

### **Dedication:**

We honour the Caribbean pioneers of the Windrush generation who founded the Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club—not only to play the game they loved but also to bring people together. Through cricket, they built bridges across communities and created a sense of belonging in Cambridge. Their story deserves to be remembered because their efforts shaped the city, and their legacy continues to inspire.

# **The Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club (CWICC)**

*1967 – 1985 and Beyond*

**Written by Lucy Anne Gordon**

## **Acknowledgements:**

I am deeply grateful to everyone who contributed to this story, including:

Albert Gordon, Jerry Lewis, Keith Packer, Desmond Cuffy, Junior Cuffy, Wendell Cuffy, Lucine Cuffy, Lynette Cuffy, Floyd Doyle, Yvonne Ebanks, Trevor Jones, Everton Fox, Ben Ryan, Fiona Lynch, Musa Doyle, Barbara Williams, Natalie G, Corey Carrington, Yvonne Hamilton and Sheena Campbell. Editor: Ruby Gordon.

Your support and insights have been invaluable.

This story continues to evolve, with new stories and photos emerging. If you have a story or a photo to share, please get in touch:

[lucygordon7@icloud.com](mailto:lucygordon7@icloud.com).

Tim Gosling took photos of the CWICC matches – I would love to find these photos!

## **Interested in Learning Cricket?**

Join the **Cambridge Caribbean Cricket Academy – Net Practice**

*Every Sunday, 1 PM – 3 PM*

*Hills Road Sports Centre*

Open to boys and girls aged **6 to 21**.

For more information, contact: **info@acrgcambridge.org**

This story has been pieced together through personal memories, interviews, and shared stories. While every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, some details may be subject to correction. If you notice any inaccuracies, please contact me—I'd be happy to amend them.

© 2025 Lucy Anne Gordon

## Contents

Prologue .....	4
<i>Chapter 1:</i> Historical Context.....	5
<i>Chapter 2:</i> The Founders of the Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club .....	7
<i>Chapter 3:</i> The First 10 Years .....	16
<i>Chapter 4:</i> The Midland Tavern Pub and The Pentecostal Church.....	26
<i>Chapter 5:</i> The West Indies Cricket Team Play at Fenner’s .....	29
<i>Chapter 6:</i> Interview with Albert Gordon, Bowler .....	31
<i>Chapter 7:</i> Memories of Winslow Doyle, Captain of the Cricket Club.....	34
<i>Chapter 8:</i> Interview with Desmond Cuffy, Captain of the Cricket Club .....	37
<i>Chapter 9:</i> Interview with Jerry Lewis, Captain of the Cricket Club .....	40
<i>Chapter 10:</i> Cricket Outings to the Seaside .....	43
<i>Chapter 11:</i> Community Youth Club (CYC).....	44
<i>Chapter 12:</i> CWICC Members List.....	49
Photos .....	50
Bibliography .....	52

## Prologue:

In the heart of Cambridge, a new chapter in local cricket was written in 1967. Against the backdrop of a Caribbean community of around 400 residents, the formation of the Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club (CWICC) marked the beginning of a unique journey.

As the Cambridge Evening News reported, the CWICC “*promised to forge links between the communities as well as injecting new flair and enthusiasm into the local cricket league.*” (CEN 25.08.1976, pg. 9).

Competing in the Cambridgeshire Cricket League, CWICC quickly earned a reputation for its fierce competitiveness and distinctive style. Facing off against Cambridgeshire teams, the club made its mark with every match it played. The vibrant spirit of West Indian cricket infused every game, captivating both players and spectators alike.

But the club's impact extended beyond league competition. CWICC forged strong ties with the cricket teams from Cambridge's prestigious Colleges, who relished the opportunity to challenge this formidable new presence. These encounters, full of high-quality cricket, helped build camaraderie, weaving CWICC into the very fabric of Cambridge's cricketing community.

For the Caribbean community in Cambridge, the cricket matches became more than just a game, they were a vital space for families to gather, socialise, and make lasting memories.

To this day, those memories remain cherished within the community, a testament to the enduring spirit of the CWICC and its pivotal role in shaping both the local cricket scene and the wider Cambridge community.

## Chapter 1: The Legacy and Triumphs of the West Indies Cricket Team

### Historical Context



Cricket has always been more than a sport in the West Indies. It has been a cultural force, a deep well of pride, and a powerful thread tying together the diverse islands of the Caribbean.

Even before the West Indies became a dominant team on the world stage, individual Caribbean cricketers were already making a significant impact abroad, especially in English domestic cricket. The Lancashire League was a key platform where players like the great Sir Learie Constantine captivated crowds. Playing for Nelson in the 1930s, Constantine became the highest-paid athlete in the UK at the time. His talent and flair generated excitement across England and inspired young players back home, reinforcing cricket's status as the region's premier sport.

### **West Indian Cricket in the 1970s: The Rise of a Powerhouse**

The 1970s marked a transformative period for West Indian cricket, as the team evolved from a talented but inconsistent side into a dominant global force. The early years of the decade were characterised by struggles and transitions, with ageing stars like **Garfield Sobers** and **Rohan Kanhai** retiring and the team searching for a new identity. However, a major turning point came in 1974 when **Clive Lloyd** was appointed captain. Under his leadership, the West Indies adopted a more aggressive and unified approach, with a particular focus on developing a formidable pace attack.

The emergence of fast bowlers like **Andy Roberts**, **Michael Holding**, and **Joel Garner** redefined the team's strategy, making them a feared opponent across all formats.

- **1975 Cricket World Cup Victory:** Their first-ever World Cup win boosted confidence and began a new era.

- **1976 England Tour:** A 3-0 series victory, led by Viv Richards and Holding, was a defining moment.
- **1979 Cricket World Cup Win:** Cemented their place at the top, along with an overpowering win against Australia.

By the end of the decade, the West Indies had established itself as an unstoppable force, laying the foundation for its unparalleled supremacy in the 1980s.

## **Chapter 2: The Founders of the Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club**

The Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club (CWICC) was founded by three Caribbean men: **Robert Carlton Loinsworth (1902–1990)**, **Bryan Earle King (1906–1987)**, and **Winslow Doyle (b. 1938)**. Loinsworth and King met while at **Pembroke College**, and all three later sat on the **Cambridge Community Relations Committee in 1966**. This chapter shines a light on the remarkable lives and community spirit of CWICC's founders.

### **Robert Loinsworth**

*Founder, Chairman and Secretary of the CWICC 1967-1976*

*“My own mecca is a world in which men and women of all races, colours and creeds are making an effort to live together in harmony” (Loinsworth, R. C., *A Quiet Pilgrimage*, 1988)*

Loinsworth, a Trinidadian educationalist, moved to England in 1956 after leaving his position as **Assistant Director of Education** in Trinidad and Tobago. He had been offered a job at the **Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate**.

In 1957, Loinsworth appears in the Syndicate’s Ninety-Ninth Annual Report. It states:

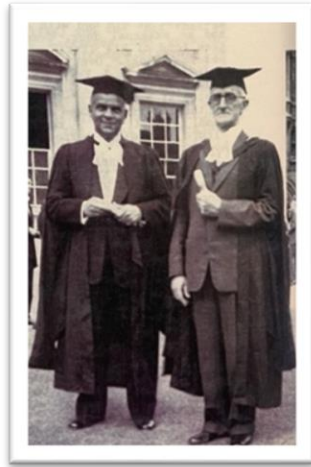
*“An increase in the number of Assistants to the Secretaries from three to four has been approved by the University, and Mr R C Loinsworth, previously Assistant Director of Education in Trinidad, has been appointed to one of the new posts. Mr Loinsworth brings with him considerable knowledge of education administration and examinations in the Caribbean area, and his experience will greatly help the Syndicate to keep in touch with changing conditions overseas.”*

Reflecting on his career, Loinsworth wrote in his memoirs:

*“It is perhaps fitting that the island which first submitted candidates from overseas for examinations should also be the first to provide the Syndicate with an administrative assistant with direct experience of the overseas examinations”. (Loinsworth, R. C., *A Quiet Pilgrimage*, 1988, pg 57)*

When the Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate decided to expand beyond Great Britain, they began with Trinidad—a British colony at the time. The Sixth Annual Report from **1864** noted:

*"The most remarkable circumstance connected with the last examinations was the extension of them to the Colonies by the successful examination of ten candidates from Trinidad."*



**Robert Loinsworth Receiving MA (Cantab), 1960**

Photograph of Robert Loinsworth being awarded the degree of Master of Arts from the University of Cambridge, 1960.

*Photo courtesy of Keith Packer.*

In 1960, Loinsworth was honoured with admission to the degree of **Master of Arts** at the University of Cambridge. He was attached to **Pembroke College** and granted **Dining Rights**, affording him the privilege of dining at the High Table. It was during this time that he met **Bryan King**, marking the beginning of a friendship and collaboration that would later lead to the founding of the CWICC.

Loinsworth was an active member of the Cambridge Community Relations Council between **1966-1978** and played a pivotal role in setting up two international playgroups in Cambridge around the same time. His dedication to community relations earned him the honour of an invitation to an evening reception at Buckingham Palace in **1976**, where he met Her Majesty, **Queen Elizabeth II**.

In 1985, Loinsworth was awarded the **Chaconia Medal (Silver)** by the Trinidadian Government for his long service in the field of Education and Community Service for Trinidad and Tobago.





**Cricket Team, 1919 – Queens Royal College**  
Robert Loinsworth, 2nd from right, middle row.  
Photographed in front of Queen's Royal College.

*Photo courtesy of Keith Packer*

Loinsworth was an outstanding cricketer. Between **1919** and **1920**, he captained the **First Eleven at Queen's Royal College (QRC)** in Trinidad, competing against other college teams across the West Indies. In 1918, he was awarded cups for both Best Batsman and Best Bowler. At age **28**, Loinsworth continued his cricketing journey while studying Latin, French, and History at **Bristol University** in 1930. There, he further honed his cricketing skills before returning to Trinidad in 1935 to take up the role of Assistant Master at Queen's Royal College (QRC). He later served as both Chairman and Secretary of the Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club (CWICC).

Loinsworth and Sir **Learie Constantine** were lifelong friends. Learie moved to England in 1928 to play professional cricket for the Lancashire League team Nelson, where he quickly became a household name. Beyond cricket, Constantine was a trailblazer, he qualified as a barrister, became involved in politics, and dedicated much of his life to fighting racial injustice. In 1962, he was knighted for his contributions to public life, and in **1969**, he made history as the United Kingdom's first **Black peer**, taking the title Baron Constantine of Maraval and Nelson. He also played a key role in shaping the **1965 Race Relations Act**, helping to lay the foundation for future equality legislation in Britain. **Everton Fox** recalls visiting Loinsworth's home with his father, Herman Fox, and listening to Loinsworth's stories of his close friendship with Constantine.



**Wedding of Ruby Loinsworth and Martin Visser, 1967**

Celebrated cricketer and civil rights campaigner Learie Constantine raises a toast to the couple. Robert Loinsworth, second from right, looks on proudly.

*Photo courtesy of Keith Packer*

**Extract from Loinsworth's memoirs:**

*“Speaking of West Indians, I knew how they loved their cricket, as I do. I supported the building up of a West Indian Cricket Club in Cambridge and took on the job of Chairman and Secretary. The team had a good bowling side, and their adventurous batting style made them very popular with the spectators. They played in the Cambridgeshire Cricket League and did very well in their matches against teams from the villages surrounding Cambridge. I used to accompany them for these matches and enjoyed being with my countrymen. These occasions contributed to better community relations. I remember one match in which the ladies played against the men, who batted left-handed. It was great fun. The club also arranged ‘discos’ at which West Indian music was deafening! I remember the enjoyment of a former **Lady Mayor of Cambridge** (now a member of the House of Lords) attending one of these occasions! The cricket club, unfortunately, had to withdraw from the League on account of considerable difficulty in fielding a full side. The problem was that on Saturdays, some of the players used to patronise a pub run by a West Indian and became so engrossed in their drinking that they were disinclined to turn up for the games! The result was that we used to take the field with two or three men short for the League games.” (Loinsworth RC, 1988, A Quiet Pilgrimage)*

Loinsworth recalls an interesting story in his memoirs about his early life in Trinidad. His father worked as a clerk for Loinsworth's uncle, **M. P. Maillard**, a prominent businessman who owned a large two-storey department store in Port of Spain. Maillard was a passionate supporter of cricket and played a key role in helping **Lebrun Constantine**, father of the legendary cricketer **Sir Learie Constantine**, join the West Indies touring side to England in **1906**. At the time, Lebrun was working on Maillard's cocoa estate in Diego Martin and couldn't afford the necessary cricketing kit for the tour. Recognising his talent, Maillard purchased the kit for him. By the time Lebrun was ready, the ship carrying the rest of the team had already departed but remained in the harbour. Determined, Maillard chartered a fast launch, which raced out and caught up with the vessel, allowing Lebrun to board and join the historic tour!

## **Bryan Earle King**

*Co-Founder & President of CWICC 1967-1974*

Bryan King, a **white West Indian** from **St. Kitts**, moved to **Cambridge** in **1924** after being awarded an **Island Scholarship** to **Pembroke College** to study **Law**. He was called to the bar in **1930**, and his nephew, **Chris Birch**, recalls someone had said that he had the third finest legal brain in **Europe!** A towering figure at **6ft 4in** with **red hair**, he was affectionately known by his friends as **Rufus**. King became a **lecturer in Law** and a **Fellow at Pembroke College**, serving from **1928** to **1974**. He counted among his friends prominent figures like Black Peers **Lords Constantine and Pitt**, as well as Caribbean Prime Ministers **Norman Manley, Forbes Burnham, Grantley Adams**, and **Robert Bradshaw**. King was instrumental in the establishment of the **West Indian Students Centre** in **Earls Court, London**, serving as **chairman** of the board from **1963** to **1969**. He also played a key role in ensuring that **West Indian history** was included in the curriculum in **Trinidad** and other West Indian countries, along with **European history**.

A strong advocate for **social justice**, King, who knew **Enoch Powell**, both being members of the exclusive **Carlyle Club**, rebuked him in a letter for his controversial '**Rivers of Blood**' **speech** in **1968**. The letter to Powell read:

*“To enforce the geographical barrier by a legal one, I regard as moral cowardice and a confession of national failure.... This then is the charge against which you have to clear yourself, before your conscience, God and History. That you have made your ‘voluntary’ reparation scheme an evil mockery – a fleeing from your self-fulfilling prophecy of the wrath to come....”* (Birch, C. 2002, Memoirs of Bryan Earle King.)

In **1974**, King, dressed in **Caribbean attire**, demonstrated in **Cambridge's Market Square** against **Conservative policies**, including the suffering caused by the **1971 Immigration Act**. The '**St. Kitts Steel Band**, made up of the local **Ramsey children**, accompanied him during the protest. King had a close friendship with the **Ramsey family** in Cambridge; **Kenneth Ramsey**, the father, was a **fisherman**, also from **St. Kitts**. On at least one occasion, King invited the **Ramsey family** and their friends to a formal lunch at **Pembroke College**.

Upon his retirement in **1974**, King hosted a grand **Garden Party** at **Pembroke College**, inviting **100 guests** from **West Indian cricket teams** in **Birmingham, London**, and **Cambridge**, along with a **steel band** from **Birmingham**. (2002 Birch, C. *Memoir of Bryan*

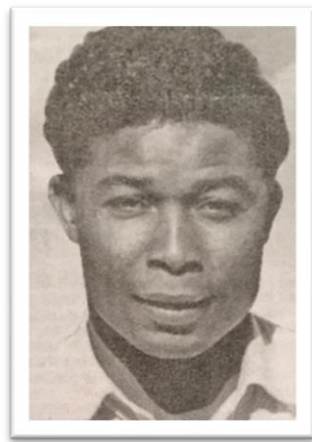
*Earle King.*) King served as **President** of the **Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club** from **1967** until he returned to **St Kitts** in **1974**.

**Loinsworth** and King were both deeply passionate about **community relations** and the **West Indian experience** of living in the UK. It was through this shared commitment, along with Loinsworth's love of **cricket**, that the **CWICC** was founded. In the mid-1960s, both men were members of the Committee of the **Cambridge Community Relations Council**, alongside **Barbados-born Winslow Doyle**.

## **Winslow Doyle**

*Founding Member, Captain of CWICC Club 1967–1976*

Winslow Doyle, originally from **Barbados**, came to **England** in the early **1960s** when he was around **24** years old. A skilled all-rounder, both a powerful batsman and an exceptional bowler, he was one of the founding members of the **Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club (CWICC)**. Known for his **leadership** and determined approach, Doyle brought focus, discipline, and a strong desire to win. He valued being part of a team and saw **cricket** as a way to build connections and strengthen community ties.



**Winslow Doyle, St Vincent Passport Photo,  
c.1960**

Taken in his early twenties, this passport photo captures Winslow Doyle just before he left St Vincent to begin a new chapter in Britain.

*Photo courtesy of Musa Doyle*

In **England**, Doyle worked as a **Senior Railwayman** and was actively involved in **union work**, reflecting his strong sense of justice and commitment to community life. He helped establish **CWICC** in **1967**, alongside **Robert Loinsworth** and **Bryan King**, whom he had met in 1966 while serving on the **Cambridge Community Relations Committee**.

As captain of **CWICC** from **1967** to **1976**, Doyle was especially committed to nurturing **young talent** and encouraging **West Indian boys** to take up **cricket**. However, in **1976**, he noted a growing shift among the younger generation—**football** was becoming the sport of choice.

In an interview with the *Cambridge Evening News* at **Fenner's** during a match featuring the touring **West Indies** team, Doyle shared that:

*"Nine out of ten **West Indians** planned to return home one day."*

Noting that even many first-generation children still saw the **West Indies** as their true home. He recalled how members of the community would often pool resources to help one another afford airfare to visit relatives:

*"Cambridge people are friendly once they get to know you," Doyle added. "This sentiment was echoed by **Albert Gordon**, landlord of the **Midland Tavern**, who was at the heart of **West Indian social life in Cambridge**—despite most of his customers being white." (CEN, 25 August 1976, p. 9)*

A proud **family man**, Doyle was most content at home, cooking for his children and sharing in their lives. His son **Musa** fondly recalls watching **West Indies** matches on television together and listening to his father's stories from the cricket field—and how **CWICC** players would bring **jerk chicken** to matches while their opponents tucked into **cucumber sandwiches** and cups of **tea**.

Scorebooks records show that Doyle remained an active cricketer with the club throughout the **1980s** and possibly played until it folded around **1993**. For him, **cricket** was never just a sport. It was a way to connect, to belong, and to stand equal, bat in hand, on the field of play.

In later years, Doyle fulfilled his dream of returning to **Barbados**, spending winters there and summers in **England**.



**The Cambridge West Indian Cricket Team,  
Early 1970s**  
Pictured here on Parker's Piece in Cambridge

### **Chapter 3: Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club - The First 10 Years**

#### **Roles and Responsibilities:**

The Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club (CWICC) was established in 1967 by Trinidadian Robert Loinsworth, who served as chairman; Kittitian Bryan King, who became president; and Bajan cricketer Winslow Doyle, who was appointed the club's first captain. Tim Gosling, an Englishman who had spent considerable time in Trinidad, took on the roles of treasurer and club photographer.

The team quickly attracted talented local players from various Caribbean islands, including George Lewis from St Vincent, who served as Vice Captain for the first ten years. Other early standouts included Ivan Ping (Trinidad), Desmond Cuffy (St Vincent), Bertram David (Nevis), Sam Bains (Jamaica), Panton (Jamaica), Dickie Lynch (Jamaica) Graham Rhodes (Guyana), Albert Gordon (Jamaica), Ken Henville (St Vincent), Herman Fox (Jamaican) and Naiman Dennis (Jamaica). Together, they formed a strong and competitive squad, proudly entering the Cambridgeshire Cricket League and bringing a distinctive West Indian style to the local game.

The club's management was committed to strengthening connections between the Caribbean and wider Cambridge communities, while introducing a fresh, dynamic style of cricket to the local scene. CWICC quickly made its mark in the Cambridgeshire Cricket League, competing against teams such as Cherry Hinton, Eversden, Elsworth, Haslingfield and Shelford.

Away from league competition, Loinsworth and King, with their connections to Cambridge University, organised matches with teams from Cambridge's prestigious Colleges, helping to build strong ties between CWICC and the University cricket scene. College teams welcomed the challenge of playing against this dynamic and talented new side. With their competitive spirit and distinctive West Indian flair, CWICC quickly earned a reputation as an exciting and respected force in local cricket. Albert Gordon recalls "*Some of the guys from the University played first-class cricket, and we were just a town team, but they used to love playing us because they said that the CWICC gave them the hardest game. We used to give them hell in our matches, and we would win sometimes!*"

Even when not playing against college teams, CWICC were often invited to use college grounds, adding both prestige and visibility to the matches, while offering rare access to the often-hidden university grounds. Churchill College was a frequent host.



## **Welcoming Pubs in the 1960s:**

When the Caribbean community first arrived in Cambridge in the early 1960s, they gathered regularly at either the Durham Ox on Mill Road or the Midland Tavern on Devonshire Road. Finding a place that was open and friendly made a big difference and naturally attracted more members of the Caribbean community.

Albert Gordon recalls visiting the Durham Ox with fellow Jamaican Speedy Wright to play dominoes in the mid 1960s. However, after the landlord Jack left the Durham Ox, the Midland became the main gathering spot. The landlord was welcoming, and some guys would often play dominoes in the front bar. Desmond Cuffy, a regular at the Midland from 1961, though not a domino player himself, remembers that it was mainly the Jamaicans who were the most passionate about the game.

In 1967, before Albert Gordon became the landlord, the CWICC was granted permission to hold their monthly meetings in the relatively unused back bar of the Midland Tavern Pub. The meetings were well-attended by the cricket club, and after the meetings, some of the guys would play music in the back bar. In addition to the regular meetings, the club also held their Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the Midland, with the entire team in attendance. During the AGM, awards were given out to recognise outstanding performances.

The Midland Tavern became an essential hub for the CWICC, playing a significant role in the team's social life. Albert Gordon fondly recalls:

*“That’s where it all started, in the back bar of the Midland. It was the beginning of our cricket club! The back bar soon became popular as some of the guys would play music after the meetings.”*

The Midland was more than just a place to hold meetings, it became a space where the team could relax, play dominoes, listen to music, socialise, and truly feel part of a community. Desmond Cuffy, a regular since 1961, fondly recalls the joy he felt as more and more West Indians began to gather there. When Albert Gordon became landlord in 1971, he reflected in a local interview:

*“This had already been a West Indian pub for a long time... A lot of the boys come in here and they wouldn’t dream of going to another pub.”* (The International Pub, CEN, 10 July 1971)

Once all strangers in a strange land, the pub became a familiar and welcoming gathering place where lasting friendships were formed. Players from across the Caribbean—Jamaica, Barbados, St Lucia, Trinidad, St Vincent, Grenada and beyond—came together not just to play cricket, but to build a sense of belonging. On the pitch and in the pub, they learned each other’s ways, navigating the subtle differences in culture, humour, and sayings that came with being from different islands. As Desmond Cuffy recalls: “*We had to get to know each other—otherwise, how would we have got on!*” Despite those differences, they were united by a deep bond: they were all proud West Indians, and they all shared the experience of arriving in England and trying to find their way in a new society, while holding on to their culture and spirit of home.

### **Finding a Home Ground:**

Initially, the CWICC played their matches on Coldham’s Common, beside the railway line, where passing train passengers often waved at the players. The team trimmed the long grass themselves and marked out a cricket pitch. At first, the Cambridge City Council allowed them to play without issue. As Albert Gordon recalled, “*The Council let us play – they didn’t harass us.*” However, a few weeks later, the Council informed the team that Coldham’s Common was designated for animal grazing and therefore not suitable for cricket. Although the CWICC had hoped to make it their permanent base, the Council couldn’t approve that request.

Instead, they offered the club Parker’s Piece, a prime location in the centre of Cambridge, complete with a pavilion and just a ten-minute walk from the Midland Tavern. The team gladly accepted, and Parker’s Piece soon became CWICC’s official home ground. It remained the heart of their cricketing life for many years to come.



**Coldham’s Common, 2025 – Former Club Ground**

The Club once played beside the railway line, now hidden behind a line of trees.



**Parker’s Piece, 2025 – The Club’s Home Ground**

Located in the heart of Cambridge, complete with a pavilion.



## **The Club in the 1970s:**

The CWICC regularly played on Sundays on their home ground, Parker's Piece. On match days, players' cars would be lined up along the top of the park, creating a familiar sight for spectators. The team also made use of the pavilion on Parker's Piece, which provided a space for gatherings and post-match discussions.

The CEN reports:

*“Cambridge West Indians recorded another fine Junior League victory on Saturday when they beat Eastern Electricity Board by five wickets on Parker’s Piece. Ping, who made 67 against GT Shelford the previous week, was again the leading player for the West Indian side. He took 3 for 37 as the Electricity Board were dismissed for 134 and then, opening the batting, he made 46 delightful runs before being one of Pettit’s five victims at a personal cost of 43 runs.”* (CEN 25.05.1970, pg. 11)

When Albert Gordon became the Landlord of the Midland Tavern in 1971, he continued to host the CWICC’s monthly meetings and AGMs in the back bar of the pub. With a Jamaican now running the pub, the sense of Caribbean culture flourished, with steel bands every six weeks and a discotheque every Friday and Saturday night. It was the perfect space for the team to come together—to talk cricket, listen to reggae and soul music, and enjoy a good time. The Landlord went the extra mile by offering free drinks to all club members during the meetings. The Midland is an integral part of CWICC’s story. The pub was reinforced as the hub for the cricket club, as well as the cultural and social centre of Caribbean life in the city. Many memories were made here. Over time, the team became affectionately known in local cricketing circles simply as *‘The Midland.’* As Albert Gordon put it, the pub had become a “treasured institution.”

In the early days, there was no shortage of enthusiastic cricketers. Loinsworth, who was the team selector, would often divide the players into two teams by drawing names out of a hat. Whichever team won would then play the next opponent. Gordon recalls:

*‘When on the pitch, it was serious—everyone wanted to win, and we went all out to win. After the matches on Parker’s Piece and elsewhere, the team and supporters would gather back at the Midland Tavern for a good laugh and a drink. The games were great fun!’*

### 1974 was a busy year:

In July 1974, “*Cambridge West Indians won another exciting Junior Cup Tie on the Piece, beating Great Shelford by 11 runs. The West Indians were all out for 130 in 32 overs. N Atkinson taking 6 for 25 and D King 3 for 36. Runs came from Lewis (34), Bains (31), and Ping (27). Atkinson followed up with an innings of 32 for Shelford, and Hanspall got 2, but the West Indians restricted their side to 119 for 9 off 42 overs. Doyle took 4 for 30 and Ping 2 for 30*”. (CEN 8.07.1974 pg. 14.)

Also in July 1974, a Garden Party was hosted at Pembroke College by the Club’s President, Bryan King, to celebrate his retirement. Shortly after, he returned to St Kitts, where he remained until his passing in 1987.

King placed a note in the local paper:

*“MAY I please be allowed to add a note to your kind report of my party in Pembroke? on July 13. The hundred or so guests and the Children's Steel Band in the garden observed by your reporter were almost exclusively members and friends of the Cambridge West Indian Social and Cricket Club, of which I have the honour to be President. The three coach loads of visitors from Birmingham and London were a mile away on the Pembroke playing fields. While one local West Indian XI was qualifying for the semi-final of the Junior Cup competition at Cherry Hinton.*

*In the evening, we joined forces for a hugely enjoyable dance at the University Centre. But the point I should like to emphasise is that it was chiefly to honour the local West Indian community that His Excellency the Jamaican High Commissioner and His Worship the Mayor were good enough to attend. B. J. KING, Pembroke College, Cambridge.”* (CEN 29 July 1974)



Pembroke College, Cambridge

On the day of the Garden Party, cricket matches took place between teams from the West Indian Students Centre in London and the St Christopher Association of Birmingham on the Pembroke College grounds. Meanwhile, the CWICC faced their local league opponents 'Cherry Hinton'. In the evening, everyone gathered at the University Sports and Social Club for a celebratory party, bringing together the community for an unforgettable day of cricket, camaraderie, and celebration.

*Confident of a Caribbean Carnival* was the title of an article in the local paper:

*“Parker’s Piece could be staging a Caribbean Carnival on 24 August if the Cambridge West Indians win their semi-final of the Junior Cup at Elsworth tomorrow”.*

The report continues that they:

*“Expect to win based on their confidence in the form of Bertram David, who has been punishing quite a few Junior League bowlers in recent weeks. The previous week, David had crashed 18 fours and a six off the Haslingfield bowling to reach 119 not out after his side had lost their first three wickets for seven runs. This score followed innings of 83, 66, 66 and 61 in league and cup matches by David, who previously played for Bedford West Indians.”*

David assured the CEN that his side does not stand or fall on his efforts alone:

*“We have several good batsmen and a few more useful bowlers who we hope will be good enough to take us into the final of the Junior Cup. **The West Indians are unbeaten in the league and cup this season**, having won three of their five Division II (North) matches – the other two were ruined by rain. This match, and the other semi-final between Fulbourn and Lode, will be played on Parker’s Piece on 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1974.”*  
(CEN 2 August 1974)

### **1976 – From Semi-Final to Relegation:**

In the first nine years, the team experienced a steady rise through the league, progressing from the bottom in 1967 to reaching the semi-finals in 1976. However, by the ninth year, they were facing challenges in replacing players who had left or retired. There was also a reluctance by the younger generation to engage in the sport. Winslow Doyle, the then captain of the CWICC, explained:

*“One of our intentions was to engage young West Indian boys to take up the game and play it.”*

But he noted that at 18 or 19, many were no longer willing to give up their Saturdays for cricket. He added:

*‘It was getting too much for the fellows, a game every week. It would have meant playing some fellows over and over.’* (CEN, 25 Aug 1976)

This explained why Young West Indians don’t want to play ball. Doyle felt that the younger generation was beginning to adopt more English ways and losing interest in cricket in favour of football.

Every year, the CWICC made significant progress, steadily climbing through the divisions and working their way to the top of the league. In 1976, they reached the League Cup semi-finals, where they faced Cherry Hinton, a very strong team. The match was played on the cricket pitch at Cherry Hinton Hall, but unfortunately, the CWICC found themselves in a difficult position. Gordon recalls:

*“We didn’t have enough players to field a full team, so we played a cricketer who wasn’t a registered member. He was the son of one of our team members and was part of the club, but not officially registered.”*

The opposing side noticed this and reported the issue to the officials. As a result, the CWICC were relegated to the bottom of the league. The relegation was devastating for the cricketers, especially after nine years of hard work to reach the top of the league.

### **Changes in Management:**

King, who had served as President of the Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club since 1967, retired back to St. Kitts in 1974, leaving Loinsworth and Doyle to manage the team. Around 1976, a man named David joined the club’s management. Albert Gordon, who recalls the period, did not know his surname, but remembers that David was a white man who was married to a Jamaican woman. Club meetings were moved to David’s house in Histon. Gordon recalls that this was when the club began to fall apart. Many members stopped showing up to the meetings, and the club entered a period of gradual, though ultimately temporary, decline.

### **Difficulty Fielding a Full Team:**

During the famous 1976 West Indies tour of England, the Caribbean team dominated the series with a commanding 3–0 victory. The summer was lit up by Viv Richards’ brilliant batting and Michael Holding’s devastating pace, as the West Indies outplayed England and captured the imagination of fans around the world.

But while the international side was soaring, the local story in Cambridge was quite different. On 24 August 1976, the *Cambridge Evening News* reported:

*“At a time when West Indian cricketers have been giving England the run-around, the West Indian Cricket Club have been unable to field a team.”* In the same article, Doyle attributed the issue to the difficulty of replacing departing players, observing that younger members were increasingly turning to football instead of cricket.

Loinsworth attributed the team's difficulty in fielding a full squad to players’ late Saturday nights at the Midland Tavern, making the players *“disinclined to turn up for the games! The result was that we used to take the field with two or three men short for the League games.”* (Loinsworth RC, 1988, *A Quiet Pilgrimage*).

The late nights at the Midland during its heyday may have left some players less inclined to turn up for Sunday matches, as the pub’s vibrant social life occasionally clashed with the demands of competitive cricket. These challenges were compounded by difficulties in recruiting younger players, many of whom were shifting their focus to football, as well as the disappointment of relegation following a forfeited cup match. Despite earlier successes and committed efforts, this combination of setbacks marked a difficult chapter in CWICC’s history.

By 1977, Winslow Doyle had stepped down as captain, and George Lewis took over briefly. The team regrouped under the captaincy of Bertram David, who led from 1977 to 1979. The team began a determined march back to prominence, maintaining a strong presence in the Cambridgeshire Cricket League and Cambridge College Clubs. Desmond Cuffy served as captain from 1979 to 1982, followed by Jerry Lewis, who led the team until at least 1985. Lewis still has the scorebooks from his captaincy, alongside two trophies awarded for CYC Player of the Season. His records include matches against teams such as Peterborough, Parkside Police, and Cherry Hinton, with CWICC frequently winning these games.

### **Cricket Trips to March:**

From the team's conception in 1967, the highlight of the cricket calendar was the trip to March to play the Railway Club. Coaches would leave from the Midland Tavern Pub to take the players and the supporters to March. Albert Gordon recalls:

*“They used to love inviting us up there to play against them because none of the other Cricket teams gave them as good a game as the Cambridge West Indians.”*

He continued:

*“Every year at the end of the season, they had a large hall and would invite all the teams that they'd played against in the season for a dinner dance.”*

It was a great opportunity to socialise with all the cricket clubs and meet local people from March.

Trevor Jones recalls that when the Club played cricket in March and Peterborough, Elvida Docherty—renowned for her incredible cooking—would bring hot food to sell, including rice and peas, chicken, fried fish, dumplings, and plantain. Whether the team travelled by car, minibus, or coach, Docherty was often there with her food, feeding players, families, and friends alike, adding a true sense of the Caribbean to the day.

### **A New Chapter: CWICC Beyond the Cambridgeshire Cricket League:**

In 1985, Ken Henville and Bertrum David decided to withdraw the CWICC from the Cambridgeshire Cricket League due to difficulties in recruiting new players. Withdrawing from the League also marked the end of their regular fixtures against the Cambridge Colleges. From that point on, CWICC focused on the Green King Sunday Pub and Social Clubs League and continued their much-anticipated annual match against the Cambridgeshire Police, which continued until at least 1993. Lewis, Cuffy and Doyle remained active in the team during this period.

The article *Swollen Arm of the Law* details the Cambridge West Indians' annual match against the Police at Fenner's in 1993. Published in *CEN* on 11 September 1993, the article describes how an Ely police officer took a sharp catch at mid-on to dismiss Imran Astan for 60. The victory sadly, marked the Police's sixth consecutive win in the challenge match.

In the early 1980s, the Caribbean community took an important step in an attempt to secure the future of local cricket by launching two teams: the Community Youth Club (CYC) Cricket



Team, managed by Hugh Carrington, and the Cambridge Commonwealth Cricket Team, managed by Dickie Lynch. Both teams competed in the Green King Cambridge Sunday Pubs and Social Clubs League, united by a shared mission: to nurture the next generation of Caribbean cricketers in Cambridge. CWICC—also known as The Midland—set the pace by claiming the League title in 1981. The CYC team then went on a remarkable run, claiming the League Cup four years in a row, from 1982 to 1985. Meanwhile, the Cambridge Commonwealth team proved to be strong and consistent competitors.



**Cambridge Sunday Pub Cricket League:  
Knockout Competition**

*Presented by Greene King*

Winners:

- 1980 – Spread Eagle
- 1981 – The Midland
- 1982–1985 – CYC Cricket Team

Shield Courtesy of Corey Carrington

**Reflection:**

In the 1970s, like many of my peers, I have fond memories of watching cricket on those warm, sunny afternoons as a child. The players, looking sharp in their crisp whites, brought a real sense of pride to the game. While the matches were always taken seriously, there was never a shortage of socialising, laughter, and good times. It was always about more than just the cricket—it was about family, community, and the spirit of the game.

*“When we had the cricket team, it was an opportunity for the Caribbean community in Cambridge to come together on Parker’s Piece—to form bonds and socialise. When we lost the pub and the cricket team, the community lost that chance to stay connected.”*

— Community member, reflecting on the early 1990s

## Chapter 4: The Midland Tavern and the Pentecostal Church



Midland Tavern Pub, Cambridge  
*Photo credit: Simon Knotte*

Although the Midland stopped hosting club meetings in 1976, it continued to grow in popularity, attracting both Black and White patrons. As word spread, people began travelling from further afield to enjoy vibrant nights infused with a sense of the Caribbean.

In an interview with the Cambridge Evening News, Albert Gordon states:

*“Integration is a double-edged process. On the plus side, there is the Midland Tavern in a town where there is still no dance hall. Mr Gordon finds his mixture of traditional English pub, hand-pumped ale included in a Caribbean-style bar with discotheque has proved a multi-racial success.” (CEN, Why West young West Indians don’t want to play ball, 25 August 1976.)*

In the 1970s customers would spend their evenings dancing to the sounds of Ken Boothe’s ‘Everything I Own,’ Carl Douglas’ ‘Kung Fu Fighting,’ Toots and the Maytals’ ‘54-46 Was My Number,’ Jimmy Cliff’s ‘I Can See Clearly,’ Bob Marley’s ‘No Woman No Cry,’ Gladys Knight’s ‘Midnight Train to Georgia,’ and George McCrae’s ‘Rock Your Baby’ among many other legendary artists.

The dancing and atmosphere were more akin to a West Indian blues party than a typical English pub. As word spread, the crowds grew, and at the weekends, the pub was always packed. The men looked effortlessly cool with their Afros, waistcoats, denim shirts, hats, and flared trousers or jeans. The women were equally striking, glamorous in their Saturday night best, dressed to impress and ready to dance the night away.

On Fridays and Saturdays, it would take Albert Gordon and his right-hand man, Mr Blake, at least an hour to get everyone out of the pub at closing time. People simply did not want the

night to end. For some, it didn't—the evening often continued with late-night lock-ins, poker nights or house parties – Blues - that kept the atmosphere going into the early hours. Entrance to the pub was free – Gordon just wanted everyone to have a great night.

**My earliest memories are rooted in the pub, mid-1970s:**

I grew up in the Midland Tavern pub with my three siblings. One of my earliest memories when I was about six years old: Saturday mornings filled with chatter and laughter drifting from our kitchen, which sat on the ground floor, right next to the back bar. The smell of freshly brewed coffee mingled with the buzz of conversation. Before opening time, the kitchen was a hub for my parents' friends, the bar staff. There was a steady hum from the large ice machine, tirelessly producing enough ice to keep up with the pace of a Saturday night. I remember helping out, placing the bar stools down on the freshly mopped floors, laying out the drink mats, and perching on the high stool behind the front bar, ready to spot the first customer. As soon as someone walked in, I'd run to the kitchen to let them know.

I recall weaving in-between the small round tables where games of dominoes were underway. I loved emptying the ashtrays and listening to the laughter and animated commentary that came with every domino slammed onto the table. Four men, perched on stools around the tables, were immersed in stories, strategy, and the unmistakable rhythm of a Caribbean pub alive with energy. As an adult, I was fortunate to return to the pub on quite a few occasions to experience its unique atmosphere once again, alive with warmth, music, and the same sense of togetherness that made for an unforgettable night.

Many stories are still shared about the nights at the Midland Tavern. Just recently, Natalie—the current landlord of what is now the Devonshire Arms—shared a touching moment: a couple visiting from America walked into the pub. They had first met at the pub over 30 years ago, fallen in love, married, and moved abroad. Now, for the first time, they had returned to England to celebrate 30 years since they first met, revisiting the very place where it all began. Another story I've recently heard; On at least one occasion, Gregory Isaacs—Jamaican reggae legend—walked into the pub dressed in a white suit and matching white hat. He was in Cambridge to perform at the Bath House later that day.

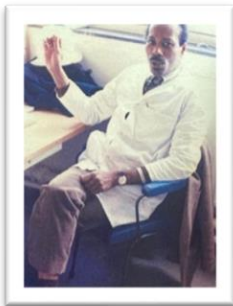
### **The Name Change from The Midland to The Devonshire Arms:**

The Midland Tavern was originally named for its close proximity to the Midland Railway line, which once linked Cambridge to towns like Kettering, Kimbolton, and St Ives. The pub reflected its close connection to the local community—at one time even featuring an arrival and departure board with train times inside. Commuters often waited for their trains over a pint.

In the early 1980s, the 'Midland Tavern' was officially renamed the 'Devonshire Arms.' The change, however, was met with resistance, particularly from the Caribbean community, for whom the Midland had served as a vital gathering spot since at least 1961. The Midland was more than just a pub, it was an institution, and many patrons were unhappy with the new name. Despite the official rebranding, the CWICC continued to be called 'The Midland,' keeping the name alive as a tribute to the club's roots and the countless memories created within the pub walls.

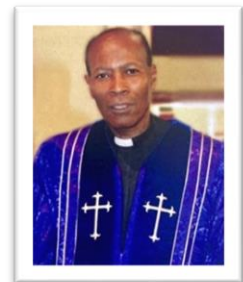
### **The Pentecostal Church:**

*Bishop, Robert Campbell (1936–2011)*



It's impossible to talk about the Caribbean community in Cambridge without mentioning the Pentecostal Church that opened in 1975, just three doors down from the Midland Tavern Pub on Devonshire Road. It wasn't unusual to see members from both spaces catching up and exchanging greetings on the pavement outside. Before acquiring a church building, the congregation worshipped in members' homes.

Born in Westmoreland, Jamaica, Robert Campbell moved to England in the early 1960s, following a brief stay in America, in search of work opportunities. He built a life that balanced science and faith, working as a research scientist at Unilever in Bedford while pursuing his spiritual calling. In 1972, he married Daphne Black, and together they raised six children, later welcoming ten grandchildren. In 1980, Campbell earned both a Degree in Theology and a Bachelor of Divinity. He led the Cambridge Pentecostal Church for nearly 40 years. The church minibus was affectionately known as *Betsy*. Around 1982, the church, now known as Mount Zion, relocated to Green End Road in Chesterton, where it continued to thrive under his faithful and enduring leadership.



Bishop Robert Campbell  
*Photo credit: Sheena Campbell*

## **Chapter 5: The West Indies Cricket Team playing at Fenner's**

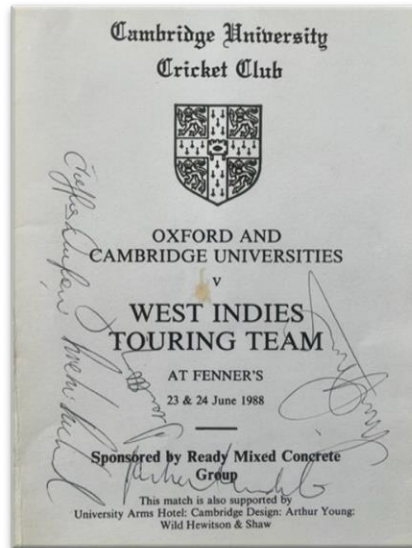


**The Cambridge Caribbean Community Watching the West Indian Cricket Team at Fenner's**

Sourced from *Cambridge Evening News*, "Why young West Indians don't want to play ball," 25 August 1976.

During their tours of the UK in the 1970s and 1980s, the West Indies played warm-up matches against Oxford and Cambridge Universities, alternating between the two university grounds each year. The CWICC, the Cambridge Caribbean community and their children all have lasting memories of watching these games at Fenner's. Gordon recalls meeting Clive Lloyd and Bernard Julien after one of the matches. As a child, Junior Cuffy remembers how prestigious the events at Fenner's felt and how special it was to see the West Indian team play. Yvonne Ebanks also remembers going to the matches with her mother and being in awe of one player's towering height— I now know this to be Curtly Ambrose, aka 'Big Bird,' who stood at an impressive 6'7. After their matches, the West Indies Cricket Team would head to the Midland Tavern Pub to enjoy a great time.

In June 1988, the West Indies Touring Team played against Oxford and Cambridge Universities at Fenner's. Hugh Carrington and his son Corey collected autographs from players including Viv Richards, Richie Richardson, Jeffrey Dujon, Dwayne Bravo and Patrick Patterson.



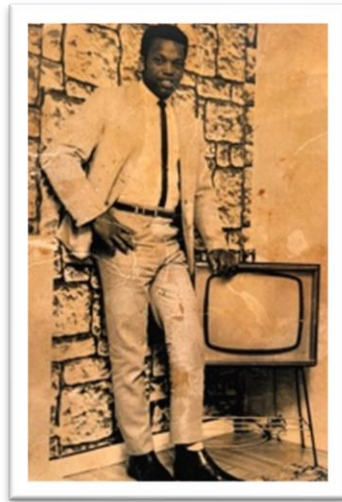
In June 1988, the West Indies Touring Team played against Oxford and Cambridge Universities at Fenner's. Hugh Carrington and his son Corey were present and collected autographs from the players, creating lasting memories from this iconic match.

*Courtesy of Hugh Carrington*

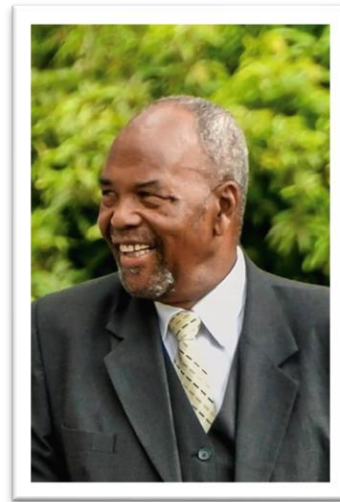
Lance Bariffe and Trevor Jones recall one memorable night in the 1980s at the pub, when it was filled with cricketing legends. Among those present were Viv Richards, Michael Holding, Clive Lloyd, Carl Hooper, Curtly Ambrose, Courtney Walsh, Jeff Dujon, Larry Gomes, Jimmy Anderson, Gordon Greenidge, and Desmond Haynes.

## Chapter 6: Interview with Albert Gordon

Albert Gordon, born in Treasure Beach, Jamaica, arrived in England in 1960 at the age of 19. In Jamaica, he had worked on his father’s farm. After arriving in England, he took on a range of jobs, including working as a Railway Examiner in London. He eventually settled in Cambridge in 1963, where he was employed by Cambridge Asphalt. He enjoyed visiting pubs around Cambridge, and during the mid-1960s, the West Indian community regularly held lively Saturday night parties – blues - in each other’s homes—gatherings that often continued until 4 or 5 in the morning. In 1971, Gordon became the Landlord of the Midland Tavern.



Albert Gordon  
1962, Cambridge



Albert Gordon  
2023, Jamaica

With regards to cricket, Gordon recalls:

*“We played in the Cambridgeshire League, and we had a very good team. Some of the guys from the University played first-class cricket, and we were just a town team, but they used to love playing us because they said that the CWICC gave them the hardest game. We used to give them hell in our matches, and we would win sometimes. All the teams around Cambridge wanted to play the CWICC.”*

Many of the Colleges had a cricket team, and Gordon recalls playing King's College, Churchill College, and Queens College. Loinsworth and King were responsible for organising the matches, selecting the teams the CWICC would face, and acting as selectors to choose the players. In those early days, Winslow Doyle served as Captain, with George Lewis as Vice-

Captain. Doyle was also involved in the selection process, and the players simply had to turn up and play.

Pye had a very strong team, with excellent batsmen. When Gordon was playing, the opposing teams would always ensure they put their best batsman on, as no one could read his spin. Gordon described his bowling style as similar to that of Shane Warne, and he was often referred to as the 'Black Underwood' for his exceptional spin bowling.

Gordon recalls that before playing the West Indies United (London) in the early 1970s, the CWICC held an internal match. Doyle and Lewis placed the names in a bag and drew them out, splitting the players into two teams. Gordon was placed on Lewis's team, which won the internal match, so most of that team were selected to play against the London team. On the London team were Glasford Gordon and his brother, both excellent batsmen and relatives of Albert Gordon. On this occasion, Cambridge dominated the match, comfortably defeating the London team. In Gordon's words:

*“We slaughtered them. We had a very good team. We went from the bottom of the league to being one match away from the number one spot. To achieve this, we had to beat our opponents; however, because some of the guys did not turn up for the match, we didn't have enough players to field a full team, so we played a cricketer who wasn't a registered member. He was the son of one of our team members and was part of the club, but not officially registered. The officials found out about it, and the CWICC lost all their points and went back to nought. The team were deflated and couldn't be bothered with the cricket team anymore. That was when Dickie Lynch stepped in, recruiting some of the younger boys to try out, including Hallam Doyle, in an effort to form a new team.”*

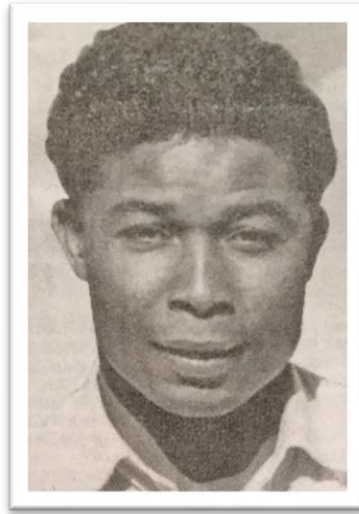
Starting in 1967, the Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club (CWICC) was regularly invited to play against the Railway Club in March. Albert Gordon recalls:

*“They used to love inviting us up there to play against them because none of the other Cricket teams gave them as good a game as the Cambridge West Indians. Lance Bariffe and Erol Chisholm used to follow the team and support us, especially when we played against March. Every year at the end of the season, they had a large hall and would invite all the teams that they'd played against in the season for a dinner dance. It cost £5 per head.”*



The coach for the dinner dances left from the Midland Tavern, and it became an event everyone looked forward to. The end-of-season dinner dances were a highlight for many, offering a chance to unwind, enjoy good music, and spend time with teammates and friends. More than just a celebration, they were a moment for the cricket league community to come together and mark the close of another cricket season.

## Chapter 7: Memories of Winslow Doyle – Captain of CWICC 1967-1976



Winslow Doyle, St Vincent Passport Photo, c.1960.

Courtesy of Musa Doyle

This passport photo was taken in St Vincent when Winslow Doyle was in his early 20s, just before he left for Britain as part of the Windrush generation.

### **Memories of Cricket by Floyd Doyle:**

My Dad was Winslow Doyle, one of the original players in the Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club. He was born in 1936 in Barbados, and he came to England in the early 1960s. He did a bit of carpentry in Barbados but could turn his hand to anything. When he came to Cambridge, he worked at the Railway. He had four children, one girl and three boys. The cricket team meant a lot to Dad, he was a winner, so he took it seriously. He was always interested in unions and enjoyed being involved in the Cambridge Community Relations Committee. Every time the West Indies played at Fenner's; they came to the Midland. Once I remember the Barbados players coming to our house, invited by Dad. When I saw them, I was gobsmacked!

I remember Loinsworth and King. As King was white, they opened a few doors for the Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club. There was another guy called Tim Gosling who was around the team back then as well, especially around the Trinidadians. He also spent a lot of time in Trinidad. He took photographs of the CWICC matches on Parker's Piece. I remember your Dad, Albert, with fondness and remember his beard and laugh. We were very lucky to

grow up with so many mums and dads in the 1970s. Unfortunately, we didn't know what we had. They were great times!

### **Memories of Cricket, By Musa Doyle:**

Musa explains that his father Winslow:

*“Liked to debate and have his say. He was a Union Representative at the Railway. He was an avid cricket fan and spent a lot of time talking about the game.”*

Musa fondly recalls their time together:

*“I could spend a whole Saturday watching cricket while he was in and out of the kitchen, cooking with a glass of rum in hand, the match playing on in the background.”* Winslow was a devoted family man, happiest when he was at home with his children.

Reflecting on his father's cricket team in the late 1960s and early 1970s, Musa remembers:

*“There was a lot of love among them—it united them, no matter which Caribbean Island they came from. Cricket brought them together. Times were tough, so the team and the pub offered them far more than just a game. The pub, the church, and the cricket club—those three institutions left a lasting legacy that still lives on today. What that generation built is the reason we all know each other. It's why we're all at the same funerals, why some of our kids now know each other.”*

He continued:

*“When they first came to England, life was hard—so sticking together was essential. They found strength in playing sport together. **When they played against League Clubs and Cambridge Colleges, cricket became a great equaliser.** These men worked all week in demanding jobs. They didn't receive the kind of professional training the semi-pros had, but when they walked onto those hallowed pitches in and around Cambridge, they walked on as equals. As sportsmen. Hats off to them!”*

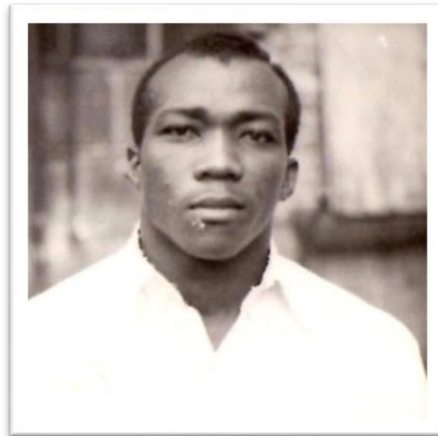
In retirement, Winslow fulfilled his dream of returning to live in Barbados, spending several years splitting his time between winters in Barbados and summers in England.

In his own cricketing journey, Musa played for Dickie's team, which was formed in the 1980s. Sponsored by Chauvinist, a local shop on Mill Road, the team had a rotating cast of regulars, held together by Dickie's unwavering determination to keep the game alive. Younger players

were often called up to fill in; whoever showed up on a Sunday got a game. Musa fondly recalls one memorable match against Parkside Police at Fenner's.

Musa played alongside Ben Ryan and Wayne Bariffe—together, they were the youngest members of the squad. The older players, like Dickie Lynch, Ches, Lance Bariffe, Kojak, and Kelvin, took them under their wing, passing down the basics of the game and the spirit of the team. Through their stories, Musa came to learn about the original cricket club and the Midland pub of the 1960s and 1970s—a legacy he felt proud to be part of.

## Chapter 8: Interview with Desmond Cuffy, Captain of the CWICC, approx. 1978-1982



Desmond Cuffy's Vincentian Passport, 1960.

Courtesy of Desmond Cuffy

Desmond Cuffy was born in 1934 in St. Vincent. In September 1961, at the age of 27, he flew to England and settled in Cambridge on St Barnabas Road with his partner. His arrival came just four days after the birth of his first son, Wendell. Back in St. Vincent, Cuffy had served as a Constable in the island's police force and, before that, spent six years working as a teacher.

Cuffy arrived in England on a Thursday and went straight to the Labour Exchange that same day in search of work. He secured a job on the spot and began work the following Monday as a labourer, helping lay the foundation for Churchill College. He vividly recalls the bitter cold and heavy snowfall in the winter of 1961.

Seven years later, he would find himself playing cricket on the very grounds of the college where he had once worked as a labourer, facing a Churchill College XI. Cuffy told me that "they all spoke in the same '*proper*' English accent, always polite, greeting us with a respectful '*Good morning, Sir.*'"

In contrast, he explained, the CWICC brought together players from a variety of Caribbean islands, each with its distinct dialect and accent. During match refreshments, the Caribbean players would chat about the English food, but their broad and varied dialects often left the Churchill College players struggling to understand them.

*"We were all from different islands, and we all had different twangs. You could easily pick out those from Barbados; they would often say "cor-blimey man" or 'fly fish' in their Bajan accents. We played a different style of cricket, and we went out there to*

*win”, Winslow Doyle was a very good bowler; he was very quick and could throw a ball down. I have seen him knock a bloke’s teeth out with the ball. He got results, and he used to score runs. Jerry used to score runs, I used to score runs. We had a good team. But in between the good times, we had some cruel times in matches.”*

Cuffy joined CWICC at its inception in 1967 and served as Captain from approximately 1978 to 1982. He was one of the few original players who remained with the team until they stopped playing in the Cambridgeshire League in 1985, after which time the team joined the Sunday League until about 1993. He fondly remembers Loinsworth and King, the club’s founders, and their connections to Pembroke College. He recalls that Loinsworth was a talented cricketer and that he, King, and Doyle would often gather at the Midland Tavern to organise matches. Reflecting on those days, he said, *“Everyone used to meet at the Midland.”*

Cuffy’s son, Junior, recalls going to Parker’s Piece as a child, with his mum, Angela, bringing sandwiches. *“It was a big day out!”* He remembers fondly. Desmond Cuffy continued:

*“We would get a big cricket team show up to play when our matches were on Parker’s Piece. We had a great time. I remember some of the old players used to turn up to watch our games and would shout ‘Come on boys’ and ‘Whoop the daylight out of them [...] The camaraderie in the team was great. We would tell each other stories of what we were getting up to or which women we were seeing. I had a saying, ‘Don’t bring me into it!’ The cricket team were popular with the women. They used to go crazy!”*

Cuffy recalled playing against the Cambridge Police Force in 1982 alongside Bertrum David, Ivan Ping, Naiman Dennis, Graham Rhodes, and Cyril Ebanks. He remembered Tony Kennedy, the policeman in the CEN photograph, and noted that CWICC played against the Cambridge Police Force several times, usually coming out on top.

We spoke about the West Indies Cricket Team playing at Fenner’s. *“They won quite easily. Gary Sobers hit the ball right over the boundary – it was a massive hit!”* Cuffy recalled. On one occasion at the Midland, he spoke to Michael Holding, who, with his broad Jamaican accent, offered him and everyone else in the bar a drink. *“It was clear that whenever the West Indies Cricket Team played at Fenner’s, they would head straight to the Midland Tavern after every match,”* he assured me.

It is impossible to talk about cricket without mentioning the Midland. Cuffy recalls:

*“When the West Indians started coming into the pub, those were great days.”*

He had been a regular even before Albert Gordon became a landlord. Though not a domino player, Cuffy loved going to the Midland to dance.

*“People weren’t accustomed to our music. Going to the Midland on a Friday night was like going to church... we went without fail. The domino players were specialists, especially the Jamaicans—they loved their dominos, with loud shouts of ‘...to blood\*\*’, ‘chuh,’ and ‘gweh, you Bajan.’ Each person had their phrases and banter, all delivered in their accents: Grenadians, Dominicans, St Lucians, Trinidadians, Jamaicans. We enjoyed those years. We had to get to know each other—otherwise, how would we have got on!”*

Cuffy has kindly loaned his original cricket sweater to the Museum of Cambridge for an exhibition starting in April 2025, celebrating the Windrush Generation. He wore the same sweater for all 18 years he played for CWICC and then for playing in the Sunday League until at least 1993. Its distinctive blue and yellow trim represents the Caribbean—blue for the sea and yellow for the sand. Every player wore the same sweater, a symbol of their shared identity and pride.

Cuffy has nine children: Verne, Claydon, Gideon, Lucine, Wendell, Junior, Marcia, Lorraine and Lynette.



Desmond Cuffy, and his children Lucine, Wendel, Lynette, Junior.

## Chapter 9: Interview with Jerry Lewis, Captain of the Cricket Club 1982-1985



Jerry Lewis holding CYC trophies, 2022.

Jerry Lewis, born in Barbados, was a Cricket enthusiast and a great Batsman and wicketkeeper. He originally lived in Brixton and moved to Huntingdon as a teenager with his parents in the early 1970s. He worked nights at Prestar in Bourne as a welder for ten years and still has the clock they gave him for his service. Quite a few West Indian people worked there. He also worked for the Myers Bed Company and received an award for twenty-five years of service. Lewis was a DJ in his spare time and was especially proud to play at Jimmy Cliff's performance at Huntingdon Technical College in 1975. He also captained the Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club (CWICC) from 1982 to 1985... and possibly beyond this.

Lewis recalls his mindset as a Captain:

*“The camaraderie you got from all being together, from all the different islands, was great. Nobody was better than anyone else. We were a team. **You don't play as individuals; you play as a team. That is where your strength is - all together as one.** Everyone got on and after a match, we used to all go back to the Midland Tavern and have a drink. The pub also sold patties and fried dumplings.”*

Lewis recalls he cracked a few windows in the houses and the pub around Parker's Piece when batting; the club paid for any window repairs. When they played at home, spectators sat all around the boundaries of the pitch to watch the match, even other teams who were not playing that day, came to watch the Cambridge West Indians, including Albert Gordon, who was a spectator in the 1980s.



Lewis stated:

*“Parker’s Piece was our home ground, and you are not going to come there and beat us. That was the spirit we had. We used to get a good crowd.”*

Lewis remembers playing March, Chatteris, Chelmsford, Haverhill, Quy, Cherry Hinton and many other teams. The March Railway Club would always put on refreshments after every match, and they were still hosting end-of-season Dinner Dances in the 1980s.

Lewis recalls that in 1982, the CWICC played the police to improve community relations with the Caribbean Community, and after the game, the police invited the team back to the station for refreshments. They were photographed in the CEN 14.06.1982.



Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club (CWICC) playing the Police at Fitzwilliam College.

*Photo courtesy of Cambridge Evening News.*

The article read:

*“A cricketing exercise in community relations has ended in a draw, leaving both sides happy with the outcome. Cambridge police and West Indian cricketers from the Midland Tavern in Devonshire Road, Cambridge, got together over the wicket at Fitzwilliam College sports ground in a match organised by Mill Road local Bobby Nigel Barber. The result was 212 for 8 for the police and 152 for 5 for the Midland Tavern. And the verdict? Very enjoyable.” CEN 14.06.1982 pg. 6.*

Desmond Cuffy was the Captain at this time, pictured above.

Two months later, the CWICC played the local police again.

*“Cambridge West Indians crushed the local police side by 97 runs in a challenge match after Lloyd Rose (50), Jerry Lewis (49), and Josh Knight (44) had taken their side to 205 for 7. Then Lazeley Stephenson took over, finishing with 6 for 26 as the police were dismissed for 108”. (CEN, 17 Aug 1982)*

Lewis remembers playing on several of the College grounds. They played the West Indies United (London) at Newnham College –and beat them. Lewis got quite a few runs in this match. When Lewis went to see the West Indies play at Fenner’s, he spoke to Viv Richards on his own, and Viv asked where all the people were. He was used to pulling a large crowd.

Whilst Lewis was captain he recalls three West Indians from the American Air Force played a few matches with the CWICC; 3 bowlers and one batted as well. It was difficult to get the same team every week. Cuffy, for example, was a good fast bowler but was also a good footballer.

The year the CWICC won the League, Lewis organised an end-of-season dance at the Corn Exchange in Cambridge. He made presentations to the players. In Lewis’s cricket career, he also played for Alconbury and Godmanchester.

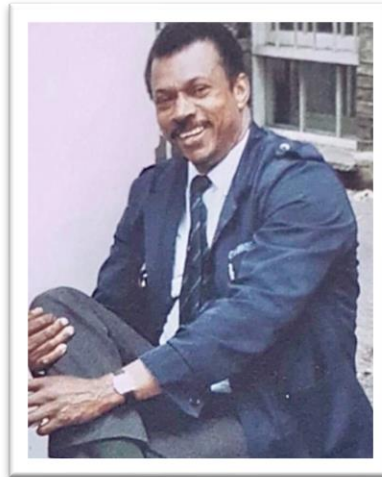


Player of the Season trophies awarded by CWICC to CYC, 1984 and 1985.  
*Courtesy of Jerry Lewis.*

## Chapter 10: Cricket Outings to the Seaside



Dickie Lynch – Seaside trip  
organiser and driver.  
*Courtesy of Fiona Lynch*



Enon Bennett – Seaside trip  
organiser and driver.  
*Courtesy of Barbara Williams*

Dickie Lynch and Enon Bennett, both Jamaican bus drivers in Cambridge, were well-known for organising regular seaside trips for the Cambridge West Indian Cricket Club (CWICC), along with their families and friends. They would hire a coach and everyone would gather at either the Midland Tavern or the Bath House on Gwydir Street before setting off for destinations like Clacton, Great Yarmouth, and Hunstanton. Once they arrived, the men would find a spot to play cricket, ensuring it was close enough to the beach so the children could also have fun. Ben Ryan fondly recalls these trips from his childhood, which were filled with ice cream, cans of Coke, and homemade sandwiches. He even remembers one trip where the road they took was too narrow for the coach! These seaside outings became treasured memories for many of the Caribbean families and friends in Cambridge. Albert Gordon shares that it was a tradition for West Indians in England to take trips to the seaside, bringing along fried fish and dumplings to enjoy on the beach.



Fun at the Seaside, early 1970s.

The Bennett Sisters and Byron Barnes.  
*Courtesy of Barbara Williams*

## **Chapter 11: Community Youth Club (CYC) Cricket Team**

### **Hugh Carrington (1933-2018)**

#### *Founder and Manager of CYC Cricket Team*

The Community Youth Club (CYC) Cricket team was founded in 1980 by Jamaican-born academic Hugh Carrington, who also managed the team. It grew out of a multicultural youth club Carrington had established at the Bath House in Cambridge—a welcoming space where young people could drop in to play games like Space Invaders or get extra help with subjects like maths (a subject Carrington especially loved). More than just a club, it was a safe, inclusive environment where Carrington offered advice, guidance, and support, helping young people grow in confidence and thrive both on and off the field. On Saturdays, the CYC practised on Parker’s Piece under Carrington’s guidance. The park was a lively hub for local cricket, with several pub league teams often training side by side. Sundays were reserved for league matches, bringing together teams from across the city in friendly but competitive play. Matches were also played on the Cambridge College grounds.

The CYC played in the Green King Sunday Pubs and Social Clubs League, which included teams from the Midland Tavern, Cambridge Commonwealth, Alexandra Arms, Old Spring, Coach & Horses, Eagle, Free Press, Spread Eagle, Cambridge Arms, Kingston Arms, Elm Tree, White Horse, and the Panton Arms, among others. CYC competed until 1985 and enjoyed remarkable success, winning the league four consecutive times in 1982, 1983, 1984, and 1985. The CYC played their final match in the league in 1985.

Corey Carrington has the last cricket ball of the last ever innings for CYC, in 1985. He recalls his father, Hugh Carrington, picking up this ball from Parker’s Piece after the CYC Cricket Team’s final ever match. Now part of the Museum of Cambridge’s Windrush Exhibition, the ball carries a deeply personal memory for Corey—one that echoes his father’s poignant connection to the moment, the team, and all it represented.

As he handed it over, Corey held it firmly for a moment—a quiet nod to his late father, and a powerful gesture reflecting Carrington’s enduring love for the game and the community it helped to build.

Floyd Doyle remembers how Hugh Carrington had a knack for winding up the opposition—often pausing the game to ask unexpected questions. “*We all used to laugh hard! Not good for*

*the opposition though,”* he said with a grin. Corey Carrington agreed, recalling how older Caribbean spectators would get vocal about the interruptions:

*“My dad went into the Midland to drink with the lads. After cricket, they would all head to the pub. That was his pub—that’s where most Black guys in Cambridge drank. When it changed hands, it felt like part of Cambridge got cut away.”* – Corey Carrington



Gerald Mejias. Malcom Johnson. Elvis Shaw Floyd Street Sam Bain Clem Johnson. Delroy Jones  
James Handscombe, Jon Handscombe, Floyd Doyle, Tony Malik. Afjal Malki Hugh Carrington

**Winners of the Green King Knockout Shield 1982**

Captain Floyd Street, Manager Hugh Carrington



Don Levene, Delroy Jones, Stephen Edwards, Sam Bain, Everton Fox, Nick Kelly, Hugh Carrington

Robert Gautrey Floyd Doyle, Tony Malik. Mark Carrington Ravin Jayasuriya

**Winner of the Green King Knockout Trophy 1983**

Captain: Tony Malik, Vice-Captain: Done Levene, Wicket Keeper: Robert Gautrey



CYC Cricket Club, after a match on Parker's Piece, between  
1980–1985  
*Courtesy of Corey Carrington*

The team was known for their smart white Arron cricket sweaters, distinguished by a black and red trimmed collar—bold colours deliberately chosen by Hugh Carrington for their striking look. Janice Carrington, Hugh's wife, hand-stitched "CYC" onto each player's sweater with care. According to their son Corey Carrington, Janice knitted his father's sweater herself, though he isn't certain whether she knitted all of the team's jumpers.



CYC Cricket Club, celebrating a win, between 1980–1985  
*Courtesy of Corey Carrington.*

### **The Cambridge Commonwealth Team:**

Dickie Lynch also established a team called the Cambridge Commonwealth to encourage younger generations to take up cricket. Joining the Greene King Sunday Pub League alongside the CYC, the team was sponsored by Chauvinist, a shop on Mill Road. The squad featured players such as Dickie Lynch, Lance Bariffe, Musa Doyle, Ben Ryan, Wayne Bariffe, and Kojak. On at least one occasion, they played against the Police on Fenner's ground. Although little documentation of the team has surfaced, records show they finished 8th in the Greene King Sunday Pub League in 1985.

### **Hugh Carrington, A Voice for Equality in Cambridge:**

*Secretary then Chairman of the Cambridge Council for Racial Equality 1978-1995*

Carrington was an academic. Educated at the prestigious Jamaica College in Kingston—an institution renowned for academic excellence and sporting achievement, Carrington shared an alma mater with some of Jamaica's most influential figures, including former Prime Ministers Michael Manley and Bruce Golding.

Carrington's professional journey took him from classified NATO bases in Canada and the Arctic Circle, to studying in New York, before he moved to England in 1969. By 1975, he had settled in Cambridge, after securing a position at Pye Unicamb, where he became the first Black man to work for the company. His experiences, particularly of workplace discrimination, only deepened his commitment to social justice and passion for improving race relations.

From 1978, Carrington served as Secretary of the Cambridge Council for Racial Equality (CCRE), which was then based at The Bath House in Gwydir Street. When government funding was cut in 1988, the Chairman stepped down, and Carrington took on the role himself—at his own personal expense. Following the cuts, he could no longer operate from The Bath House, however undeterred he continued the organisation's work from home.

Despite these setbacks, Carrington remained deeply committed to the community. He played a key role in the creation of the Hector Peterson Playground behind The Bath House. He also built a personal library of books on Black British and American history and culture.

Known for his unwavering commitment, Carrington was always ready to support the community he so proudly represented. As Chairman of the CCRE, he worked tirelessly to improve opportunities and advance equality for Cambridge's Black community.



## **Chapter 12: CWICC Members List (1967-1985)**

### **Players in the late 1960s & 1970s**

Bains, S. Cuffy, D. David, B. Dennis, N. Doyle, W. Gordon, A. Henville, K. Lewis, G. Lynch, D. Panton. Ping, I. Rhodes, G.

### **Players in the 1980s**

Bains, S. Bariffe, L. Bunting, A. Cuffy, D. David, J. Doyle, W. Edwards, S. Gloster, L. Gloster, F. Gloster, K. Gooding, L. Harewood, P. Henville, K. Jackey D. Jones, D Jones, N, Ketchin, E. Knight J. Levine, D. Lewis, J. Lynch, D Mackay, D. Malcolm, P. Malik, T. Malik, A. Malkin, P. Mejia, G. Muir, R. Nelson. Parchment, A. Ping, I. Rhodes, G. Roper, C. Roper, A. Rose, L. Shaw, D. Smith, L. Stephenson, L. Stephenson, M. Stevens, L. Taylor, A. Tullock.

Names sourced from Scorebook 1982-1985

### **Captains of CWICC**

- Winslow Doyle – 1967-1976
- George Lewis – 1976-1977
- Bertrum David – 1977-1979
- Desmond Cuffy 1979-1982
- Jerry Lewis – 1982-1985
- Unknown - 1985-1993

Photos: At Fenner's in the early 1990s, when the West Indies played their pre-match game against the Cambridge University Cricket Team. Viv Richards is wearing a red hat.

*Courtesy of Jerry Lewis*





# Bibliography

---

1. B King, Pembroke College, CEN 29 July 1974
2. Birch, C. Memoirs of Bryan Earle King, Fellow 1928-174. (held at Pembroke College. Cambridge)
3. Cambridge West Indians, CEN, 14 July 1974
4. Confident of a Caribbean Carnival, Cambridge Evening News, 2 Aug 1974, pg 32
5. Don stages protest – with a steel band, CEN, 1 Mar 1974, pg 17
6. Easy for Audley End, Cambridge Evening News, 8 July 1974, pg 14
7. Exciting Tie on Paradise, Cambridge Evening News, 25 May 1970, pg 11
8. Interview with Albert Gordon, Spin Bowler, 1967-1975, 1 Sept 2022
9. Interview with Corey Carrington, son of Hugh Carrington
10. Interview with Desmond Cuffy, Captain of CWICC 1978-1982, 25 March 2025
11. Interview with Jerry Lewis, Captain of the Cricket Team, 1982-1985, 1 July 2022
12. Loinsworth, R. C. Quiet Pilgrimage. 1986 (sourced from the Loinsworth family)
13. Pub sign anagram leaves a sour taste, CEN 16 March 1994 pg 2
14. Race and Pace, The West Indians in East Lancashire, BBC iPlayer, 15 Sep 2019
15. Requiem mass for popular teacher, CEN 6 June 1990, pg 5
16. Swollen Arm of the Law, CEN 4 Sept 1993
17. West Indian Party in dons honour, CEN, 22 July 1974
18. West Indians crushed the police, CEN, 17 Aug 1982
19. West Indians Date for Fenner's, 13 Nov 1979, pg 22
20. West Indians Play Police and It's a Draw, CEN, 14 June 1982
21. Why Young West Indians don't want to play ball, Cambridge Evening News, 25 Aug 1976. Pg 9