

THE HISTORY OF 'GLI GLI'

Returning safely from Guyana, first to Dominica and then to the Virgin Islands, the Gli Gli has continued to enthrall and intrigue the people of Caribbean and our visitors. For school children and adults alike the canoe has become a first hand link with an ancient and barely visible past. Seeing the Gli Gli sail and meeting her Carib crew bring alive a history that has been all but destroyed by colonial education. For many it stimulates for the first time, an understanding that the "Caribbean" is in fact the land of the Carib people.

The BBC documentary "The Quest of the Carib Canoe" captures the magic that made the journey such an unforgettable experience for all those that the Gli Gli came into contact with. The world wide exposure on BBC, HBO, Discovery Channel, the Native American Film Festival, many museums around the world, including the Smithsonian and most



recently at the Antigua Classic Yacht Regatta, has given the Carib people unprecedented recognition and respect from the global community.

Now 10 years after Gli Gli's historic expedition to Guyana, the Gli Gli and her crew are preparing to sail again. This time up the Leeward Islands, from Antigua to the Virgin Islands.

Titled the "Leeward Island Expedition", the new journey continues in the spirit of her 1997 expedition, as a cultural voyage to symbolically reunite the Carib descendants of the Leeward Islands and to draw attention to the importance of the Carib legacy in contemporary Caribbean culture. Though no distinct Carib communities have survived in the Leewards, the islands were once the domain of a thriving indigenous culture.

