

# 'History is...a matter of fact or perspective?'

#### Tracy D Williams



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*Caribbean '-Rush'* is published by Tracy D Williams

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#### Other titles in the 'Stories to be tolled' series:

#### Caribbean - 'Wind'

#### Nights at the Round Table the Berlin Conference 1884

Gone with the Wind? - Macmillan's Speech for Change

#### Introduction

From the first voyages made by John Hawkins, Francis Drake and Walter Raleigh in the middle of the 1500s Britain's occupation and control of the Caribbean has lasted longer than anywhere else in its Empire. The Sugar plantations on these islands were central to Europe's trade with Africa, India and China, enabling Britain to become extremely wealthy. Britain used this wealth to control the seas and colonize other countries across the African continent as well as India and parts of Indonesia. The Caribbean has a colourful history despite the fact that it is often overlooked; when it comes to world trade the Caribbean has always been centre stage...

### Chapter 2

#### In search of 'Fools Gold'...

As the 16<sup>th</sup> century dawned England also developed an interest,

In claiming its own share of this new found Caribbean treasure chest.

Queen Elizabeth 1 had no intention of being left behind,

So her sailors gradually acquired the navigation skills to undermine.

The Spanish stronghold over the Panama and South American ports;

John Hawkins and Francis Drake led the first English challenge and fought.

England's victory over Spanish territory made them realise,

That they too could conquer other lands and so began to colonize.

Walter Raleigh made the first attempt in 1585,

Inspired by tales of 'El Dorado' he claimed the beaches were 'paved with gold.'

His lack of judgement cost him dearly as his execution told.

But Raleigh's tall tales of the unexpected encouraged more English subjects to ride,

The Atlantic ocean to Guiana but they were blown offside.

The 67 travellers turned around then looked on straight ahead,

And found themselves on the island of St Lucia instead.

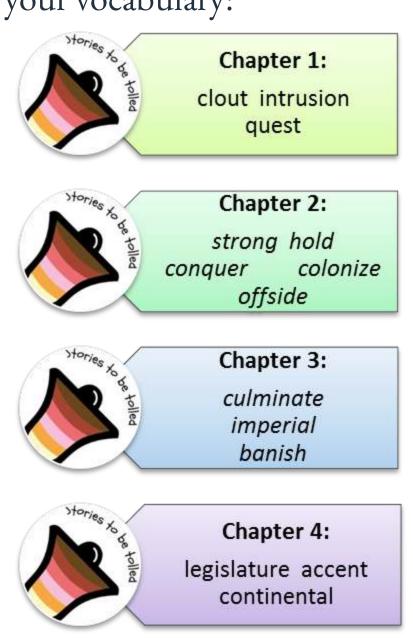
Together with Grenada in 1609,

Both were England's first attempts to 'rush' the Caribbean line.

The Caribbean islands were passed back and forth many times,

As England fought against the Spanish and French to maintain her prize.

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'History is not a matter of fact...but of perspective'... (Tracy DW)
Born and living in the UK Tracy DW has worked for over 15 years as a teacher and school leader. Influenced by her many school projects on
Black History and a desire to see a balance of perspective in teaching history in schools, Tracy DW presents Caribbean-'Rush.
This is second story to be published in the 'Stories to be Tolled' series telling of how the Caribbean Islands became a 'paradise lost' due to the overwhelming 'rush' of exploitationunder British and other European powers!
Guiding the reader through key events and mile stones in the Empire Phenomenon, 'Caribbean - Rush' is a poetic narrative on Britain's colonial past; why the British took control of so many countries, how it maintained its power and its impact on the many ethnicities and cultures that were changed forever.

