

Retiring Ron

She hasn't killed me. Yet!
Growing old disgracefully

October 25

Welcome to a special edition of Retiring Ron,
the Pearl Wedding issue.



Still able to carry my bride - well just about!



We married on the beach in Rodney Bay St Lucia

Yes folks, on 21 September 2025 Queen Elizabeth of Dollis Village, celebrated 30 years of total wedded bliss to her king. On a golden beach in Rodney Bay, St Lucia in 1995, we made it official. Hurricane Luis had recently brushed the island so it was extremely rainy and windy. Huge fears of a wash out. But, thankfully, by ceremony time that afternoon it all calmed down and Mr Sunshine suddenly appeared to spread his blessings. An excellent omen.



The delicious cake didn't last long



We had a cake fest



Family unity



Nice to see my godson Kimmel





Carlos came with his lovely family





With the Hastings superstars

Three decades later we are fortunate to have two beautiful daughters, Jasmin and Ella (Zinzin) and numerous wonderful friends and family. Lickle bro Jerry made a rare appearance. Almost didn't recognise him! And soon we will officially welcome Jacob into the fold.



Party queen Anne



Rosemary is 90 years young



She still drives!

Despite the hardships and sacrifices, it has been a wonderful experience. For me, anyway. At least Liz hasn't murdered me. Well not yet, despite my craziness.



DJ Henry insisted on copying my moves



I invoiced the Arsenal fan on the left for his refreshments







Sizzling sisters



Newly weds Amaka and Manny



Soon be married!

We celebrated with a garden party. I donned my Hugo Boss suit from that day. Bit tighter but still wearable. London was rainy all week. Even with a marquee it was worrying. But once again Mr Sunshine arrived. We are truly blessed.



Thanks for all the cards and pressies

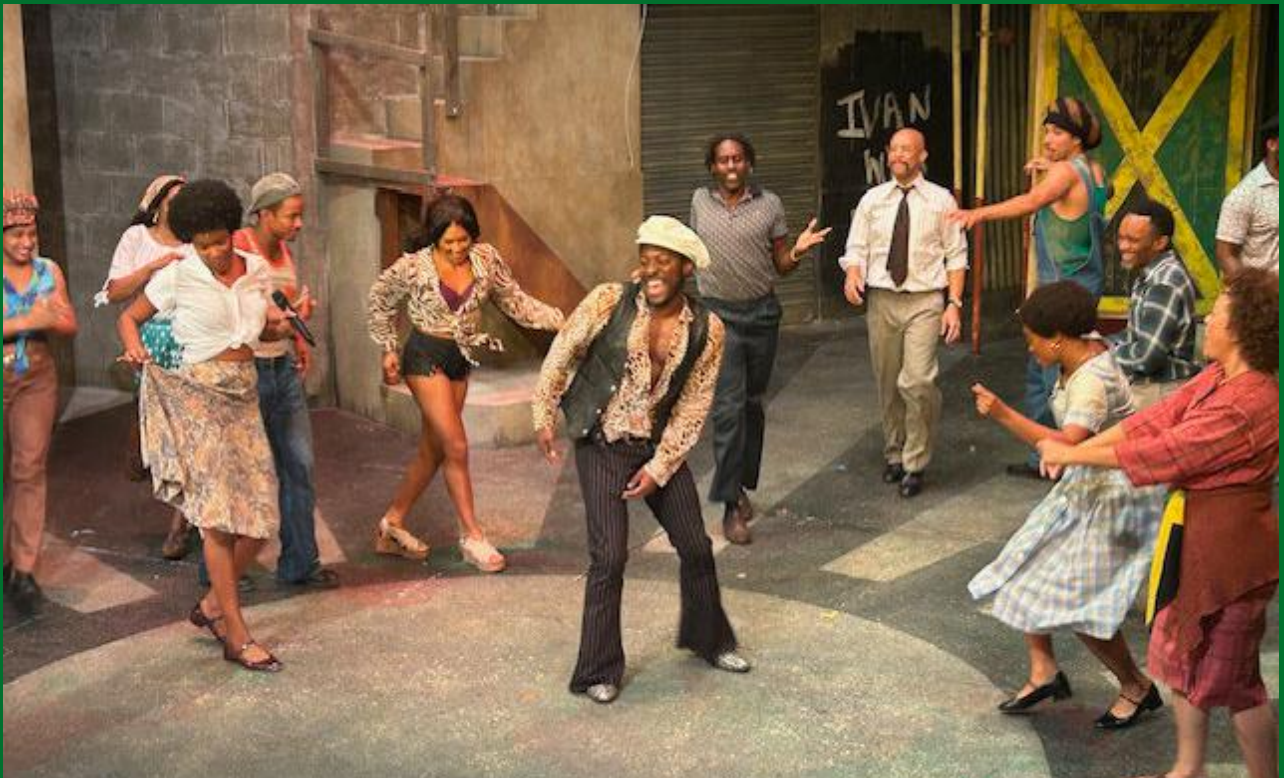
Jimmy Cliff is 81 now and all his life he's been celebrated. A child prodigy in Jamaica, Cliff became an international star after the release of the film 'The Harder They Come' in 1972. He plays the anti-hero Ivan. Besides the title song, it includes anthems like 'Rivers of Babylon', 'You Can Get It If You Really Want', '007 (Shanty Town)', 'Johnny Too Bad' and 'Many Rivers to Cross'. 'The Harder They Come' musical runs at the Stratford East theatre in London until the end of October. Absolutely brilliant production. Get there or forever live with regret.



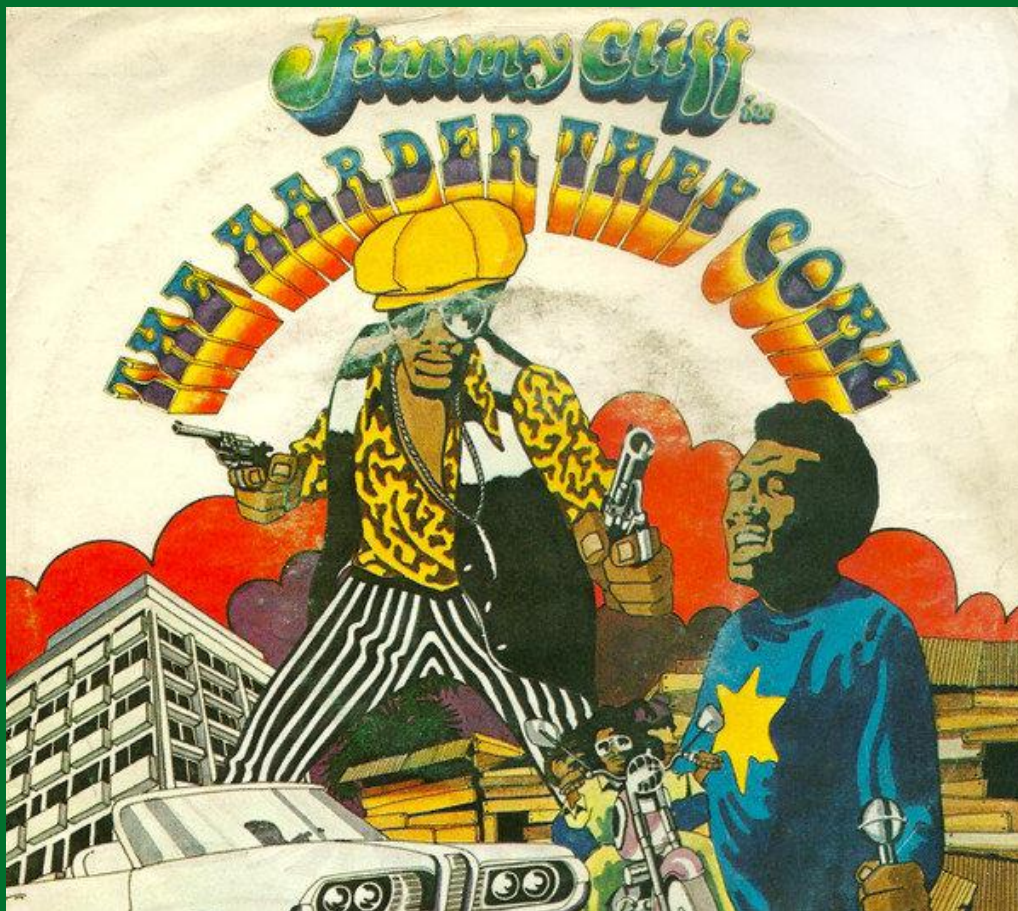
Jimmy Cliff is still wowing us at 81



The cast is brilliant



The musical is amazing



The film was an unexpected hit when released in 1972



Gail's goodies on a budget



The app is great for discount munchies



Gail's is posh, like me

Gail's is the posh version of Greggs with prices to match. There's an app, Too Good To Go, where pastries and snacky stuff can be bought on a huge discount from various retailers, including Gail's. Catch is you have to pick it up that evening at a specific time. My £5 Gail's haul came down from £16. Worth it.



Marcia's half-time entertainment included spraying water out of her hand



Our injury list is so bad that Stamford and Bridget may get called up



The man behind is jealous of Jerry's dumplings



Estevao is incredible already at 18



Fiona is glad she didn't leave the Liverpool game early to miss the crowds

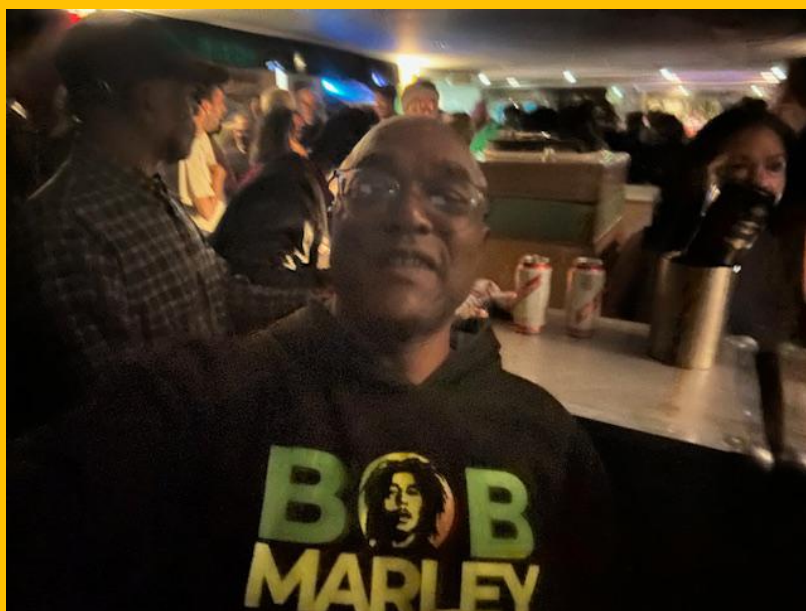


Len is not known as The Legend for nothing

It's been a roller coaster ride for the Chels recently. Too many reds and unexpected losses. Injuries piling up too. But at least we beat the Scousers in a thriller. I watched with the adorable Fiona. Estevao, the boy from Brazil, snatched the late, late winner. Cue samba celebrations. Congrats Len 'The Ledge' Nodaros, featured in the match-day programme for his half century of supporting the Blues. He's also been 26 years a tour guide, the longest in our team. Legend.



Foam and wood base still works



Tabernacle vibes every month

First Friday of the month, the Tabernacle, Ladbroke Grove is a must for its vintage reggae night. Battered vinyls entertain us big people, scratches and all. DJs even play on a foam and thick wood base like back in the day.



Come and have a go at the Hogarth geezers



Nice to see Ian (ex-Hogarth) and Mel



Maurice brought his MBE to the signing



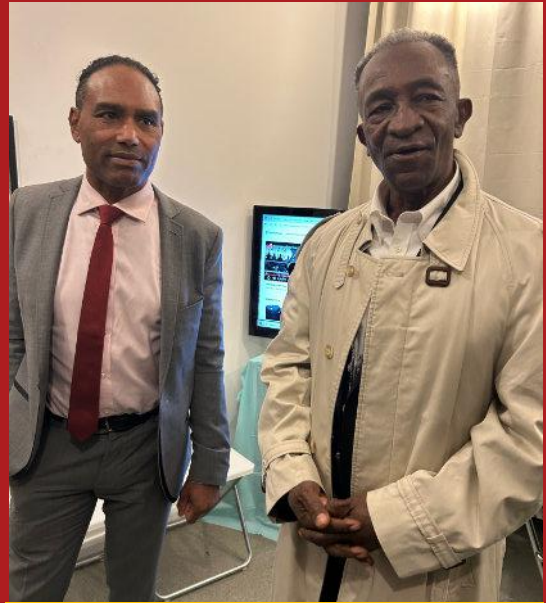
Everyone was impressed with his belts



DJ Costas is very supportive



Max (ex-Hogarth too) and Peter with Maurice



Bernie Paul came to both boxing events

Sunday gone was a knockout. Attended the London Ex-Boxers Association meeting first with former world champ Maurice Hope, MBE. Then we had a 'Land of Hope and Glory' book signing at a Muhammad Ali exhibition in Hammersmith, hosted by entrepreneurs Max and Ruth Wallace.

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Land-Hope-Glory-Windrush-Conquered/dp/1801507112>

They run a health food shop, Health Defence Organics, and boxing gym on King Street. Well worth supporting.

<https://www.google.com/searchq=health+defence+organic>

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