

Feeling hot, hot, hot

No, don't stop de **CARNIVAL**



Edition: August 25

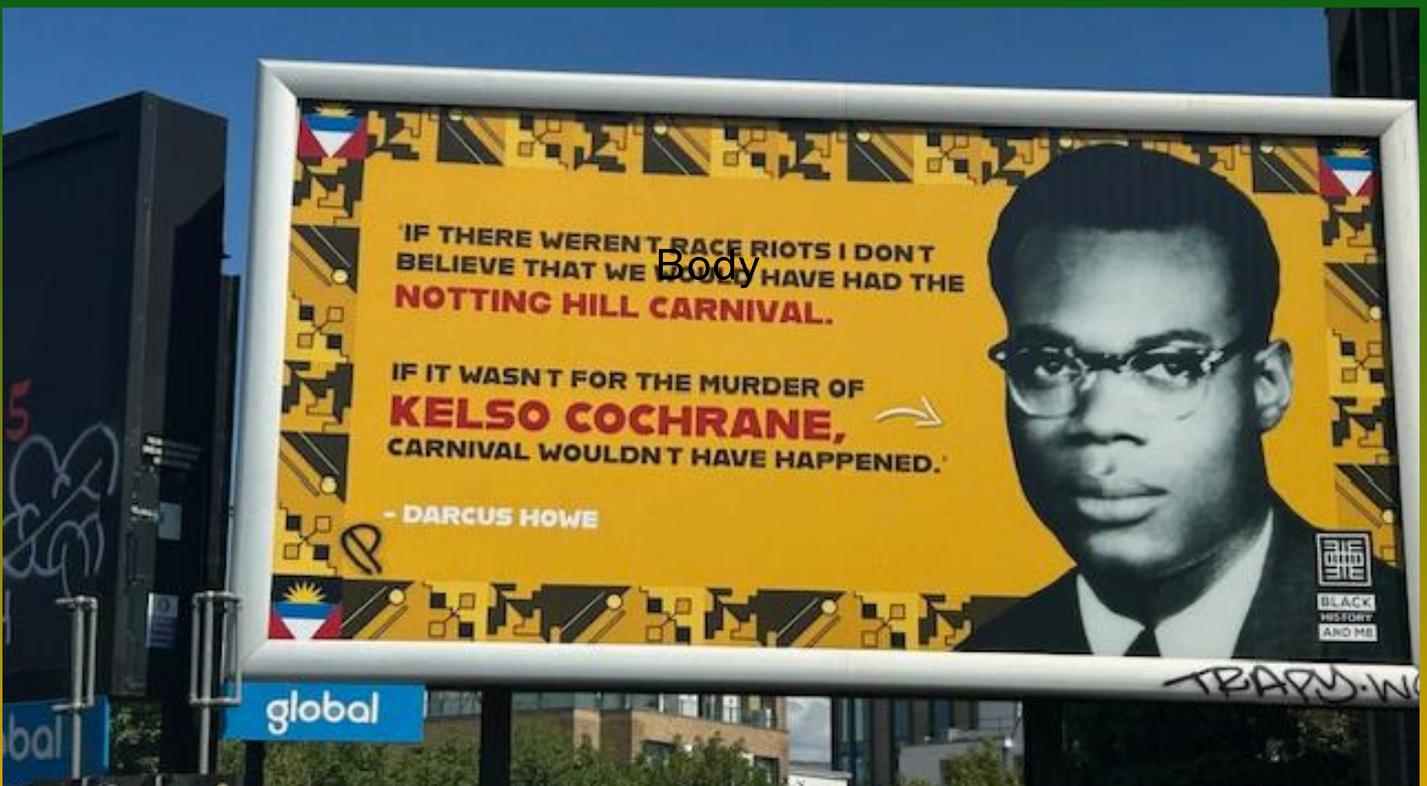
Notting Hill Carnival 25 proved the haters wrong. Again!

Two million playing mas the whole weekend. Nuff niceness throughout.

Enjoy this Retiring Ron pictorial special.

The vibes this time were extra special. Shout out to Portobello Radio who excelled with classic old school reggae. Stayed all of Sunday. It was busy but not unbearable. Heavy Babylon presence but it didn't stop the enjoyment.

I saw too many Arsenal and Man U shirts. What have they got to be proud of?



The main reason the Notting Hill Carnival started over 60 years ago



Dominicans always rep at Carnival



Michael and Charlotte came down from Liverpool



Jacob loves Carnival better than footie now



Splash of colour



Quite a few very tall people showed up!



I always bump into Johnny Walker



... and nice to see Johnny's brother Dave after decades



Cousin David is a budding film star



Jacob had a wicked time



Eddie Nestor is even crazier than me!



Mini entertainment





Indians love Trinidad



Fab RDR costume



The flag sets off her costume perfectly



Unhappy kid but look what he's wearing!





There were some amazing drum bands that emphasised the diversity of Carnival

Retiring Ron's top tips to play mas

- 1** Bring cash in coins and paper because most vendors appreciate it. It's quicker and easier. Not all take cards and mobile signal can be a problem if using your phone. Having cash and card means you're covered.
- 2** I always go to Carnival well hydrated from the previous night but dehydrated from that morning just to minimise toilet breaks. Long queues for portable toilets can be torture. No wonder there's a thriving market to pay up to £5 to use them. Anyway, the portables become disgusting very quickly!
- 3** Go as early as 11am on Monday. It's all set up promptly. There's all the fun without the mass crowds. I explored the whole area instead of just the usual sound systems and discovered drum bands, brilliant vendors and much more. Then leave mid-afternoon to avoid the congestion. That way you can pack in the excitement without all the stress in getting away. I actually found a mini-sound on Chamberlayne Road, Kensal Rise which entertained all for an extra hour.



Nuff niceness





Spreading happiness



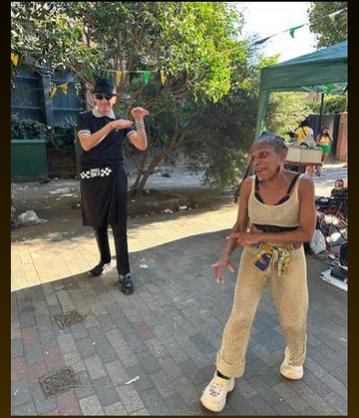
This happened to me all weekend



Cousin Pauline loves to play mas



Which outfit is best?



Style don





Finally: If you want to receive my latest Retiring Ron newsletter type back: RR



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