Collecting the Memories: the Barbados/UK Migration Experience

The Migration Oral History Project has been facilitated by the disciplines of History and Cultural Studies. The project was initiated by the Barbadian migrants themselves who had migrated to the UK from the 1950s and onwards and had since returned. They called their project ‘The Journey’ as they emphasized what they saw as a continuum of the migration experience. As stated by Sylvester Jones, one of the key members of ‘The Journey’, the migrants “had come full circle” by returning to Barbados as they had always determined this to be part of their migration experience.

In August 2003, members of ‘The Journey’ met with UWI representatives in History and Cultural Studies. The Department of History and Philosophy agreed to provide funding for audio recording of interviews, scanning of photographs and other memorabilia. This joint venture was renamed ‘Collecting the Memories: The Barbados/UK Migration Experience’

Project Team
The Journey: Meagan Applewaite, Rev William Dixon, Aubrey Deane, Rev John Holder, Sylvester Jones, Erma Jones, Jeff Hunte,

UWI: Marcia Burrowes, Aviston Downes, Anthony Phillips, Kenneth Walters

Reference

Migrant Voices

I used to work at Lyons Tea Shop for Four Pounds Ten a week ... and have to pay One Pound Ten for rent, so [I] had to share with somebody. You there in one room, and the stove in there and you had to pay one pound ten because if you don’t do that you got to pay bus fare, buy food, how you gine live?"

My name is Una Griffith. I went to England on 14th August 1956. I would never forget that date. In Barbados I used to cane chairs, I worked in two places. I worked at Hinds the dentist and I worked at Solomon's laundry before I left here. You were hearing talk all over Barbados girl, about going to England. Everybody used to tell you, "You ent want to go to England?". “You ain’t going to England?" (laughter)

Mrs. Judy Jemmott: My name is Judy Jemmott. My brother and I left Barbados, I think it was August 30th, 1962, and we traveled by air B.O.A.C. to the U.K. I think in those days it took about a day, two days or something like that to reach the U.K. But when we arrived I think it was Gatwick Airport, and my mother, she met us at the airport. (Interview with Judy Jemmott, 8 Aug. 2003.)

In August 2003, members of ‘The Journey’ met with UWI representatives in History and Cultural Studies. The Department of History and Philosophy agreed to provide funding for audio recording of interviews, scanning of photographs and other memorabilia. This joint venture was renamed ‘Collecting the Memories: The Barbados/UK Migration Experience’

Social Security Card

Above: Receipts for payment for ocean voyage to England.
Rewriting Barbados History

It ought to be no surprise that Professor Hilary Beckles dedicated the early part of his academic career re-writing the history of Barbados and the Caribbean. An ambitious project, he considered it an ongoing exercise in historical decolonization started by the great historians of the region- CLR James, Eric Williams, Elia Govea, and Walter Rodney. It would be a lifelong engagement, driven by public advocacy and extensive regional and international academic exchanges.

The project took the form of creative and innovative research and the publishing of over a dozen books on the social, political, and economic struggles of working-class people in Barbados and the Caribbean to free themselves from slavery, colonialism and poverty. These books, it has been said, are written with the intensity of detailed knowledge and familiarity, of a consciousness forged in a rural working-class family that experienced the active legacies of slavery in plantation Barbados.

Completing this exercise was the publication of a “A History of Barbados” by Cambridge University Press that now serves as a standard reference on the history of the nation. This was followed by a two-volume history of the Caribbean (with Prof Verene Shepherd at Mona) which sought to take the latest research into the schools’ arenas in order to sustain the rewriting efforts of the community of historical researchers whose work articulated a similar vision.

A History of Barbados
SECOND EDITION 2006

Highly acclaimed when it first appeared in 1990, this general history of Barbados traces the events and ideas that have shaped the collective experience of all the island’s inhabitants. In this second edition, Hilary Beckles updates the text to reflect the considerable number of writings recently published on Barbados. He presents new insights and analyses key events in a lucid and provocative style which will appeal to all those who have an interest in the island’s past and present.

Using a vigorous and unbiased approach, Hilary Beckles examines how the influences of the Amerindians, European colonization, the sugar industry, the African slave trade, emancipation, the civil rights movement, independence in 1966 and nationalism have shaped contemporary Barbados.

Barbados was as much the model in the seventeenth century for New World plantation colonization as it is today for projects in post-colonial nation building. A History of Barbados speaks to the slavery past as passionately as it does to the considerable success of this small nation finding its way in a turbulent, globalised world.

Bussa: The 1816 Barbados Revolution

By Hilary Beckles

This pamphlet provides a detailed analysis of the 1816 Anti-Slavery Revolution in Barbados. It also explains why Bussa is considered a pioneer of the national liberation struggle in Barbados for his part in the Revolution. More generally, it seeks to show that the political and moral rejection of slavery and all other forms of social oppression by black people is the central theme in their social history.

Corporate Power in Barbados
The Mutual Affair: Economic Injustice in a Political Democracy

By Hilary Beckles

Towards the end of 1988, Barbados experienced a major (inter)national crisis which resulted from the actions of a group of visionary persons. They encouraged and organized fellow citizens to seek control of the financial and economic institutions which they owned. The Barbados Mutual Life Assurance Society (BMILAS), one such institution, is the largest Life Assurance Society in the Eastern Caribbean. A campaign was waged by policyholders to place democratically progressive and responsible black directors on the white dominated Board of their multi-national corporation. The white corporate elite considered the initiative striking at the root of the economic dominance of the company, and the country in general. They reacted negatively and aggressively and the contest ensued.
RESEARCH ON HEALTH CARE IN THE CARIBBEAN DURING THE SLAVE ERA
Pedro Welch

HEALTH CARE IN 18TH AND 19TH CENTURY BARBADOS

Samples of research data used in research conducted by Pedro L V Welch, Ph.D., Senior Lecturer, Department of History and Philosophy, with extracts from various primary documents and his published articles.


MEDICATION USED BY MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS IN THE 19TH CENTURY

Senna powder, compound, a yellow powder prepared from fennel oil; powdered sucrose, senna, and glycyrrhiza; and washed sulfur; used as a laxative.


“Koch’s postulates (or Henle-Koch postulates) are four criteria that were formulated by Robert Koch in 1882 and refined and published by him in 1897. According to Koch, all four must be fulfilled in order to establish a causal relationship between a parasite and a disease. He applied these to establish the etiology of anthrax, and tuberculosis, but they have been generalized to other diseases.”

“Report of Dr. Ducanson, 1st West India Regiment (a black regiment), stationed in Antigua, 1838

“A detachment of 98 men which had arrived from England in March preceding, are said to have been by far the greatest sufferers and many fell victims to the disease. — The general symptoms were heavy pains in the head and loins, flushed face, quick suppressed pulse, at times quite tremulous, eyes suffused, white loaded tongue; skin hot with a harsh and parched feel, great nausea, and irritability of the stomach; occasional vomiting of green matter. — Pains with urgent thirst, — Great restlessness with an incessant desire to drink water.”

Scene of a medicine woman practicing her arts in the 19th century Caribbean.

Man in Hemorrhagic Stage of Yellow Fever. Plate 4 in Daniel Bair’s Some Account of the Last Yellow Fever Epidemic of British Guiana (London: Longman, Brown, Green and Longman, 1850)

Display of Nineteenth Century Medical Instruments.
Black Liberation in Barbados

Professor Hilary Beckles dedicated the early part of his academic career re-writing the history of Barbados and the Caribbean. An ambitious project, he considered it an ongoing exercise in historical decolonization started by the great historians of the region: CLR James, Eric Williams, Elsa Goveia, and Walter Rodney. It would be a lifelong engagement, driven by public advocacy and extensive regional and international academic exchanges.

The project took the form of creative and innovative research, and the publishing of over a dozen books on the social, political and economic struggles of working-class people in Barbados and the Caribbean to free themselves from slavery, colonization and poverty. These books, it has been said, are written with the intensity of detailed knowledge and familiarity, of a consciousness forged in a rural working-class family that experienced the active legacies of slavery in plantation Barbados.

First on the agenda was the writing of a trilogy on the struggles of the Barbados working class:

Black Rebellion in Barbados: The Struggle against Slavery 1627-1838

This was first published in 1984 to commemorate the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the formal abolition of slavery in the English-speaking Caribbean. It gives a radical analysis of the multifaceted and often misunderstood nature of black people's resistance to slavery in Barbados – the first major slave society in the English New World. The author has pulled together much of the scattered data, both primary and secondary, to produce the first comprehensive account of slave resistance in this society from colonization in 1627 to emancipation in 1838. He analyses the pattern of resistance in the 17th century frontier society in detail. With special emphasis on the practice of maroonage and the 1649, 1673 and 1692 aborted slave uprisings. This is followed by an analysis of resistance in the 18th century Creole society, which emphasizes the reasons why blacks failed to organize collective rebellions during this period.

Great House Rules: Landless Emancipation and Workers Protest in Barbados 1838-1939

This is the story of the post-emancipation betrayal of 20,000 blacks in Barbados; it is also a narration of how those blacks prepared for resistance, resistance and civil war as the only means to effectively breaking the rule of the Great House and established preconditions for genuine emancipation. The battle over progress was fought on the plantations, in the streets, in the courts, in the Legislature, in the, and wherever blacks recognized sites to effect change.

Prof. Beckles argues that this unbroken chain of protest and political activity from 1838 to the 1937 Bussa constitute the Hundred Year War against Great House Rules. It has taken a full century of struggle after emancipation to see, even at a distance, the freedom that was promised by the abolition of slavery legislation.

Chattel House Blues: Making of a Democratic Society in Barbados, from Clement Payne to Owen Arthur

The remaking of colonial Barbados as a post-modern nation-state has its political roots buried deep within the past. In Chattel House Blues, Professor Beckles sets out to write modern Barbadian history by centering the evolution of the nation in centuries of grassroots struggle. Democracy in Barbados, he argues, as a social, political and cultural reality, has its origins principally within working class demands for freedom, justice and equality, and not as a bequeath upon the masses by elites at moments of imperial and colonial enlightenment.

In Chattel House Blues, Black Workers and their middle class allies secured Universal Adult Suffrage in 1950 and finally political independence in 1966, ending the "Great House Rule" that had begun three hundred years earlier. This process Beckles further argues, reached maturity in 1994 when Owen Arthur, a young man from the chattel house in the plantation tenantry became Prime Minister.
The research project on Barbadian business history started in 2002, focusing on the period 1900 to 2000. It examined the contribution of business persons to Barbadian society and economy and analysed the impact of government policy on the business landscape. Particular attention was paid to the rise of Black business persons and the challenges they faced. The research also examined the impact of world recessions on the business landscape and corporate expansion from Barbados.

**MAIN RESEARCH AREAS**

- The growth of the manufacturing sector
- The decline of the sugar business
- The rise of the small traders
- A case study of the Carlton Supermarket
- The consolidation of the merchant sector
- The reasons for the failure of some Black Businesses
- Globalization and its impact on the business landscape
- Corporate expansion from Barbados
- The characteristics of those businesses reaching 100 years
- The contribution of small businesses
- The challenges encountered by the transport business

**SOME IMPORTANT FINDINGS**

- More than 20 Barbadian business have reached the 100-year mark.
- Black-owned business have been severely affected by succession problems.
- Over 15 Barbadian businesses have expanded into the Caribbean region and beyond.

**HOW THE RESEARCH HAS REACHED THE PUBLIC**

- The publication of books:

- A UWI course:
  - Business History of Barbados since 1900

- Public Outreach lectures by H. Carter:
  - Barbadian Museum lecture on Corporate Expansion from Barbados (2006)
  - Lecture to Kiwanis Club on Black Businesses (2008)
  - Lecture to Rotary Club of Barbados on Contribution of Barbadian Businesses (2008)
  - Winston Alleyne C.O.B. Lecture: Black Businesses and the Credit Union Movement (2009)

**NEW DIRECTIONS FOR RESEARCH**

- The nature and impact of the informal sector
- The growth of the Credit Union Movement
- The challenges faced by the manufacturing sector
- A business history of the OECS countries

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Research assistant: Euclid Jenmott, BSc (UWI) Funding: Carlton and A-1 Supermarket Photographs courtesy: Maughan, Rollock and Maxwell families
Rewriting Caribbean History

It might be no surprise that Professor Hilary Beckles dedicated 40 years of his academic career to re-writing the history of Barbados and the Caribbean. As a historian he considered it an ongoing exercise in historical decolonization started by the great historian of the region, C.L.R. James. Eric Williams, Ellis Govea, and Walter Rodney, it would be a lifelong engagement, driven by public advocacy and extensive regional and international academic exchange.

The project took the form of creative and innovative research, and the publishing of over 20 books on the social, political, and economic struggles of working-class people in Barbados and the Caribbean to free themselves from slavery, colonialism and poverty. This book, it has been said, has been written with the intensity of many years of research and study, and a consciousness forged in the crucible of a revolutionary generation that has experienced the active legacies of slavery in plantation Barbados.

Completing this exercise was the publication of “The History of Barbados” by Cambridge University Press that now serves as a standard reference on the history of the nation. This was followed by a two-volume history of the Caribbean (with Prof. Verene Shepherd at Mona) which sought to take the research into the schools’ arena in order to sustain the re-writing efforts of the community of historians whose work continues to influence society.

Trading Souls
EUROPE’S TRANSATLANTIC TRADE IN AFRICANS 2007

Hilary McD Beckles
Verene Shepherd 2007

The Transatlantic Trade in Africans (TTA) has no equal in the annals of modern history in terms of the scale and depth of suffering experienced by its victims, mostly at the hands of European traders and enslavers. Yet denial and silence continue to surround this human tragedy.

Hilary Beckles and Verene Shepherd, two of the Caribbean’s most distinguished historians, make extensive use of the research by scholars from Europe, Africa and the Americas to describe the trade and analyze its impact on African, European and Caribbean societies in language and style that makes the information accessible and comprehensible for school students and the general reader.

Trading Souls, like its companion volume Saving Souls, is a reflection upon a history that was terrible and turbulent and tries to make sense of the silence and denial even as it seeks to break it.

Liberties Lost
CARIBBEAN INDIGENOUS SOCIETIES AND SLAVE SYSTEMS 2004

Hilary McD Beckles
Verene Shepherd 2007

Liberties Lost, like its companion volumes, Freedoms Won, has been written by two of the Caribbean’s leading historians, Professor Hilary Mc D Beckles and Professor Verene A Shepherd. Both books are essential reading for students and teachers engaged in following courses on the history of the Caribbean. Liberties Lost and Freedoms Won will also be of special interest to general readers seeking information on the history of the region.

Starting with indigenous societies, Liberties Lost covers Europe’s Caribbean project, European settlement and rivalry, the Transatlantic trade in enslaved Africans, sugar and slavery, African cultures and community life, revolt and resistance, and finally the emancipation of the enslaved.

Saving Souls
THE STRUGGLE TO END THE TRANSATLANTIC TRADE IN AFRICANS

Hilary Mc D Beckles
Verene Shepherd 2007

The process of terminating the European Transatlantic Trade in Africans (TTA) was long and drawn-out. Although Africans, including the enslaved, had long resisted its operation, slavery has traditionally been presented as a benevolent act by the British state under pressure from the intellectual classes and humanitarian activists. But the campaign to end the TTA cannot be separated from the resistance struggle of the Africans themselves.

In Saving Souls, the Struggle to End the Transatlantic Trade in Africans, the companion volume to Trading Souls, noted Caribbean historians Hilary Beckles and Verene Shepherd trace the African experience from capture, the horrors of the Middle Passage, to liberation. Their story emphasizes the contributions of the victims of the enslaved even while acknowledging the critical role of the British abolitionists.

Freedoms Won 2006
CARIBBEAN EMANCIPATIONS, ETHNICITIES AND NATIONHOOD

Hilary Mc D Beckles
Verene Shepherd 2007

Freedoms Won, like its companion volume, Liberties Lost, has been written by two of the Caribbean’s leading historians, Professor Hilary Mc D Beckles and Professor Verene A Shepherd. Both books are essential reading for students and teachers engaged in following courses on the history of the Caribbean. Freedoms Won and Liberties Lost will also be of special interest to general readers seeking information on the history of the region.

Starting with the aftermath of emancipation, Freedoms Won covers the African-Caribbean peasantry, Asian arrival in the Caribbean, social and political experiences of the working classes in the immediate post-slavery period, the Caribbean economy, US intervention and imperialist tendencies from the 18th Century, the Labour Movement in the Caribbean in the 20th Century, the social life and culture of the Caribbean people and social protest, decolonization and nationhood.
ABSTRACT

Caribbean identity has been intimately shaped by the interplay of people in the Caribbean with the surrounding ocean. This includes ever-changing, inter-locking, complex patterns of migration. This project focuses on one aspect of the complex relationship between Caribbean peoples and the sea: deepwater seafaring. It seeks to show that in the same way that the sea has historically bounded and defined Caribbean space, so seafarers and seafaring have played a critical role in shaping the modern Caribbean economy, society, consciousness and identity.

This project also has implications for our understanding of the formation of African and African diasporic identity in Europe and the Americas, and for the circulation and melding of social, cultural and political discourses in the modern Atlantic World. It seeks to show that Afro-Caribbean seafarers have taken a leading role since the mid-Eighteenth century in those processes that shaped what has come to be known as the ‘Black Atlantic world’.

Black West Indian Seafarers Prior to Emancipation

Many young slaves began careers at sea when they were taken aboard ship as the property of a ship’s officer to act as a steward or personal servant.

As a young boy in the late 1750s Olaudah Equiano was sold as a slave to the Captain of a British merchant ship in Virginia. He worked as the Captain’s steward, and accompanied him when he was called up to serve as an officer in the Royal Navy during the Seven Years War. During battles at sea Equiano acted as a powder monkey. Later he was sold to a merchant in Montserrat, who employed him as a cargo-handler and lighterman, then on his small fleet of Schooners. As an experienced ‘Sailor Negro’, Equiano sailed throughout the Caribbean and along the Southeastern seaboard of Colonial America during the 1760s, even acting as captain of one of his owner’s ships on occasion. After obtaining his freedom, Equiano continued to earn his living as a seafarer, working as a steward on a number of merchant ships both on transatlantic voyages and on voyages along the Atlantic seaboard. His autobiography, The Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa the African Written by himself, first published in 1789, is undoubtedly the fullest account we have of the life of a black seafarer in the eighteenth century.

Black West Indian Seafarers in the Nineteenth Century

After Emancipation in 1834, all black seamen on British ships were free men. Seafaring was one of the few professions that allowed the former enslaved from the Caribbean to make a living beyond the confines of the plantation economy. However, life at sea was hard, and black seafarers were often confined to menial tasks aboard ship such as cooks or stewards. Many suffered brutal treatment. The Seaman’s Ticket shown above is an example of the data available to help recover the hidden lives of these men. In this case Henry Sinclair from Jamaica first went to sea in 1776 as an ‘apprentice’ at the age of six: he was still going to sea as a Cook 70 years later.

A Black Sea Cook at Work

As West Indian seafarers migrated across the Atlantic world, following the shipping lanes, during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, they helped establish vibrant black communities in a number of major ports. Examples include London, Liverpool, Bristol and Cardiff in the UK, New York, Baltimore, and Halifax, Nova Scotia in North America, and Cape Town in South Africa.

West Indian Seafarers in the Two World Wars

During the Second World War, Harrison’s of Liverpool began manning entire ships (other than officers) with Barbadian crews. The experiment worked so well that the policy continued into the 1960s. By the end of 1956, Harrison’s accounted for 687 out of 896 Barbadian seamen serving in foreign-going vessels. This made the company one of the island’s largest employers. Seamen who shipped out of Barbados in these years served in human coal. This made the company one of the island’s largest employers. Seamen who shipped out of Barbados in these years served in foreign-going vessels. This made the company one of the island’s largest employers. Seamen who shipped out of Barbados in these years served in foreign-going vessels. This made the company one of the island’s largest employers. Seamen who shipped out of Barbados in these years served in human coal.
Women, Gender & History

Hilary McD Beckles
Professor of Economic and Social History

Introduction
In memory of his grandmother and great-grandmother who labored a lifetime on the sugar plantations, Professor Beckles sought to capture the experiences of black women in three volumes:

- Natural Rebels: A Social History of Enslaved Black Women in Barbados
- Afro-Caribbean Women & Resistance to Slavery in Barbados
- Centering Woman: Gender Discourses in Caribbean Slave Society

Together they framed the debate for historicizing women’s experiences in the colonial context for the next decade and have opened the field to a generation of young researchers.

Natural Rebels: A Social History of Enslaved Black Women in Barbados

Using a wealth of extracts from contemporary documents and records, newspapers and personal correspondence, this is the first major history of enslaved Black Women in the Caribbean. Working alongside the men in the field gangs, women slaves suffered the same inhuman treatment. But for them, there were the additional dimensions of ‘Slave breeding’, the fear and conflict deriving from their roles as wet nurses and “nannies” and sexual abuse from the men in their household. Slave girls were hired out as mistresses, and economic circumstances forced many women into individual prostitution or into brothels.

But this book does not reveal a willing martyrdom. As luckless, delaying attempts to suppress them, women were the primary agents in the slave community, women were in the vanguard of anti-slave conflicts; and in establishing and maintaining the survivor culture of slave communities, women were the prime model.

Afro-Caribbean Women & Resistance to Slavery in Barbados

aim to inform the reader of the nature and extent of black women’s participation in the struggle against slavery in the Caribbean. To date, this subject has been given a rather uneven and peripheral treatment in spite of the obvious prominence of women within the historical documentation. The analysis thus is critical of the existing literature. It is based upon years of empirical research on diverse primary sources found in archives around the world.

It also seeks to liberate the historiography from preconceptions of slave resistance which are linked directly to the large island experience. Here, it is suggested that since most Caribbean islands were small and lacking topographical features of Jamaica and Haiti, which were suited more specifically to guerilla warfare, the typical Caribbean experience must be derived from an evaluation of the “small island” process.

Centering Woman: Gender Discourses in Caribbean Slave Society

Caribbean women - black, white and brown, free and enslaved, migrants in creoles, rich and poor are assembled in this book and their lives examined as they battled both against male domination and among themselves for social advantage. Females challenged each other for monopoly to and use of terms such as “woman” and “feminine” in the process of widening the existing social and ethnic divisions among themselves, and thus fragmenting their collective search for autonomy.

Professor Beckles uses the method of narrative biography with its appealing immediacy of woman’s language, script and social politics, to expose the gender order of Caribbean slave society as it determined and defined the everyday lives of women. He also explores the effectiveness of women’s actions as they searched for autonomy, material betterment and social security.
Cricket Culture, Performance & Caribbean Civilization

Hilary McD Beckles
Professor of Economic and Social History

INTRODUCTION

Professor Beckles’ has sought to extend the pioneering work of CLR James on cricket culture by publishing a two volume work on the history of West Indies cricket. The Development of West Indies Cricket, Vol. 1: The Age of Nationalism and The Development of West Indies Cricket, Vol. 2: The Age of Globalization which has been described by the authoritative Wisden Cricket Quarterly as the "most important cricket book ever written".

An Area of Conquest Popular Democracy and West Indies Cricket Supremacy
edited by Hilary Beckles, 1994

The selection of papers which makes up this book was first presented as a series of lectures in 1994 to mark the 48th anniversary of Sir Garfield Sobers’ Test debut.

Various presentations combined to trace the historical evolution of West Indies cricket from its origins as a white planter elite pastime and as an instrument of British cultural hegemony to its present position of world dominance.

Liberation Cricket: West Indies Cricket Culture
edited by Hilary McD Beckles and Brian Stoddart with a Foreword by Viv Richards 1993

This pioneering and ground breaking book explains how this tradition of cricketing excellence and leadership emerged, and how it contributed to the rise of West Indian nationalism and independence.

The essays argue that cricket mirrors the anti-colonial tensions and ideological and social conflicts over race and class that have shaped West Indian society. In consequence, it has helped promote the region’s democratic ethos and fragmented nationalism.

The Development of West Indies Cricket, Vol. 1: The Age of Nationalism
The Development of West Indies Cricket, Vol. 2: The Age of Globalization

The Development of West Indies Cricket, Vol. 1: The Age of Nationalism examines the short-lived “first rising of West Indian cricket supremacy, associated with the Worrell-Sobers axis. The successes under Sobers’ leadership, says Beckles, sent a clear message to the world that the newly independent nations of the West Indies were able to lead world cricket “with certainty, purpose and poise”.

Beckles then treats the “second rising” under Lloyd and Richards which he considers momentous in the context of West Indies cricket and the global history of the game.

The second volume of this landmark study, The Development of West Indies Cricket: The Age of Globalization covers the third rising of West Indies cricket. Here, Beckles examines the commercialization of the sport, the changing attitudes among Caribbean cricketers and the impact of the globalization of cricket on them. He also describes the emergence of what he argues is “debilitating sub-nationalism” in the West Indies, and the effects this has on the game and the prospects for integrating West Indies nationhood in the 21st century.
The University of the West Indies: Cave Hill Campus
Faculty of Humanities and Education

CRICKET RESEARCH

Cricket Culture, Performance & Caribbean Civilization

Hilary McD Beckles
Professor of Economic and Social History

A Spirit of Dominance: Cricket and Nationalism in the West Indies: Essays in Honour of Viv Richards on the 21st Anniversary of his Test Debut
Edited by Hilary McD Beckles

The essays in this volume are the revised texts of an eight lecture series on West Indies cricket history and culture organized by the Centre for Cricket Research at the UWI Cave Hill Campus. Also included are an introductory essay by the editor, an interview with Viv Richards and two commentaries.

Mastering the Craft: Ten Years of Weekes: 1948-1958
Sir Everton De Courcey Weekes with Hilary McD Beckles

The Everton Weekes experience is the quintessential Caribbean story. It is a tale of how materially poor households produced citizens who achieved global excellence on account of brilliant intellect, fierce discipline and determination and extraordinary generosity of spirit.

A Nation Imagined: First West Indies Test Team - The 1928 Tour

In June, 1928, the West Indies played their first Test match against a strong and confident England. The venue was the celebrated Lord's. It was an historic event best understood in terms of the decade it took to acquire first class recognition and international status. The team's arrival at the Test gates of Lord's, a generation before adult suffrage was the norm at home, was greeted in West Indian towns and villages as a moment of social liberation and a critical step in the journey to statehood.

The First West Indies Cricket Tour: Canada and the United States in 1986
Edited and with an introduction by Hilary McD Beckles

The 1986 tour was a blend of networking and cricket outings, designed to expand business while enjoying the international cricket offered in the United States and Canada at the time. As they played their way from Canada to Philadelphia ("the great center of cricket in the American continent") to New York, the fourteen men from British, Guianas, Jamaica and Barbados may not have realized the significance of their journey in forging a sense of West Indian identity.

“Beckles analyses the journey kept by the Jamaican captain, Lawrence Fray, and recalls the tour within the developing social tapestry of West Indian cricket, identifying the blending together of business interests and cricket as first steps towards imagining a West Indian nation.”

Vanesa Balah, cricket writer, researcher, Wisden contributor and former director of ICC-West Indies Cup, Inc.
Research project in partnership with the Pontificia Universidade Catolica de Sao Paulo, Brazil.

CARNIVAL
FOOTBALL
RACISM AND
ANTI-RACISM

WE ARE CHALLENGING
THE INVISIBILITY OF
BLACK PEOPLE IN THE
BRAZILIAN HISTORY

TACTICS AND STRATEGIES
OF RESISTANCE AGAINST
DISCRIMINATION AND
MARGINALIZATION IN
EVERYDAY LIFE

Cultural practices, cinema, television programs, biographies, testimonies, judicial processes, photos, newspapers, magazines, collected and analysed to reflect the lives and struggles of black people in Brazil. Together with other studies, political documents and statistics, we aim to deconstruct the myth of Brazilian racial democracy.