

proud
to celebrate

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2017



Your guide to events and activities taking place in Nottingham

1-31 October 2017

nottinghamcity.gov.uk/whatson



Black History Month 2017

Welcome to the second brochure celebrating Black History Season. This year the theme is local heroes of Nottingham where activism has been an important feature of the city's cultural development with the Journeys to Justice exhibition throughout the year testament to that.



Men and women from the Caribbean and Africa have made Nottingham their home for centuries, but it's only been in the last few years that their legacy has been recognised and that vigour is now evident in a new generation of young people keen to celebrate their culture and heritage in new and exciting ways through spoken word, fashion, art, drama, dance and intellectual expression.



Many stories of the older generation have now been lost in time, but community researchers like **Panya Banjoko** are leading the way in resurrecting those stories – some of wartime experience, other stories tell of people like **Len Garrison** who recognised and celebrated the cultural and ancestral links between Africa and the Caribbean culminating in the development of the ACFF community and cultural resource centre, which is now long gone. Latterly the pioneering work of activists like **Valentine Nkoyo** on female genital mutilation has been groundbreaking alongside other pioneering women such as **Rose Thompson**, a passionate advocate of BME health outcomes, and political trailblazers like Cllrs **Merlita Bryan** and **Eunice Campbell**. In the area of law, Nottingham resident **Eric Irons** was the first black magistrate in England and Wales.



Nottingham was also the first city outside of the United States to have a Black Lives Matter chapter where all communities have come together as allies to speak out against injustice and inequality.



The activities in the brochure are just a snapshot of the events happening within the city; many of which go unnoticed but are created and supported by a silent host of volunteers. It is to those heroes that this year's BHM is dedicated.



Adisa Djan
Nottingham City Council

WHAT'S on

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM...

Date: Friday 22 September
Time: 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start
Venue: New Art Exchange
Cost: Free

To honour the African, Caribbean and South Asian troops who fought in World War One a touring exhibition will travel around Nottingham City throughout October stopping at various places in the City. For full tour dates see www.nottinghamblackarchive.org

The exhibition will feature previously untold stories about ex-servicemen linked to Nottingham. The launch of the tour begins on 22 September at the New Art Exchange, 39 Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham. To book go to: www.facebook.com/events/603343766538807??ti=ia

This project is funded by AHRC and is being delivered in association with the Centre For Hidden Histories and Renaissance One

SPECIAL CHURCH SERVICE

Date: Sunday 1 October
Time: 4.00pm
Venue: Shabach Outreach Ministries, The Vale Community Centre, Rosedale Drive, NG8 2JA
Cost: Free

General Church Service to mark the start of Black History Month.

For more information contact Bishop Carlton Napier, t: 07450 792 716 e: carltonnapier@hotmail.co.uk



MAYA ANGELOU AND STILL I RISE (CERT TBC)

Date: Tuesday 10 October
Time: 8.15pm
Venue: Broadway Cinema
Cost: TBC

To mark the 30th UK Black History Month, a movement designed to recognise the history, experiences and accomplishments of black people, we're pleased to present *Maya Angelou And Still I Rise*.

An icon of American politics and culture, Maya Angelou was an inspiring, didactic writer whose life spanned some of the most pivotal moments in the 20th century. This filmic biography by Bob Hercules and Rita Coburn Whack faithfully follows her life's dizzying trajectory and features personal anecdotes from the Clintons, Lou Gossett Jr. and Oprah Winfrey.

BME VARIETY CONCERT

Date: Tuesday 10 October

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: TBC

Cost: Tickets £5

A belly full of laughs in this variety concert; music, creative and street dance, poetry, drama, singing and more. Refreshments on sale.

For more information contact Bishop Carlton Napier, t: 0745 079 2716 e: carltonnapier@hotmail.co.uk



SHEAfriq COLLECTIVE: OFFICIAL LAUNCH PARTY

Date: Friday 20 October

Time: 7.00-11.00pm

Venue: Rough Trade, 5 Broad St Nottingham NG1 3AJ

Cost: TBC

SHEAfriq. are a new Nottingham-based collective of artists and creative women of African heritage. Join them for the inaugural event for their 'Black Futures' season and experience live performances, DJs on deck and live painting on the Rough Trade Stage. Get to meet the collective and find out about events that will be taking place throughout October and November.

For more information contact sheafriq@gmail.com

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[i /sheafriq](https://www.instagram.com/sheafriq)

<http://sheafriq.com>



JAMAICA NATIONAL HEROES DAY

Date: Monday 16 October

Time: 7.00pm

Venue: The ACNA Centre

Cost: TBC

Celebrating Jamaica's National Heroes and Heroes Day in Jamaica, Looking in depth at Paul Bogle.

For more information contact Bishop Carlton Napier, t: 0745 079 2716 e: carltonnapier@hotmail.co.uk



I AM THE GORGON: BUNNY 'STRIKER' LEE AND THE ROOTS OF REGGAE (CERT TBC) + Q&A

Date: Friday 20 October

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Broadway Cinema

Cost: TBC

I Am the Gorgon tells the larger than life tale of legendary record producer Bunny 'Striker' Lee, charting his rise from car mechanic and record plugger to reggae's most successful producer in the 1970s. His journey involves politics, arguments, gangs and guns, as Jamaican music moves from ska to rocksteady, from dub to dancehall, from the backstreets of Kingston to the concert halls of the world. One Love Festival.

We hope to welcome Bunny 'Striker' Lee to Broadway to discuss his career, with author and broadcaster John Missouri, after this screening.

Before this film and *Maya Angelou And Still I Rise* we'll be showing some brief footage from The Media Archive of Central England about two Nottingham figures - Eric Irons who was the first black magistrate in the UK and Tony Robinson who was the city's first black Sheriff.



Some of the award winners from 2016

THE BLACK ACHIEVERS AWARDS 2017

Date: Saturday 21 October

Time: 6.00pm for 6.45pm

Venue: The East Midlands Conference Centre, University Park, Beeston Lane, Nottingham, NG7 2RJ

It's back! The black tie event is brought to you by Councillor Merlita Bryan and the Black Achievers Team. The award event is made up of 10 categories for which the public are asked to nominate an individual who they feel deserves to be recognised for what they do in the community. Categories include, Community Volunteer, Health Award, Young Achievers Award, Lifetime Community Achievers and more. Nominations will close soon.

For enquiries, details on how to nominate and to get tickets please visit: www.blackachieversaward.co.uk t: 07468 427 469 or e: theblackachieversaward@gmail.com

Host this year is the one and only, Curtis Walker. You do not want to miss this!

[f /theblackachieversawards/](https://www.facebook.com/theblackachieversawards/)

[t /thebaawards](https://twitter.com/thebaawards)

blackachieversaward.co.uk



READ A BLACK AUTHOR IN PUBLIC

Date: Saturday 21 October

Time: 2.00pm

Venue: Old Market Square

Cost: Free

Nottingham Black Archive invites you to participate in a friendly reading flash-mob to celebrate black authors and to promote reading. To join in the literary fun all you need do is turn up with a book written by a black author and read!

All readers are welcome but the book must be written by a black author. The reading flash-mob will commence at 3pm at the lions in the Old Market Square. Why not help us spread the black author love by tweeting about the event using [#readablackauthor](#) [#raba](#)

THE GREAT DEBATE

Date: Thursday 26 October

Time: tbc

Venue: tbc

Cost: Free

Surprise celebrity guests will debate the issues of the day with young people. Look out for details.

YOUNG, BLACK & PRESENT

Date: Saturday 28 October

Time: TBC (see website)

Venue: New Art Exchange
39-41 Gregory Boulevard,
NG7 6BE

Cost: Free

Age range: All welcome

An inspiring day for all ages as we celebrate the talent of young creatives within our city. Experience live performances, talks, discussions, music, and delicious food and drink.

For more information please email saziso@nae.org.uk or **t: 0115 924 8630**

[f /newartexchange](#)

[t /newartexchange](#)

www.nae.org.uk

NOTTINGHAM DONOR CENTRE

Date: Saturday 28 October

Time: 10.30am - 3.00pm

Venue: Trinity Square, Nottingham
NG1 4BR

Cost: Free

#BE THERE - FIND OUT WHY BLACK BLOOD IS NEEDED TO HELP YOUR COMMUNITY MOJATU Foundation in association with NHS Blood & Transplant

We are proud to present the first **'#BeThere Support Your Community'** event to raise awareness and further educate the black community about why we need more black donors. In the UK,

15,000 people have sickle-cell disease and over 300 babies are born each year with the condition. It is most common in black people. To get the best treatment patients need blood which is closely matched to their own, this will most likely come from a donor of the same ethnicity.

Come along and learn more about the challenge, talk with some of Mojatu Foundation staff to understand why black blood is so special and how you can support YOUR community.

There will be lots of fun activities on the day, health insights, Salsa, free food and a tour around your local donor centre. A relaxed welcoming setting in the heart of your city.

Q&A on how you can help save someone's life whilst going about yours.

Contact frank@mojatu.com or ebony.dunkley@nhsbt.nhs.uk for more information.

SAVE SOMEONE'S LIFE WHILE GOING ABOUT YOURS



Register online at blood.co.uk



FAMILY FUN DAY

Date: Saturday 28 October

Time: 12.00noon - 6.30pm

Venue: Queens Walk Community Centre, Meadows, Nottingham
NG2 2DF

Cost: Free

Age range: All welcome

An annual event for all the family with

bouncy castles, entertainment, music, dancing and poetry. Not to be missed!!!

BLACK IN THE CITY

Date: Saturday 28 October

Time: 6.45pm

Venue: TBC

Cost: £4.00 on the door

Nottingham Black Archive will be taking a fresh look at the black experience in Nottingham through the eyes of an eclectic mix of individuals and asking them the question, "What does it mean to be black and living in the City?"

Get your diaries out, set your alarms and brush the dust off your file-o-faxes as you won't want to miss this one...

There will be black books, arts and crafts on sale from a range of local Black businesses in the community. Light snacks and a glass of wine will also be served. Entrance: £4.00 to be paid on the door. Doors open at 6:45 for registration.



SOETRY

Date: Thursday 2 November

Time: 7.00pm

Venue: New Art Exchange
39-41 Gregory Boulevard,
NG7 6BE

Cost: £4.00

Award-winning poet Panya Banjoko and Abii, internationally known

singer-songwriter, combine their unique poetic and musical skills to create *Soetry*, an innovative, soulful cocktail of spoken words and musical sounds. An unmissable opportunity to experience an inspiring evening of handcrafted lyrical pieces that will take you on a soetic adventure, exploring how we are connected through a myriad of intricate relationships - from chance meetings to family ties.

For more information,
e: info@nae.org.uk t: 0115 924 8630

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www.nae.org.uk



NG83: WHEN WE WERE B BOYS

Date: Saturday 4 November

Time: 2.00pm

Venue: New Art Exchange
39-41 Gregory Boulevard,
NG7 6BE

Cost: TBC

Adolescent dreams meet the realities of adulthood as five former breakdancers reflect on their youthful rites of passage through the vibrant UK Hip Hop scene of the early 1980s. Unseen archive footage shines the light on a forgotten era in British youth culture in this humorous and poignant character-driven documentary.

For more information
e: info@nae.org.uk t: 0115 924 8630

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[t /newartexchange](https://www.twitter.com/newartexchange)

www.nae.org.uk

SheAfriq presents:

NOTTINGHAM AFRICAN MARKET

Date: Saturday 25 November

Time: 12.00 - 6.00pm

Venue: Rough Trade, 5 Broad St
Nottingham NG1 3AJ

Cost: TBC

SHEAfriq. have teamed up with Rough Trade Nottingham to bring you Nottingham African Market, offering the city a chance to explore and appreciate the richness of African culture, turning our favourite record store into a bustling African market for one day only!

It is an opportunity to recognise and celebrate the beauty of our very own African community, as well as for a bit of retail therapy.

The one-day market takeover will see handmade goods inspired by or brought from across continent; from fashion and jewellery to home furnishings, literature and music to beauty products and everything in-between...

There will also be storytelling, live music, dance, creative workshops and much more, showcasing local talent with a truly African vibe.

For more information contact
sheafriq@gmail.com

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[i /sheafriq](https://www.instagram.com/sheafriq)

<http://sheafriq.com>

OUT OF AFRICA. WOMEN: In focus



SOPHIA RAMCHARAN

Producer and award winning filmmaker of Nottingham-based Stella Vision Productions.

Sophia has been a champion for access to opportunity within the

arts since her youth as a committee member with various community organisations such as Hyson Green Youth Club and also at The Community Recording Studio in St Ann's. Sophia now uses her film production and exhibition company to celebrate and showcase emerging and diverse talent on a world stage.

Sophia's productions have been exhibited at national and international film festivals, including the Geneva International Jewish Film Festival, London Short Film Festival and Asthetica Film Festival. Sophia produced the short film *Happy New Year*, for which she was awarded the Pears Short Film Fund and it was premiered at the UK Jewish Film Festival in 2013.

Sophia produced the ambitious multi award-winning Nottingham-based sci-fi short film *White Lily*, scooping "Best Film" at the Focus International Film Festival and shortlisted for "Best Live Action Short" at Sci-On film festival. *White Lily* was selected for the Hollyshorts, the Academy Awards® qualifying festival and was screened in Hollywood in 2017.

With over 10 years' experience at the BBC, highlights have included creating *The Jamaica Stories* featuring William Chong, who came from Jamaica to Nottingham on the Empire Windrush ship in the 1950s to return for the first time in over 60 years. *The Jamaica Stories* was nominated for the One World Media Trust awards in 2006.

A BAFTA mentor for the British Film Institute (BFI) Film Academy Alumni programme. Sophia also completed the National Film and Television School's BAME Leadership programme and was mentored by Duncan Clark, President of Distribution at Universal Pictures.

Sophia also curates and programmes films and events for a range of arts institutions including: The New Art Exchange Gallery, Broadway Cinema and the Bang Short Films Festival. Sophia currently holds a position at Broadway Cinema as the Audience Development, Diversity and Engagement Coordinator and is also an Advisor for the BFI Film Hub Central East.

PANYA BANJOKO

Nottingham-based writer, poet and archivist whose work has been published in various anthologies, performing widely including the 2012 Olympic Games. She is co-founder and Director of Nottingham Black Archive and coordinates a Black Writers and Artists Network. She is also Patron for Nottingham UNESCO City of Literature.

Her first published poem was *Brain Drain*, published by Penguin Press (2000). Since then she has had poems published by Bloodaxe Books and in University Anthologies. Her poem, *One Of A Kind* was commended in the Writers East Midlands Aurora Poetry Competition 2017. In addition to publications she has performed poems on Central TV and more recently for a BBC Documentary about Olympian Jamie Baulch (2016). She was also one of the poets selected from around the country to perform as part of the award winning film, *Brit I Am*, directed by the comedian Andi Osho. In 2016 she was commissioned to write and perform a poem for the launch of the Pathways Mural project which created the first community mural in the Hyson Green area of Nottingham and in the same year her chapter of a graphic novel, for the award winning *Dawn of the Unread* series, was published by Left Lion magazine.

Panya has undertaken numerous residencies including Poet in Residence

for the National Trust's 100 verses at Charlecote Park in Warwickshire in 2009 and 2010 and at the International School in Stuttgart, Germany and more recently Poet in Residence at Nottingham Contemporary 2016-2017. She has written and edited creative packs to accompany Nottingham Museum Services' World Stories Resource Boxes used by Nottingham City Council as a resource for children.

In 2008 she won Women in the Arts Poetry Award for Outstanding Achievement. And in 2016 was voted C-Hub magazine's Best Performer and in the same year was selected by Left Lion Magazine as one of Nottingham's most influential Black Women in the City. She is also featured on the Nottingham Literary Ladies trail and her debut poetry collection is set for publication in June 2018 through Burning Eye Books. Panya strongly believes that poetry can enhance well-being and give a voice to the voiceless and as such advocates on behalf of those who have less opportunities by supporting and creating networks that will enable black writers to develop their talents into publication. Through her work with Nottingham Black Archive she has developed and created a number of exhibitions and publications which have toured nationally and which ensures that the contributions of the black community are part of a firm legacy of the city.

Panya's hope for the future is that the wonderful diversity that makes up this city be reflected in all aspects of its institutions. Whilst her heritage is an eclectic mix of Africa and the Caribbean she sees Nottingham as her home.





VALENTINE NKOYO

Raised in a big Maasai family in Narok, Kenya, Valentine has worked tirelessly hard to support and transform the lives of others bringing Nottingham Kenyans and the whole of Nottingham African Community together while creating opportunities for them to

work together and support each other.

Valentine works hard to promote community cohesion and integration of African communities with other communities and stakeholders organising community activities such as sports tournaments, summer farm festivals, cultural festivals promoting Kenya and Africa, working tirelessly on female empowerment and pioneering, giving inspirational talks.

Working with Mojatu Foundation, Valentine founded and chairs the Nottinghamshire Community Steering Group that has more than 90 members from over 30 countries the majority of whom come from Africa helping to organise national and international conferences, developing training materials for professionals and communities on Female Genital Mutilation for which Valentine is best known helping Nottingham become the first FGM intolerance City in UK taking the issue on a national level at the Houses of Commons in October 2016 working with MPs and policy makers.

Valentine has spoken at local, regional and international conferences including the United Nations and Women Economic Forum working internationally to showcase Nottingham's work in tackling FGM with the hope to duplicate the model in other parts of Europe and beyond.

Valentine is passionate about the power of education. Despite losing many years at home after being thrown out of school due to lack of school fees in primary school and secondary school in Kenya, Valentine knew it was only education that would change her life, that of her family and others in need. As a young Maasai girl, she had to fight for her education. She currently holds a diploma in Creative Writing and Film Making, Degree in Business Management, Masters in Business Administration (MBA) and hopes to start her PhD in January 2018.

JACKIE BROWN

Nottingham-born community activist was raised in Jamaica, returning to England in her late twenties.

Jackie works tirelessly in her community, and ran her local community centre singlehandedly earlier this year, until a committee was established. Secretary of her local Tenants' and Residents' Association, Jackie also acts as a 'critical friend' to her landlord Nottingham City Homes, chairing the Tenant Equalities Panel and playing an instrumental part in helping Nottingham City Homes achieve Excellent in the Social Housing Equality Framework.

Jackie is a passionate advocate of black and ethnic minority healthcare, and volunteers for 'Check Tings Out', the prostate cancer awareness organisation.

Jackie was also heavily involved in Nottingham's Universal Roots project in 2012 and 2013, developing three exhibitions entitled '*Boots and Routes*' that encouraged others to step into the shoes of people who had migrated to Nottingham and share their experiences.

Jackie keeps black history alive all year round, particularly with new generations, through storytelling and food tasting and among her many achievements is a past winner of the Nottingham Equality and Diversity Awards (2015).

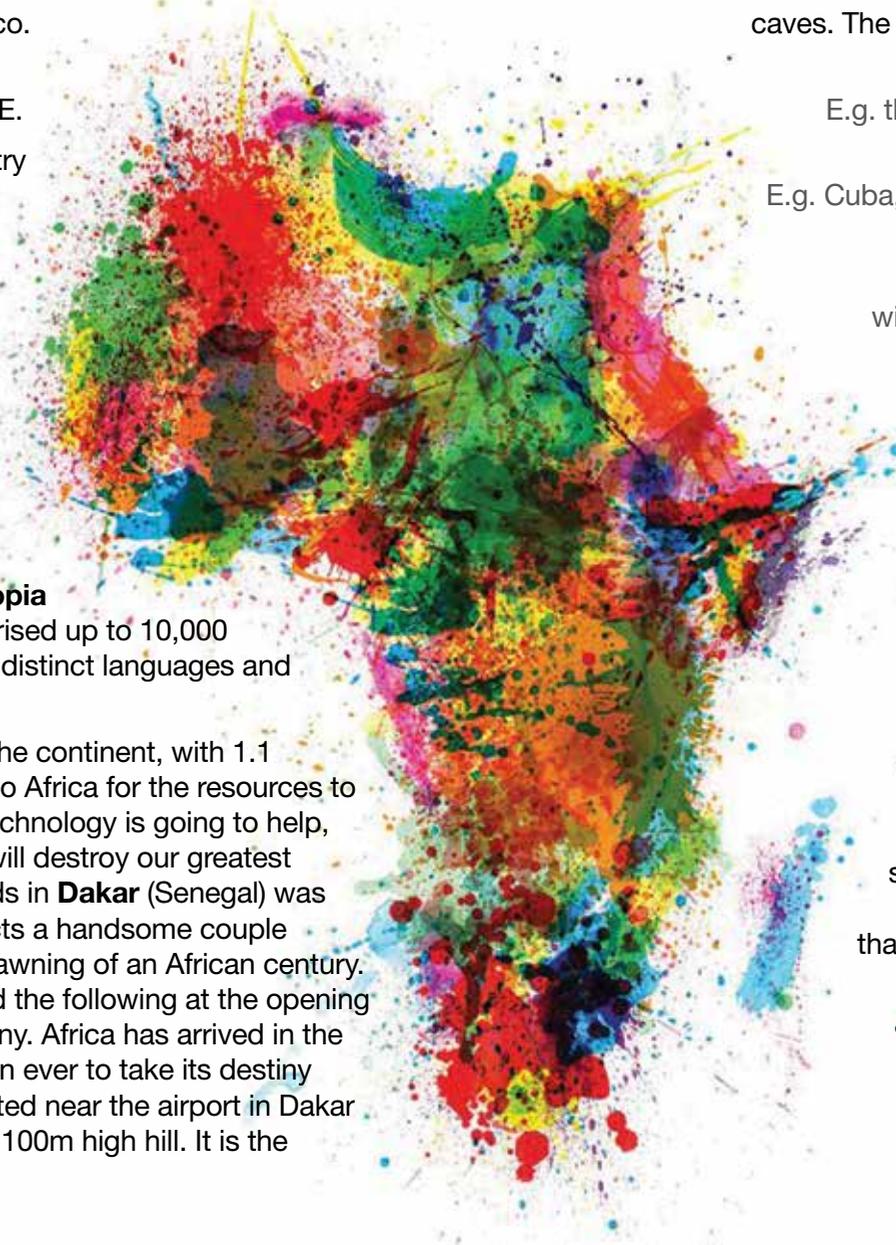
A truly unsung hero, Jackie epitomes the strength of character, vitality and passion that have enabled black women to thrive and maintain families and communities.



Did you know?

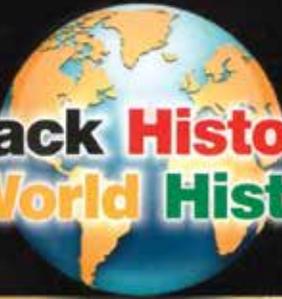
- **Africa** and **Europe** are separated by less than 9 miles at the Strait of Gibraltar, which separates Spain from Morocco.
- **Timbuktu**, Mali, is home of one of the oldest universities in the world, established in 982 CE.
- From 1977 to 2011, **Libya** was the only country in the world with only one colour for its flag (green), with no insignias, design or other details.
- The **Sahara** is the largest desert in the world and is bigger than the continental USA.
- There are 54 countries and one “non-self-governing territory”, the **Western Sahara**, in Africa.
- All of Africa was colonized by foreign powers during the “scramble for Africa”, except **Ethiopia** and **Liberia**. Before colonial rule Africa comprised up to 10,000 different states and autonomous groups with distinct languages and customs.
- ‘Today there are few truly wild places left on the continent, with 1.1 billion people and a global economy looking to Africa for the resources to sustain development into the next century. Technology is going to help, but, if we carry on our current trajectory, we will destroy our greatest work. The colossal monument that now stands in **Dakar** (Senegal) was named “The African Renaissance”, and depicts a handsome couple holding their baby to the sky to beckon the dawning of an African century. In 2010, then-President Wade of Senegal said the following at the opening ceremony: “It brings to life our common destiny. Africa has arrived in the 21st century standing tall and more ready than ever to take its destiny into its hands”. “African Renaissance” is located near the airport in Dakar (Senegal) and stands 49m tall on the top of a 100m high hill. It is the tallest statue in the world outside of Eurasia.’

Steve Boyes: *National Geographic*



- There are more than 700 different **Caribbean** islands, islets, reefs and caves. The islands are divided into different island groups:
 - **The Lucayan Archipelago** – E.g. the Bahamas and the Turks and Caicos islands.
 - **The Greater Antilles** – E.g. Cuba, the Cayman Islands, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica and Puerto Rico
 - **The Lesser Antilles**, with sub-island groups the Leeward Antilles (e.g. Aruba), the Leeward Islands (e.g. Antigua) and the Windward Islands (e.g. Grenada).
- **Jamaica** has 120 rivers
- The largest exporter of sugar is **Cuba**
- **Jamaica** is home to the greatest concentration of churches per square mile than anywhere in the world (it boasts 1600 places of worship).
- One of the world’s hottest chillis grows in **Trinidad**. Although the Carolina Reaper is currently the hottest chilli pepper in the world, the moruga scorpion chili comes in at a close second (it also once held the title as the hottest in the world). And that’s not surprising, given that it has a heat of more than two million Scoville heat units (SHUs).
- The shortest runway on earth, not more than 1,300 feet long, can be found at the Caribbean island of **Saba**.

Black History is World History



Safe Alternative Centre CIC 2nd Year Anniversary Celebrations



Family Fun Day



**DWAYNE PATRICK'S
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CHILDREN'S
EDUTAINER**



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**HOSHITEL
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AT QUEENS WALK COMMUNITY CENTRE, MEADOWS, NOTT'M, NG2 2DF**

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