



THE HUSH OF THE WINDRUSH

*The British as we called them, would soon come on our door to knock
As we read the invitation that said " head to your nearest dock"*

*World war II was finally over, and unemployment was rife
we were given the rare opportunity to improve our standard of life*

*Let's put the " **GREAT**" back into Great Britain – **they said-**
So, we signed up for " The WindRush"*

*They needed the "**West Indians**". They claim they needed us!*

*We were so many days on board that ship, sailing on the sea
Arriving on the 22 June- 1948- on the dock of Tilbury
Our colourful land full of brightness & boldness was turned to black and white
After 22 long, hopeful days- it seemed colour vanished overnight*

*The jobs were there as promised, there were plenty vacancies
We understood Britain needed help, that part was plain to see
But nobody wanted us around, they treated us like pests*

*Signs of " **No blacks!**", "**No dogs!**", "**No Irish!**" -made us opposites to guests*

*They never warned us they'd be haters
There were bits we knew they'd skip
Like our traditional rice and peas
would be replaced with traditional fish and chips*

*The living conditions were really bad and very high in rent
They thought because we were unwanted, it was ok for rules to be bent
Poor housing was all they offered us, racial attitudes were commonplace
We were called all kinds of derogatory names daily, in our face*

*The picture painted in our minds, was no more than a dumb charade
We were dedicated to help Britain thrive and ensure our debts were paid
We pledged our labour would not be in vain- our goal was only to earn
Our claim to British citizenship was our primary concern*

*SO, we endured all the mistreatment, with the hope of British nationality
We worked hard, supported each other and formed solidarity
We overcame and persevered, adapting to the UK way of life
Bought our homes, created businesses, with the aim to end our strife*

*75 years since The Windrush -let's give a grand round of applause
For the **HEROES** who left their homeland, sticking to their aim and their cause
They have marked a place in British history and for this we give a salute
As we mark this **National Windrush Day**, paying our heartfelt tribute*
