



When? In October in the United Kingdom
Theme? A different theme every year



2023 Theme - 'Celebrating our Sisters'

Why it is important to treat people fairly?



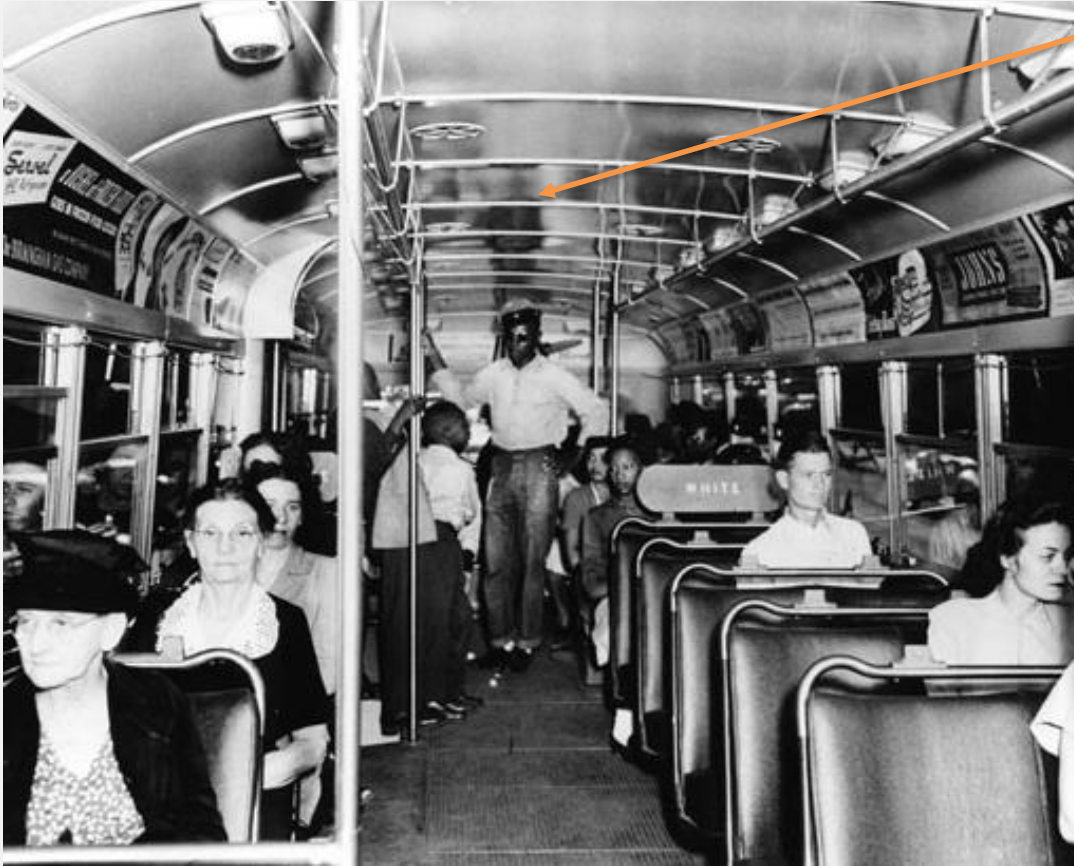
Black History Month

A time to celebrate black people from history (even more than usual)!

Black History Month remains a powerful symbolic celebration and a time for acknowledgement, reflection, and inspiration. The national 2023 Black History Month theme, “Black Resistance,” explores how African Americans have addressed historic and ongoing disadvantage and oppression, as evidenced by recent events

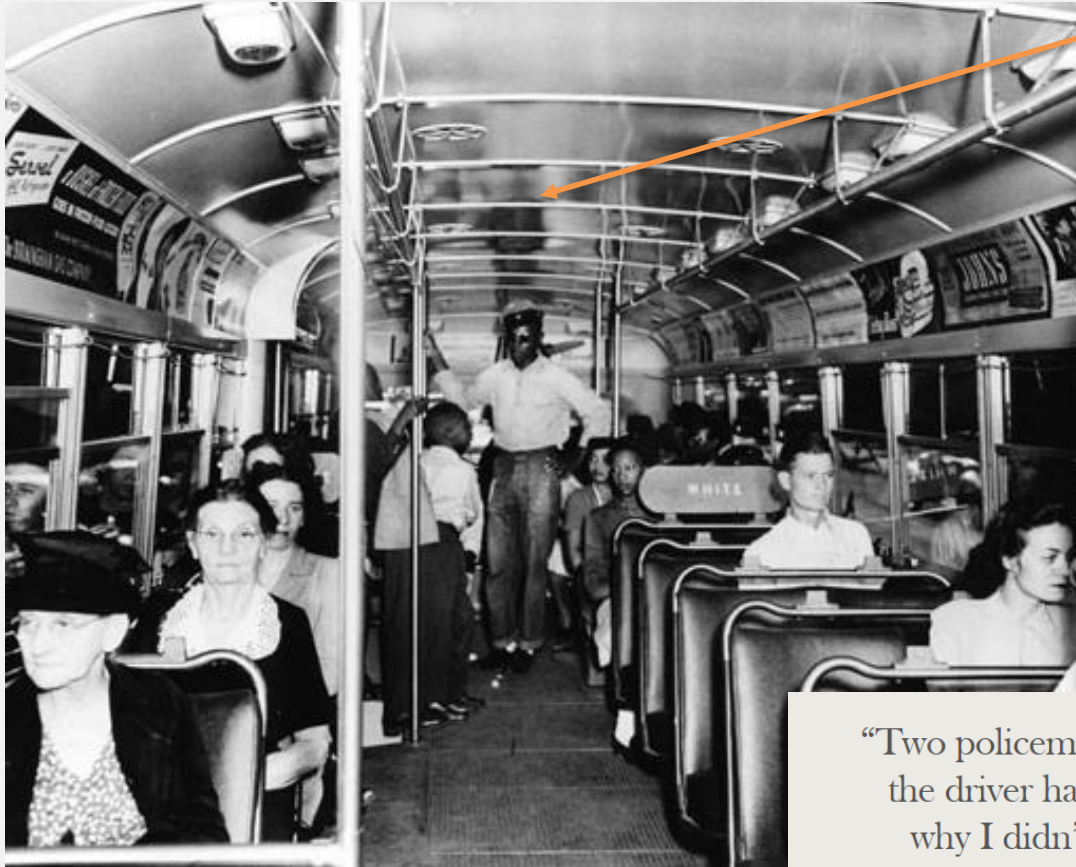
Why it is important to treat people fairly

Can you see what's wrong in this photo?



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Can you see what's wrong in this photo?



“Two policemen came on the bus, and one asked me if the driver had told me to stand. He wanted to know why I didn’t stand, and I told him I didn’t think I should have to stand up. I asked him, why did they push us around? He said, I don’t know, but the law is the law and you are under arrest.”

Why it is important to treat people fairly



Bayard Rustin organized events and helped people speak out against being treated unfairly.

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Why do we have Black History Month?

Black people have not always been treated equally simply because of their race.

Why it is important to treat people fairly



Who was Martin Luther King Jr? What do you know about him. Discuss

<https://youtu.be/ewJb8obYOKs?si=okXFGfoa0acz1bxo>

6 min video



Famous Black Men and Women



George Washington Carver **1861-1943**

George Washington Carver was born into enslavement in Missouri, America. He became an agricultural scientist and inventor and helped poor farmers improve the soil on their land in order to grow better crops. Carver also developed hundreds of products using peanuts, sweet potatoes and soybeans.

Famous Black Men and Women



Dr Mae Jemison **1956 – present day**

Dr Mae Jemison was born in Alabama, USA. Mae developed an interest in science from a very early age. Following a career in medicine, she was selected by NASA for astronaut training. Mae became the first African American woman to travel in space when she went into orbit aboard the Space Shuttle Endeavour on the 12th September, 1992.

Famous Black Men and Women



Mary Seacole
1805-1881

Mary Seacole went to help soldiers in the Crimean War. Because of all her efforts, the soldiers called her “Mother Seacole,” as she comforted them, nursed them back to health and was always there if they needed clothes, blankets and kindness.

Famous Black Men and Women



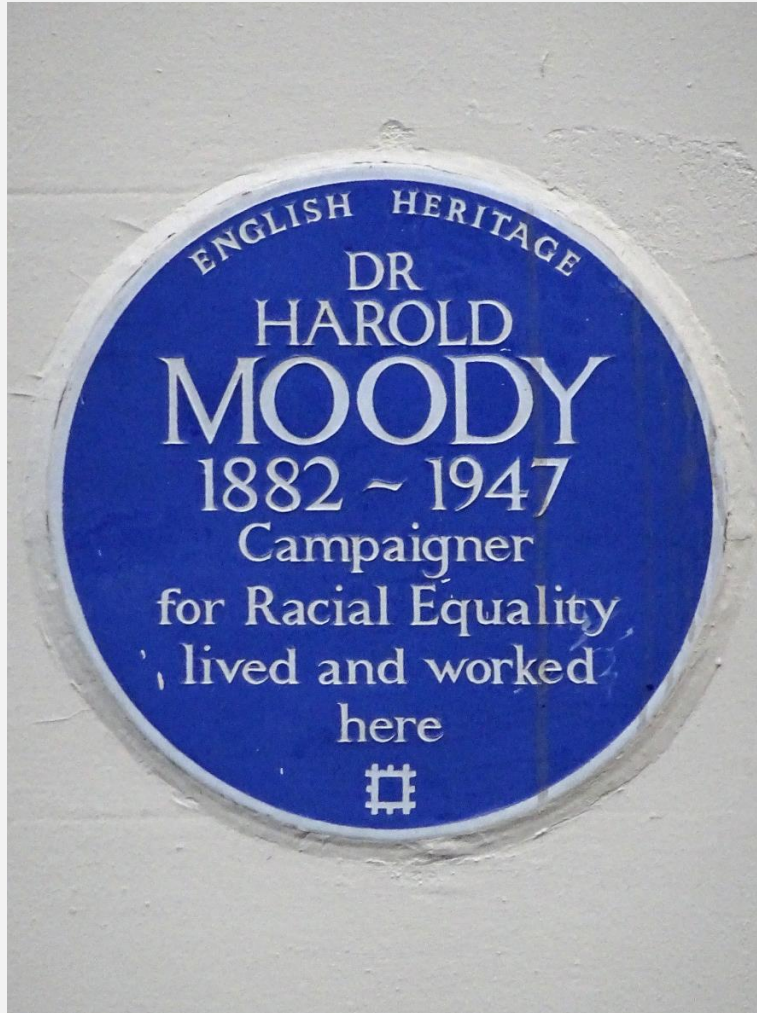
Nelson Mandela

1918 - 2013

Nelson Mandela was the first Black South African President. He spent 27 years in prison for trying to change things so that both Black and White people had equal rights. Many people around the world thought he was a hero and respected him for his courage and wisdom in bringing people together and encouraging them to live in peace.

Harold Moody was a physician and civil rights activist

Great Britain's who have shaped our country



He was born in Kingston, Jamaica, in 1882 where he spent his youth.

After medical school, Moody decided to open his own medical practice in 1913 after it became apparent he would be refused work due to the racism in British society at the time.

In 1931, Moody formed, and was president of, the League of Coloured Peoples (LCP) – an organisation with a goal of strengthening the rights of Black people in Britain.

The LCP had various aims including the commitment to protect the socio-economic interests of people of colour, the welfare of people of colour, and coordinate with organisations sympathetic to people of colour.

In 1944, the LCP organised a three day conference in London, where they drew up the “Charter of Coloured People”, which demanded equality for people of colour in the UK.

He also campaigned against racial prejudice in the armed forces, and is credited with overturning the Special Restriction Order (or Coloured Seaman’s Act) 1925.

A discriminatory measure in the Act sought to provide subsidies to merchant shipping employing only British nationals, requiring seamen born overseas – many who had served Britain in World War One – to register with the police

Great Britain's who have shaped our country



She was born in Jamaica in 1952, and arrived in the UK at the age of nine.

Doreen Lawrence entered public life following the racist murder of her son, **Stephen Lawrence**, in 1993.

She began campaigning, claiming that the police were not conducting the investigation into his death properly due to racism and negligence.

Doreen Lawrence founded a charity in memory of her son – the **Stephen Lawrence Charitable Trust** – in 1998, which campaigns against inequality in all its forms.

In 1999, the circumstances around Lawrence's death were investigated after a judicial inquiry was established by the then home secretary, Jack Straw.

Sir William MacPherson's findings were published in the landmark **MacPherson Report**, which found that there was "institutional racism" in the Metropolitan Police. The publication served as a watershed moment when it came to racism in policing in the UK.

In 2013, Lawrence was made a life peer in the House of Lords, becoming **Baroness Lawrence of Clarendon**. She is a member of both the council and board of human rights group Liberty, and is a patron of the hate crime charity Stop Hate UK. She also sits on panels within the Home Office and police service.

On 24 April 2020, Lawrence was appointed as **Race Relations Advisor to the Labour Party**.

A Prayer for Black History Month

Compassionate God,
who sent Jesus Christ
to deliver us from all manner of injustices and inequalities,
create in us new hearts and enlarged visions,
to see the image of God in every person irrespective of background,
race and ethnicity.

May we be generous in our love of others
as we work towards ending racism and injustice;
creating communities of human flourishing,
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

