the first black male to enter space in September 1980 alongside his Soviet counterpart Yuri Romanenko. On September 12, 1992, American Mae C. Jemison became the first black woman in space aboard the shuttle Endeavor.*



Derby West Indian Community Centre  
Carrington Street, Derby, DE1 2ND  
**Tel:** 01332 371529/**Email:** [info@dwica.co.uk](mailto:info@dwica.co.uk)