



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

ATTENTION : WAHEED ALLI

4th January 1996

Dear Waheed,

Many thanks for taking the trouble to ring this afternoon - things were a lot clearer after we spoke. I have passed on the sense of the conversation to Bernie, and he is pleased and proud to hear that Planet 24 responded so firmly to the memo from Mr Kos.

Further to our conversation, please find enclosed a little material about Caribbean Links.

The organisation is a growing one, and was formed three years or so ago. It is a non-political, family organisation, which was born out of a desire to emphasise the positive aspects of Caribbean culture. There was particular concern about the fact that young second generation Caribbean people knew little about the Caribbean and its culture, and about the need for them to have positive images of and pride in their history. The organisation is open to anyone with an interest in the Caribbean of any race.

Despite its meagre resources, Caribbean Links has already organised a number of functions, including two Family Fun Days each year, which have been attended by several hundred people. Also, since one of the aims is to link up people with an interest in the Caribbean nation-wide, the organisation recently organised a weekend excursion to Liverpool, in conjunction with the Caribbean Community there, incorporating a visit to the Transatlantic Slavery Museum there. This was a huge success and shows the potential of the organisation. We did manage to get sponsorship from Barclays Bank for this trip - which I think shows that Caribbean Links is no way out political pressure group !

What Caribbean Links needs is some money to employ someone to develop the organisation, and something towards some basic running costs. At present everything is done by volunteers, using Bernie's office resources - not something which we want to continue.





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If Heineken want to help, it would be very much appreciated - and we'd of course publicise their generosity !

If you need any further information about the organisation then please do let me know. It has a proper constitution, elected officers etc., and these details are all available.

I have spoken to Bernie about the programme ideas we discussed by the way, and he would be happy to meet with you to discuss all this further. I didn't get your phone number by the way, so do call me to fix a time to meet.

Yours sincerely,

SHARON LAWRENCE
P.A. TO BERNIE GRANT M.P.

P.S. I have taken the spelling of your name from Mr Kos' fax. If it is wrong, then please accept my apologies.

