

## JAMAICA TELEPHONE COMPANY (JTC) MUSICAL HISTORY.

Former JTC Employees Wemley Brown and Howard Barret gets social-media recognition by Local Jamaican music historian and Kool 97FM Radio DJ, Roberto Moore, for their roles in the chapters of our world renowned music.

I met both Wemley and Howard at the Carlton Central Office (Exchange) on Half Way Tree Road in 1966. Howard, a KC Graduate, was by then along with John Holt and Tyrone Evans a member of the Paragons singing group of "Happy Go Lucky Girl" and "On The Beach" fame.

Wemley who attended Kingston Technical High School was and still is, an avid music lover. He was one of JTC's in-house DJ's who used to rock our Christmas, New Year's and many of our private parties. Not many of us were aware that Wemley was also a member of the Shades recording group whose "Who You Gonna Run To" still gets dancers to their feet singing along to its vibrant chorus.

Howard migrated to the USA in the mid-70s where he continued his technical career with New York Telephone Company, from which he retired as a manager.

Wemley advanced through the ranks to become a Senior Manager of JTC, serving through its history of successor companies until he retired.

These former employees are only 2 of the many talented and well-known artists and performers who worked for our beloved JTC. Carlton Smith of the Tamlins, Radio Announcer Alan Magnus, Cynthia Schloss, Mutabaruka, comedian Glen Campbell, Author Cynthia Reyes and many others passed through those same corridors of time and place as we did.

Wemley never really liked to perform on stage but two things about him that never changed. He never forgot any of the good friends he met along the way, a natural people person, who now serves as secretary of the C&WJ Pensioners Association, nor did he ever forget his love of music. He is now a prominent member of the worldwide music connoisseur fraternity and heads up a group of his music aficionados, streaming oldies music under The Music Connection (TMC) Label, to all his former colleagues and others all over the globe. Wemley is also a member of the Vinyl Record Collectors Association and streams music on the Collectors' Korna Now Network.

<https://youtu.be/Vuzvlw4nfnk>

👉 Who you gonna run to.