

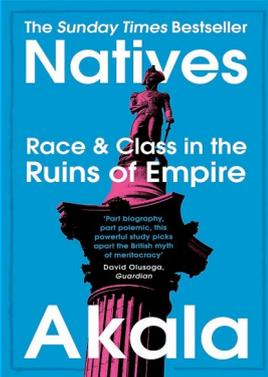


Black and Asian Police Association Greater Manchester Newsletter

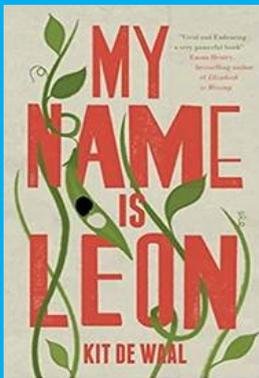
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BLACK HISTORY MONTH EDITION

BHM READING LIST



Akala
The Sunday Times bestseller on race and class in the UK, from the MOBO award-winning musician Akala.



A story set in the 1980s, My Name is Leon explores issues surrounding family, the bonds between siblings, the social and foster care system in the 1980s and the surprising propensity of children to survive during times of adversity.

Celebrating

Black History and Black Policing

This Black History Month has been a challenging one for BAPA, not only has it fallen right in the middle of a once in a life-time pandemic but also in one of the most socially turbulent times in recent history.

Tensions have been high since the tragic passing of George Floyd in the US with the whole world facing a divide. Regardless of people's feelings towards

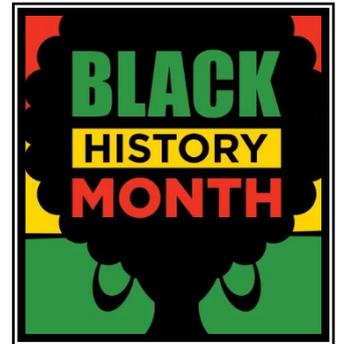
recent events one thing is for sure:

This year will be one for the history books.

Despite the Pandemic, BAPA has had a busy month full of events focused on the celebration and acknowledgement of Black history and culture. Hosted online, we ran a range of cultural events, guest speaker sessions, lessons in history and Community Q&A's.

Huge thank you to those of you who attended any of the events.

Stay tuned for our February 2021 celebrations.



BHM Highlight: Manchester's Got Talent Youth

Manchester's got talent Youth Group or "MGTYouth" as its more commonly known is a Youth and community focused group dedicated to uplifting and enriching the lives of young people in Greater Manchester.

The MGTYouth Family held a presentation on all of the great work they've been doing for the community, including musical performances, fashion shows and Touching "My Life in Lockdown" stories."

The latter in which Young people gave their experiences growing up in lockdown in some truly eye opening, vulnerable and REAL testimonies. Touching on Mental health, education and how for many of them being part of the MGTYouth Family "Saved their lives".

BAPA hosted Q&A event with MGTYouth as local youth representatives raised questions and concerns around policing and got a chance to talk directly to GMP officers and staffs across many ranks and roles.

Big thanks to everyone that attended!

For Morre information ands to see what MGTYouth is up to:

Visit @MGTYouth on Instagram

Black to the Future poetry Workshops

J Ahmed, a 'spoken word artist' ran a series of poetry sessions for BHM titled '**Black To The future, Parts 1, 2 & 3.**' The sessions were successful and encouraged people to engage with themes through poetry, established writing and through their own creations at session 2 which was a poetry writing workshop.

The last sessions ran as an 'open mic' for those who wanted to recite the poetry developed at the workshop or piece they had already written. The final session took place online and was streamed on Facebook live. The sessions attracted interest from diverse groups from all backgrounds, including representation of Chief Officers from GMP.



Britain's First Black Policewoman



Sislin Fay Allen was an inspiration for many when she became the Metropolitan Police's first black female police officer, based at Croydon in the late 1960s.

"I went out with an officer. People were curious to see a Black woman there in uniform walking up and down, but I had no problem at all, not even from the public. On the day I joined I nearly broke a leg trying to run away from reporters. I realised then that I was a history maker. But I didn't set out to make history; I just wanted a change of direction."

The first prejudices Sislin encountered came from her own community, for joining the police force.

She says: *"Many of us, as you well know, have some sort of perception of the police that isn't all that good. I was asked how I could leave nursing and join the police force. It was like joining something degrading."*

"After a while the stares soon passed," she adds. "My colleagues were very accepting – in Croydon really and truly. I didn't have any problems there. I just did my work and after about a year I was posted to Scotland Yard."

For More info: <https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/bhm-firsts/sislin-fay-allen-britains-first-black-policewoman/>



CHARLES CRICHLLOW QPM

"I would like to think that this honour is an acknowledgement and vindication of the foundational work of the Black Police Association and the work that still needs to be done to bring policing into the 21st Century"

-Charles Crichlow

This is a tremendous honour for Charles, NBPA and BAPA GM as this award recognises his invaluable contributions to policing and the community.

As a founder member and former Chair of BAPA GM, 2003 to 2009; former President of the NBPA in 2009 – Oct 2013 and Home Office Advisor, Charles has been instrumental in steering the direction of local and National Policing policies addressing equality, diversity progression and retention of Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Officers and Staff across Policing throughout his 30 year career.

Charles has worked with a wide range of people, agencies and community groups on wide scale collaboration projects, managing significant programmes of work which helped deliver momentous organisational change, locally, nationally and internationally.

Interim President Andy George and BAPA GM Chair, Elaine Clarke-Williams agree: "Charles is a dedicated and principled man who has devoted his career to helping others."

As a two term NBPA President he helped steer the association through a very difficult time and laid the foundations for us to continue pushing for racial equality in policing.

The BAPA GM Executive sends our warmest and sincere, congratulations to Charles and his family, who will no doubt be celebrating this proud achievement.

