



**Derby West Indian Community Association**  
**Carrington Street, Derby, DE1 2ND**  
**TEL: 01332 371529/07908897084**  
**Email: info@dwica.co.uk**

## January- March 2021 Newsletter

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# New Year Edition



### *Chairman's Remarks*



“I want to wish you all a Happy New Year, in spite of the terrible start to the year as a result of the pandemic. In this New Year Edition of the Newsletter there are two very important items which I would like to draw to your attention:

1. The Covid-19 Vaccine, which is now available
2. The National Census, which begins on 21<sup>st</sup> March.

My request is that you, your families and our whole community actively participate in these two programmes for the benefit of our health and well-being. Both are important for our representation and value to British Society.

Once again, please look after one another in this difficult time and stay safe.” G. Mighty Chairman

# DWICA Notice Board

*At DWICA we are continuing to support the community, this time it will be virtual though. Times and Zoom details are listed below. If you are unsure on how to use Zoom, feel free to call the centre on 01332 371529/07908897084 for some guidance.*

## Virtual Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Tai Chi</b> 11.00am- 11.45am	<b>Digital Device Drop in</b> 2-3pm <b>Soca Fitness</b> 5.30-6.15pm	<b>Hot Meal Delivery</b> 17 Feb onwards	<b>DCCT Chair Exercise</b> 10.30-11.30am	<b>Be Dramatic Friday</b> 5.00-6.30pm	<b>Self-Care Saturday</b> 1-3pm <b>Hot Meal Delivery</b> 20 Feb Onwards

### The Census is coming on March 21<sup>st</sup>:

The Census for England and Wales is coming and DWICA would ask all to participate. This year the census will primarily be completed online, on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March a letter will be sent to your house with an “access code” on the letter. You will then need to visit the secure website and enter the code and then fill out the survey. Should this be a problem for you there are a number of options available to you, including a paper option or help over the phone, in a web chat or on social media. For more information and help visit the Census website at: [www.census.gov.uk](http://www.census.gov.uk). At the centre we are also able to guide you so if you have any queries, don't hesitate to contact us. The Census is an important legacy for our community and we encourage everyone to take part.

LOOKING FOR ACTIVITIES FOR YOUR CHILD DURING LOCKDOWN?

## Virtual Youth Club

Quality Weekly online activities in Arts and Crafts, Drama, and Fitness

Free of charge!!!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
[WWW.DWICA.CO.UK](http://WWW.DWICA.CO.UK)

Contact: 07908897084  
 Email: [h.white@dwica.co.uk](mailto:h.white@dwica.co.uk)

**SOCA FITNESS TUESDAY 5:30 - 6:15**    **BE DRAMATIC FRIDAY 5:00 - 6:30 PM**    **SELF CARE SATURDAY 1-3 PM**

### Tablet Loans:

If your child needs to loan a tablet to be able to access the youth club or e-learning then please contact Hollie on 07908897084

### International Women's Day (8<sup>th</sup> March)

To commemorate International woman's day 2021, DWICA will take nominations from the Derby community about women they feel deserves recognition. If there's a woman that you think deserves a special shout out for what they do to serve the community, please contact Charis Betts the Stronger Together Project Manager. You can call 07711951684 or email [c.betts@dwica.co.uk](mailto:c.betts@dwica.co.uk). All nominated women will get a shout out on our social media and one woman will win a special gift hamper in a prize draw to be announced on the 8th March 2021.

### Have Vaccine Concerns? Want to speak to someone about it?

The Derby West Indian Community Association will put on an information Q and A event about the COVID-19 Vaccination. Those of you who have any concerns or would like to raise issues with the vaccine rollout, feel free to join the session. A date will be announced shortly and a representative from Public Health England as well as a healthcare professional. Please contact the centre to voice your interest.



# DWICA 2020 in Review



2020 is a year many of us would like to forget. The pandemic has disrupted all of our lives across Derby and our community has no doubt suffered. However, the year has not all been doom and gloom, especially for the Association, and we think it's right to look back on the events and achievements of this year.

Although it may feel like many moons ago, there was a simpler time earlier in the year when there were no restrictions and we could all meet up without issues. During this time, DWICA had numerous events, including the successful Young, Gifted and Black Saturday school and February's Gospel Event.

Sadly, these events all had to be cancelled due to the Coronavirus restrictions and the centre had to close its doors to the public for the first time in its history. Concerned that the organisation was no longer making the desired impact, the management and staff set about making a plan to serve the community. They decided to create a hot meal delivery service called the "COVID Kitchen" for the elderly and be a provider of food for those using food bank services.



Starting in April, the COVID Kitchen has been a roaring success. Delivering twice a week, the kitchen has produced hundreds of meals for the Derby community. The work would not have been possible without a fantastic group of volunteers and the cooks who work tirelessly to provide quality Caribbean food.

Alongside the COVID Kitchen work, the centre has tried to continue its events as best we can. Our annual carnival was forced to go virtual this year but it didn't disappoint with star performances and routines shown through a live stream.



*Summer School's drama class from July*

New classes were added to the elder's timetable, with the Computer Class running every Tuesday, to go alongside the longstanding Tai Chi and Chair Exercise classes. For the younger ones, the pandemic couldn't stop our almost four decades running Summer School which happened in August, with trips to the Derby Museum and Bounce Revolution. Since then, the youth has a number of new virtual classes from drama club, to self-help Saturday.

A final note must be made to all of our funders, the Big Lottery and Children in Need, whose support made all of the wonderful moments of 2020 possible. Let's hope 2021 brings more of the same.

# Top News Stories from the West Indies

## *The Caribbean Continues to Fight the Virus well but new Travel bans bite*

Statistics from the Caribbean show the continent combating the Coronavirus with low death tolls, especially when compared to Europe and North America. The worst hit island has been the Dominican Republic, who recorded 2,579 deaths. The islands of Jamaica and Cuba have a combined death tally of just 548 from the virus, figures which the UK is seeing daily. That's not to say the islands are out of the woods yet. St Lucia was forced to go into lockdown as new cases began to emerge. To add to the uncertainty further, travel restrictions continue to blight a region so dependent on tourism. Many heralded the entry of Joe Biden into the Oval Office, however, for Jamaican's his appointment means a slew of travel restrictions as he implemented quarantines and mandatory negative tests on arrival for all travellers. Jamaican ministers argued this would all but end tourism to the Caribbean "I'm convinced that the implication of all of this is in pursuance of a 'No Travel' strategy without coming out, outright to say so," Jamaica's Minister of Tourism, Ed told US press.

## *Jamaica tops Homicide Rate for Region as Church Shooting of Woman Shocks Nation*

A study from Insight Crime has listed Jamaica top of the homicide rate for Latin America and the Caribbean, with a rate at 46.5 per 100,000 people. To put the figures into perspective, United Nations considers any homicide rate of 10 per 100,000 citizens or above to be an "epidemic". The statistics came as the nation was rocked by the shooting of 50 year-old Andrea Lowe Garwood as she worshipped at the Agape Christian Fellowship Church in Falmouth. The shooting happened on Sunday the 31<sup>st</sup> of January and was sadly shown online through the church's Facebook livestream recording. The attack was clearly planned and targeted as the gunman had a getaway car waiting for him. Jamaican police have arrested a number of suspects in the days since. It would appear that Jamaica is still struggling with its gang problem. Large amounts of weapons and marijuana are often sold by rivalling gangs to other islands like Haiti. Last year the Jamaican government implemented a number of policies to curb the violence, bringing in Zones of Special Operations (ZOSOs), States of Emergency and plans for mass trials.



*Andrea Garwood was gunned down while at Church*

## **UK commits to Continuing funding share of Caribbean Special Development Fund**

The UK has committed to maintain its share of funding to the Caribbean Development Bank's Special Development Fund. Pledging up to £21m over the next four years to continue supporting life changing projects in the Caribbean, the news follows the announcement of £4.5 million additional funding from the UK Government to the Special Development Fund in September 2020 for COVID-19 recovery. The Special Development Fund gives loans and grants to support projects in the most vulnerable countries in the region to tackle poverty, inequality and global challenges such as climate change and access to quality education.

### **This Month in Black History**

- *Haiti gained independence from the French on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1804 after a slave rebellion overthrew them*
- *The islands of Grenada, Saint Lucia and the Dominican Republic all celebrate independence days in February*
- *Former Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley died on March 7<sup>th</sup> 1997*



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