WINDRUSH CRICKET FESTIVAL 2025 SHINES IN EXMOUTH

The third Windrush Cricket Festival lit up Exmouth Cricket Club on Sunday, August 17, 2025 — blending sport, culture, and community spirit into a day to remember.



The morning began cool, windy, and overcast, but by the time the matches got underway, the skies had cleared, and the sunshine matched the energy of the crowd.

Cricket was at the heart of the festival with two headline fixtures: Exeter 1st XI vs Exmouth 2nd XI Women's team and Exmouth Men's XI vs West Indies United (London). Exeter Women's and Exmouth Men's sides emerged victorious.

A special word of thanks goes to the West Indies United team, who have travelled down from London — bringing their families and friends — for the third year in a row. Their commitment and enthusiasm have been vital in making this festival possible. The effort of organising and travelling both ways in a single day is deeply appreciated, and their presence has become a much-valued part of this annual celebration.

Off the pitch, visitors explored the Windrush and Indentureship Exhibition, which highlighted the journeys, resilience, and achievements of Caribbean and Indo-Caribbean communities and their contributions to modern British society. A dedicated display also celebrated the lives and achievements of West Indies cricketers, including Guyanese player Ivan Madray, father of organiser Krish Madray, whose vision has been central to the festival's success.





Mahalia from Mahalia's Kitchen

The day offered much more than cricket. Families enjoyed Caribbean food from Jamaican Grill and Mahalia's Kitchen, while children joined craft workshops run by Anne Madray and Viv Calderbank. Younger festival-goers also enjoyed face-painting by Alex Michel-Bowman, while the sounds of DJ Somatic kept the energy high and the atmosphere festive.



Leon from Jamaican Grill



(L-R) Anne Madray and guest to the craft tent

The festival was the product of collaboration between the Devon Windrush Team (whose members include Krish Madray, Anne Madray, Nadia Gorton, Ricky Croal, and Desmond Kumar) and the Devon Development Education (DDE) team (Sue Errington, Sandhya Dave, Wendy Milne) and a team of volunteers. Partners and funders included Exmouth Cricket Club, Exmouth Town Council, the Boris Karloff Trust, and DDE. The event's vibrant identity was captured in a striking poster designed by Viv Calderbank



(L-R) Lord Mayor of Exeter, Councillor Anne Jobson and Organiser Krish Maray

"This event is about honouring the past while building bridges for the future," said organiser Krish Madray. "It's about celebrating our communities through cricket, food, music, and heritage."

We were also honoured by the presence of the Lord Mayor of Exeter, Councillor Anne Jobson, and Exmouth County Councillors Jeff Trail, Helen Brown and Nick Hookway, attendance showed strong civic support for the festival and the communities it celebrates.

From its chilly start to its sunlit finish, the 2025 Windrush Cricket Festival was more than a day of sport — it was a celebration of heritage, identity, and the unifying power of community.

"This event is now in my family calendar, an enjoyable gathering of the carribean in the sunshine of the Southwest." Dave



Devon Windrush Team: (L-R) Nadia Lewis Gorton , Desmond Kumar, Krish Madray, Ricky Coral, Anne Madray and Sandhya Dave is the Windrush Project Coordinator for Devon Development Education , Sue Errington and Wendy Milne (not pictured) Organisers from Devon Development Education


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The Hut






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All photos courtesy of Chris and Greg

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Thanks to our partners and funders

Exmouth Cricket Club, West Indies United Cricket Club
Boris Karloff Foundation, Exmouth Town Council, Exmouth's three Devon County Councillors

The Windrush Caribbean Cricket Festival is part of the 'Celebrating Windrush in Devon' project of Devon Development Education, Charity no. 1102233. Office address: 17 St David's Hill, Exeter, EX4 3RG. 01392 438811. dde@globalcentredevon.org.uk.

The Devon Windrush Group is always welcoming new members who want to celebrate heritage, share skills, and strengthen community ties.

- **If you'd like to get involved, please contact us at** dde@globalcentredevon.org.uk.
- **If you'd like to support our work with a donation, you can give via our website :** globalcentredevon.org.uk

And don't forget to follow us:
Instagram: @dde_global_centre
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Celebrating Windrush in Devon celebrations in other years can be found here: https://www.globalcentredevon.org.uk/project_type/windrush/