

EVELYN DOVE

Born:

11th January 1902,
London.

Died:

1987, London.



Evelyn Dove was the first Black singer played on BBC Radio. Prior to this, she studied at the Royal Academy of Music but realized that she would not be able to find work in the classical music scene due to her skin colour. Instead, Dove became a jazz singer and grew so famous that she toured all over the world, from the USA to India.

Significance: Dove was one of BBC Radio's most popular singers throughout the Second World War and provided yet another example of a successful Black woman for others to look up to.



CLAUDIA JONES

Born: 1915

Died: 1964



Claudia Jones was a pioneering journalist and political activist.

In 1958, she launched the West Indian Gazette – an anti-racist newspaper campaigning for social equality. That same year, she launched the famous Notting Hill Carnival in response to the Notting Hill race riots where a group of 400 white people attacked the homes of Caribbean residents.

Significance: To this day, the Notting Hill Carnival annually celebrates the beauty of West Indian culture and heritage. It provides a place for people to experience and appreciate the positive influence of Caribbean culture.



Basil D'Oliveira

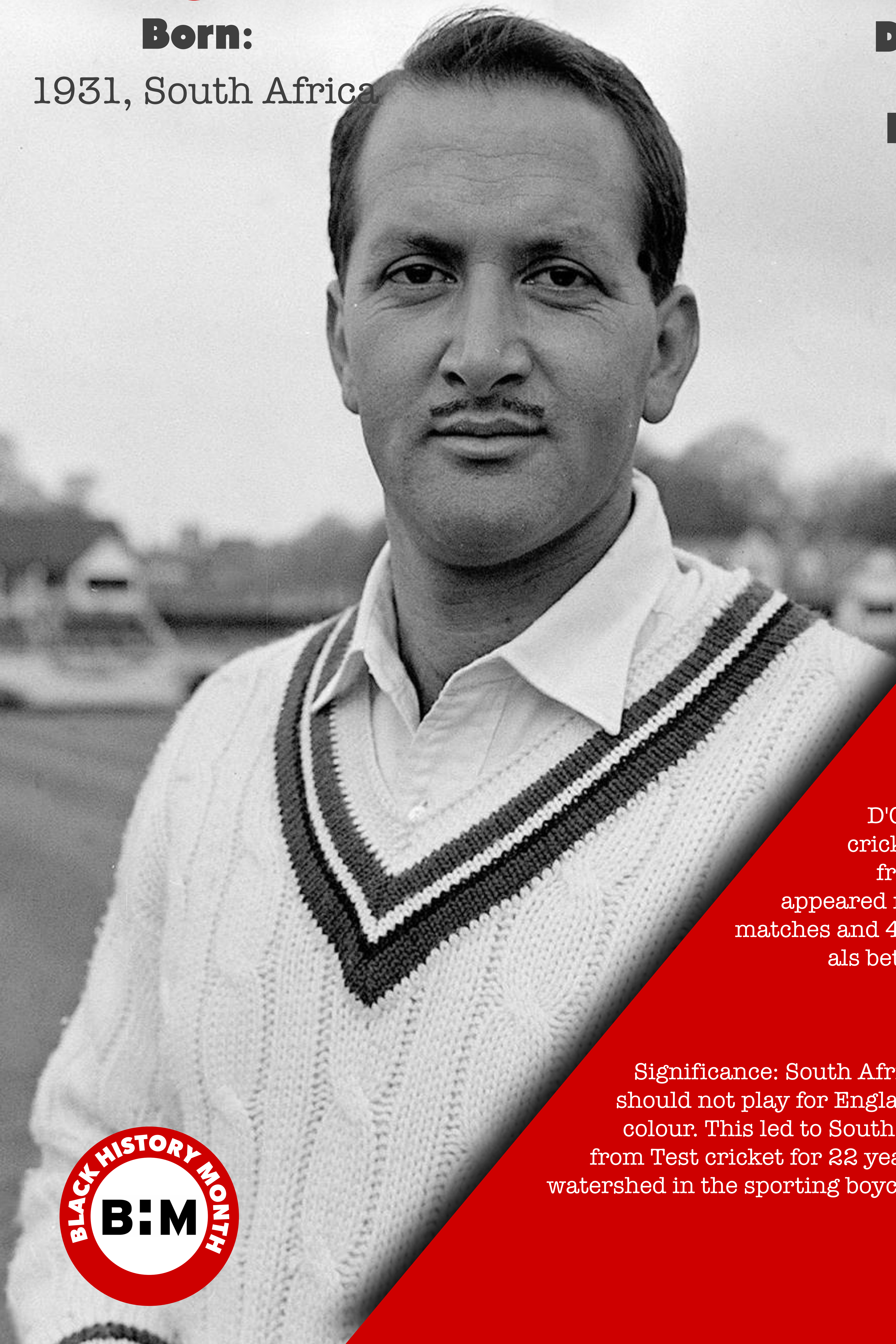
Born:

1931, South Africa

Died: 2011

Religion:

Catholic



Claudia Basil D'Oliveira was an England international cricker. D'Oliveira played county cricket for Worcestershire from 1964 to 1980, and appeared for England in 44 Test matches and 4 One Day Internationals between 1966 and 1972.

Significance: South Africa believed D'Oliveira should not play for England because of his skin colour. This led to South Africa being excluded from Test cricket for 22 years. This was seen as a watershed in the sporting boycott of apartheid South Africa.



LILLIAN BADER

Born:

28th March 1941,
Liverpool.

Died:

14th March 2015.

Lilian Bader was the first Black woman to work in the Women's Auxiliary Air Force in 1941. She had previously been sacked in 1939 from her job as a Canteen Assistant in the British Army because she was mixed-race. Bader eventually went on to be promoted for her excellent work in the air force.

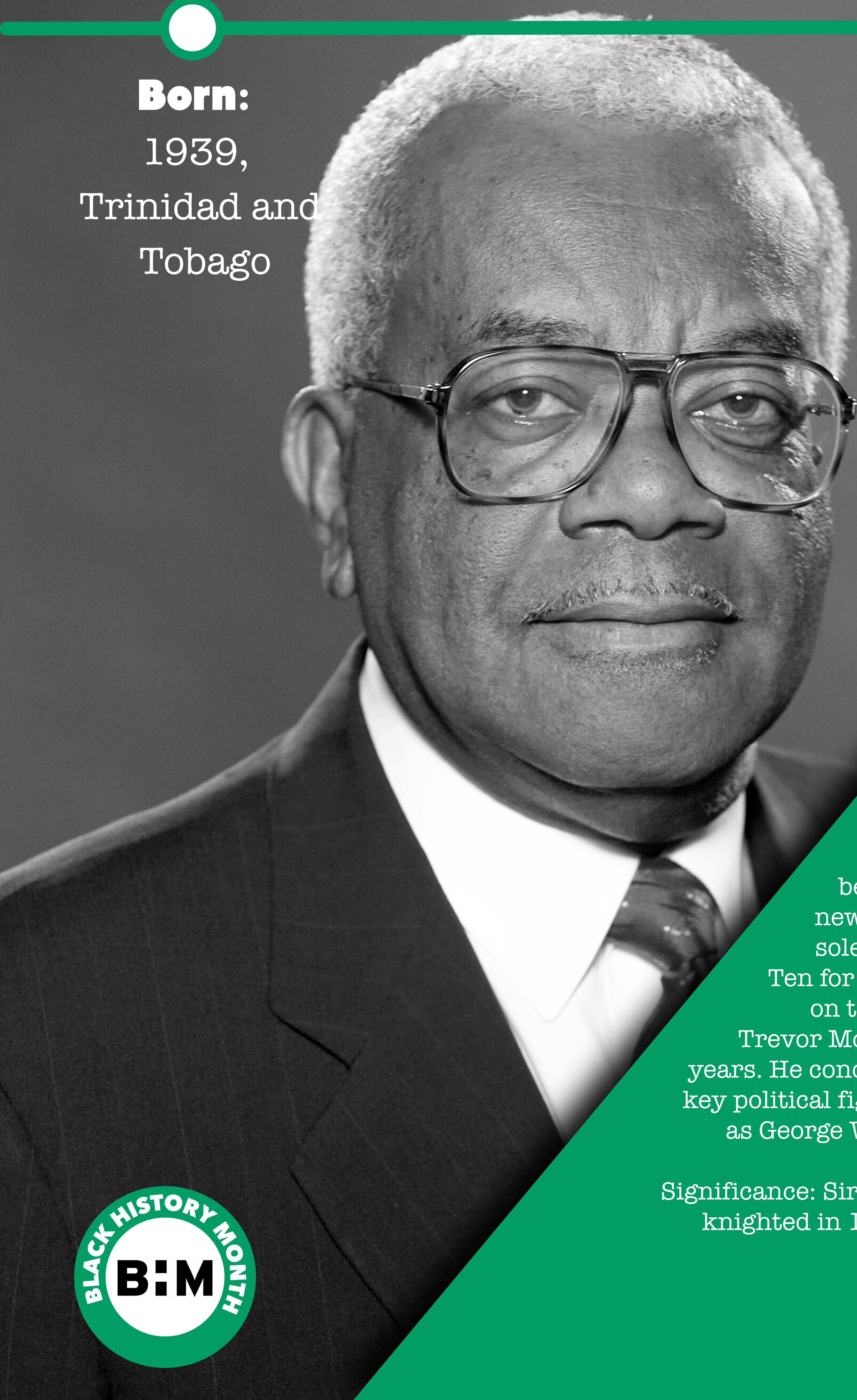
Significance: Lilian Bader paved the way for future women of colour. Her work proved that equal opportunities should be provided for all within the British Armed Forces.



Sir Trevor McDonald

Born:

1939,
Trinidad and
Tobago



Sir Trevor McDonald is most famous for his career as a TV and news presenter for ITV. In 1973, he became ITN's first black news reporter. He was the sole presenter for News at Ten for 7 years and then went on to present Tonight with Trevor McDonald for a further 8 years. He conducted interviews with key political figures at the time, such as George W Bush and Tony Blair.

Significance: Sir Trevor McDonald was knighted in 1999 for his services to journalism.



DIANE ABBOTT

Born:

1953, London



Diane Abbott is a leading politician in the Labour Party. In 2008, her civil liberties speech won Spectators award for Parliamentary Speech of the Year. Abbott is also the founder of the London Schools and the Black Child initiative, which aims to raise educational achievement levels amongst black children.

Significance: Abbott was the first black, female MP, elected in 1987 and is the longest serving black MP in British history. She is still an MP for Hackney today.



FRANK CHINEGWUNDOH

MBE

Born:

1961, England



Professor Frank Chinegwundoh was the first Black British urological surgeon. Since qualifying in medicine in 1984, Chinegwundoh has dedicated his career to raising awareness of prostate cancer. For the last 20 years, he has been the chairman of the UK registered charity 'Cancer Black Care'. He was awarded an MBE in 2013 for his work in the NHS.

Significance: Chinegwundoh published the first UK data on the differences of prostate cancer between black and white men. This has helped to improve the understanding of healthcare for black men.

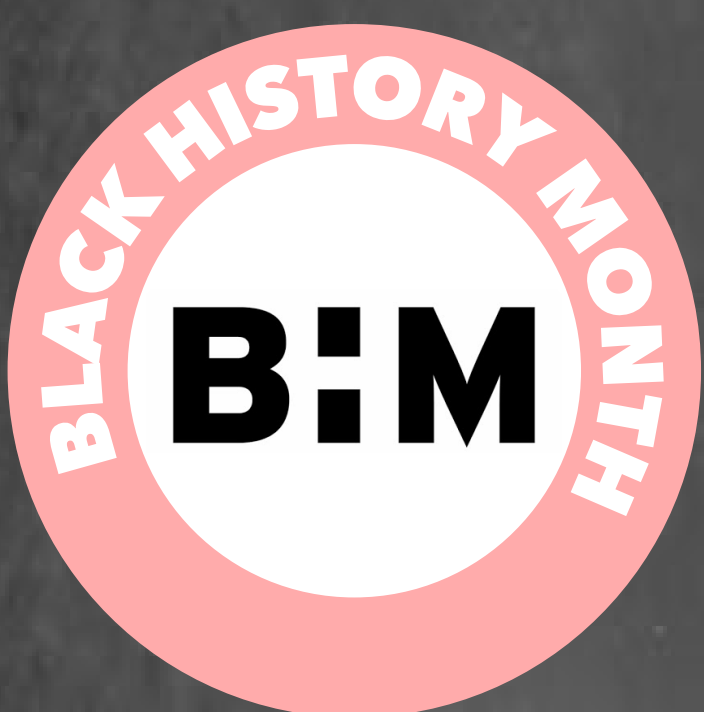


MALORIE BLACKMAN

Born: 1962

Malorie Blackman is a children's author. She has written many books, most notably, *Noughts and Crosses*. Her book uses the setting of a fictional dystopia to explore racism. In 2020, *Noughts and Crosses* was adapted for a TV series. Her first book, *New Windmills Spring*, sold out within a week.

Significance: Malorie Blackman received an OBE for her literary work in 2008. Between 2013-2015, she served as 'Children's Laureate', a title given to a writer of children's books to celebrate outstanding achievement in their field.



Sir Mo Farah

Born:1966

Religion:
Islamic



Mo Farah (Mohamed Farah) is a Somali born British long-distance runner and the most successful British track athlete in modern Olympic Games history. Farah is the most decorated athlete in British athletics history with ten global titles.

Significance: He has won British Athlete of the Year more times than any other athlete and also BB Sports Personality of the Year. In 2017 he was knighted by Queen Elizabeth for services to athletics.



Marcus Rashford MBE

Born:

31 October 1997

Religion:

Christian



Marcus Rashford is an English professional footballer who plays for Manchester United. In March 2020 during the coronavirus pandemic, Rashford teamed up with a food waste charity to deliver meals to children in Greater Manchester who were no longer receiving their free school meals. In June, Rashford wrote an open letter to the government calling on them to end UK child poverty. A day later, the government announced a change in policy and extended Free School Meals for children during the summer holidays.



Nicola Adams



Trailblazer Nicola made history as the first woman to win the Olympic gold medal for boxing. She was also the first openly LGBT boxer to win a medal. Up until 2012, the Olympics didn't allow women to compete in boxing, so Nicola was fighting stereotypes to earn her place in the ring.

Always a trailblazer, Nicola didn't stop making history when she stopped boxing last year. This year she'll be on our screens in *Strictly Come Dancing*, breaking boundaries in the first same-sex couple to dance on the show.



Leigh-Anne Pinnock

Born:

4 October 1991

Leigh-Anne Pinnock is an English singer, songwriter, actress and member of the British girl group Little Mix.

In May 2021, Pinnock released her documentary "Leigh-Anne : Race, Pop and Power." talking about racial issues and colourism in the music industry and her personal experiences. The documentary also shows Pinnock participating in protests in the UK against racial injustice, and discussing the issue with fellow activists. At the end of the documentary, Pinnock announced her charity, "The Black Fund", which is made to support existing charities and groups who deliver support to the black community, including financial support.

