Black History

Month at Sydenham School





It's not about 'divide and conquer its about **rise** and **prosper**' for all!

Stormzy, 'mel made me do it' track (2022)





The Founder: Akyaaba Addai Sebo

After visiting America in the 1970s, Ghanaian-born Akyaaba Addai Sebo, a special projects officer at the Greater London, founded the UK's version of Black History Month in 1987.

This was 61 years after the "Father of Black History", Carter G Woodson founded Black History month in the USA in 1926.







What is Black history month?

- The purpose of Black History month is to celebrate the positive impact that the Black community has made on society and to give a platform to a marginalised community.
- October was the chosen month because Children were usually refreshed after the summer holidays'
- It is believed that children would **flourish** more if 'their environment buzzed with **positive vibes**, instructions and images about themselves and their **origins**'.

Source: Akyaaba Addai-Sebo Black History Month 2022

Black History Month: What is it and why does matter? - BBC News





➤ Dr David Michael MBE was the first Black Police Officer in Lewisham, serving at Ladywell Police Station.

What did he achieve?

He joined the Metropolitan Police in December 1972, as **one of only 11 Black officers** in what was a **22,000**-strong force at the time.

He later became a Detective Chief Inspector serving the community for **30 years**.





➤ Max Alfred Elliott known as 'Maxi Priest', is an Englishborn reggae vocalist of Jamaican descent.

What did he achieve?

➤ He is one of the most successful reggae solo artists in the world, second to the legend Bob Marley.







Stormzy (Michael Ebenezer Kwadjo Omari Owuo Jr.) is a British Ghanaian rapper born in Croydon on 26th July, 1993

What did he achieve?

- Stormzy has donated £500,000 to fund educational scholarships for students from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- ➤ He also collaborated with Penguin, a publishing company to create a platform for marginalised communities to access publishing services.





- Mary Seacole was British-Jamaican, Nurse and Business Woman born in 1805.
- Her mother was a free Jamaican, and her father a soldier in the British Army.

What did she achieve?

- She lived an exciting life, travelling to many different countries and nursing wounded soldiers.
- She wanted to travel to the Crimean War to help British troops but the Government refused.
- Mary funded her own travel to Crimea herself and built a hotel there.



➤ Diane Abbott, was born in Paddington, London on September 27, 1953.

What did she achieve?

- > She is the first Black female Politician
- ➤ She is a member of the Labour Party who held a position as Shadow Home Secretary.
- ➤ Much of her work has focussed on **human rights** and on underrepresented communities.



Did you know...

Letitia Michelle Wright (born 31 October 1993) is a Guyanese-British actress, who moved with her family to England when she was seven years old.

What did she achieve?

- She starred in **top ranking television** series such as: *Top Boy, Doctor Who,* and *Black Mirror*.
- ➤ In 2018, she attained **global recognition** for her portrayal of Shuri in the Marvel film **Black Panther**. She also won an NAACP Image Award and a SAG Award.
- ➤ In 2019, she received the BAFTA Rising Star Award. She also appeared in the 2020 series *Small Axe*, which earned her a **Satellite Award nomination**.



➤ John Blanke was one of the only Black Tudors to exist in historic artifacts.

What did he achieve?

➤ He worked for **Henry VII** and **Henry VIII**, and remains the only **black Tudor** for whom we have an identifiable image. He was a successful Royal Musician.



https://youtu.be/Rgrou4Ohy68?t=312 Black British history you're not taught in schools | Alt History - BBC - YouTube

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: S.T.E.M. PIONEERS







Dame Elizabeth Anionwu (1947-)

Dr. Donald Palmer (1962-)







Dr. Maggie Aderin-Pocock MBE (1968-)



Charlotte Armah (1970-)

Dr. Nira

(1969-)



29th September 2022 LATEST LISTINGS: The Dears Search here

B:M2022







The hidden hero of medicine:
Henrietta Lacks



BHM Lewisham

Black History Month runs nationally every October to commemorate the history, achievements, and contributions of Black communities in the UK. This year's theme is **Time for Change: Action Not Words**.

What is Black History Lewisham 365?

While it's important we acknowledge the national campaign each October, in Lewisham we believe in action 365 days a year.

22 October

Author Talk: Jody Burton

Catford Library | 3pm - 4pm | Free

Author of Black London, Jody Burton will visit Catford Library for an afternoon of conversation.

West Indians: The Panama Canal

Manor House Library, SE13 5SY | 11am - 5pm | Free

Organised by 360 Lifestyle Support Network CIC. More details to follow.

Deptford Green School Cultural Evening

We will have various events happening in school during October, culminating in an evening of Art, Music, Spoken Word, and food. We will have a Catwalk event where our students will celebrate wearing their own cultural dress and will host the photography exhibition Making things Happen: Sybil Phoenix in Lewisham, 1985. More details to follow.

23 October

Deptford Dub Club: Prince Fatty Black History Month Special

Fox and Firkin, Lewisham High Street | 6pm - midnight | £3

In addition to our guest star, all the usual D.D.C. massive will be along for this one. We are thrilled that early on we'll be introducing, up and coming, young lion Sugar Downbeat, selecting for us for the first time. Resident Soft Wax will also be spinning on the wheels of steel, with a fresh selection. He'll joined by the mighty Doc Murdoch, our resident Singjay, live and direct. They'll be joined by our great, 4-piece, house horn section, led by Tom Mossop. Plus, the prodigious Prince Fatty will be mixing live on the desk, when he's not actually selecting, ensuring a full and rich sound from the mighty rig. For more information and to book tickets.

24 October

Doing it for love: A lecture tour by Dr Julius Garvey

Goldsmith's, University of London | Free

Dr. Julius Garvey, son of Jamaican human rights pioneer Marcus Garvey, visits Lewisham as part of an historic tour to the UK to continue his father's legacy of promoting cultural and racial unity. More details to follow.

25 October

Phoenix Community Housing Celebrates Black History Month

The Green Man | 5pm - 7pm | Free

Join us for an evening to celebrate Black History Month with talks, a film screening, activities and more. This year's theme is Health and Wellbeing and we will be looking at why Black and minority ethnic groups are disproportionately disadvantaged in the healthcare system and experience unfair treatment. We'll have a screening of Racial Inequalities in Health by the Open University where Dr. Jenny Douglas explores why Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities in the UK were at greater risk of death from the coronavirus. We'll also have free massages, an African Drumming performance, fun for all exercise to Caribbean music class, information stalls and more! For more information and to reserve tickets.

26 October

Pioneers and Protest: Seeking Change - Film Screening

Richard Hoggart Building Cinema, Goldsmiths, University of London | 6:30pm - 8:30pm | Free

IRIE! dance theatre presents Pioneers and Protest: Seeking Change, a film about the Black People's Day of Action, 1981. The film is part of our Pioneers and Protest project with Goldsmiths in Living Memory programme for Borough of Culture 2022. The film combines oral history interviews with people who took part in the 1981 demonstration and archive photographs. The screening will be followed by a Q&A. Free entry, book you place on Eventbrite here.

27 October

A Caribbean Couturier in Lewisham: People's Fashion Show

Unit 17, Lewisham Shopping Centre (opposite H & M) | 6pm - 8pm | Free

A People's Fashion Show to showcase the made-to-measure, couture gowns and dresses of Lewisham's Caribbean community.

This marks the grand finale of A Caribbean Couturier in Lewisham, a heritage exhibition inspired by the stories of the Caribbean women who produced made-to-measure, couture gowns alongside their day jobs in Lewisham.

Caribbean elders and younger generations are invited to attend wearing cherished garments from yesteryear alongside contemporary items created by local makers. **For more information and to reserve tickets**.

29 October

Black Health and Wellness

The Lewington Community Centre, SE16 2RU | Free | More details to follow

Hosted by Parentskills2go CIC - this is a multigenerational community celebration for families and young people, exploring Black health and wellness through creative writing, poetry, and music. Also taking place at the event, the third edition of a Black comic book by young people will be launched to celebrate parents and young volunteers. Food and refreshments provided.

