



YOUTH HERITAGE & TALENT

BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Welcome to this ninth edition of Wolverhampton's Black History Month Programme.

We are delighted to provide this introduction to this Programme which also acknowledges events taking place in September, October and November. The Council's vision is "for a city where inequalities cease to exist and where people from all communities live and work together with mutual understanding and respect." We believe that this goal can only be fully achieved in partnership but also that, as the city's democratically elected body, we have a duty to provide guidance and leadership on how to move collectively towards our vision.

Black History Month plays an important part in assisting the Council 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 assisting the Council 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.

Wolverhampton's Black History Month

Black History Month (BHM) originated from the USA in February 1926, by African American scholars and an historian, Carter G Woodson, who came together to celebrate the achievements and political, social and economic contributions African Americans have made to America.

BHM 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 – November and provides occasions for critical reflection of the meaning and significance of the African experience in the Diaspora. However, during these years BHM has gained much recognition and prominence, capturing the imagination of many and inspiring countless others to participate in celebrating the diversity of Black people in Britain – marking their invaluable contributions to British culture and economy.

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 Caribbeans 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 BHM in 2000. This is Wolverhampton's ninth BHM, which also acknowledges and contains events taking place throughout September , October & November.

The events in this BHM edition 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.

This BHM programme is supported by Wolverhampton City Council and Race Equality Partnership Wolverhampton.

We welcome your comments on this booklet and on any events you may attend during Black History Month. Please visit:
www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/community_living

Forward by the Right Worshipful Mayor of Wolverhampton Councillor Surjan Singh Duhra

Wolverhampton: Out of many – One City!

I am proud to have the opportunity to congratulate all those who have been busy with plans to celebrate the Black History Season in Wolverhampton this year. A lot of work goes on to prepare the range of activities and many of the events are included in this brochure.

Wolverhampton made history in 2000 when we gained City status and this reflects our diverse communities. The Black History Season gives us all an opportunity to explore and celebrate the contributions that Black Wulfrunians have made to our City and to ensure that our young people understand about Black History as part of our shared histories.

This year local celebrity Macka B is once again supporting Black History Season by sharing his teachings and giving us all “More Knowledge”.

Jamaican artiste, Yasus Afari, has also pledged to spend time in the City as our “Dub Poet in Residence” bringing his message on our shared histories and our shared community. Recently Yasus worked with young people in the city and they prepared a special poem which begins:

Wonderful neighbours, friends and families,
Various faces, names and races,
Exciting people for different places,
Living together in our community,
Happy and smiling, inspiring Unity

Wolverhampton: Out of many One City!

Wolverhampton Archives and our City Libraries are hosting exhibitions and information sessions about Black History which are being organised by the newly established Wolverhampton Black History Forum.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the events and also when I launch the Black History Season on Friday 2nd November at Bilston’s newly refurbished Town Hall.



Councillor Surjan Singh Duhra
Right Worshipful Mayor of Wolverhampton

EARLY EVENTS

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2009



My Story

Everyone has a story, what's yours? The BBC are asking for peoples true stories. They are looking for unique & inspiring stories in 1500 words or less. Some of the lucky ones will have it published or even dramatised by the BBC. The website www.bbc.co.uk/mystory launched 7th Sept 2009 has plenty of hints & ideas to get you started. Access this at your local Library & submit your story.

Go on have a go, your story might be the 'my story' they are looking for.

Time of Event:	September through to December 2009
Cost:	N/A
Venue:	All Wolverhampton Libraries
Disabled Access:	Yes

For further information contact: Your local Library

"Black people have been here long enough and must set their sights on certain achievements. We need more unity amongst each other and more respect. "There tends to be a lack of unity towards the successful Black man. I would like to see more successful Black people" [quoted in The Voice 18 August 1992]
Jazzie B – R'n'B Singer/Musician.

FRIDAY 25 SEPTEMBER

Real Kool to Succeed Wolverhampton's Got Talent

As part of the Real Kool to Succeed programme, students from Wolverhampton schools will have the opportunity to demonstrate their gifts and talents to a panel that will choose winners to receive awards at a ceremony on Saturday 21 November.

Time: 9am – 6pm
Cost: Free
Venue: Jennie Lee Centre, Lichfield Road
WV11 3HT
Disabled Access: Yes
Open to the Public: No

For further information, please contact:
Richard Whitter, richard.whitter@wolverhampton.gov.uk
or Mark Cole, mark.cole@wolverhampton.gov.uk

One important key to success is self-confidence. An important key to self-confidence is preparation”.

Arthur Ashe

THROUGHOUT OCTOBER 2009



Photography Exhibition: "A Black Perspective"

Su Fahy, Divisional Leader Fine Art & Photography is working on a project about Diversity in the Curriculum for Fine Art and Photography students and has commissioned two pieces of photography by young black alumni students based around their communities in Wolverhampton and Dudley. She is also building an online resource for students offering different voices reflecting on their Fine art and photography Higher Education experience and its impact on their intellectual and personal life histories.

Time: Viewings welcome from 10.00am – 4.00pm Mon - Sat
Cost: Free
Venue: Arena Theatre, Wulfruna Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE
Tel: (01902) 322646
Open to the public: Yes
Disabled Access: Yes

For further info please contact: Marina Gavriel, Divisional Assistant, Fine Art & Photography, School of Art & Design, University of Wolverhampton
Tel: (01902) 322446

"You lose a lot of time hating people".
Marion Anderson

EARLY OCTOBER 2009



Wolverhampton Homes

THE FOUR WARD INTER-CULTURAL EVENT

There are approximately under a quarter of a million people from a variety of cultural, racial, ethnic, faith and religious backgrounds living in Wolverhampton. There are over 60 languages spoken across the city. This diversity has been further enriched by new migrant communities settling in this city.

The Four ward event is recognition of this super-diversity and aimed at bringing our communities together to celebrate the invaluable contribution made towards Community Cohesion.

The purpose of the event is about bringing together people from four different geographical areas, different cultural and ethnicity background to embrace diversity and build cohesive communities. Also to challenge misconceptions, prejudice, racism and extreme views and to help develop a sense of belonging for all.

Aims

- Promoting intercultural understanding and community cohesion through the Four Ward event
- To develop a sense of belonging for all communities to live harmoniously
- To develop a shared understanding of differences, commonalities between different cultures and communities.
- Help Challenge negative views, perception, racist behaviour, etc.
- Bring communities together and tackle isolation
- Tackle myths, misconceptions, fears, prejudice and racism.
- Encourage BME and under-represented community members to get involved with Wolverhampton Homes
- Support community cohesion and integration of communities.

The event will be facilitated by “Creating Cultural Minds” who will organize a Drama session /activity around this particular theme.

Time:	N/A
Cost:	N/A
Venue:	The Workspace, All Saints Rd, Wolverhampton WV2 1EL.
Disabled Access:	Yes
Open to the Public:	No

For further info contact: Shabir Hussain, Community Partnership Team
Tel: 01902-551047, Email: Shabirhussain@wolverhamptonhomes.org.uk

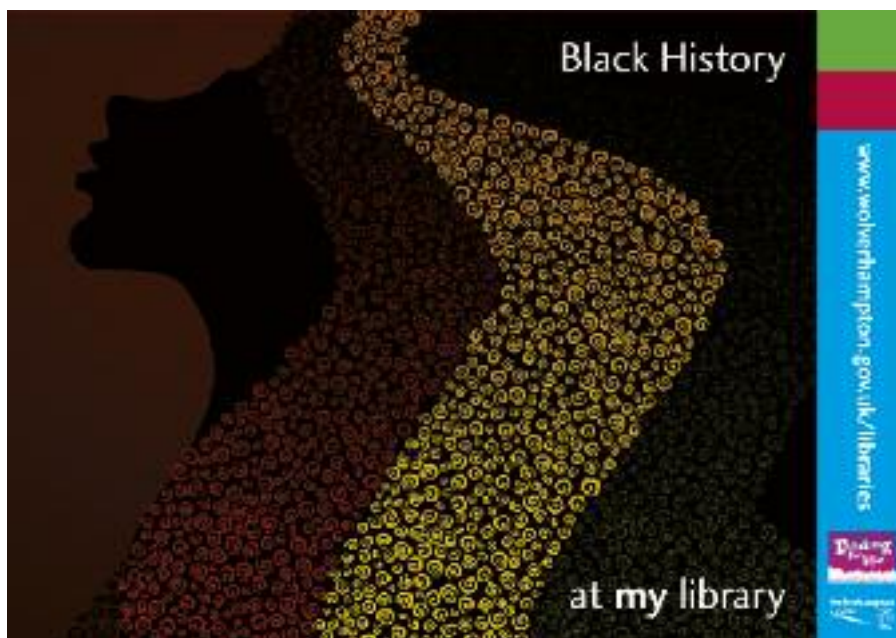
THURSDAY 1 - SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER

Celebrating Black History Family Quiz

Quiz to be run through Wolverhampton Libraries & Home Library Service. Pick up a quiz at your local branch, open to all. Has a prize of family ticket to the Pantomime at the Grand theatre. Quiz will also be available online at: www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/libraries

Time:	1 through to 24 October
Cost:	N/A
Venue:	All Wolverhampton Libraries
Disabled Access:	Yes
Open to the Public:	Yes

For further information contact: Your local Library



“We may encounter many defeats, but we must not be defeated”.

Maya Angelou

THURSDAY 1 – SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER

Moving Here



The Exhibition boards of the Moving Here migration memories project.

Name & Address of Organiser: Wolverhampton Public Libraries

Time: During Normal Library Opening hours

Mon – Thur 9 – 7

Fri – Sat 9 - 5

Cost: N/A

Venue: Central Library Wolverhampton, Snow Hill, WV1 3AX

Disabled Access: Yes

Open to Public: Yes

For further info contact: Central library Tel: 01902 552025

www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/libraries

“There are two ways of exerting one’s strength: one is pushing down, the other is pulling up”.

Booker T. Washington

THURSDAY 1 – SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER

Black Heroes Remembered

The Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project (BLHCAP) in partnership with Communities United to Serve Humanity (CUSH) shall stage a display of educational resource materials featuring heroes, achievers and pioneers from the Black Diaspora. This display shall form part of CUSH's exhibition on Black Achievers and Pioneers.

Time:

Cost:

Free

Venue:

Mount Shiloh, Hickman Avenue, East Park,
Wolverhampton, WV1 2BS

Disabled Access:

Yes

Open to Public: Yes

For further contact: BLHCAP, Mobile: 07806461828 / CUSH, Mount Shiloh,
Mobile: 07950287938

“Memories of our lives, of our works and our deeds will continue in others”.

Rosa Parks



THURSDAY 1 – SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER

Michael Jackson Display

The Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project (BLHCAP) in partnership with Pendeford Library shall stage a display of cards featuring the King of Pop, Michael Jackson.

Time: Mon – Tue 9am to 7pm;
Wed – Fri 9am to 5pm;
Sat 9am to 4

Cost: Free

Venue: Whitburn Close, Pendeford, WV9 5NJ.

Disabled Access: Yes

For further info contact: Mobile: 07806461828 / Tel: 01902 556250

"I believe that as a black woman, I do bring a different level of understanding of life because of my life experiences". [quoted in The Vine October 2007]
Samantha Samuels – West Midland's first Black female firefighter



THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER

Why is it important to Celebrate Black History?

A series' of 2 hour workshops covering:

- Healthy Eating - Caribbean Style
- History of Caribbean Dance
- Our Music Old and New
- Holistic workshops - Nail art etc
- Writing competition - Why is it important to Celebrate Black History?
Prize for the winner
- Arts Crafts from Back Home
- Drum workshop

(Saturday 31 - Awards & Presentation at 7:30 pm)

Time: 10 – 12 noon (Tuesdays & Thursdays)
Cost: Free
Venue: West Midlands Caribbean Parents
372 Newhampton Road West, WV6 0RX
Open to the public: Yes
Disabled Access: No

For further info/tickets contact: West Midlands Caribbean Parents and Friends Association.

“If you set your mind to it and you believe in yourself you can do anything you want”. [quoted in Wolverhampton Chronicle – 17 November 2000]

Denise Lewis – Olympic Gold medal winner in Heptathlon



FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER

Real Kool to Succeed Wolverhampton's Got Talent

As part of the Real Kool to Succeed programme, students from Wolverhampton schools will have the opportunity to demonstrate their gifts and talents to a panel that will choose winners to receive awards at a ceremony on Saturday 21 November.

Time:	10am – 12pm, 1pm – 3pm, 9am – 6pm
Cost:	Free
Venue:	Bilston Town Hall, Church Street, Bilston WV14 0AT
Disabled Access:	Yes
Open to the Public:	No

For further information, please contact: Richard Whitter,
richard.whitter@wolverhampton.gov.uk or Mark Cole,
mark.cole@wolverhampton.gov.uk

One important key to success is self-confidence. An important key to self-confidence is preparation”.

Arthur Ashe

FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER

A Fund Raising Evening of Youth, Heritage & Talent

The Official Launch of Wolverhampton Black History Month 2009



Join us for an evening of edutainment, celebration and recognition of local, national and international talent, including performances, speakers and dancing into the early hours. DJs Danny G, Niceness & Mr V, Reggaetivity, playing RnB, Old Skool, Revival, Lovers Rock, Reggae, Swing and 90s Groove.

Special guests and performers: Yasus Afari, extracts from Gazebo Theatre's "Sorry No Coloureds, No Irish, No Dogs!" and local young people showcasing dance, music and drama.

Licensed bar, Caribbean food for sale, courtesy of Mr Hottie.

Dress to Impress! Please note that young people under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Time: 7.00 pm – 1.30 am
Cost: £3 adults, £2 children
Venue: Bilston Town Hall, Church Street, Bilston, WV14 0AP
Disabled Access: Yes

For further info/tickets: Bilston Town Hall 01902 497222
or email: admin@gazebotie.org



SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER

Black & Afrikan History Month (BAHM) Family Fun Day

The BAHM Community Meal, All Children & Pensioners will receive a *FREE Caribbean Meal and a Soft Drink, *While allocated stocks last
Afrikan Market Place,

BAHM Domino Tournament - Open Entry 'Partner' - Free to enter
BAHM Pool Tournament - Open Entry - Free to enter
BAHM Caribbean 'Theme' Catering, African Drumming & Songs
Exhibitions Stands - Local BME Businesses and Organisations
Gospel Singers and Choir, Saxophone Player, Poetry , Drama Presentation, Karaoke and Musical Entertainment, Jazz Musician & Singer – Traditional Zimbabwean Folk Singers, Steve Biko Saturday School Performance Childrens Party - Hosted by CRB accredited staff

Surprise Guests & Lots, Lots more !!!

Time: Main Event - 1 pm - 9pm (All Ages)
Evening Social 8pm - Late (18+)
Cost: Free
Venue: Legends Social Club • Oxley Street • (Off Waterloo Road/Near Asda), Wolverhampton • WV1 1QN
Disabled Access: Yes – Lower Floor Only

For further info contact: Denis Cox – GENIUS Business Communication
Tel: 01902 427 860 M: 07979 92 1414 email geniusbiz@hotmail.com or
Alicia Spence - Tel: 07956 447 576

“Black people have been here long enough and must set their sights on certain achievements. We need more unity amongst each other and more respect.
“There tends to be a lack of unity towards the successful Black man. I would like to see more successful Black people” [quoted in The Voice 18 August 1992]
Jazzie B – R'n'B Singer/Musician

OCTOBER 5 – 17, 2009

Ras Tafari in Wolverhampton – Past to Present

The Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project (BLHCAP) in partnership with the Rastafari Heritage Organisation shall stage a display about the Rasta Community in Wolverhampton from the 1980s to present.

Time: Mon – Thur 9 – 7, Fri – Sat 9 - 5
Cost: Free
Venue: Central Library, Snow Hill, Wolverhampton
Disabled Access: Yes
Open to Public: Yes
For further info: Mobile: 07806461828



MONDAY 5 OCTOBER

Words of the World

Wolverhampton Libraries presents a fabulous evening of World Poetry at Warstones Library featuring Moqapi Selassie, Mererid Puw Davies & Basir Sultan Kazmi. Poetry in Jamaican patois, Welsh, Urdu & English! This event is for all who love poetry.

For further information go to: www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/libraries

Time: 6.30-8pm
Cost: Free & refreshments
Venue: Warstones Library, Pinfold Grove, WV4 4PT.
Disabled Access: Yes
Open to Public: Yes

For further info contact: Simon Fletcher Tel: 552061
or email: simon.fletcher@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Black History Month @ Wolverhampton Archives

MONDAY 5TH TO SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER

Special presentations and sessions:

Wednesday 7th October from 4pm – 6pm a special workshop for teachers, librarians and others working in our communities

“Why Black History? What is the relevance today?”

There will be a display of Black History books and resources for classrooms and libraries.

Followed by a presentation from **7pm to 9pm** – on **“Roots and Development of Rastafari in Wolverhampton and the West Midlands”** following up the Rastafari Heritage Project. Refreshments from 6.30pm.

Saturday 17th October from 10am – 1pm Family Black History Workshop.

“The Black History Forum” can provide speakers and presentations on Black History for schools, community groups, colleges and other organisations

– please contact David Bennett on 07806461828
or email blhcapadmin@googlemail.com

“Rastafari in the West Midlands” can provide specialist speakers, workshops and resources about Rastafari for schools, colleges and other organisations.

- please contact info@rastafariwestmidlands.co.uk
or phone 01902 429185

SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER

SABHA



Sampad in association with Arena Theatre

Copy: Following on from the success of the first Sabha at the Arena last season we invite you to come and enjoy another showcase of local and emerging talent. There will be dance, music and spoken word, fusing South Asian tradition with contemporary influences from the West Midlands and beyond.

The evening will include Sandeep Mishra on sarangi. Sandeep has added a new innovation and style to his music by blending a contemporary approach to this traditional instrument. Rohit Ballal's poetry will cover a range of topics from social commentary and spiritual insight to unrequited love. There will also be contemporary dance from Jyoti Parwana and Subhash Viman, and hip hop from Sublime.

www.Sampad.org.uk

Time: 7pm
Cost: £5

**THURSDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 7.30PM
AND FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 8PM**

SWITCH



ACE Dance and Music

Following Skin which came to the Arena in 2007, ACE return with another dance masterpiece. Six talented and athletic performers will amaze with their strength and agility, fast full-on percussive movement which is inspired by both contemporary dance and African and Caribbean movement styles.

ACE's directors Gail and Ian Parmel have collaborated with ex original Phoenix dancer Douglas Thorpe and Andile Sotiya to make highly personal work which will stimulate your senses and make you think and feel.

Switch is an exciting blend of sophisticated dance, music and visuals which is set in a black and white space, dancers move in slick precise unison with huge impact, contrasting with subtle moments, spoken word and theatrical expression.

Photograph by Brian Slater

Time: Thursday 24th 7pm & Friday 25th 8pm

Cost: £8 Full Price and £6 Concessions

SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER

PIU Sarkhel in Preserving the Heritage



Surdhwani in association with Asian Music Circuit and Arena Theatre

Piu is a celebrated radio and recording artist frequently heard on All India Radio. She has performed at all major classical music festivals in India and given many overseas concerts.

Blessed with a superb voice she received training from her father Sri Kamal Banerjee and was inspired by one of the greatest ever vocalists of India the late Ustad AmirKhan. She has adopted his style and vocal technique of singing meditatively with a relaxed approach.

Time: 7pm

Cost: £10 Full Price and £7 Concessions

TUESDAY 6TH OCTOBER

Two Gentlemen of Verona or Vakomana Vaviri ve Zimbabwe



Two Gents Productions In Association with UK Arts International

By William Shakespeare

Using few or no props and a set that consists of no more than a trunk, the actors explore the text's nuances from a distinctly Zimbabwean perspective, bringing Shakespeare's verse to life in new and unfamiliar cadences.

From Verona to Milan, via Harare and Bulawayo, two great friends, Valentine and Proteus, vie for the love of the same woman. When Valentine is banished, their friendship is threatened and only through disguise, deception and intrigue are they reconciled.

Time: 7.30pm
Cost: £8 Full Price and £6 Concessions
Genre: Drama

FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER at 8pm

CALL MR ROBESON



Lakin McCarthy Entertainment

The true and compelling story of another remarkable black American Paul Robeson, world famous actor and singer of the early 20th Century. When he challenged prejudice at the core of the United States of America, he was branded a traitor to his country, harassed, and denied opportunities to perform or travel.

Featuring his most powerful songs including a dramatic rendition of Ol' Man River, the show takes you on a rollercoaster journey through Robeson's remarkable and eventful life.

Tayo Aluko's performance is a tour de force his strong and pleasant voice is more than able to cover Robeson's standards with style and grace.

Check out www.arenatheatre.info for video clips of Tayo's performance

Winner: Best Male Performer; Nominee: Best Show, Brighton Festival Fringe, May 2008

Time: 8pm
Cost: £8 Full Price and £6 Concessions
Genre: Drama

MONDAY 5 – FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER

Gazebo Theatre in Education Company presents:

“SORRY NO COLOUREDS, NO IRISH, NO DOGS!”



Participatory workshops for year 6 and secondary school pupils – also available as short performances for conferences, exhibitions and community events.

Following the hugely successful production “Sweet Tooth” and workshops exploring the transatlantic slave trade, this year GAZEBO focuses upon the experiences of people who moved to the UK during the “Windrush era”.

Thousands of people from the Caribbean and Africa fought side by side with Britain in World Wars I and II, those returning to the “Motherland” in later years, to be greeted with signs stating “Sorry No Coloureds, No Irish, No Dogs!”

The workshops, caters for up to 30 pupils, incl performance, discussion and drama based activities.

For more info/to book workshops call Gazebo on 01902 497222 or email admin@gazebotie.org.

SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER

World Mental Health Day 2009



ACCI would like to invite you to the celebration of World Mental Health Day

The African Caribbean Community Initiative believes that the World Mental Health Day project continues to be at the forefront of education and advocacy for mental health – and the increased participation each year continues to show them how important the project is to each of you

Time: 6:30 – 9:30 pm
Cost: NO except Charity Events were donations are requested
Venue: The Jubilee Christian Centre, Merridale Street, Graiseley WV3 ORE

Disabled Access: Yes
Open to Public:

Sponsored by:



For further info contact: ACCI –
Tel: 01902 571230
Email: support@acci.org.uk,
Website: www.acci.org.uk

“There are two ways of exerting one’s strength: one is pushing down, the other is pulling up”.
Booker T. Washington

MONDAY 12 OCTOBER

Martin Luther King Evening

Showing of real life footage interviews and discussion about the life and death of Reverend Martin Luther King Jr.

Time: 7.30
Cost: Free
Venue: Feathers Bar & Caribbean Restaurant,
2 Molineux Street, Wolverhampton
(Behind Asda/Molineux), West Midlands, WV11 RY
Disabled Access: Yes – Lower Floor Only
Open to Public: Yes

For further info contact: Samantha Samuels, 2 Molineux Street, Wolverhampton
Tel: 01902 426 924 e:beamm2@fbu.org.uk

“We may encounter many defeats, but we must not be defeated”.
Maya Angelou

TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER

City Voices

Wolverhampton Libraries presents an excellent evening of Black Writing with members of the Black Readers and Writers group including Hazel Malcolm, Chester Morrison, Janet Bogle & Raj Lal.

Time:	City Voices
Cost:	Free
Venue:	City Bar, 2-3 King Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ST
Disabled Access:	Yes
Open to public	Yes

For further info contact: Simon Fletcher 552061 or
email:simon.fletcher@wolverhampton.gov.uk

TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER

A Celebration of Black History

Sponsored by ABCD New Deal

Come and join us for Poetry, Domino Tournament, Sketches and taste some Traditional Dishes.

Time:	12.30pm till late
Cost:	Free
Venue:	Oxford Street Adventist Community Centre Warwick Street, Horseley Fields
Disabled Access:	Yes
Open to public	Yes

FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER

“Brothers Making History”

My History, Your History – Our Shared History

YASUS AFARI, is teaming up with Wolverhampton’s Reggae Super Star **MACKA B** to present an evening of celebration as part of the City of Wolverhampton’s Black History Season. **YASUS AFARI**’s latest spoken work CD “Kiss Mi Neck” has taken Jamaica by storm. He will perform “Nuff Respect” – the tribute he wrote specially in recognition of the work of the Wolverhampton based “West Midlands Caribbean Parents and Friends Association.”

MACKA B will feature a number of tracks from his recently released CD “More Knowledge”. **MACKA B** is well known locally by school children as he takes his teachings regularly into schools and colleges.

Other local artists will be joining **YASUS AFARI** and **MACKA B**. Stalls and exhibits in Light House Atrium before the show from 7.30pm.

Time:	8.30pm – 10.30pm
Cost:	£9.00 for adults, ; £7.00 for concessions, £5 for children with group rates available
Venue:	At Light House, Chubb Buildings, Fryer Street, WV1 1HT
Disabled Access:	Yes
Open to Public:	Yes

For further info contact: The Light House Ticket Office on 01902 716055

Sponsored by: “Learning Links International” www.learninglinksinternational.com.
“Promoting our Heritage” www.promotingourheritage.co.uk
and “Jamaica 2K” www.jamaica2000.co.uk

Find out more about **YASUS AFARI** www.yasusafari.biz

Check out **MACKA B** www.mackab.com

SATURDAY 17TH OCTOBER

Health & Wellbeing Day

Health and wellbeing event planned by the University of Wolverhampton, School of Applied Sciences to raise health awareness in the community. The day will include Sickle cell & Thalassaemia screening, blood pressure, cholesterol, blood pressure, BMI, diabetes testing. See website for further details.

Time: 9:30 – 5:30pm
Cost: Free
Venue: University of Wolverhampton Students' Union,
University of Wolverhampton, Wulfruna Street,
Wolverhampton WV1 1LY
Open to the public: Yes
Disabled Access: Yes

For further info: <http://healthandwellbeing.wlv.ac.uk>
Email: P.Nurse@wlv.ac.uk

SATURDAY 17 OCTOBER

Africans In Wolverhampton Celebration (Including Launch of The Africa Project)

Family Fun Day inc: Gospel Choirs – Speakers – Exhibitors – Performers, African Cuisine – Music & lots more
Live Acts - Food - Disco Evening - Speakers

Time: 2pm till Late
Cost: please check with organisers
Venue: Legends Social Club, Oxley Street, Wolverhampton,
WV1 1QN
Disabled Access: Yes – Lower Floor Only
Open to Public: Yes

For further info contact : C Zamangwe – The Africa Project – The Zimbabwe Association, Shop 3, First Avenue, Low Hill, Wolverhampton, WV10 9SA
Tel: 01902 737 362 or

Denis Cox – Positive Magazine Floor 3 -
62a Chapel Ash Wolverhampton WV3 0TT Tel: 01902 427 860

MONDAY 19 – FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER

Black History Month @ New Cross Hospital

We will have display boards set up in the foyer of the Wolverhampton Medical Institute celebrating the contribution of black and minority ethnic individuals to health care.

Time:	All day (stands will only be manned between 1200 and 1400)
Cost:	None
Venue:	Wolverhampton Medical Institute, New Cross Hospital, WV10 0QP
Disabled Access:	Yes
Open to Public:	No

For further info contact: Booking not necessary

The Event” near Greggs

We will have display boards set up in “celebrating the contribution of black and minority ethnic individuals to health care.

Boards will be **on display all day but only manned between 12 & 2pm and is open to the general public.**

Venue: “The Event” (near Greggs) New Cross Hospital, WV10 0QP

WEDNESDAY 21 OCTOBER

Celebrating Black Family History

Talks, presentations and discussions by staff, students and external speakers on family history and personal identity.

A book reading from University author Candi Miller from her novel, "Salt and Honey"

Indian Dhol music and an international buffet lunch.

Time:	10.00 am – 2.00 pm
Cost:	Free
Venue:	Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton
Open to the public:	No
Disabled Access:	Yes

For further information contact: **Internal Event only**

SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER

BME Business & Professionals Networking Social evening

Wolverhamptons Newest BME owned Venue is Hosting a Social/Networking evening with Food, Entertainment, Speakers, Exhibitions & Performances

- Time:** 8pm - Late (18+)
- Cost:** Donations will be requested profits to be given to Local Charities
- Venue:** THE OLD STILL CAFÉ BAR
14 King St, Wolverhampton
Tel. 01902 425 737
- Disabled Access:** Yes – Lower Floor Only
- Open to Public:** Yes

For further info contact: Denis Cox – GENIUS Business Communication Services,
62a Chapel Ash Wolverhampton WV3 0TT
Tel: 01902 427 860 M: 07979 92 1414 email geniusbiz@hotmail.com

THURSDAY 26 OCTOBER

Celebration of Black History open day

A number of activities, stalls, displays for all the family.

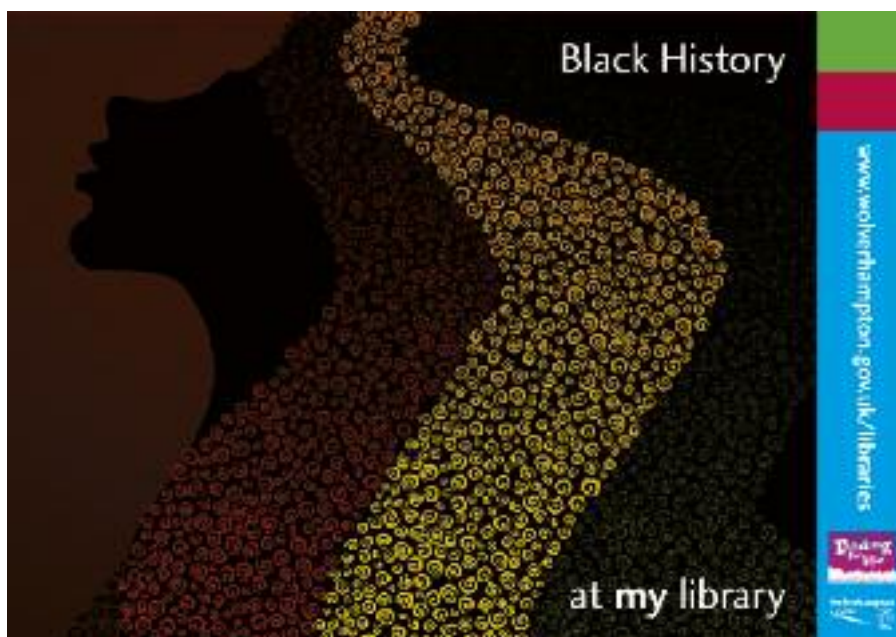
Including poet Fred D'aguair-4pm, picture quiz with a prize of a Caribbean Goody Hamper, children's activity session, tracing family history from the Caribbean, music, hair braiding & a performance of some of the work from the inter generational project Heart language-Original poems from Jamaican speakers worldwide.

Time:	2-7pm
Cost:	N/A
Venue Address:	Central Library, Snow Hill, Wolverhampton, WV1 3AX
Disabled Access:	Yes
Open to Public:	Yes

For further info:

Tel: 01902 552025

www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/libraries



THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER

Wolverhampton's Black Cultural Archive Collection

The Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project (BLHCAP) will hold a display of items from its Collection as part of the Central Library's...

Time: 9am to 5pm
Cost: Free
Venue: Central Library, Snow Hill, Wolverhampton
Disabled Access: Yes

For further info contact:
Mobile: 07806461828



THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER

Racial Stereotypes & Black People Exhibition



The Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project (BLHCAP) will hold a display of rare items from its Racial Stereotypes Collection at the Black History Month Launch Event in Bilston.

The Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project



Time: 7.00 pm till late
Cost: Check with contact
Venue: The Town Hall, Church Street, Bilston, WV14 0AT
Disabled Access: Yes

For further info contact: 24 Cosgrove Walk, WV8 1YD.
Mobile: 07806461828

FRIDAY 30 OCTOBER

The City of Wolverhampton Black History Makers Awards



A Gala Evening to Salute a new generation of Black History Makers recognising Individuals, Businesses, Organisations and Groups whose efforts positively promote, and are conducive to the uniqueness of The Black Community in The City of Wolverhampton.

Categories: Art, Civic, Education, Entertainment, Law, Media, Political, Religion, Science , Sports and Style Makers. **Music and Live Entertainment on the Night!**

Sandra Bee – professional actress. Her TV work includes starring as **Jack Dee’s** side kick Wendy in **ITV’s Tunnel of Love** and the **BBC’s Sex the City and Me**. Her talents have also graced

the big screen with her debut in **Miramax** films top thriller **Derailed** starring **Jennifer Aniston** and **Clive Owen**. Her most noted theatre role is playing **Shenzi** the hyena in **Disney’s** award winning musical **The Lion King** This diverse actress is soon to be seen in **ITV’s** drama **Gunrush**. 2009. **“Ladies & Gentlemen Dress to Impress”**

- Time:** 7:30 pm sharp - till late
- Cost:** £22.00 per Head; Table of Ten: £200.00
- Venue:** The Pavillion, Stafford Road, Wolverhampton
- Disabled Access:** Yes
- Open to Public:** Yes

For more info contact: **Bill Brown** 07950287938 – **CUSH***, Mount Shiloh House, Hickman Avenue, East Park, Wolverhampton, WV1 2BS

* **(CUSH)** Communities United to Serve Humanity

FRIDAY 30 OCTOBER

Black Wulfrunians – Achievers & Pioneers

The Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project (BLHCAP) in partnership with Communities United to Serve Humanity (CUSH) shall stage a display profiling local heroes, achievers and pioneers from the Black Community. This display shall form part of CUSH's Black History Makers Gala.

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Time: | Contact BLHCAP for more information |
| Cost: | Free |
| Venue: | Mount Shiloh, Hickman Avenue, East Park,
Wolverhampton, WV1 2BS |
| Disabled Access: | Yes |
| Open to public: | Yes |

Further info contact: BLHCAP c/o 24 Cosgrove Walk, Wolverhampton, WV8 1YD.
Mobile: 07806461828 and CUSH c/o Mount Shiloh, Hickman Avenue, East Park,
Wolverhampton, WV1 2BS Mobile: 07950287938



SATURDAY 31 ST OCTOBER 2009

ACCI Fundraising Gala Dinner & Dance

3 Course Caribbean Cuisine Meal

After Dinner Speaker • Presentations • Entertainment • Raffle

Dress Code: Black Tie Event - National Dress

Times: 6.30pm pre-dinner drinks –
7.30pm seated for meal

Cost: Tickets: £30.00

Venue: Best Western Connaught Hotel, Tettenhall Road
Wolverhampton, WV1 4SW

Disabled Access: Yes

Open to the public: Yes

For info contact: A.C.C.I. 217 Waterloo Terrace, Newhampton Road East,
Whitmore Reans, WV1 4BA

Tel: 01902 571 231

email: support@acci.org.uk

Web: www.acci.org.uk



FRIDAY 6 NOVEMBER

Cool Rules, Ikky Wakk & Adventures In Anti-Cool (Hip Hop Triple Bill)

Banxy, KnoLove Productions & Makin projects

Three knock-out and very individual Hip Hop theatre performances in the same evening!

Banxy presents his new solo piece **Ikky Wakk**.

Is Ikky still the at the top of the Breakdance game or has age got the better of him?

KnoLove Productions present their solo **Cool Rules**. A fierce uncompromising tale of pride, fear and hope exploring the explosion of violence Using physical lyricism with verbal dexterity Cool Rules brings you back to gritty urban reality with a bump.

Topped off with **Adventures in Anti-Cool**, a fast and fun vignette of Hip Hop theatre what ifs, boldly going where no B'Boy has any right to be.

Time: 8pm

Cost: £8 Full Price and £6 Concessions



SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER

Jesse Bannister and Samay

Surdhwani in association with Sampad and the Arena Theatre

Jesse Bannister has become known internationally for his soulful and exquisite music. Fusing classical Indian music with the western sound of the Saxophone.

SAMAY are a group of young and talented musicians who combine traditional forms with contemporary influences to reinvent the sound of Indian classical music.

Time: 7pm

Cost: £9 Full Price and £7 Concessions

Genre: World Music



THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER
FRIDAY 27 NOVEMBER

Crossings

Julie McNamara

A young woman struggling to find her own identity, harking to the voices of others who have crossed into the past, whose lives were blighted by sexual slavery and forced migration.

Created for young adults aged 14 and upwards, it brings together the voices of three women born centuries apart, viewed through the eyes of Shelley, a 15 year old, pregnant and on the run.. The play tells the story of three powerful voices of women who have faced enormous challenges and the piece finds Shelley searching for solutions and a way out of her gang.

Time: Thursday 26th November at 7.30pm and Friday 27th November at 11 am

Running Time: 70 Minutes

Genre: £8 Full Price and £6 Concessions

Genre: Drama



THURSDAY 10 DECEMBER AT 8PM

DOES NOT CONTAIN NUTS

Funny Feet Comedy Night

Following the success of last year's show, Funny Feet returns to the Arena Theatre another shot of comedy presenting some of the UK's funniest women and finest stand up comediennees.

This evening is hosted by Mrs Barbara Nice, everyone's favourite Stockport housewife who's given up the domestic bliss of Pound Stretcher for the glamour of comedy. Also featuring Annette Fagon, the brightest new comedienne to emerge from the UK's thriving black comedy circuit and Jo Enright, broadly brummie and diminutive, brilliantly gifted caricaturist bringing exaggerated characters to life. Jo also starred in BBC 2 sitcom Lab Rats as a lovable scientist.

Time: 8pm

Cost: £8 Full Price and £6 Concessions

Genre: Comedy



MONDAY 5 - 12 - 19 - 26 OCTOBER
SUNDAY 18 - 25 OCTOBER

Black History Month Days

A range of Events are planned which include Discussion Evenings, BHM Films, Caribbean Night, African Night, Jerk Pan Barbecues etc..
Charity Fundraising event for Sickle Cell

Times: TBA
Cost: NO except Charity Events where donations are requested
Venue: Feathers Bar & Caribbean Restaurant, 2 Molineux Street
Wolverhampton (Behind Asda/Molineux), West Midlands
Disabled Access: Yes – Lower Floor Only
Open to Public: Yes

For further info contact: Samantha Samuels, Tel: 01902 426 924
e:beamm2@fbu.org.uk

BHM CALENDAR

OCTOBER

- | | | |
|-------|----------------------|---|
| 1st, | 1960 | Independence Day, Nigeria. |
| 2nd, | 1958 | Independence Day, Guinea. |
| 4th, | 1966 | Independence Day, Lesotho |
| 5th, | 1992 | Eddie Kendricks (Soul Singer) died. |
| 7th, | 1890 | H. Reynolds (Inventor) awarded patent for a safety gate for bridges. |
| 8th, | 1882
1941 | Dr. Harold Moody (Political Activist) born in Kingston, Jamaica.
Jesse Jackson (Politician) born, USA. |
| 9th, | 1962 | Independence Day, Uganda. |
| 10th, | 1899 | I. Johnson (Inventor) awarded patent for a bicycle frame. |
| 11th, | 1865 | The Morant Bay Rebellion took place in Jamaica. |
| 13th, | 1966 | John Regis (Athlete) born. |
| 14th, | 1834
1978 | Henry Blair (Inventor) awarded a patent for a seed-planting invention.
Usher (R'n'B Singer) born. |
| 16th, | 1909 | 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, | 1956
1968
1972 | Dr. Mae Jemison (Chemical Engineer/Astronaut) born, U.S.A
Ziggy Marley (Reggae Singer) born.
Wyclef Jean (Singer) born. |
| 18th, | 1926
1962 | Chuck Berry (Rock 'n' Roll Musician) born in St Louis, USA.
Evander Holyfield (Boxer) born. |

21 st,	1917 1967	Dizzy Gillespie (Jazz musician) born. Paul Ince (Footballer and Manager) born.
22nd,	1966 1854	Shaggy (Reggae Singer) born. James Bland (Composer) born.
23rd,	1940	Edson Arantes do Nascimento (Pelé) born, Brazil
24th,	1865	George William Gordon executed by the British. Paul Bogle hanged by the British in Jamaica.
	1964	Independence Day, Zambia.
25th,	1806	Benjamin Banneker (Mathematician/Inventor) born.
26th,	1911	Mahalia Jackson (Gospel singer) born.
27th,	1891 1979	P. Downing (Inventor) awarded patent for a post box. Independence Day, St Vincent and the Grenadines.
30th,	1962	Courtney Walsh (Cricketer) born.

Black Pioneers

Jamaica	-	First Caribbean nation to be represented at a Football World Cup finals.
Colin Powell	-	First Black Chief of Staff of US armed forces.
Alexander Pushkin	-	Father of Russian literature.
African Queens	-	Khemit (Egypt) and Cush were governed by women hundreds of years before anywhere else.
Brian Anderson	-	Britain's first Black prison governor.
Oprah Winfrey	-	First Black woman billionaire.
Gwendolyn Brooks	-	First Black writer to win a 'Pulitzer Prize'.
Matthew Henson	-	First man to reach North Pole

- William Alexander Leidsdorff** – Owned 1st steamship to enter San Francisco Bay
- William G. Allen** - First Black man to teach in a white college in USA.
- Amenophis IV** - Introduced monotheism into religion
- Thomas Molineaux** - First US boxing champion.
- Bilal** - Mohammed's first convert to Islam.
First man to utter the Azan.
- John F. Quarles** - First Black lawyer in USA.
- Eugene Bullard** - First Black aviator in USA.
- John Brown Russwurn** - Founder of the Black press.
- Baptiste Jean de Sable** - Founder of Chicago.
- Crispus Attucks** - First martyr of US civil war.

OCTOBER 2009 ONWARDS

Wolverhampton, BME Communities and Housing Exhibition

The Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project (BLHCAP) shall stage a display about housing issues and BME communities in Wolverhampton. The display is in conjunction with Wolverhampton HOMES.

Wolverhampton's Black Cultural Archive Collection

at the Wolverhampton City Archives, Molineux Hotel Building, Whitmore Hill, Wolverhampton, WV11 5F

The Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project (BLHCAP) holds documents on all aspects of the history of Black and Asian communities in Wolverhampton. BLHCAP also manages the archive of ephemera about Rastafarians in Wolverhampton deposited by members of the public. These archives are kept at the new Wolverhampton Archives Centre at the Molineux Hotel Building. This facility provides room for a unique and growing archive profiling BME communities in Wolverhampton. Anyone wishing to safeguard and deposit photographs and other documents with the collection are welcome. BLHCAP encourages individuals to keep ownership of their documents.



WMCPPFA - Pioneering Black Community Development Exhibition

at the Legends Night Club, Oxley Street, Wolverhampton

The Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project (BLHCAP) shall stage a display profiling the West Midlands Caribbean Parents & Friends Associations – one of the oldest Black voluntary service providers in Britain.

Time: contact coordinator
Cost: Free
Disabled Access: Yes
Open to Public: Yes
Further info: BLHCAP – Mobile: 07806461828

"Equanomics Summit"

"Equanomics Summit" a look at EHRC and its impact on Black People in the region organised by Wolverhampton City Wide BME Council – Contact them for further information.

"It takes a Village, to Raise a Child"

City Wide BME Council conference "It takes a Village, to Raise a Child" October 23
Contact City Wide BME Council for more information.

Various Events raising awareness of and fundraising for the progress of the Wolverhampton Contact: Jean Ottey - CRC Project Manager - C/o ACCI
217 Waterloo Terrace, Newhampton Road East, Wolverhampton WV1 4BA
Tel/Text 07828 260 782, email: jeanottey@live.co.uk

Wolverhampton Sickle Cell Care & Social Activity Centre

A range of Events are planned which include:

Discussion Evenings • Charity Fundraising event for Sickle Cell

Information Forums: For further info contact: Michael-Don Smith - Project Coordinator

Tel. 01902 498274 email: admin@sicklecellcare.net www.wolvssicklecell.org.uk

Events are open to the public.

Times: TBA

Rastafari - Faith & Livity Exhibition

The Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project (BLHCAP) shall stage a display profiling aspects of Rastafarian culture and faith in Britain.

This event takes place in Wolverhampton City Archives and is open to the public.
Contact: The BLHCAP for more information.

LATER EVENTS

SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER

The Real Kool to Succeed Awards Ceremony

The Real Kool to Succeed Gifted & Talented Awards Ceremony recognises the gifts and talents of Black & Multi-heritage young people throughout secondary schools in Wolverhampton. It is the main event within a wider project that develops young people's capacity to organise, plan and coordinate events from start to finish. They are aided by adults from the city who work in partnership via the Black & Multi-heritage Children and Young People's Multi-agency Network. Last years ceremony was a great success and this year the plans are bigger and better.

Time:	7pm – 12pm
Cost of Event:	N/A
Venue:	The Ramada Park Hall Hotel, Park Drive Wolverhampton, West Midlands WV4 5AJ
Disabled Access:	Yes
Open to Public:	No

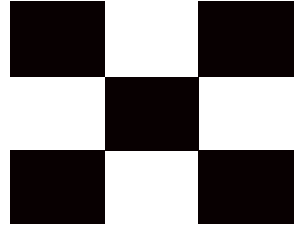
For further information, please contact: Richard Whitter,
richard.whitter@wolverhampton.gov.uk or Mark Cole,
mark.cole@wolverhampton.gov.uk

2Ds Promotions & Gazebo present

Message To You Rudies!

SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2009

8.00 pm - 1.30 am



Cost: £6.50 pre-sale, £8.00 on the door
from Bilston Town Hall, 01902 497222, email: admin@gazebotie.org

Dig out your Tonic suits, pork pie hats and loafers and join us in a celebration of the 30th anniversary of Two Tone. This second generation of Ska (the genre which had originated in Jamaica in the late 1950s), was lovingly named after the independent record label created in Coventry, which encouraged the disenfranchised youth of the late 1970s and 80s to live together in harmony. This new sound was a gathering of English Punk and Jamaican Ska sounds, which together created a new dance craze. So come skanking again, to the sounds of the Specials, Madness, The Beat, Selector, Bad Manners and original Ska tracks from Desmond Decker, The Wailers, Jimmy Cliff and many more. A night not to be missed!

A Two Tone exhibition will also be held on the night.

Dress Sharp!

Licensed Bar

Over 18s event

www.gazebotie.org

Bilston Town Hall is fully accessible and is fitted with a Hearing Induction Loop.



Find out more about MACKA B

Greetings, here you can learn about the legendary reggae artist Macka B who was born and brought up here in Wolverhampton. Macka B has been making reggae music for over 20 years and is renowned for his social commentary.

Known as the teacher, Macka B has gathered a strong world wide following spanning many continents. Macka B is respected for always being true to his views and always speaking from the heart. A true man of the people.

On his website www.mackab.com you can find out about the man and his music, purchase cd's and merchandise, Tune in to Macka Tv to watch videos and documentaries. Check out the culture section for information about Rastafari, Black history and more. Also check out the Ital section for Vegan/Ital living.

Local Boy to International Star

Macka.B has always been interested in music. At a very young age he was impressed by the heavyweight sound system Lord Barley, playing in the blues party next door. The vibrant reggae beat found a place in his heart that remains there to this very day.

At school he played the violin and he joined the school choir. At home he was getting inspiration from Reggae music, listening to such greats as Burning Spear, Bob Marley, Peter Tosh, Count Ossie, to name but a few.

On leaving school he sought a career in engineering. He obtained a technical apprenticeship at Ever Ready, but redundancy due to factory closure ended that career, which proved to be a blessing in disguise. He started to practice D.J.ing at home gaining inspiration from legends such as U-Roy, I-Roy, Big Youth, Prince Far-I, etc. It was also at this time that Macka.B decided to accept the Ras Tafari faith, which is the central part of his life.

He and some friends started a sound system called Exodus, which just happened to be the same sound that Macka.B used to listen to as a little youth. The sound was passed down from father to sons and renamed Exodus.

In 1982 a visit to Jamaica inspired him greatly improving his talent. He entered a D. J. competition in 1983 at the Rising Star club in Bilston, (included were Pato Banton & Rankin Ann.) Macka.B. won and from this was invited on the radio several times, his name began to spread.

Nowadays from Tokyo to America, Germany to Jamaica, MACKA B is a name that is known and his latest CD "More Knowledge" tells more of his story. Macka B returns from his Tour of Japan in time to support the Black History Season and welcomes invitations from schools, colleges and community groups.

2009 is the 50th Anniversary of the founding of a wonderful group that has proved to be enormously important in Wolverhampton: the West Midlands Caribbean Parents and Friends Association. YASUS AFARI presented this poem at their Anniversary Dinner

Nuff Respect Due

Some seh respect due, 'til it a fall like rain
Blood, sweat and tears were never in vain
Fifty years of strain, still wi haffe maintain
Fit and strong as the centuries beckon
Gwaan and galang, wi a born champion.

Now back inna de days
When things were ruff
Times were hard and the dutty tuff
The mouth dem get plenty and the money neva nuff
Yet the vibe was irie, with love in the community
And England was supposed to be our beloved "mother country"
So we rushed to her shores, like 'nuggets for the needy'
Fresh blood to spill, braves for her army.

But where are the streets that were paved with gold?
And where's the respect for our ancestors' souls?
Not even beds for our heads, so we were left in the cold
No blacks! No Irish! No dogs! That's what we were told!
Still no retreat, no surrender as the drama unfold.

Yes! Wi little but tallowah, Nuff respect due.
Bless by JAH, from crevice to corner. Respect due !
From Westmoreland straight 'round to Hanover. Respect due !
World travellers, love defenders. Respect due !
Names haffe call, deeds haffe mention. Respect due !
From Jamaica straight to Wolverhampton. Respect Due !

Now when I think of what life was like
Back inna de days and into the future of my memory
It makes me sit and wonder, if we have lost our way
But don't matter what might and come what may
I am determined that every tomorrow
Will be a much better and brighter day.

Now as our strength and beauty get nuff and plenty
And as we hail our community in this 50th anniversary
Let us join hands and heart in salute to the century
And who nah like it, can bite it !
'Cause Nuff Respect Due !!!

By YASUS AFARI © 2009
www.yasusafari.biz

The Rastafari Heritage Project



During the past year this exciting project, which was based in Wolverhampton, has engaged people within the Rastafarian communities across the West Midlands in research to learn more about the roots and development of the Rastafarian Faith in the region and to help other people learn about this unique heritage which is a response of the descendants of enslaved Africans to the experience of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade.

This project has helped to strengthen the Rastafarian Community with older people better able to pass the baton of understanding on to the younger generation. This has been done by developing a web site www.rastafariwestmidlands.co.uk and a resource bank of memories, photographs and stories. Some of these stories were recorded, but respect has been given to encouraging the use of the African oral traditions through community story tellers, as well as use of performance, chanting, songs, music and poetry to tell and re-tell stories.

This project has made a start to conserve the history of this unique culture, as an archive for children, young people and adults to access. The project enabled people in the Rastafarian community to take part in a heritage focused project related to Rastafari.

The project's archive is held at Wolverhampton Archives.

There will be a special displays on the "Roots and Development of Rastafari in Wolverhampton" at the Black History @ Wolverhampton Archives Exhibition from **5th – 17th October** and a presentation about the project and the findings at Wolverhampton Archives on **Wednesday 7th October from 7pm to 9pm** to follow up this project.

EVENTS ORGANISED BY:

African Caribbean Community Initiative

Berry Dicker, Equality and Diversity Manager, University of Wolverhampton

Black Local History & Cultural Archives Project

Black Readers & Writers Group

CUSH (Communities United to Serve Humanity)

C Zamangwe

Dr Petula Nurse MIBS, Principal Lecturer in Biomedical Science,
University of Wolverhampton

Genius Business Communication Services

Samantha Samuels – Feathers Bar & Caribbean Restaurant

Simon Fletcher

Su Fahy, Divisional Leader Fine Art & Photography,
University of Wolverhampton

The African Project

The Cultural Resource Centre

The Royal Wolverhampton Hospitals NHS Trust –

BME Staff Support Group – James Orotayo - Chair

The Zimbabwe Association

Wolverhampton Citywide BME Council

Wolverhampton City Council:

Central and Local Libraries

Wolverhampton Arts Gallery & Museums Service

West Midlands Caribbean Parents & Friends Association

Wolverhampton Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia Support Project

Wolverhampton Black & Multi-Heritage Children and Young People's

Multi-Agency Network

