



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
Black History
ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

Autumn 2008

Volume 6, Issue 3

GET UP, STAND UP!

ANOTHER PROJECT SUCCESS

It has just been announced that NBHA has been awarded a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund of £47,700 to develop and deliver a project documenting the history of a youth movement set up in 1970s.



Original members of MFM

In partnership with Northampton Museums, NBHA hope to recruit a team of volunteers to help deliver this project called, Get Up, Stand Up: The History of Matta Fancanta.

Matta Fancanta (MFM) was set up in 1970s by a group of Black youths who felt marginalised by the conventions of Northampton at that time. The project will document and record people's experiences of MFM and the social and political climate of the time.

The project has three main aims:-

- To document and record peoples' experiences of the MFM movement
- To engage young people with the history of their locality and of a youth movement
- To create educational resource material relating to the history of MFM

The recorded outcomes of the project will include:-

- A documentary film
- A performance
- A touring exhibition with associated educational material.



Focus Group - Feb 2008

We are looking for a part-time project worker to develop and deliver this project. For more information contact Nikki Taylor on 01604 590 967 or email

admin@northants-black-history.org.uk

!! DESIGN A LOGO COMPETITION - SEE BACK PAGE !!

It's not the end...

... just a new chapter.

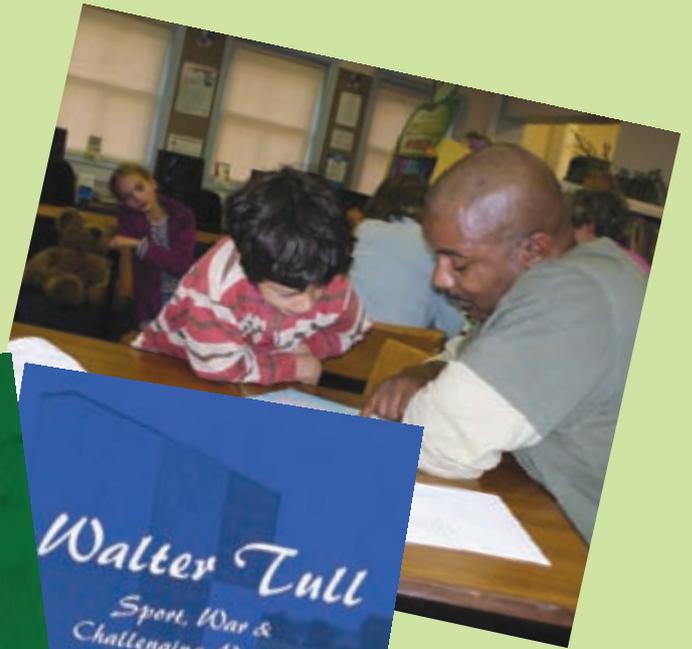
In June 2006, Northamptonshire Black History Association was awarded a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund to run a two year education project called **Shaping the Future**.

As the project ends, NBHA is looking forward to what comes next. As with most community / voluntary groups, the issue of funding is always a major obstacle in planning, but NBHA is luckier than most. We have a proven track record of successfully delivering high quality projects on time and in budget. But the most important asset that we have is people. We never lose sight that much of what we achieve is due to the numerous amounts of people who have been involved in our projects, courses and events.

And for that we thank you.

Shaping the Future in pictures





... Shape The Future

On **13th October 2008**, NBHA will be celebrating the achievements of its two-year education project at Northampton School for Boys, Billing Road, Northampton. From 4pm to 6pm you are invited to join us as we review the project. Attendees will get a chance to see some of the project's recorded outcomes.

Some of you may have read recently about changes in the National Curriculum. NBHA has been fortunate to have Jerome Freeman, QCA Consultant for History and Social Sciences as our guest speaker at this event.

Jerome has worked for QCA as a Curriculum Advisor for the past eight years. He has been responsible for a number of projects related to curriculum, assessment and qualifications including developments in the national curriculum for history 5-14, and the approval and monitoring of GCSEs and A levels in a range of subjects. Prior to this he was a Humanities inspector in the London Borough of Greenwich and a Humanities advisory teacher in Derbyshire. He also taught History, English, Geography and RE for over 14 years in a range of state secondary schools.

This event is aimed at anyone who has an interest in education, both formal and informal learning. Teachers, parents, LSAs, school governors etc are all welcome.

For further details contact NBHA on 01604 590 967 or email admin@northants-black-history.org.uk

Cultural Awareness Day - KRISP

On a rainy Saturday on 7th August 2008 members of NBHA spent a lovely day sharing the mobile exhibition about black history in the county. This is an annual event at Avondale Community Centre, Kettering to celebrate the town's diversity.

Every year the event boasts a marvellous array of foods from around the world. This year was no exception offering the opportunity to sample Kurdish vine leaves, South African pastries, Gambian stews, Caribbean Jerk Chicken, Indian and Chinese cuisine - not to mention English Scones!

There were many wonderful performance including Bhangra drummers, a Caribbean steel band and some marvellous dance performances from New Vision Youth Group. With stalls from a wide range of agencies it was a great opportunity to meet people from all over Kettering from lots of different backgrounds.

There was an opportunity to have your caricature drawn and painted which proved very popular. These pictures are going to be scanned and brought together to create a large scale mural of the faces of Kettering which will be shown in the town's centre in the near future.

It was a very enjoyable day and the team at KRISP did a fantastic job in organising the day and bringing everyone together.

NBHA members and supporters are warmly invited to the launch event for our new book, scheduled for **Thursday 6 November at 7.30pm** in the Central Library, Abington Street, Northampton. Titled **Sharing the Past: Northamptonshire Black History**, our Big Book is the outcome of two years of research, writing and picture-collection by a team of authors and editors. It draws together the main conclusions of local Black History research undertaken over an even longer period. The book will provide local schools, community groups and the general public with an accessible, fully-illustrated account of how the Black and Asian presence in our county has developed over the centuries. Sharing the Past is jointly sponsored by the University of Northampton and the Heritage Lottery Fund: this makes it possible for us to sell a top-quality book at an affordable price. Come and help us to celebrate one of NBHA's most important publications so far!

NBHA Annual General Meeting 2008

NBHA held its third AGM on 17 July 2008, at the Doddridge Centre, Northampton. This was an opportunity for members and friends to hear a summary of the year's work, and to celebrate our considerable achievements. During formal business Ruchira Leisten announced her retirement as Chair, and Donna Palmer-Smith was elected to take her place. The audited accounts were approved by the membership, and NBHA's governing documents were amended to support our forthcoming application for charity status. Four new Directors were elected (Morcea Walker, Dipana Patel, June Gulley, John Brownell) to join re-elected Directors Monica Babb, Paul Bracey, Terry Bracher, Julia Bush, Jenny Labbon, Ruchira Leisten, Bobb Lewis, Marjorie Morgan, Donna Palmer-Smith and Nikki Taylor. Janet Douglas-Hall, Angela Ghavami, Anne-Marie Sandos and Pat Sinclair were elected as additional Committee members. The meeting concluded with a showing of the film 'Sticks and Stones', an outcome of collaborative project work between the Northamptonshire Record Office, NBHA and local schoolchildren.

Some events in 2007/8...

Volunteers - Summer Newsletter Mailout



International Slavery Museum



Windrush@60 Event



Equiano Exhibition Trip

NBHA will be sponsoring a season of Black History films, to run at the St George's Avenue Campus of the University of Northampton during October 2008. The university is encouraging attendance by local schoolchildren, as well as by interested adults, so some films will be screened in the afternoons. On Thursday 23rd October 'Baldwin's Nigger' will be shown at 7.30pm. For full details of what is on offer, visit the University website or contact the NBHA office at the Doddridge Centre (01604 590967).

Morcea Walker Honoured by the University

Congratulations to Morcea Walker, who became an Honorary Fellow of the University of Northampton at the degree ceremony on 9 July 2008. The award was made for her outstanding contribution to education and teacher training in Northamptonshire over the past thirty-five years, both as an education professional and as a leading member of the local African Caribbean community.



Morcea with Vice Chancellor Ann Tate

Starting Soon! New Oral History Project

We are pleased to announce that funding has been obtained from the Arts and Humanities Research Council for a collaborative project between NBHA and the University of Northampton, concerning Caribbean settlers in Northampton in the 1960s and 1970s and the ways in which shopping for food, homes and entertainments helped to define a new community. Three members of the NBHA Committee joined in the selection panel for a three-year research post, and we look forward to welcoming the successful candidate, George Watley, in October 2008.

This popular course is recruiting once again for an Autumn Term programme which includes several new visiting speakers. As in previous years, the course provides a general introduction to Black British History and makes extensive use of local visual, oral and documentary evidence. Accredited by the University of Northampton, it is jointly delivered by NBHA speakers and University staff at Park Campus, Boughton Green Road, on Tuesday evenings from 6-8pm (subsidised course fee: £60). The first session is on **30 September 2008**. Full programme and application form can be obtained from julia.bush@northampton.ac.uk, or from the NBHA office at the Doddridge Centre (01604 590967).

National Conference a Great Success

Northamptonshire Black History Association hosted the Education Conference of the **Black and Asian Studies Association** on 12 July 2008 at the University of Northampton. Speakers from around the country opened our eyes to some of the excellent work going on to bring Black British History into the classrooms.



Extra dimensions provided by community initiatives and parental

involvement are supplementing such work, or challenging its absence in many schools. Two

conference workshops were based around the curriculum materials of NBHA's current Shaping the Future project, and another was led by young members of Northampton West Indian Community Association.



Conference feedback forms expressed enthusiasm for an 'inspiring' day. Many thanks to all the NBHA members who helped this event to run so smoothly, providing national showcase for our own achievements.



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30th Sept	Black British History - Course starts. Full programme and application form can be obtained from julia.bush@northampton.ac.uk
13th Oct	Shape The Future - NBHA will be celebrating the achievements of its two-year education project at Northampton School for Boys, Billing Road, Northampton, 4 - 6pm. Details contact NBHA.
20th Oct	From Slavery To Emancipation (resource pack) - NBHA teacher training in partnership with NIAS, facilitated by Alison Gove-Humphries. 4 - 6pm. Details contact NBHA.
23rd Oct	Film. 'Baldwins Nigger', University of Northampton, Avenue Cinema 6.30pm.
29th Oct	Lecture. Young Children & Racial Justice, Jane Lane (Author of a recent National Children's Bureau publication), 11.30am -1.30 pm at University of Northampton, Cottesbrooke 126 (Park Campus).
6th Nov	Sharing The Past - NBHA Book Launch. Join NBHA at the Central Library, 7.30pm for the launch of their new book.

Volunteers

Thank you to all the volunteers who help to ensure that NBHA is such a successful organisation, and a special mention to those who help with the newsletter mailout, your support is much appreciated.

DESIGN A LOGO COMPETITION

Calling all budding artists and designers - we are looking for a logo for the Get Up, Stand Up! The History of Matta Fancanta project .

Matta Fancanta Movement (MFM) was a youth movement set up in the 1970s by young people who felt excluded from the activities on offer at that time. The movement brought young people together to get up and stand up for what they wanted and needed. The logo should represent this sense of youth and unity.

Closing date: 25th October 2008.

For further details contact NBHA on 01604 590 967 or see the website www.northants-black-history.org.uk .

Where can you find us?

Northamptonshire Black History Association is based at

Doddridge Centre, 109 St James Road, Northampton NN5 5LD

Phone: 01604 590967 Email: admin@northants-black-history.org.uk

Website: www.northants-black-history.org.uk

Please contact us at this address for further information on all NBHA's plans and activities, and please come and join in!



Supported by

The National Lottery[®]
through the Heritage Lottery Fund



Northamptonshire
County Council