

October is...

BLACK HISTORY
MONTH

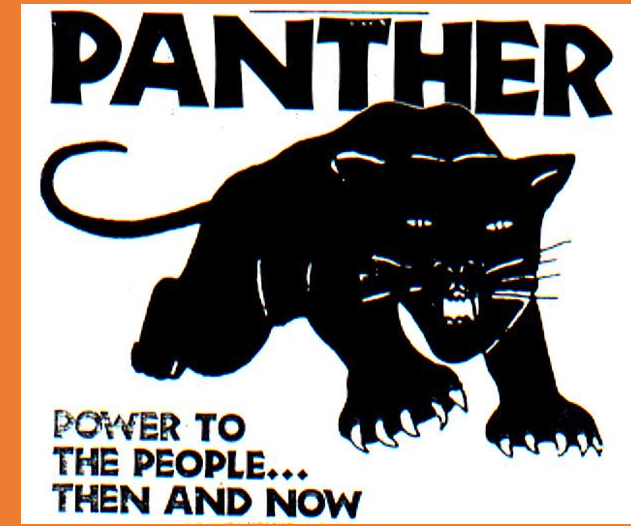
BHM2022

DIG DEEP, LOOK CLOSER, THINK BIGGER

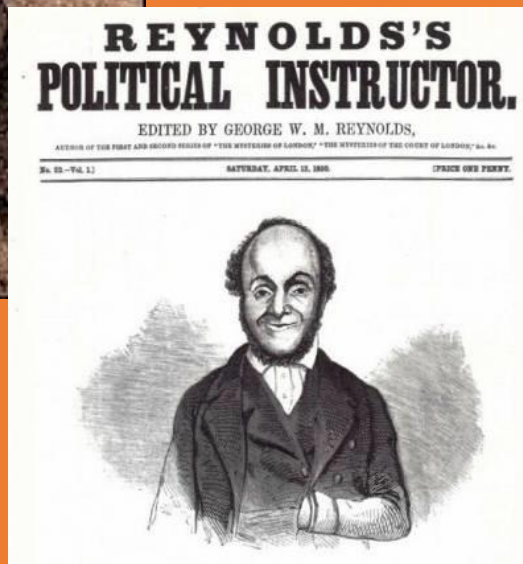
British Civil Rights Activists

What did they do?

- Took inspiration from Civil Rights Movements around the world.
- Organised themselves and attended meetings and 'lessons'.
- Opened their doors to black and South Asian people.
- Adopted militant strategies in order to reach their aims.
- Were responsible for the initial Race Relations Act and further acts in future.



William Cuffay: A Chartist 1788-1870.



William Cuffay was the son of a former enslaved man. He lived in England in the 19th century and was heavily involved in the campaign for Universal Suffrage – a campaign which aimed to get the vote for all men, regardless of class. He was considered to be one of the most militant leaders of the Chartist movement and was arrested in 1848 after being involved in a conspiracy to lead an armed march against the government. He was arrested for aiming to set fire to a government building, thanks to a government spy. William Cuffay was sentenced to transportation and was forced to go to Tasmania, Australia. He never returned to Britain.

Stokely Carmichael or *Kwame Ture*: US Civil Rights leader 1941-1998.

Stokely Carmichael's real name was Kwame Ture. He was a Trinidadian American Civil Rights leader, he gave a speech in London in 1967 which is regarded by many as fundamental in the birth of the British Black Panther Movement, this is overstated as the movement was in full swing by 1967. It did, however, give the movement a platform. In his speech Carmichael state, *"We are not talking anymore. We have talked for 400 years; it has gotten us nowhere."* His speech was a call to black people around the world.

Stokely believed passionately in pan-Africanism, the belief that people of African descent shared common interests and should therefore be united in their aims.



Olive Morris: Member of British Black Panthers 1952-1979.



Olive was a Jamaican born British based community leader. Aged 17 Olive was involved in an incident where a Nigerian diplomat was accused by police of driving a stolen car. The police did not believe this man was a diplomat and believed he had stolen the car. Olive and others were assaulted by the police for trying to help this man. This incident encouraged Olive to speak out about the racism she faced so regularly. She joined the Black Panther Movement in the UK at 21 and created groups specifically for black women such as the Brixton Black Women's group and the Organisation of Women of African and Asian descent. These groups were important as they encouraged women to be politically active.

Jocelyn Barrow: Creator of CARD 1929-2020.



Jocelyn was hugely influential in the passing of the first Race Relations Act in 1965, a pivotal moment for civil rights in the UK.

Jocelyn later became the first black governor of the BBC and this gave her a wider audience for her message.

She met with Martin Luther King Jr and was inspired to create CARD – the Campaign Against Racial Discrimination in 1964.

Jocelyn campaigned to improve working conditions in the NHS and was made a Dame in 1992 after a lifetime of service to the black community but also to Britain as a whole.

Paul Stephenson: UK Civil Rights Activist. Born in 1937.



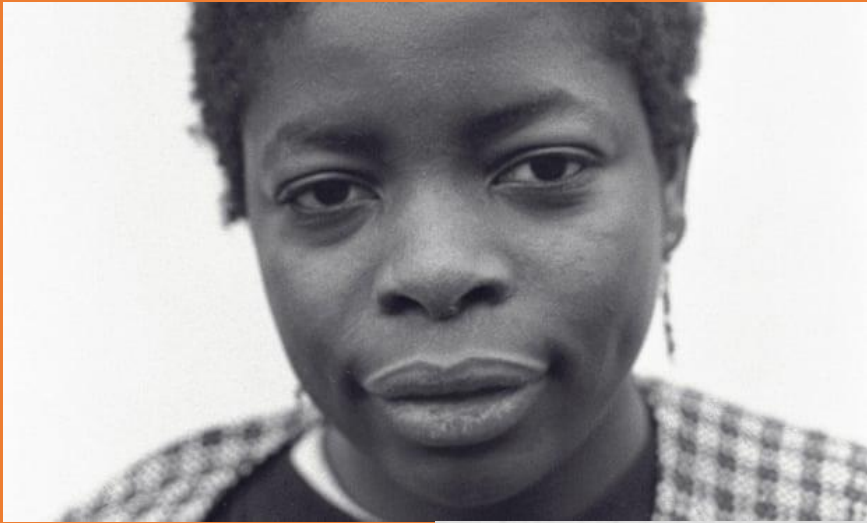
In 1963, as a young social worker, Stephenson led a boycott of the Bristol Omnibus Company. This was because in 1955, it was declared that non-white workers should not be employed as bus crew. He became the spokesmen for the campaign, which received a lot of support. After 60 days, on 28 August 1963 (the same day as Martin Luther King Jr's famous 'I have a dream' speech), the bus company conceded defeat.

In September Raghoir Singh became Bristol's first non-white bus driver, many black drivers would follow.

In 1964, Paul Stephenson was refused a drink in the Bay Horse Pub. The manager said to him "We don't want you black people in here, you are a nuisance." When Stephenson refused to leave, the police were called and 8 police officers held him in police cells until midnight. In 1964, it was legal in the UK to refuse service to someone based on their skin colour, this kind of segregation inspired the Bristol Bus Boycott a year earlier. Stephenson campaigned and helped inspire the Race Relations Act 1965 which made it outlawed to 'discrimination on the grounds of colour, race or ethnic or national origins in public places in Great Britain.'

Altheia Jones – Le Cointe: a leader of the British Black Panthers.

Born 1945.



Altheia was born in Trinidad but moved to England in 1965 to complete a PhD in biochemistry at University College London. She is now a physician and research scientist. Altheia became a leader of the British Black Panther movement in 1968 and became a 'teacher' of the community. She spoke at schools and taught classes in anti-colonialism; Jones – Le Cointe was known as a fierce debater and a wonderfully gifted public speaker. Many gifted members of the Panther movement talk about joining specifically after hearing Altheia speak.



In 1970 Jones Le – Cointe came to public fame after being arrested and tried on charges of 'inciting a riot'. She was part of the Mangrove Nine and all nine were eventually found not guilty. You will learn about this in tutor time. She was also heavily involved in campaigns for housing, equality in employment and an end to police brutality.

Arthur France: creator of *Leeds Carnival*. Born in 1935.



Arthur left Nevis in the Caribbean in 1957. Arthur left his culture, music and art behind, along with his family, and wanted to bring some of that culture to the UK with him. Arthur had the idea of creating the first Leeds West Indian Carnival; he met some like-minded Caribbean students at Leeds University and fought passionately to make it happen. He became known as the crazy old man from Nevis but he beat the opposition and the first Leeds West Indian Carnival was held in August 1967. Arthur, to this day, says that his mission was to bring people from all races together and to show Caribbean culture off as widely as possible.

This October:

- Reading lists
- Film lists
- Wider black history on Twitter
- Tutor activities
- Displays
- Information hunts
- Newsletter
- Find all of this and more on the school website and our twitter page

