

Windrush Day 2020 launches with £500,000 for communities

- Community groups and local authorities across England to receive share of £500,000 to host events to honour the second national Windrush Day
- Funding will support exhibitions, lectures and workshops on June 22 and beyond
- Commemorative events and activities will place communities front and centre of Windrush Day 2020 as nation pays tribute to outstanding legacy of British Caribbean community

Communities across the country will share £500,000 to host events marking the second national Windrush Day, Communities Secretary Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP confirmed today (5 March 2020).

The nation will pay tribute to the outstanding and ongoing contribution of the Windrush Generation and their descendants on 22 June 2020.

Building on the success of the inaugural national Windrush Day last year, 49 projects across the country will receive funding to mark Windrush Day 2020 and commemorate the seminal moment nearly 72 years ago when the Empire Windrush arrived at Tilbury Docks.

Those hosting events will work to celebrate, commemorate and educate communities on the leading role the Windrush Generation and their descendants have played in making Britain stronger, culturally richer and more inclusive.

Funded projects will hold a rich and wide-ranging series of events, including:

- a celebration of the 50th anniversary of Highfield Rangers, a youth football team founded by teenage Windrush arrivals in Leicester
- an exhibition with portrait photographs and oral histories from the Windrush generation to be shared with Birmingham schools
- a theatre production to tour community venues and schools in Bristol together with educational materials and local radio programming
- a 16-week intergenerational project to celebrate Windrush stories through drama and use of personal artefacts
- a national touring exhibition and accompanying publication celebrating children's charity Barnardo's black history

Communities Secretary Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP said:

Windrush Day provides a great opportunity for all of us to come together and remember that we are a better country for the central role British Caribbean communities have played in post-war Britain.

British Caribbean communities have made Britain a better, more

prosperous country in so many ways. From the communities they have built to the public services they have supported and led, and the arts and culture they have enriched, they have made an incredible contribution to their country.

It is right we reflect on this hugely positive impact on our society and I'd encourage everyone to come together to share and commemorate on June 22 and in the days and weeks beyond.

Wallen Matthie, Windrush Day Advisory Panel member said:

Windrush Day serves to commemorate the powerful legacy of the Windrush Generation and their descendants who have changed Britain for the better.

It was moving to join events last year as the nation came together to mark this vital part of our shared heritage and history.

Now the aim is to further embed Windrush Day in the national consciousness and ensure we continue to honour the Windrush Generation and their descendants for years to come.

Today, new guidance supporting community groups and civil society organisations to host their own events has also been launched. The marketing and events toolkit will ensure Windrush Day is marked as widely as possible in communities around the country.

Windrush Day

In June 2018, the government announced an annual Windrush Day to encourage communities across the country to commemorate the Windrush story on Windrush Day and throughout the year.

The national celebration is backed by a £500,000 Windrush Day Grant Scheme overseen by a Windrush Day Advisory Panel of community representatives.

Launched in October 2019, the Windrush Day Grant Scheme received over 200 bids for funding from community groups, charities and local authorities across England.

This year's successful bids came from across the country from Bristol to Birmingham and Leicester to Leeds indicating the breadth of enthusiasm in communities across the country to mark Windrush Day 2020.

The Windrush Generation

Windrush Day marks the anniversary of the arrival of MV Empire Windrush at the Port of Tilbury, near London, on 22 June 1948. The arrival of the Empire Windrush nearly 72 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 World War 2 but in enriching our shared social, economic, cultural 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.

Further information

The MV Empire Windrush docked at the Port of Tilbury on 21 June 1948. However, passengers disembarked a day later on 22 June 1948 – hence why this has come to be known as Windrush Day.

The [Windrush Day Grant scheme](#) was launched on 22 November 2018.

See more information about the community groups and local authorities that are set to receive funding:

PDF, 118 KB, 4 pages

This file may not be suitable for users of assistive technology.

Request an accessible format.

If you use assistive technology (such as a screen reader) and need a version of this document in a more accessible format, please email alternativeformats@communities.gov.uk. Please tell us what format you need. It will help us if you say what assistive technology you use.

Windrush Day 2020 marketing and events toolkit

9.54 MB

This file may not be suitable for users of assistive technology.

Request an accessible format.

If you use assistive technology (such as a screen reader) and need a version of this document in a more accessible format, please email alternativeformats@communities.gov.uk. Please tell us what format you need. It will help us if you say what assistive technology you use.

PDF, 616 KB, 7 pages

This file may not be suitable for users of assistive technology.

Request an accessible format.

If you use assistive technology (such as a screen reader) and need a version of this document in a more accessible format, please email alternativeformats@communities.gov.uk. Please tell us what format you need. It will help us if you say what assistive technology you use.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government is a devolved department. As such, the Windrush Day Grant Scheme is an England only policy area.

The Windrush Day Advisory Panel

Following the success of the Windrush 70 events, the Advisory Panel have been considering how best to celebrate Windrush Day each year. Made up of community representatives from locations around the country, the Panel provides advice directly to government. Its key focus is ensuring that successful bids are appropriate and resonate with Caribbean communities.