



## INTRODUCTION

I work in the Higher Education sector as an Administrator and am also a student of Caribbean Literature. I completed my Masters in Caribbean Literature and Creole Poetics at Goldsmiths, University of London in September 2005. I came across the Winston Churchill Trust on the Internet in October 2005 and applied for a 2006 Travelling Fellowship.

My application was submitted under the category 'Conservation, Manuscripts and Archives'. The Trust received approx 1500 applications for these Fellowships and 100 were awarded. My Travelling Fellowship commenced in July 2006 for four weeks. The purpose of my Fellowship was to enable me to collect oral stories in the French Creoles of the regions visited with a view to creating an internet based archive. My Itinerary for St Lucia, Grenada and Dominica can be found at Annex 1. Historical descriptions of the islands of St Lucia, Grenada and Dominica can be found at <https://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html>.

I started planning my trip in late February and contacted a number of people in the various countries to schedule interviews.

After ensuring that all the necessary arrangements were in place at home and at work, I set off on my travels early on a Sunday morning in July. What follows below are extracts from my journal that documents the fellowship.

Before you read further, I would like to make the following acknowledgements:

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust for awarding me a travel fellowship;



My husband, Amos; my children Harlem and Quba; and to Joan Turner and Joan anim-Addo for being fantastic referees and allowing me the space and time to experience this 'chance of a lifetime';

The Folk Research Centre, Cultural Development Centre and all the individuals who participated in the interviews.

## My journey begins:

**Sunday 16 July 2006**

Picked up by a taxi driver at 4.45am with a 'tom tom' that he does not use and driving over 110 miles per hour!!! Will I ever make it to the airport? Arrive at the airport at 5.35am and give driver a tip – don't drive so fast.

Proceed to check in desk and computers go down – just at the section where I am standing. Told to go to the Upper class desk and check in I wonder if they will upgrade me, Ha ha ha! [Forgot to mention that I have had no sleep]

Arrive in St Lucia and am surprised as my friend is there to meet me. She had not told me that she was going to be in St Lucia at the same time that I was. Went to her house in Choiseul and had dinner.



After dinner, she arranged for me to be driven to my hotel in Castries. It's a long drive to the St Lucian hotel but I finally get there. Am extremely tired but attempt to stay awake. My friend, Maureen, says we should go to Jouvè which is a jump-up (dance) that takes place in the early hours of the morning, normally prior to carnival.

Cultural Development Centre held in the Mindoo Philip Park.

Went to the King & Queen of the Bands, Caribbean Soca Monarch organised by the



King of the Bands 2006 Mas Action - "Fire & Steel"  
- Portrayed by Norman Francis



Queen of the Bands 2006 Mas Action –  
"Lights, Camera, Action!" - Portrayed by  
Zizi Pitkin-

This also occurs the night before carnival prior to J'Ouvert. This is where the audience and invited judges vote for the King and Queen of Mas Bands. There is also an inter-island competition for the best Soca Act. St Lucia won! This party in the park was a spectacular sight to see. When the heavens opened and there was torrential rain, nobody ran for shelter they just continued dancing. Needless to say it was a long night.

In contrast to the party in the park when I arrived back at the hotel, the guard at the gate refused to come out of his hut because it was raining and he was just recovering from the flu. Who had to open the gate.....??

### Monday 17 July

Carnival is at the centre of the Cultural Festivals in St Lucia. The Cultural Art forms of theatre, music, dance, song, costumes and drama are all present. Steelbands, costumes, colour, gaiety, merriment, dancing, eating, laughing, calypso and frenzied energies all serve to dissipate and ease the social tensions through the colourful creative process of Carnival.

Today is the first day of Carnival. I set off for Castries - 20 min drive - from the hotel. En route people are dancing and calling out to one another. The atmosphere is great – completely different to Notting Hill. Arrive in the town centre and head for the parade.

What a wonderful sight. The colour, the costumes, the politics!! A selection of pictures is shown below.



Arrived back at Castries late evening and climbed up to the hill overlooking Rodney Bay to take a picture of my surroundings and to reflect on the spirit of carnival.



## Tuesday 18 July

Castries is still celebrating its carnival. It's my mum's birthday today. She passed away 10 years ago. Decide to stay at the hotel today and look over the questions and check recording equipment to make sure that I am prepared for the interviews. Have some interviews scheduled in Choiseul. Also plan to interview some of the staff here at the hotel as they will be a good local source. Phoned home and spoke to the family – really missing them. The most difficult aspect of this fellowship is being away from home and loved ones.

## Wednesday 19 July



Walked to the top of what felt like a mountain to try and locate the Folk Research Centre. When I got there the sign was there but no centre. Had a brief moment of panic thinking that maybe this sign was just a billboard and that the centre was actually nowhere near the sign. Decided to ask a passer by who directed me to a small track leading into the woods and told me that the centre was up there. Suppose it's not!! Decide to

venture forward. When I get to what I think is the top of the track there is a small house with two dogs. Surely this cannot be it. I glance to my left to find that there is another winding track and just through the trees I can see what looks like a large stately home.



The Folk Research Centre (FRC) is set on the crest of a hill and offers a panoramic view of Castries city and harbour. Built in the mid 1800s, it is one of the few preserved nineteenth century structures left on the island.

The FRC is a resource centre providing research facilities and information on the cultural heritage of St. Lucia. It is equipped with an audio-visual studio and library. I introduced myself to the Receptionist and explained the purpose of my visit. I was then ushered into a room where I was to meet the Librarian, Mr Robert Lee.

Robert Lee was in conversation with a local artist. Because I was so polite and did not want to interrupt I nearly missed an opportunity. Fortunately Robert gave me the

contact details for the artist and I was able to interview him. His name was George 'Fish' Alphonse. I rang him and arranged to see him at the Cultural Development Centre (CDC) the next day at 10am.

**Robert Lee, Librarian, FRC**



In the brief interview with Robert, he stated that 'languages are alive'. He talked about the oral stories of the region and how it was proving difficult to stimulate the interests of the younger generation. For a while there had been a big drive into promoting the use of Kwéyòl (French Creole of St Lucia) and the very people who were instrumental in raising Kwéyòl were now in positions of power but in his opinion did not now appear to be doing anything about the promotion of their creole language.

## **Thursday 20 July**

After breakfast I took the bus into Castries. Once there I climbed halfway up my 'favourite' hill and headed slightly North West to locate the Cultural Development Foundation where I was scheduled to interview George 'Fish' Alphonse.

**George 'Fish' Alphonse**



What a fantastic guy!! The interview went really well. 'Fish' discussed local proverbs and how they relate to modern day events. One example dealt with the situation in Lebanon and the proverb he used was '*Burn down a house to kill a mouse*'. What this proverb explores is the act of destroying an entire community in order to capture one person. Extracts of the interview can be found on my website.

Robert Lee rang and then came to pick me up from the CDC to take me to the FRC. Great news as I don't fancy trekking up that hill. He has arranged for me to interview the Director of the FRC, Kennedy Samuels. Also know as 'Boots'. 'Fish' and 'Boots' are a well known performance act in St Lucia.

**Kennedy 'Boots' Samuels**

Another great interview! Extracts can be found on the web. We discussed how the oral stories that he knew had been passed down to him and whether they were told in English or Kwéyòl. His Grandmother was the sister of Sesenne Descartes, "the Queen of Culture in St Lucia". His parents didn't speak to him in Kwéyòl, but his grandmother did, as she did not have any English. 'Boots' grew up in a time when parents forbade



their children to speak Kwéyòl. He feels that there is a lot of cultural knowledge that skipped the parents and remains with the grandparents. His Grandmother told him a lot of folk stories. At school he would read the Brothers Grimm and Hans Christian Anderson, but at home his grandmother had lots of beautiful stories. In some ways these stories are similar to European fairy stories. There is a local version of Cinderella which he could not remember at the time, but promises to get for me.

#### Safiya



Library Assistant, Safiya, Age 22, speaks two languages (English and Kwéyòl). She remembers being told folk stories, such as Konpé Lapin (Brother Rabbit) and Konpé Tig (Brother Tiger). She says that as she grows older she doesn't remember as much but when they gather together as a group whether at family occasions or friends a collective story telling begins. I leave the FRC armed with details of a local bookstore where I can purchase some local stories that

have been published.

Have arranged to have a day out tomorrow – a boat trip!!

#### Friday 21 July

Head for Rodney Bay Harbour and a ship called 'Brig Unicorn'. Turns out this ship featured in the Trilogy 'Pirates of the Caribbean'.



Set sail for Soufriere where we visited Sulphur Springs and Botanic Gardens. Returned to the ship where we were served lunch and then docked to allow people to swim. Was going to attempt it but then chickened out. I spent the day trying to convince the crew to allow me to interview them. They agreed, but only if I did not record or write notes.

Baby pirate, Santana, age 22, remembers his grandfather telling him stories and also showing him healing techniques but was too shy to be interviewed.





We sail on and dock at Marigot Bay – many films have been made here.

Return to my hotel to collect some clothes as my friend has arranged an island tour for tomorrow and it will start from her home town of Choiseul. Tonight I will be conducting interviews in Choiseul. We get a lift to Castries and then wait for the bus that will take us to Vieux Fort. From Vieux Fort we will be picked up and carry on to Choiseul.

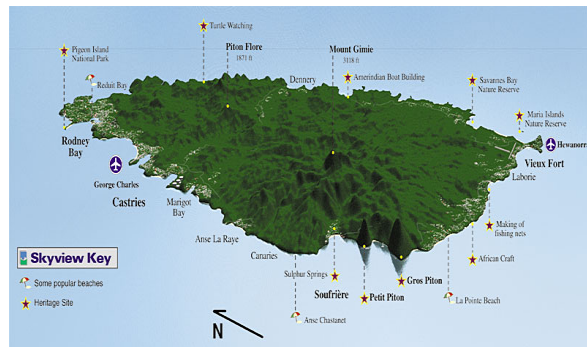
Arrive in Choiseul around 9pm. Spend the night in the bar listening to country and western music – what’s that all about. It appears that C&W (country and western not cable and wireless) is the popular music of St Lucians outstripping Calypso and Soca. Back at the house Mo gives over her bed to me and takes over the room in which the lady who looks after the house sleeps, who in turn has to sleep in the front room on a mattress on the floor. Feel as though I should be the one who sleeps on the floor as the unexpected guest.

**Saturday 22 July**

Cock-a-doodle doo. I am awakened at 6am by the cock crowing. Today is the island tour. 5 girls and a driver called Junior. We stock up with food and drink and set off round the island.



Towards the end of the day we end up on a cliff top dancing to soca, calypso and country and western. Thanks girls for a wonderful day.



The evening is upon us and we decide to visit Dennery, which is a small fishing village which holds a Fish Fiesta every Saturday night. I am coerced into going to my hotel to collect extra clothes as I will be spending another night in the country. Buses do not run regularly on Sundays and I am worried about getting back to Rodney Bay. I am informed that I will be able to get a bus from Vieux Fort early Sunday

morning. I am easily convinced and stop at the hotel to collect fresh clothes.



Did I mention that Dennerly is a small fishing village and the home of my husband's family? As we arrive at the Fish Fiesta things are just getting started. I am given a bowl with some fish in it. It looks black..... I am not sure what it is and ask, but no one will say. I start eating, it tastes fishy!!!! Then someone tells me that it is ..... Wait for it.....WHALE.....uurrgh. I can no longer eat it. I know it's psychological

.....BUT!!! I also sample Dolphin (NO, not of the FLIPPER kind – a small St Lucian fish) tastes a bit like fish eggs.

Leave the Fish Fiesta as night closes in and head back to Choiseul.

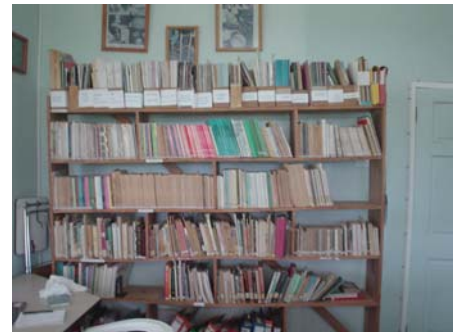
### **Sunday 23 July**

Spend the day visiting my husband's family.

### **Monday 24 July**

Visit the FRC and spend the day looking at theses relevant to oral stories, folklore and Kwéyòl and gathering useful material.

FRC Library



Try to contact the Governor General, Dame Louisy, who is also a founding member of the Mouvman Kwéyòl Sent Lisi. Dame Louisy still pursues her work in the promotion of and research into creole culture and language. Her office informs me that she is not on the island, so I am unable to see her.

Spend the night packing and putting all my non essentials into a bag which I am going to leave with the hotel for the next 14 days. The inter island flights that I am booked on will only allow one suitcase per person.

### **Tuesday 25 July**

Leave bag with hotel and head off for Vigie Airport. This airport has been renamed George Charles Airport. Flight is scheduled to depart at 12.50.



Is this my plane?? .....

Aaaah here's mine. It leaves on time. I am on my way to Grenada. In order to get there I have to fly via Barbados.





As the plane descends into Barbados I realise what the stories that I have heard about Barbados actually mean.



**Landing at Barbados**

It is entirely flat. It appears to have no hills or mountains from the air. Flight time is 35 minutes.



**Barbados Airport**

Re-board the same plane to fly from Barbados to Grenada. The plane is not as small as I thought it was going to be. It's a 40-seater. Flight time to Grenada is 45 minutes. Arrive just after 3pm. How different this island is, completely green and luscious!



My hotel apparently is located within the airport grounds but I only find this out after a one minute \$20 taxi ride..... !!! What a location! You would actually never know it was in the airport as you cannot hear the planes leaving or arriving.



Check in and head straight for my room. Make a number of phone calls trying to arrange interviews. Christine David, the Carriacouan folklorist, says she cannot see me as she is extremely busy. She is making preparations for

Emancipation Day & Carnival. However, she says that I should buy her book and I have her permission to quote from it. Only one problem, she lives on the island of Carriacou and her book is currently only sold there. Decide that I will have to take the ferry over to Carriacou to purchase this book.

As I get over my irateness, I notice an article in a magazine on my bed which is about a Grenadian story-teller, Richardo Keens-Douglas. There is a number listed so I give him a ring, explain who I am and ask if I could possibly interview him. He says that he is busy making costumes for carnival but that if I can come to his house he can see me at 1.30pm on Thursday. I am overjoyed. Take down his address and tell him I will see him then.

### Wednesday 26 July

Duffy, a local taxi driver, picks me up at 7.45am. We drive to the Osprey Ferry in St George's. On the way he talks to me about Grenadian French Creole and how it is not spoken very much on the Island now.

#### Grenada Fire Station



I have made sure not to have any breakfast as I have been warned that the crossing can be rough. Purchase my ticket and board the ferry heading straight upstairs to sit under the covered section. The crossing to Carriacou will take one and half hours. The ferry is unusually crowded this particular morning but it turns out that a BA flight from London was delayed coming in the previous night and everyone who needed the night ferry had missed it. I meet some friends from London that I have not

seen in years. They are on their way to a wedding in Carriacou. What a small world!!

Arrive in Carriacou at 10.30 and head straight for the Carriacou Museum to buy Christine David's book. Purchase the book and ask the curator if they have any literature on Grenadian French Creole. They do not. The only thing that they have is a copy of the New Testament Bible in the Krio of Sierra Leone.



Local taxi driver, Michael, is unable to spend the day with me or be interviewed as his daughter has arrived from Canada. He recommends another driver to give me a tour of the island.

After my tour I have lunch in a restaurant on the Beach called Callaloo. I return back to the museum as I have time to kill in the hope that I can persuade the curator to be interviewed by me. Her name is Clemencia Alexander. She refuses, but we proceed to have a conversation about my work, and about the folklorist, (Christine Davies) whom she knows. She tells me that she is a very difficult lady from whom to obtain an interview. She tells me about the elders in certain villages on the island who have retained their French Creole.

Clemencia is the daughter of the late Canute Calliste MBE, (painter, musician, shipwright, fisherman and farmer) who died in 2005. In *Folk Traditions* Calliste talked about his ability to paint being a gift from 'The Mermaid' that he met at Tyrell Bay: *'When I reach I see she under the bridge combing she long hair. ... the mermaid say "don't run boy and don't cross your hand. Now as you see me boy you will always be gifted, you will do many things with you hands".'* His daughter kindly let me have some postcards of his work and told me that there are a number of elders who still reside in L'Esterre. Seems like I will need to visit this island again sometime in the future for a more detailed and prolonged visit. Took ferry back to Grenada. A much smoother crossing this time!



#### Thursday 27 July

Spend the morning at the Grenada National Museum trying to find out if a Grenadian French Creole dictionary has ever been published. It appears there has never been one. The curator tells me of a watch repairer who used to work in the market square and who had started collecting information in order to get one published.



Grenada National Museum



He's not sure if he is still there but points me in the direction of the market. The watch repairer is called Theodore. I finally manage to locate him in the market and have a brief chat with him. He tells me that he is originally from Dominica where the French Creole that is spoken there is similar to that in Grenada. He has not yet managed to get a Grenadian French Creole Dictionary printed but tells me that I will be

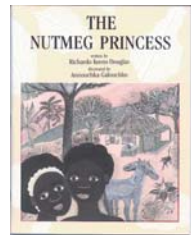
able to obtain a copy of the Dominican French Creole Dictionary when I get to Dominica. Leave the market square and get ready for my interview with the

Grenadian Story Teller and Author of the musical play 'Ay Ya Yai Ivan', Richardo Keens-Douglas.

**Richardo Keens-Douglas in his home with some of his Carnival costumes**



Richardo told me how his love of story-telling began. He talked about his family sitting on the veranda telling stories and jokes. He says that there was always laughter and a strong sense of living. Audio clips from his interview will be uploaded onto the web shortly. His love of story-telling led to him writing stories for children. He decided to write for kids as he believes that this is where self-esteem has to start. Richardo is the only children's author in the Caribbean who has had all of his books (12)



translated into four languages. He uses stories and tales of life in the Caribbean to raise awareness of heritage and to encourage creative thinking and the wonderful use of imagination. A few of his titles include, 'The Nutmeg Princess, Mama God, Papa God and La Diabliesse and the Baby.

### **Friday 28 July – Monday 31 July**

Take a trip to Caligny to visit my tutor's mother. It was great to meet the matriarch of the family. Spend the weekend discovering the island with its Waterfalls, Nutmeg Plant, Sugar Factory and Rum Distilleries.



### **Tuesday 1 August**

Spent the day travelling. Flew from Grenada to St Vincent;



St Vincent – Antigua;

**Antigua from the air**



## Leaving St Vincent

### Islands in between



Antigua to Dominica;

Arrive in Dominica and take a two hour drive to get to the Capital, Roseau. The Society for Caribbean Linguists 2006 Annual Conference is being held in Dominica from 3 – 5 August. I will be presenting a paper at this conference on 4 August.

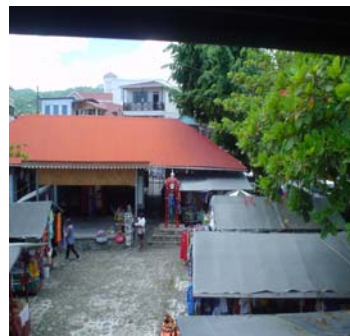
## Wednesday 2 August

Plan to go to the Dominican Museum and if there's time to visit the Dominican Broadcasting Corporation. This radio station is located just down the road from the hotel where I am staying.



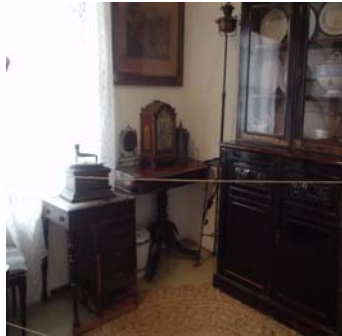
Admission to the Museum is 8 Eastern Caribbean dollars. This happens to be the dearest of all the islands visited so far, but actually the museum is much better organised and makes use of the space in which its collection is housed. The Museum is in the old post office which backs onto the original market square. A market still operates there today.

The museum has a good historical inventory of Dominica. It details the Caribs, their homes, boats, etc. The two pictures below represent a photograph of the market square in 1924 and a photograph of that same square in 2006.



The museum also pays tribute to two of Dominica's female literary authors, Jean Rhys and Phyllis Shand Allfrey.

Housed within the museum is a replica of a room in an old plantation house and also artefacts from a creole home.



On my way from the museum I witnessed a protest march by the people against the high electricity rates that they are charged. So the young and the old (some as old as 80) with their hand made placards and sticks protested against the Domlec Board whose offices were not far from the Museum and hotel.



Returned to the hotel and registered for the SCL 2006 conference.

Plenary session was given by Dr Lennox Honeychurch who has agreed to see me when he returns from the Grand Bay Reunion. Hoping to visit Grand Bay myself on Friday night as I am told that it is the place for Creole.....

### **Thursday 3 August**

SCL Conference begins.

First session: Caribbean Socio-Linguistics

- Acts of Identity
- Boricua Spanish
- Changing Attitudes towards Language in Jamaica: A focus on age

Second session: Caribbean English Creole

- Kokoy Language of Dominica
- Bantu Lexicon in Jamaican Creole
- Kromanti in Moore Town

### Third session: Caribbean French Creole

- Derivation in St Lucian
- Problèmes de Traduction Automatique en contexte diglossique
- Testing the Equivalence Classification Hypothesis: SLFC v SLEC
- Pratiques et représentations des langues creoles et français dans la Caraïbe Anglophone: Stratégies et enjeux – le cas de la Dominique et de Ste-Lucie

Two of the presentations in the 3<sup>rd</sup> session were particularly challenging for me as they were given in French.

### Fourth Session: Creole Language Education I

- Verbal Interaction in a Bilingual Classroom
- Songs, Poems and Nursery Rhymes to teach Standard English to Creole-speaking Children
- Trinidadian French-Lexicon Creole
- The experience of teaching and learning in Jamaican Creole

Although this session was not as interesting as the earlier ones held in the day some useful information was gathered.

### Friday 4 August

#### Fifth Session: Origins and Development of Caribbean Creole Languages

- A note on the process of Lexical Diffusion in the Development of Creoles: The Case of Double-Object Verbs
- Some sociohistorical Questions on the (non)-Development of Creoles: Brazil vs Curaçao and Cape Verde
- Berbice Dutch-Ijo

#### Sixth Session: Caribbean French Creole II

- Cape Verdean Creole and Haitian Creole: Creole Exceptionalism and Language Officialization
- Caribbean French Creole Dictionaries as Agents of Standardization
- **Archiving Creole Languages: Virtual Community Building**
- Three Types of Latent Consonants in St Lucian

I presented my paper (in bold above) in this session and don't really remember much as I was extremely nervous. The feedback I received was very good, so I needn't have been so worried about it.

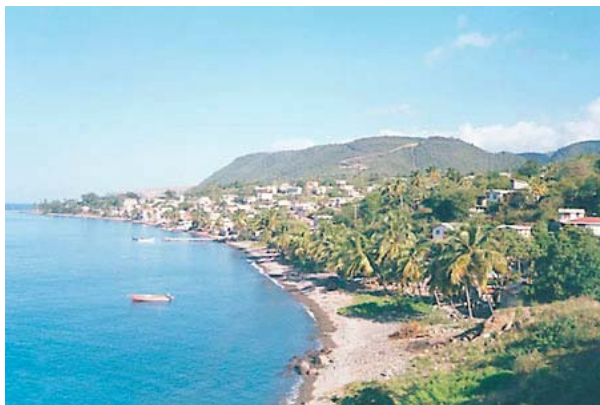
### Saturday 5 August – Monday 7 August

Saturday was the last day of the conference. The sessions went well. Cultural Evening was planned by the conference organisers but I elected to go out to a local event in the Grand Bay Village – the Band Splash at Ma Tutu's Park featuring Michelle Henderson and the Midnight Groovers



The village of Grand Bay is located some 8-9 miles to the south of Roseau. It is accessible from Roseau by narrow, pitched roads, winding its way circuitously, and in some ways very dangerously, up to the 2,000 ft. elevation and then downwards to the coast. The Grand Bay area is used to designate several small hamlets stretching from Tete Morne to Petite Savane, the main and most populous being Berricoa. The area is hemmed in by steep mountains on all sides and includes the Geneva Estate. [A family of French Huguenots arriving in Dominica via Switzerland, settled and named the rich valley next to Grand Bay "Geneva" after the Swiss City.] Some time later, the Geneva Estate came into the hands of the Lockhart family. The novelist Jean Rhys' mother was a Lockhart and Jean often visited Geneva in her youth. She later wrote of it in her most famous novel "Wide Sargasso Sea."

All in all a great cultural event!



Sunday morning I went to Massac - short for Massacre – which is a village on the west coast just north of Canefield. This village was named by the French as the site of a massacre of Caribs carried out by the English in 1674. This was an attack on the settlement of Carib or "Indian" Warner, who was the son of Sir Thomas Warner and a Carib woman from Dominica. He had been brought up in his father's household in St.Kitts but left for Dominica after his father's death.

He rose to be a chief in Dominica and attempted to keep the island for the Caribs in perpetuity. But his English half-brother, Phillip, plotted against him and led the attack from Antigua. Phillip reportedly invited the Caribs onto his ship and at the height of the party killed his brother as a signal for the massacre to commence.

Monday is a Bank Holiday, so everywhere is closed and quiet. I have made arrangements to interview Dr Honeychurch, the local historian and Duncan, a lawyer tomorrow. I may also be able to interview a young man that I sat next to on the plane from Antigua to Dominica who lives in Portsmouth.

### Wednesday 9 August





Today I took a trip to Portsmouth to interview the local historian, Dr Lennox Honeychurch, at the Cabrits National Park. Unfortunately, he forgot that I was coming and had gone to town (the one I had just come from – 2 hour bus journey), so this interview did not happen.



On the way back from Portsmouth I stopped at the Old Mill Cultural Centre. The Old Mill Cultural Centre is the home of the Division of Culture which is a Department of the Ministry of Community Development, Gender Affairs and Information. The Division is responsible for the development, promotion and preservation of Dominica's various folk forms, and also for providing training in different folk forms and artistic expressions in schools and for the general public.

Samples of these forms will soon be heard on my website.

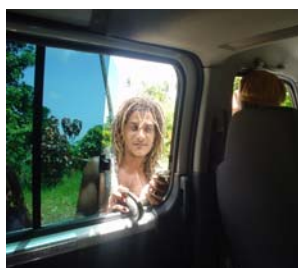
### Thursday 10 August

Terrorist threat at Heathrow and there is turmoil with the planes.

Fly from Dominica to Antigua. Spend most of the day in Antigua waiting for my connecting flight. Arrive in St Lucia late afternoon.

### Friday 11 August

Conduct three interviews with the family of a student that I met at the Linguistics conference in Dominica. Her mother and In-laws were able to recount a number of oral stories in Kwéyòl that they were told in their earlier years. An extract follows below with a translation:



Konpè Sèpan té planté an gwo jaden. Jaden-an té ka pòté anpil manjé. Tan-sala, lézòt sé zannimo-a pa té ka fè jaden. Sé Sèpan yonn ki té ni jaden. An jou Konpè Sèpan mouté an pyé mango an jaden-an; i hélé, "Sa ki vlé an panyen manjé pou mwen pitjé'y a menwit jis? Lapen tann sa Sèpan di a. I wéponn i, "Mwen!" Lapen fouyé an gwo panyen manjé an jaden-an ék i pòté lakay li. ....

#### Rasta with snake

Rough translation: Brother Serpent wanted to plant a large garden so that he would have plenty of food. The other animals could not make [maintain] a garden. It was the serpent who kept [maintained] the garden. One day Brother Serpent climbed a big mango tree in his garden and cried ' who would like a basket of food for their

children'. The Rabbit heard the Serpent and said 'Me!' Rabbit gathered a big basket of food in the garden and carried it back to his house.

The above is just a short sample.

### Saturday 12 & Sunday 13 August

Start making preparations for my flight home. Have to buy a new suitcase to place my computer and other handheld luggage that I cannot now take into the cabin of the plane due to the restrictions recently put in place.

Arrive in London and make way home.

This has been a journey of a lifetime. It is one that I will never forget.

**My Journey ends..... or does it?**

## CONCLUSIONS

### The Caribbean



This fellowship has been a fantastic experience for me. It has given me a great insight into my own Caribbean culture as well as the opportunity to explore the hidden stories and tales. The initial contacts that I have made during my visits are priceless. In the next few years I would like to conduct further field trips in order to collect and document more oral stories. Since my return I have been invited to two primary schools to talk about the fellowship and the outcomes. I have already presented a paper at two conferences and as a member of a community of

Caribbean scholars hope to regularly promote the Winston Churchill Fellowship and the opportunities that it can offer. My website will be available in January 2007 and can be found at [www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/caribbean/creoles](http://www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/caribbean/creoles).

**November 2006**