

"Black History - Still Relevant Today"



This Booklet was produced by Denis Cox and the team @ G.E.N.I.U.S. Tel: 01902 427 860 • E :geniusbiz@hotmail.com

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Introduction

Welcome to the 12th edition of the Black History Month brochure.

The aims of the Black History Month Events Group are to:

- Promote universal knowledge of Black History, Culture and Heritage.
- Disseminate information on positive Black contributions to British Society and the wider world.
- Heighten the confidence and awareness of Black people to their cultural heritage.
- Promote cultural diversity across all communities in Wolverhampton.

Black History Month plays an important part in bringing people of all cultures together to move collectively towards our vision, by giving people in our community the opportunity to explore and learn more about Black history and culture, more importantly the roles and contributions Black people have made in shaping the history of this country, which is often overlooked.

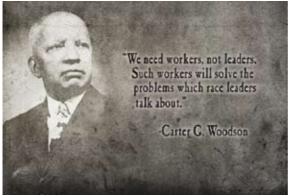
We encourage and invite people living in and outside Wolverhampton to support these events and in doing so, help in creating a cohesive society, where racism is not accepted nor tolerated, where everyone is treated according to their needs and rights and where cultural diversity is celebrated. We appreciate the time and effort people from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors have put into organising events for Black History Month and in producing this Programme.

Black History Month Origins

At the height of their power, French and British colonialists began re-writing the history of human civilization. In doing so they removed the history of African civilizations from the annals of world history. Far from being civilized, Africans were cannibalistic jungle savages who had their first taste of civilised life when the white man rode into their



Carter G Woodson



Carter G Woodson

lives. The legacy of this crime is very much evident today when white football spectators throw bananas at Black footballers. From then till now Black people around the world have struggled to have their history and cultural heritage recognised and accepted by all.

In 1926, Carter G Woodson, the editor of the Journal of Negro History launched the first African-American cultural heritage celebrations. It was called 'Negro History Week'. This grew into the celebrations known from 1976 onwards,

as Black History Month. Black History Month celebrations are held in February each year in the USA and each October in the United Kingdom. South Africa also celebrates Black History Month.

Black History Month in Britain

In Britain, the drive toward recognising Black historical contributions began shortly after the first post war African-Caribbean migrants arrived in Britain. Across Britain the Black community organised supplementary education projects as a means of providing for the educational needs of Black children who were neglected, classed as 'educationally subnormal' and racially discriminated against. The first post-war Black history lessons in Britain were taught in supplementary education projects. The Black community also campaigned against discrimination in the schools, and for the teaching of Black history in schools.

The promotion of Black history in education was and still is regarded as the best way of putting Black history back into the history books. Individuals like Eric Pemberton (the first director of the former Afro Caribbean Cultural Centre) were the pioneers who put African Caribbean Studies on the schools curriculum.

Activists within the Black community also organised cultural heritage events to promote knowledge of Black history and culture. Berry Edwards in Manchester organised Caribbean Week in the 1970s, and Eric and Jessica Huntley from Ealing regularly organised a Caribbean week in the late 1970s and early 1980s. In Wolverhampton the Harambee Association organised the town's first African-Caribbean Cultural Weekend in October 1978. The establishment of the Black History Month celebrations in the United Kingdom gave the Black community an opportunity to bring its campaign to the attention of all peoples in the United Kingdom. It is not seen as the be all and end all, but a development on the road to redressing a series of historical lies written into the history of human civilization, and implanted into the consciousness of people worldwide.

Black History Month in Britain took place for the first time in London on October 1987 on the recommendation of the now defunct London Strategic Policy Committee as part of their African Jubilee Year Marcus Garvey Centenary Celebrations. By the 1990's voluntary, statutory and private sectors have been celebrating BHM on an annual basis in October.

Black History Month in Wolverhampton

In 1998 individuals from the community of Wolverhampton came together and formed a Windrush Committee to organise a local event in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the landing of the Empire Windrush at Tilbury, which carried a significant number of African-Caribbean migrants to Britain. This event was an overwhelming success and was featured prominently on TV and broadcasted on the radio. This Committee together with the Senior Policy and Equality Officer of Wolverhampton Council was then successful in getting other organisations from the community, voluntary and statutory sectors in organising and celebrating Wolverhampton's first Black History Month in 2000. This is Wolverhampton's twelfth Black History Month, which also acknowledges and list events taking place throughout September, October & November. The events in this Programme are educational and entertaining, and are open to the general public unless specified. It is hoped that these events will promote initiatives to encourage racial harmony and respect of the diverse cultures and skills amongst people in the community in Wolverhampton. Do support these events by encouraging your partner, friends and relatives to come along and join in these celebrations.

In 2010 David Bennett took on the role of chairing the Black History Month Events Group. This BHM programme is supported by the University of Wolverhampton and UNISON. We also acknowledge the support provided to the Black History Month Events Group this year, by the following individuals and organisations:



G.E.N.I.U.S. Business Communication Services

Foreword by Professor Geoff Layer, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wolverhampton

I am delighted to welcome you to this year's Black History Month brochure, which features a range of cultural and educational events in our city throughout October. Many people are involved in making this annual event a huge success, and I would like to congratulate and thank them on behalf of all the partners.



Black History Month is an opportunity to celebrate the communities that make Wolverhampton such a vibrant place to live, work and study. As a University, we welcome students from around the world and from diverse backgrounds, and we have an important role in shaping a democratic and inclusive society. By being part of this month of events, we hope to celebrate the contributions of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities in the city and also ensure that young people understand the historical backdrop to where we are today.

This year's theme – Black History: Still Relevant Today – allows us to explore the rich heritage of BME communities, and examine what we can learn from history to enhance relationships and cohesion now and in the future.

I hope you enjoy these events, which I'm sure will be educational and enriching.

WOLVERHAMPTON

KNOWLEDGE • INNOVATION • ENTERPRISE

UNIVERSITY OF

Professor Geoff Layer



A Vision into Black History: Exhibition, Weekly Culture and Heritage Awareness Sessions and Black History Month University Challenge

The 'Vision into Black History' exhibition highlights and explores the many positive contributions and achievements of Black people who excelled in literature, sport, science, leadership and other social areas, as well as their impact and influence upon the modern world.

Made up of seven sections, this display will be placed at various locations and campuses during October.

Culture and Heritage Awareness Sessions

Five weekly sessions will allow staff and students to discover, learn about and discuss important facts about specific achievements relating to Black History. Each of these sessions provides an engaging forum in which to consider the many recognised contributions significant to understanding and appreciating African/Black traditions and cultural heritage.

Week 1: 1st October 2012

10.30am - 12.30pm In the Students' Union The Venue, MD Building, City Campus

A Vision into Black History

- · The history and objective of Black History Month
- A vision into Black History
- The African holocaust & African Diaspora
- African Caribbean and African American history

Week 2: 9th October 2012 2pm – 4pm In the WA Boardroom Walsall Campus

Voices of inspiration and Black Achievements

- · Black freedom fighters and liberators
- · Great voices of inspiration
- Black literature & writing
- Great Black sports personalities

Week 3: 17th October 2012

5.30pm – 7.30pm In The Council Room, MA221, City Campus

Tackling Social Issues & Concerns

- Cultural identity & awareness
- · Africans, afro-Caribbean's & Black British within British society
- · Crime and its effects on the black society
- Motivating and empowering black youth.

Week 4: 26th October 2012

2pm - 4pm In the Students' Union The Venue, MD Building, City Campus

Exploring African/Caribbean Culture

- African/Black arts & creativity
- Understanding Patios & street talk
- The heritage of black music (American, African, Caribbean and British)
- International Black-African celebrations and festivals

Week 2: 31st October 2012

10.30am-1pm In the Students' Union The Venue, MD Building, City Campus

Black History Month University Challenge

Including addresses by Professor Geoff Layer, Vice-Chancellor and Theresa Welch, Chair of BME Staff Network

To conclude the University's Black History Month celebrations, teams of participants are invited to play & compete in an exciting interactive multimedia quiz, answering questions and solving puzzles relevant to black history. This session uses multimedia in the form of a 'game show' to promote the cultural heritage of Black people in an entertaining, non-threatening and fun way. Prizes and certificates awarded!

Cost: N/aDisabled Access: YesOpen to Public: NO.Internal event for staff and students. For logistical reasons such as catering and accessrequirements, please note that booking/ registration is required for these events

The event is hosted and organised by University of Wolverhampton, Wulfruna St, Wolverhampton, West Midlands WV1 1LY Web: http://www.wlv.ac.uk/

Programme delivered by: ABC Production Ltd, 49 Wolverhampton St, Dudley, West Midlands, DY1 3AE Website: www.abcproduction.net Email: info@abcproduction.net

For more information contact: Bali Brophy at: Email: b.brophy@wlv.ac.uk or Tel: 01902 322954 for more information.

Friday 28th September & Saturday 29th September 2012

WOLVERHAMPTON BLACK HISTORY MONTH LAUNGH

Time: Friday 6.30pm Saturday 5.30-7pm Cost: FREE Venue: Tilestone Studio, Arena Theatre, Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton, WV6 9NW

Disabled Access: Yes Open to Public: Yes

For further information contact David Bennett on 07806 461828 Organiser: Black History Month Events Group, c/o Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project, 24 Cosgrove Walk, Wolverhampton WV8 1YD

This year Black History Month will be launched at the Arena Theatre.

There will be plenty of displays and information on forthcoming BHM events.







Meet Jacqueline Williams the author of Out of the Shadows, Black Women in Film: 1900 – 1959.

The Himba people of Namibia can identify emotions from other peoples voices.

ARENA THEATRE

Friday 28th September & Saturday 29th September 2012



Cost: £9 Full Price/ £7 Concessions Venue: Arena Theatre, Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE Disabled Access: Yes Open to Public: Yes For further information contact Arena Box Office on 01902 321 321 Organiser: Gazebo Theatre, Bilston Town Hall, Church Street, Bilston WV14 0AP



"Drawn together on the 50th anniversary of Independence, Marcus Garvey, Bob Marley and Queen Nanny tell their account of the Jamaican story. Told with truth, humour, drama, live reggae music and an array of heroes, this is a one year only event not to be missed!

From the writer and director of the 'excellent' Rivers to Cross and Sweet Tooth, Jamaica 50 celebrates and commemorates the huge achievements of so many on the road to freedom, telling

> the stories of official and unofficial national heroes including Sam Sharpe, Mary Seacole, George William Gordon and Paul Bogle.

Featuring Sylvester Williams (East Enders, The Posse), Wolverhampton's own, Tonia Daley-Campbell (Araba's Song-A Slave's Story, Black Hill) and Prince Jamo (Black Rose).

The show premieres here in Wolverhampton before embarking on a national tour of venues and local tour of secondary schools and community events".

Jamaica 50 is part of the BHM Launch. Anyone wishing to attend Jamaica 50 MUST purchase tickets.

George White, an African-American bought the first slave to be sold in Chicago. The slave was a white vagrant from Maryland USA

GAZEBC

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CLUB: BLACK ROLE MODELS: UNLOCKING HIDDEN POTENTIAL

Time: 7-9pm

Cost: FREE

Venue: Ethnic Minority Council, Stewart House. 18 Stewart Street. Wolverhampton. WV2 4.IW

Disabled Access: Yes Open to Public: Yes

For further information contact Suffia Perveen 01902 313 052

Organiser: Suffia Perveen, Ethnic Minority Council, Stewart House, 18 Stewart Street, Wolverhampton, WV2 4JW

Ethnic Minority Council Centre

Venue for Hire

Meeting, Training, Conference or a Celebration?

Ethnic Minority Council's (EMC) cost effective, fully equipped training facility provides an ideal, easily accessible space for small to medium sized events. Located centrally we are easily accessible from Wolverhampton Town Centre and the main A roads into Wolverhampton.

To book or view our facilities, simply give us a call on 01902 313 052, or email

sperveen@ethnicminoritycouncil.org and our friendly staff and volunteers will be there to help.

Favourable rates if you are a EMC Member call us or go to our web site.



Suffia Perveen

incorporating





At the Ethnic Minority Council we are continually working towards engaging all ethnic minority communities in order to deliver high guality sustainable services that meet the needs of the local demographics.

The Community Development Club is an extension of the services associated with our community engagement initiatives and development sustainability strategies. With the monthly meeting format the frequency to

network with like-minded individuals, learn, and develop your skills base further will be greatly beneficial to vou and vour enterprise. The meetings will also see several quest speakers present on topics such as Goal Setting Black Role Models Display, Setting, Capacity Building, Social Media Development and much more



GET INVOLVED, MAKE CHANGE AND SEE PROGRESS

Official records show that Black sailors served in the Royal Navy from as far back as 1595.

ARENA THEATR

Wednesday 10th October 2012 to Friday 12th October 2012

THE GOOD PERSON OF SEZUAN

Time: Wednesday - 7.30pm Thursday - 7.30pm, Friday - 8.00pm

Cost: £10 Full Price £8 Concessions £5 Matinee Venue: Arena Theatre, Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE

Disabled Access: Yes Open to Public: Yes

For further information contact Arena Box Office on 01902 321 321

Organiser: Arena Theatre, Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE



Brecht's classic comedy – Updated and set in Jamaica!

This acclaimed production returns to the Arena, following sell-out performances in 2010.

Rhema's neighbours and friends are worried. What has happened to her? Why has she disappeared?

Maybe her cousin's trial will explain all...



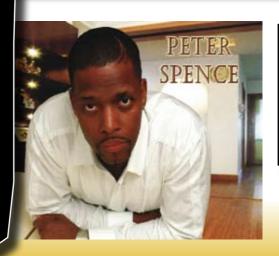
"I came home feeling as if I'd been to the best party in the world!" *Audience member*

Black babies tend to walk before white babies

Saturday 13th October 2012



25TH ANNIVERSARY GALA



The African Caribbean Community Initiative (ACCI) is a holistic and comprehensive support service for the African Caribbeans affected by mental ill health. Our services include supported housing and advice, day opportunities facilities and specialist outreach. We also provide an extensive and holistic counselling and therapeutic service and facilitate a dedicated and proactive Carers' Support Group. As a community based social enterprise, ACCI has built a reputation for high quality mental health training and consultancy. Our West Midlands based centre is also registered as a health and social care 'student placement' facility.

The organisation celebrates an historical 25 years of providing services to African and African Caribbean people in Wolverhampton and in partnership with statutory and community organisations. The event will host the Beacon of Hope award presentations to service users, the presentation of the Commemorative Brochure and then an evening filled of music, laughter and socialisation. Our guest performer

will be the International Gospel/Reggae singer Peter Spence and a sumptuous 3-course meal will be served.

ACCI

217 Waterloo Terrace, Newhampton Road East, Whitmore Reans, Wolverhampton, West Midlands WV1 4BA Tel: 01902 571230 · Fax: 01902 571233 Email: support@acci.org.uk Visit our website at: www.acci.org.uk Time: Reception 6pm – Seated at 7pm Cost of Event: Individual tickets for the event are priced at £35.00 or a table for 10 priced at £330.00. Venue: Ramada Park Hall Hotel & Spa, Park Drive, Wolverhampton WV4 5AJ Disabled Access: Yes Open To Public: Yes

Black people outnumbered their white counterparts in 16th century Lisbon.

ARENA THEATRE

Wednesday 17th October until Friday 19th October 2012

MASTER JUBA

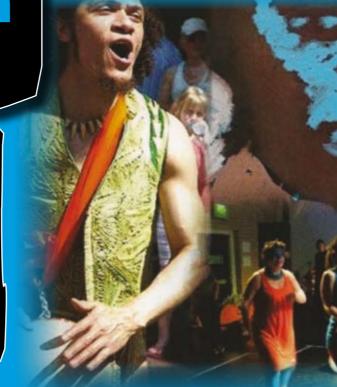
Time: Thursday – 1.30pm and 7.30pm, Friday – 1.30pm and 7.30pm Saturday – 1.30pm and 8.00pm

Cost: £9 Full Price/ £7 Concessions / £5 Matinee Venue: Arena Theatre, Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE

Disabled Access: Yes Open to Public: Yes

For further information contact Arena Box Office on 01902 321 321

Organiser: Arena Theatre, Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE



A potent mix of rhythm and words, reclaiming the streets with a frenzy of beats, improvised tap and the heart of the drum. Master Juba is an urgent visceral performance that recounts the amazing tale of William Henry Lane, the man who invented Tap Dancing!

R U GOING TO SEE JUBA?! JUBA, THE INIMITABLE JUBA!! JUBA, THE BEST DANCER LIVING!!!

Chicago was founded by an African American – Baptist Point de Saible. Originally from the island of Santo Domingo (Haiti and the Dominican Republic today), de Saible built the first cabin on the site that is now Chicago.



The Hanover & Wolverhampton Link Organisation Project (HWLOP), believes that a sense of history is fundamental to the understanding of human experiences.

The project highlights the migration of Hanoverians from the Island of Jamaica. Through their endeavours they have given support to the community and development of Wolverhampton. HWLOP is passionate and devoted to collecting; preserving and sharing heritage and cultural materials of Hanoverians; their ancestors and descendents. Go to http://www.hwlop.org/ for more detailed information.

Thursday 25th October 2012

HWLOP BHM Intergenerational Activity Day Events Planned Include:



- Partners displays
- Quizs · Dance
- Delicious food
- Music Talks

Time: 11am -4pm Cost of Event: FREE

Venue: Light House Media Centre, The Chubb Buildings, Fryer Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1HT Disabled Access: Yes Open To Public: Yes Contact Details: Trevor McIaren 07551 257 163 Dr Josh Johnson 07946 223 124 Keptreene Finch 01902 716 780 Organiser:The Hanover & Wolverhampton Link Organisation Project (HWLOP),Hibiscus House, 46 Yew Street, Graiseley Wolverhampton, WV3 0DA, United Kingdom Enquiries: enquiries@hwlop.org

Tuesday 30th October 2012

HWLOP & Partners -Trip To International Slavery Museum Liverpool

The International Slavery Museum, Liverpool, opened in August 2007 and in March 2010 welcomed its millionth visitor. It is the only museum of its kind to look at aspects of historical and

contemporary slavery as well as being an international hub for resources on human rights issues.



Time: 8am departrure Cost of Event: £15 Departure Point: (HWLOP), Hibiscus House, 46 Yew Street, Graiseley Wolverhampton, WV3 0DA Disabled Access: Yes Open to public: Yes

Friday 26th October 2012

UPRISING

ena theatr

Time: 8.00pm Cost: £9 Full Price/ £7 Concessions Venue: Arena Theatre, Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE

Disabled Access: Yes Open to Public: Yes

For further information contact Arena Box Office on 01902 321 321

Organiser: Arena Theatre, Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE



The award winning author Alex Wheatle MBE presents his moving autobiographical story of how he became a writer. From the brutality of children's homes to being on the 'Frontline' in riot-torn Brixton and sharing a prison cell with a fierce Rasta-man.

Join Alex on a journey through Britain in the 1980s.

Followed by a Q & A and book signing.



"A triumph. Bears a striking resemblance to Graham Green's Brighton Rock" *The Times*

Britain has benefitted from a continual Black presence, for over 500 years.

Sunday 28th October 2012



WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

Time: 11.30 am – 13.00pm Cost of Event: Free Venue:

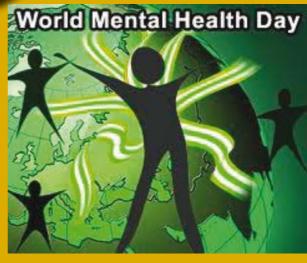
> The Jubilee Christian Centre, 121 Merridale Street, Wolverhampton WV3 0RE

Disabled Access: Yes

Open To Public: Yes

ACCI's annual celebration of World Mental Health Day will be held on Sunday 28th October 2012.

There will be presentations, performances and an enjoyable time to worship in fellowship and spirituality, as ACCI celebrates its history of 25th years of contributing to mental health awareness for African and African Caribbean people into the community of Wolverhampton.



ACCI

217 Waterloo Terrace, Newhampton Road East, Whitmore Reans, Wolverhampton, West Midlands WV1 4BA Tel: 01902 571230 • Fax: 01902 571233 Email: support@acci.org.uk Visit our website at: www.acci.org.uk

Jacob Wainwright – Was a servant to David Livingstone. Wainwright was one of the pallbearers at Livingstone's funeral. ARENA THEATRE

Friday 9th November 2012



Time: 8.00pm Cost: £9 Full Price/ £7 Concessions Venue: Arena Theatre, Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE

Disabled Access: Yes Open to Public: Yes

For further information contact Arena Box Office on 01902 321 321

Organiser: Arena Theatre, Wulfruna Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE



After a successful tour of the UK in 2011, the POMEDY show returns!

An electric mix of Jamaican Comedy and poetry celebrating laughter, love and learning for the entire family and community.

Showcasing the very best in Jamaican pomedy – Yasus Afari, Oliver Samuels, Ping Wing and many, many more.



Comedy and poetry with a difference.

The science of Geology began in Ancient Egypt

HANDA'S SURPRISE

Travel to Kenya and follow in Handa's footsteps as she journeys to see her best friend Akeyo. Handa is taking 7 delicious fruits as a surprise – but 7 different animals have 7 very different ideas. Physical performance, puppetry, live music and song combine to create an intimate, magical show for 2-5 year olds.

Adapted from the popular book by Eileen Browne by Little Angel Theatre Tickets £3.50/children £2.50. Limited spaces - book in advance. Groups welcome. Supported by Black Country Touring

Time: 11am, 1pm, 2pm, 5pm (Show lasts 30 mins approx) £3.50: Children £2.50 Cost: Venue: Newhampton Arts Centre, Dunkley Street, Wolverhampton WV1 4AN Disabled Access:Yes Open to Public: Yes For further information contact Christine or Clare on 01902 572090 or via Ticketweb: http://bit.ly/NACtickets **Organiser:** Newhampton Arts Centre, Dunkley Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 4AN

Sister Jahlee, a Rasta woman became Dominica's first ever Calypso Queen in 1987

WOLVERHAMPTON LOCAL HISTORY FAIR

Time: 10.00 am till 4.00pm

Cost: FREE

Venue: Molineux Hotel Building, Whitmore Hill, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SF.

Disabled Access: Yes

For further information contact Andrea Jones by e-mail at andrea.jones@wolverhampton. gov.uk or by telephone on 01902 551069/David Bennett by email at blacklocalhistory@live .co.uk or by mobile on 07806461828.



The Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project (BLHCAP) holds documents on all aspects of the history of Black and Asian communities in Wolverhampton.

Visit the Black Cultural Archives Display at this year's Local History Fair. Find out how to access information and documents held at City Archives.

Cement was invented in Ancient Egypt

THE HANOVER & WOLVERHAMPTON LINK ORGANISATION PROJECT OFFICIAL LAUNCH DINNER & DANCE

Time: 7pm – for Dinner served at 7.30pm prompt Cost of Event: £30.00 Venue: The Connaught Hotel Tettenhall Road. Wolverhampton West Midlands WV1 4SW Disabled Access: Yes Open To Public: Yes Contact Details: Trevor Mclaren 07551 257 163 Dr Josh Johnson 07946 223 124 Keptreene Finch 01902 716 780 Organiser: The Hanover & Wolverhampton Link Organisation Project (HWLOP), Hibiscus House, 46 Yew Street, Graiseley Wolverhampton, WV3 0DA, United Kingdom Enquiries: enquiries@hwlop.org



This is a Black Tie/National Dress event celebrating the official launch of the organisation feauturing, Speakers, Displays, the presentation of an Organisation Information Brochure and an evening filled of music, laughter and networking. A 3 Course meal will be served.

Tuesday 27th November 2012

THE 2ND ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY MONTH QUIZ

Time: 8.00pm

Cost: TBC Venue: Bilston Town Hall, Church Street, Bilston, WV14 0AP

Disabled Access: Yes Open to Public: Yes

For further information contact Higher Level World on 0845 331 2753

Organiser: Higher Level World, 102 Lea Road, Penn Fields, Wolverhampton, WV3 OLJ

higher (evel

Following the success of the inaugural BHM Quiz, Higher Level World invite all to this year's renewal. This year's Quiz will be a celebration of Jamaica's 50th anniversary of independence. We welcome new participants, so if you want to enter a team please contact the organisers.

IAMAIC



Planning an event for BHM 2013?

To get you event listed for free contact:

David Bennett, The Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project, 24 Cosgrove Walk, Pendeford, Wolverhampton, WV8 1YD. Mobile: 07806 461 828 Email: blacklocalhistory@live.co.uk

The Black History Month Events Group meets once a month between January and August. If you are interested in attending meetings of the Group please contact David Bennett.

We endorse the recycling of our brochure and would encourage you to pass it on to others to read when you have finished with it.



The Christian word "Amen" comes from the name of the highest ranking god in Ancient Egyptain theology.

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Racial and Cultural Stereotyping and Hate Crime Today

Racial and cultural stereotypes about Black people's physical attributes and mental competencies have been part of advertising since the early days of the newspaper. Stereotypes became an integral fabric of European and American media and has remained so for hundreds of years. Though Black people were not the only cultural or racial group targeted, stereotypes of Black people have been bar far the most demeaning.

The teaching of history in British schools further served to cement stereotypes as 'facts' about enslaved and colonised Africans. As recently as the late twentieth century all children were taught about 'uncivilised' Africa. They were presented with images of the African as a jungle dwelling savage cannibal who would cook people in big pots and eat them afterwards. It is this image that lives on in the minds of people from all cultures today.

Throughout the 1970s and 1980s the mainstream media and history text books continued to spread myths about Black people, who were described as ugly, violent, savage, cannibalistic, lazy and stupid.

Black youths in post WW2 Britain experienced racist abuse and racial attacks on a daily basis, across the country. Words such as nignog, coon, golliwog would ring out as isolated Black vouths were kicked and beaten by large groups of white youths, many of whom belonged to a gang.



"Hello, everyone - what's cooking?

In the 1970s perhaps the first appearance of Ku Klux Klan hoods was at a football match at the Molineux Stadium, Wolverhampton. Football stadia were off limits to Black people. In many urban areas match days posed a danger to the isolated Black youth who were targeted by disgruntled football fans. These hate crimes of the latter twentieth century were fuelled by the myths and stereotypes used openly by white individuals and institutions alike.

A combination of factors led to the implementation of laws and a rise in anti racist strategies that have had a positive impact on British society. In addition to the brave resistance from Black youth to racist violence in whatever form, many white people took to the streets and campaigned against racist violence and extremist organisations like the National Front. Anti racism became embedded in British Society. This did not mean an immediate end to racial and cultural stereotyping, nor did it end racial violence. However in the present day all forms of racial violence, name calling and stereotyping is unacceptable to the vast majority of Britons today.

In terms of racial equality and redress, Britain today ranks head and shoulder above the rest of the Western World. There are still racist practices. Prejudice borne out of the mis-education of society regarding Africa's history still influences behaviour and reinforces prejudice. There is still widespread distrust between Black people and the police. But lessons have been learnt, changes made and many barriers removed. But there is still more work to be done.

Hate crimes today are very much influenced by lingering racial and cultural stereotypes. Just as with Black people, white people are also victims of hate

crimes influenced by racial and cultural stereotypes. History has shown that people working together have made Britain safer for people of all cultures from across the world. The early post war Black communities in Britain did not fight hate crime alone. The rest of Europe today is a generation behind Britain in terms of anti racist and anti sexist practices. History has taught that the elimination of ignorance through education is a necessary pre-requisite for ridding society of hate crimes. The correct teaching of Black History in today's schools, from primary level upwards, will go a long way

Cartoons perpetuating the false and negative stereotypes of Black people were commonplace in British mainstream newspapers.

> Crash blackspot rap for council at inquest

The English language does not do much to combat racial stereotypes. The use of the words black and dark to depict bad is commonplace in everyday speak.

to eliminating the racial and cultural stereotypes of the future.

THE TRAGEDY IN TIMBUKTU

"I have never been to a place more in touch, more enthralled, with its own history than Timbuktu. It may be a dusty backwater these days, but it was once the Oxford of Africa - a thriving 15th Century university town. People still keep boxes of ancient manuscripts

in their storerooms, and garages." **Podcast by Pascal Fletcher, BBC** Tue Jul 3, 2012 11:14am EDT

Timbuktu was a Black African city of significant importance to some of the great West African empires of the Middle Ages from the 11th century onwards. The city's first brick buildings were designed by the African architects of Djenne. The city developed a centre of learning, many years before Oxford University was founded. An influx of scholars from Ancient Ghana boosted Timbuktu's centre of learning.



Manuscript explaining optics

The city's importance grew steadily and by the 12th century. Timbuktu was the most important and celebrated centre of learning in sub-Saharan Africa. Timbuktu's position as an important centre of commerce was well established.

Timbuktu was home to three universities and 180 Qur'anic schools. The libraries of Timbuktu were filled with books written in the city and with books imported from outside. Timbuktu's Black scholars were reputedly hailed as academically superior to Arab and European scholars who came to the city to study. On his return to Mali after a pilgrimage to Mecca, Mansa Musa brought with him a number of Arab scholars who settled in Timbuktu.



Timbuktu remained a celebrated university city until 1591 when a Moroccan army invaded and looted the city. Many scholars and manuscripts were taken to Morocco. Many libraries were burnt to the ground.

Today over 700,000 manuscripts are in danger of being lost forever. These manuscripts detail key scientific disciplines like astronomy and medicine, as well as theological works.

A sciences manuscript

They are clear and irrevocable evidence of advanced learning and civilization in sub-Saharan Black Africa. They are testimony to the fact that Black African civilization has always been a reality.

Sankore University built during the 12th century and Jingaray Ber University are just two of the remaining monuments, parts of which still exist but in need of specialist support to prevent their loss.

Timbuktu is under the occupation of Islamic extremists bent on imposing their doctrines and law on the indigenous locals. The destabilisation of Mali began shortly after the Libyan Spring Revolution. A large amount of weapons, including heavy weaponry, flooded across the border into northern Mali.

Tuaregs became emboldened and opted to fight for an independent state in the north. Their rebellion was quickly taken over by Islamic extremists, mostly from neighbouring countries. They crossed borders bringing with them more guns and a lot of money. With superior firepower they quickly took control of key northern towns, including Timbuktu and immediately imposed Sharia law.

The Islamists turned their attention to Timbuktu's ancient monuments and universities. Using crude implements, shovels and pick-axes, they set about systematically destroying monument after monument. In the space of three days they destroyed eight mausoleums and a number of tombs.

The city is half empty. Those with the means to do so have fled. Businesses, homes and institutions are being raided. Items regarded as non Sharia are being destroyed. The Islamists regard ancient items, of Black African origin as non Sharia.

This Black History Month we should all commit to being proactive about preserving the historical and architectural heritage of Black Africa. Black History Month 2012 should not be restricted to celebrating Black history and achievements, it should also be a month of campaigning to protect the manuscripts and monuments of Timbuktu. Write to your MP and your MEP. Send letters to the editor of the Express and Star. Contact the Timbuktu Foundation and support their work (website: timbuktufoundation.org emal: musa@ timbuktufoundation.org). Tell your friends, family and anyone who will listen about this unfolding tragedy.

The destruction of ancient historical monuments in Timbuktu is a tragedy for people of Black African descent worldwide, and a barbaric crime. As former South African president Thabo Mbeki reminded us recently Timbuktu link to Africa's past refutes the racist and ignorant "Tarzan and savages" view of Africa's history.

Black Local History Cultural Archives Project



The Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project (BLHCAP) collects and manages an archive on BME communities in Wolverhampton. The archive is generally referred to as the 'Cultural Archives Collection'.

The archives collection span a period of seven decades and comprise a wide variety of ephemera reflecting the history of the presence of Black and South Asian peoples in Wolverhampton. Materials include newspaper articles, letterheads, documents from voluntary organisations, photographs, letters and oral recordings.

We hold a small but growing collection of over 50 objects ranging from socially historic items to more contemporary items, which reflect the rich diversity of expression by and about the people of the African Diaspora. Much of the collection was acquired by BLHCAP members. Some items were donations from the public.

A variety of the materials from the archive and artefact collections have been used to support our educational and outreach work.

The current content of the archive reflects BLHCAP's history as a local volunteer led grassroots organisation which sought to collect and preserve material encompassing the range of experiences of African and African-Caribbean people and their descendents. We are filling a gap left void by statutory sector archives. As our collection continues to grow, BLHCAP will remain true to documenting this breadth of experience, whilst refining its focus to concentrate on preserving materials from the 20th century through to contemporary times

Volunteers are needed to research some of the objects from the history collection in greater detail, catalogue the artefacts and increase our knowledge about the collection. **Tasks include:**

- Photographing
- · Recording detailed information on catalogue cards
- · Researching the artefacts or the makers/donors information
- Creating object files with extended information
- · Entering information on computer

If you want to participate in the work of BLHCAP please contact BLHCAP on 07806461828, email: blacklocalhistory@live.co.uk

We Don't tolerate Hate Crime Why should you?

Wolverhampton police take reports of hate crime very seriously and any reports of individuals being targeted because of their disability, gender, race religion, sexual orientation or transgender will be investigated seriously.

We want people to report hate crime and hate incidents to us. Only by working together will we be able to tackle hate crime and incidents effectively.

You can report hate crime in a number of ways:

- In an emergency always dial 999
- Contact your local police station, call 101
- Report online at www.report-it.org.uk

Nolverhampton

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The Year in Review – Highlights of 2011

2011 was another year of high achievement and history making for Black Wulfrunians. It is also the year when we lost one of our greatest achievers.



A full month before the 2011 local elections, **Sandra Samuels** joined the ranks of local Black history makers by becoming the first councillor in Wolverhampton's history to win a seat before a vote is cast. The Conservative Party candidate's nomination was rejected because it contained errors. The Liberal Democrats Party did not nominate a candidate.

In April **Paige Smith** burst onto our TV screens when she appeared in the finals of the BBC 1 show 'So You Think You Can Dance'. The

talented 18 year old has a string of titles to her name. She is the European Champion in disco freestyle and rock 'n' roll; the All England Dance Champion; and the British Isles Dance Champion. Paige is among the current generation of talented youngsters from Wolverhampton, who have gone on to establish themselves as top achievers and role models.



Natacha Gohagen competed her way to the semi-finals of the British Top Model competition. The 19 year old from Dunstall Hill is a student at Walsall College.

Clifford Price continued his television career with a three part BBC 2 series: Goldie's Band; By Royal Appointment. In June **Goldie** was in town filming a documentary about his life. He took time out to speak against gang violence in Wolverhampton.





MJ Mytton-Sanneh, the talented young man from Finchfield, reached the finals of television's Britain's Got Talent competition. MJ and the other members of his group, New Bounce, delighted millions of viewers with their stunning performances before finishing overall thrid. This is a phenomenal rise by 13 year old MJ who attends Smestow School. MJ Mytton-Sanneh has a great future ahead of him.



Karl Henry – the first Black captain of a Wolves Premier League team, excelled during the 2010/2011 season. Karl was an ever present in the Wolves mid field. Originally from Dovecotes in Pendeford, Karl was an ever present in the Wolves mid field. He was stripped of the captaincy shortly after the arrival of new signing Roger Johnson. Karl also joined the ranks of Wolves players who have

played for the club over 200 times during their respective careers.

On Friday May 11th, **Elvis Gordon** passed away after losing his battle against cancer. Elvis will be remembered as one of Wolverhampton's greatest sporting



3 x Olympian World Silver Medalist European Champion Double Commonwealth Champion Shoriki Cup Champion 2 x Paris Tournament Medalist British Open Champion British Champion

heroes. In his heyday, Elvis was a giant in the sport of Judo. He won numerous titles at national, international and world level. Elvis Gordon put Wolverhampton on the map during the 1980s and 1990s.



Three more young stars shone on the Karate scene. **Amelia, Curtis and Connor Harvey** struck gold, in their respective age groups, at the European Karate Championships. Amelia, aged 16 – a recipient of an award at the 2010 Black History Makers Awards Gala, her brother Curtis aged 15 are both from Oxley. Their cousin, 11 year old Curtis lives in Parkfields.

All three are members of the Central England Wado-Ryu Karate Academy.

Moses Murandu, a senior lecturer in adult nursing at the University of Wolverhampton is pioneering a revolutionary treatment for wounds. Mr Murandu learnt about the use of sugar in African Medicine when, as a child in Zimbabwe, he observed his father using sugar to heal wounds.

The treatment works because the application of sugar on wounds draws away water from the wound thus preventing bacteria from reproducing.



Beverley Knight released her seventh album, 'Soul UK'. The album debuted at number 13 in the UK album charts.





Alex Nwenwu who runs for Wolverhampton & Bilston Athletics Club began his bid for a place in the next Olympic Games.

Popular hairdresser **Louise Johnson**, who runs Louise's Salon in Queen Street, emerged as one of the unsung heroes and heroines of 2011 Summer riots. Miss Johnson was featured on television and the internet standing alone and defending her business from rioters and looters.



Miss Johnson's heroism not only saved her shop, but also the next store from any riot damage or looting. She has since been awarded an Express & Star Local Heroes Award, and a West Midlands Police Community Award.



Many people do not realise that 19 year old **Me'sha Bryan** (Misha B on The X Factor) schooled in Wolverhampton. In 2001 Me'sha, then a 15 year old student at Wolverhampton Grammar School, beat more than 3,600 young people to earn a place in the National Youth Theatre's production of 'Creation'. She is one of a host talented and intelligent young people from Wolverhampton, who can go to the very top.

The Express & Star newspaper referred to the bullying of Me'sha B in its 9th December edition.



UNISON Challenging Racism



Reject racism - stand together

When times are tough we need good local public services more than ever. They help people back into work, help give our children the best start in life and help care for our sick and elderly. People have come from all over the world to help deliver public services to all of us, and they have made the UK their home.



Public services help support our communities. So we must stand together both to oppose the Tory-led cuts and to oppose the racists who want to use fear to set us against each other in these difficult times. Big spending cuts are not inevitable; they are a choice that you can speak out against.

Working for equality

Challenging discrimination and winning equality is at the heart of UNISON's policies. Because we recognise that equality is an inseparable part of all trade union work, we actively campaign for equality in the workplace and in the wider world.

"If any Black Members need any support ... Unison Black Workers Group is here to help, for more information please contact: Secretary/ Equality Officer - Glenford Clarke M: 07875 275 681"





Wolverhampton UNISON **Black Members Group** Glenford Clarke T: 01902 555 595

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VISON www.unison.org.uk

BLACK HISTORY IS NOT JUST FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH!

School and Community Workshops to book for October 2012 or later in the year

Tonia Daley –Campbell is the creative director and founder of Wolverhampton's **Kuumba Arts Movement.**

Kuumba holds regular classes in Drama, Dance, Singing, Music, and now boasts the brand new 4th Wall film school offering the young people a chance to gain recognized qualifications. We also deliver creative workshops in schools,

community groups, churches, Creative agencies, and other local organizations.



All staff are professionally trained within Theatre, TV & Film and are CRB checked.

Office Address: Fordhouses Methodist Church, Winchcester Road, Fordhouses, Wolverhampton, WV10 6EZ

Email Address: info_kuumbaarts@mail.com Office Line: 01902 504502 Mobile: 07795 556 853 Calverrt Lawson is Creative Director and the founder of **Kalilloo Drumming**, Kalillo is an affectionate name he got in Gambia, West Africa, while he was staying with the drum and dance troupe Fatala at their Compound in 2003.



Delivering Drumming workshops to young people and adults. Kalillo provides drumming services for all kinds of events, such as Christenings, weddings, jamming with DJs, naming ceremonies, kwanza, Black History Month School Workshops and other community drumming events.

Mobile: 07713 146 819 Email: kalillodrumming@hotmail.co.uk www.kalillodrumming.originationinsite.com

David Bennett at **The Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project** (BLHCAP) collects and manages an archive on BME communities in Wolverhampton. The archive is generally referred to as the 'Cultural Archives Collection'.

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"One Earth, One Love, One Humanity"

Jamaican Reggae Artiste and Rastafarian, YASUS AFARI, returns to Wolverhampton to support schools and take part in community events using his poetry and storytelling to help us gain a better understanding of "Black History" using his special approach of "edutainment".

To secure bookings contact Learning Links International 07711 569 489 or email lizmillman@yahoo.co.uk



The Story of "Empire Windrush" Stephen Brooks, National Manager of Black Boys Can, presents the story of the enterprising and responsible people who came from the Caribbean at the request of the British Government to help rebuild Britain in the post war years. Presentations link in with the National Curriculum and can be tailored to all age groups.

To secure bookings contact Stephen Brooks on 07940 237959 or info@learninglinksinternational.com

"HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY EMPEROR HAILE SELASSIE 1ST VISITS WOLVERHAMPTON"

Habte Wold, Director of Ethiopian

Insight, tells the story of HIM Haile Selassie 1, the most famous Black King who is reported to have stayed in this area in about 1936.



To secure bookings contact Habte Wold on 07510 203100 or email info@ethiopianinsight.com

"BLACK HISTORY IS MY HISTORY"

Moqapi Selassie uses his dub poetry and storytelling skills to explore Black History and Heritage, in an interesting and imaginative way that gets us all thinking about the origins of humanity, our achievements and our



responsibilities.

To secure bookings contact Moqapi Selassie on 07881 745 782 or email: wahreeyah@yahoo.com

JAMAICA 2K

Established in 1999, JAMAICA 2K has enabled close links to be established between people involved in education and training in the UK and Jamaica, with support from a wide range of organisations including the UK Government through the Department of International Development (DfID).



In addition, JAMAICA 2K has become actively involved in developing support in the UK for learning opportunities linked to the 10 year "Skills for Life" initiative. Visit www.wideninghorizons.co.uk for more about their latest project linking schools between Jamaica and UK. Contact 07711 569 489

Reggaetivity, West Midlands



Reggaetivity founder, Alvin Vernon, says "Reggaetivity aspires to educate, inform and inspire young people to live harmoniously in a multicultural society by exposing them to and espousing the benefits of positive alternative lifestyle choices through a range of young people lead events and workshops. A wide range of transferable skills will be attained that will assist in the transition to adulthood.. It is hoped the project will assist to improve young peoples potential education achievement as well as provide opportunity for improved cognitive learning skills.

Reggaetivity uses reggae music as a vehicle of engagement. The whole movement is about workshop facilitation, peer mentoring and a whole raft of social engagement vehicles to get the people learning.

Tel: 07831 505 303 Email: reggaetivity@googlemail.com Web: http://www.reggaetivity.com

HTSCP and WMCPFA Intergenerational activities

Intergenerational activity brings together people of different ages – children, young people, adults and older adults - in positive, planned activities designed to bridge gaps between generations. It is an approach which can provide new ways of working to address a great many issues, e.g. health, learning, skills exchange, community safety and fear of crime, resolving disputes, cultural activity and heritage.

Heath Town Senior Citizens Project & West Midlands Caribbean Parents and Friends Association run 2 vibrant Elders Groups and actively encourage Intergenerational workshops.

Contact: Heath Town 01902 352 944 Email: heathtown@talktalkbusiness.net

WMCPFA **Tel:** 01902 421 783 **Email**: wmcpfa@googlemail.com



Wolverhampton International Links Association (WILA)

WILA is working to create a more respectful and appropriate way of recognising, and building upon, the international links which many communities in Wolverhampton enjoy. We wish to promote and support links between our city's communities / schools / businesses / health bodies and parallel organisations in the heritage countries.

For more information contact: phone: 07711 569 489 or email lizmillman@yahoo.co.uk and check www.spanglefish/WILA for updates.



RASTAFARI HERITAGE

RASTAFARI HERITAGE is now established as a story telling / presentation team of Rastafarians delivering training using presentations, stories, poems and music in schools and other venues, as part of teaching and awareness raising about Rastafarian Livity (Lifestyle) and heritage.

This project recognised that it is the Rastafari communities who own and tell their own stories. As well as a website, they have created resources for teachers and schools to use and set up a team of trainers who are known as "RASTAFARI HERITAGE". And offer opportunities to visit the fabulous "Ethiopian Insight" Exhibition which will be staged at Wolverhampton Archives.

For more information contact RASTAFARI HERITAGE at info@rastafariwestmidlands.co.uk or phone 07510 203 100 www.rastafariwestmidlands.co.uk



Black History in October

| 1st | 1917 1960 | E.J. Scott appointed Special Assistant to the Secretary of War, USA. Independence Day, Nigeria. |
|--------------|------------------------------|---|
| 2nd | 1863 1958 | Alexander T. Augusta – one of the first Black doctors in the US Civil War, born. Independence Day, Guinea. |
| 3rd | 1949 1956 | WERD, a pioneer lack radio station commenced broadcasting. Nat King Cole becomes first Black person to host own television programme. |
| 4th | 1864 1966 | New Orleans Tribune, a Black daily newspaper began publication. Independence Day, Lesotho |
| 5th | 1897 1992 | J.H. Evans patented convertible settee-bed. Eddie Kendricks (Soul Singer) died. |
| 6th | 1871 | Fisk Jubilee Singers began first tour in USA. |
| 7th | 1890 | H. Reynolds (Inventor) awarded patent for a safety gate for bridges. |
| 8th | 1804 1882 1941 2010 | Jena Jacques I proclaimed Emperor of Haiti Dr. Harold Moody (Political Activist) born in Kingston, Jamaica. Jesse Jackson (Politician) born, USA. Albertina Walker (Gospel Singer) died |
| 9th | 1869 1962 | Morgan State College opened, USA. Independence Day, Uganda. |
| 10th | 1899 1966 2010 | I. Johnson (Inventor) awarded patent for a bicycle frame. Black Panther Party emerges in Oakland, CA (led by Huey Newton & Bobby Seale). Solomon Burke (Soul & Gospel Singer) died. |
| 11th 12th | 1865 1964 2002 | The Morant Bay Rebellion took place in Jamaica. Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. awarded Nobel Peace Prize. Stephen Bantu Biko brutally murdered by South African government. |
| 13th | 1966 1970 | John Regis (Athlete) born. Angela Davis captured by FBI agents in NY motel. |
| 14th | 1834 1974 1978 | Henry Blair (Inventor) awarded a patent for a seed-planting invention. LeRoy T. Walker named Black Olympic coach for USA. Usher (R'n'B Singer) born. |
| 15th | 1972 | Jackie Robinson honoured at Cincinnati Stadium. |
| 16th | 1859 1909 | John Brown led attack on Harper's Ferry. Jack Johnson delivered the hardest punch ever recorded in boxing history. It occurred in a fight against middleweight Stanley Ketchel who is also credited as being one of the hardest hitters in boxing history. |

| 17th | 1919 1956 1968 | Louise Bennett (Reknown Jamaican Poet) born. Dr. Mae Jemison (Chemical Engineer/Astronaut) born, U.S.A John Carlos & Tommie Smith gave Black Power salute at medals ceremony in |
|------|----------------------|---|
| | 1972 | the 200 metres event at the Mexico City Olympics Wyclef Jean (Singer) born. |
| 18th | 1926 | Chuck Berry (Rock 'n' Roll Musician) born in St Louis, USA. |
| | 1962 1977 | Evander Holyfield (Boxer) born. Reggie Jackson, New York, hit 3 home runs in World Series. |
| 19th | 1943 | "Othelllo" opened with Paul Robeson in title role. |
| 20th | 1946 | W.E.B. DuBois' speech, "Behold The Lord". |
| 21st | 1850 | Chicago refused to enforce Fugitive Slave Act 1917 Dizzy Gillespie (Jazz musician) born. |
| | 1967 | Paul Ince (Footballer and Manager) born. |
| 22nd | 1854 | James Bland (Composer) born. |
| | 1952 | Frank E. Peterson, JR. commissioned as Marine Aviation Officer. |
| | 1966 | Shaggy (Reggae Singer) born. |
| 23rd | 1940 | Edson Arantes do Nascimento (Pelé) born, Brazil |
| | 1947 | NAACP petitioned U.N. on racial injustices. |
| 24th | 1865 | George William Gordon executed by the British. Paul Bogle hanged by the British in Jamaica. |
| | 1964 | Independence Day, Zambia. |
| | 1972 | Death of Jackie Robinson. |
| 25th | 1806 | Benjamin Banneker (Mathematician/Inventor) born. |
| | 1945 | Jackie Robinson signed by Branch Rickey. |
| | 2010 | Gregory Isaacs (Reggae Singer) died. |
| 26th | 1911 | Mahalia Jackson (Gospel singer) born. |
| | 1921 | Solomon P. Hood named Minister to Liberia. |
| | 1985 | First National Black Records Fair held at the |
| | | Old Vic Hotel, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton. |
| 27th | 1891 | P. Downing (Inventor) awarded patent for a post box. |
| | 1954 | Benjamin O. Davis became 1st Black general in U.S. Air Force. |
| | 1979 | Independence Day, St Vincent and the Grenadines. |
| 28th | 1972 | Jackie Robinson biography published. |
| 29th | 1974 | Muhammad Ali vs. George Foreman. |
| 30th | 1962 | Courtney Walsh (Cricketer) born. |
| 31st | 1945 | Booker T. Washington entered Hall of Fame for Great Americans. |

You really ought to know...

"You may find someone better, You may find someone quicker, You may find someone cheaper than us!"

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"We are Proud to support David Bennett and the BHM Initiative." Denis Cox & The Team @ G.E.N.LUS.

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