



NEWSLETTER

News from the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre
and Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Education Trust

Issue 12 September 2010

OUR BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS

Gus John and the Learner's Charter

Wednesday 13th October, 2010, 5.30pm – 7.30pm

We are delighted to announce that Professor Gus John will be giving a talk at the University of Manchester, Sackville St Building.

Born in Grenada, Professor John came to the UK to study and is now an associate Professor at the Institute of Education, University of London. He has had a long and distinguished career as an educationalist, learning facilitator, advocate, activist and champion and was a member of the Macdonald Inquiry into the murder of Ahmed Iqbal Ullah and co-author of the Burnage report: *Murder in the Playground*. Professor John has always challenged the way schools exclude children, especially Black children, and is currently the chair of Parents and Students Empowerment (PaSE), working with parents and excluded students and those at risk of exclusion.



Published by New Beacon Books, and with an introduction by our director Chris Searle, Professor John's latest work: *the Case for a Learner's Charter for Schools*, 2010, highlights his aims:

The Case for a Learner's Charter is meant to encourage a debate about what schooling is for and how schooling provision should be made, and schools organised and funded, to ensure that every child does matter and that schooling contributes to the rounded development of children with confidence, self worth, values and skills that make them fit for living in civil society and contributing to the social and economic life of the community.

This event is free but ticket only. To reserve your place and to receive your tickets please contact us at the Centre, on 0161 275 2920.

Other Dates for Your Diary:

28th September: INSET event for teachers: "Getting Ready for Black History Month", an opportunity to learn about the history of Black History Month and borrow resources. Training to be held at the Centre. Booking forms available from www.manchester.gov.uk/tradedservices

1st - 29th October: A display of work on the Nigerian folktale "Tortoise and the Dancing Palm Tree" will be on show in the children's section of North City Library.

14th and 15th October: Storyteller Jean Edmiston will be delivering storytelling sessions using books produced by the Education Trust, at various community venues to be confirmed.

29th October: Charles Alford, biographer of Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, will deliver a presentation about the Black British Composer at the Royal Northern College of Music, Oxford Road, Manchester. Time: 7.15pm.

Throughout October, Sam Kalubowila will deliver assemblies and workshops to schools to help them celebrate Black History Month: contact sam.kalubowila@manchester.ac.uk for further details and to make a booking.



MANCHESTER HISTORY

Yemeni Community in Salford

From February to April this year, the AIUEducation Trust developed a Beacon Project, in partnership with the Yemeni Community Association in Eccles and Salford University. This small project surveyed the Yemeni community to see how many people in the community feel comfortable and confident discussing their own history in the area. We were interested to see if people would welcome a larger, community-based oral history programme. The Beacon project came about because community member Yusuf Bagail expressed his fear that as the older people (many the original migrants of the 1950s) come closer to the end of their lives, the heritage of this community is at risk. Few of their histories have been recorded and information about early efforts at community organising, the founding of the Eccles Mosque, the first Yemeni café and other historic firsts, can only be found in the memories of the elders. These memories need to be captured so that this hidden history of a minority community in Eccles is not lost forever. In our pilot, we found a very high level of interest in the possibility of a community history project and we are working closely with the YCA to develop a bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund to record the history of the community and generate a legacy and stronger sense of identity for future generations.

Were you involved in Manchester's Anti- Apartheid Movement?

Freelance Exhibition organiser Pollyanna Clayton-Stamm is coordinating an exhibition to be held on the ground floor, The Hive, Manchester in 2011, entitled 'Forward to Freedom'. The exhibition will pay tribute to the British Anti-Apartheid movement. If you were involved in Manchester's campaign in the 1980s and have material such as photographs, posters, pamphlets and flyers, please get in touch with us here at the Centre.



(Image courtesy of Manchester Archives and Local Studies)

Do you have Memories of Whitworth Park?

The Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre is taking part in an exciting new 3 year project, led by the Manchester Museum and the University of Manchester's Archaeological Department and partnered with the Whitworth Art Gallery and Friends of Whitworth Park. The project involves looking at the history of Whitworth Park and archaeology surveys have already taken place, unearthing some fascinating artefacts, such as pieces of Victorian pipes. Excavations of buried features will take place in Summer 2011. We have sited some wonderful old photographs, revealing the forgotten boating lake, bandstand, observatory, covered walkways and a statue of Christ, which used to compliment the familiar statue of Edward VII, still facing onto Oxford Road. We have also found photographs of demonstrations, such as an anti racist demonstration held in 1977 and have discovered that many protest marches started or finished at the park.

Community involvement is central to this project and we want to discover people's views about the park: what it used to be like, how it is viewed now and whether people think of it differently at different times of the day and year. We also want to involve both younger and older park visitors. Our director, Chris Searle, will be carrying out poetry workshops with local school children, helping them to express their feelings about the park, and we also will be conducting some of the oral histories with local people. If you would like to find out more about this project or would consider being interviewed, please get in touch with Julie at the Centre on 0161 275 2920.

Refugee Awareness Roadshow

The Refugee Roadshows, which were run by the Centre and the Trust during refugee month, June 2010, were an enormous success. Funded by Aimhigher and supported by Community Arts North West, the Refugee Council and Barnado's, the team visited three schools in Greater Manchester. The aim of the sessions was to give different perspectives on the refugee theme and this was achieved by the variety of workshops on offer. These included an art workshop on war and peace, testimonials from refugees, Jazz demonstrations and a session on media bias. The strength of the sessions lay in the diversity of the workshop leaders: University of Manchester staff, a Cameroonian Jazz musician, an accountant who fled fighting in the Congo as a teenager, teachers from Ethiopia and Zaire and a Kurdish artist. Feedback from both staff and pupils from the schools has been extremely positive and clearly reveals the necessity for such sessions. One pupil wrote:



I thought they (refugees) were bad people but they're like us. And another was moved to write: I have a duty to help them (refugees) out.

Funding permitting, this event will be rerun next year.

Manchester Central Library Refurbishment

Most of you will be aware of the temporary closure of Central Library, but what you may not know is our involvement in the exciting new scheme. The building, which first opened its doors to the public in 1934, is undergoing a complete refurbishment, under the watchful eye of specialist conservation consultants, Senior City Council project managers and Ryder Architects, who have been commissioned to make the building more accessible and more user friendly.

The temporary City Library at Elliot House, on Deansgate, opened on June 28th 2010 and has proved to be very popular. Visitors can find many of the services they had come to expect from Central Library, including the borrowing of books and DVDs and, in fact, the new Local Studies space actually means that more books are on display. The interior of the building is very modern and stylish and a visit is highly recommended. Meanwhile, archive material has been moved to the Greater Manchester County Record Office, Marshall St and a retrospective cataloguing project is taking place at Universal Square, Ardwick, with the aim to catalogue over a million card-indexed books.

The really exciting part about the refurbishment of Central Reference Library is the amazing resource that will be available once its doors reopen in 2013. A partnership has been formed between Manchester Archives and Local Studies, The Greater Manchester County Record Office, Manchester and Lancashire Family History Society, the North West Film Archive, The British Film Institute Mediatheque, Manchester Register Office and the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre (University of Manchester) and the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Education Trust. All the partners will have a presence at the library and will be working together to provide a far better service for users. The new space will include a cinema, improved book displays, performance space and a café, as well as meeting rooms, learning spaces and search rooms. As stated on the City Council's website, the aim is for:

A simple archive centre of excellence for all Greater Manchester (which) will provide easier local access and presentation to our city's heritage.

We can't wait!

(Image courtesy of Manchester Archives and Local Studies)



CILIP Archiving for All Day School on Archiving Skills

After the success of last year's event and requests for it to be rerun, the North West Branch of CILIP Local Studies Group have organised an Archiving for All day school to take place on Wednesday 17th November 2010, 9.30am – 3.45pm, at the Sackville St Building, Room G13D. This year's topics will again include handling archive material and classifying archives but timely new subjects will also be covered, such as digital archiving. Speakers include experts in the field such as Katharine Carter (Greater Manchester County Archivist), Nic Raynor (Conservator, Greater Manchester County Record Office) and Paul Newman (Senior Archivist, Cheshire Archives and Local Studies). This day is open to anyone and costs £20.00 per person (Lunch not included).

If you would like more information or to reserve a place, please ring Julie on 0161 275 2920.

The Messenger (Spirit of Nina Simone)

Professional performers Annette Reis Dunne (B.Ed Dip Opera Perf.) and Hazel Roy (M.A. Applied Theatre) have created a dramatisation of the remarkable story of Black singer Nina Simone and her musical crusade and commitment to the cause of Civil Rights. A musical child prodigy, Nina should have enjoyed a glittering classical career, but rejection by an all White board of an elite conservatoire shaped the rest of her life. This story is acted/ narrated and describes aspects of Nina's life with her music providing a backdrop to the struggle of the Civil Rights Movement during the 1960s. It is offered as a 60 minute educational piece to schools for performance during Black History Month.

For costs and further information, please contact the performers:

Tel: 01457 83 6795/0161 434 5021

Mob: 07799 418873

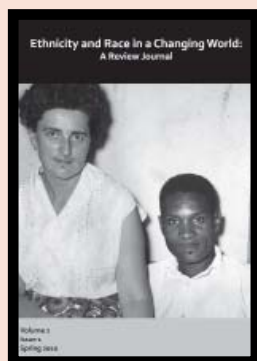
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Ethnicity and Race in a Changing World: A Review Journal



Don't forget, the latest issue of our international journal: *Ethnicity and Race in a Changing World: a Review Journal*, published by Manchester University Press, is now available to view and download, free of charge at:
<http://www.manchesteruniversitypress.co.uk/journals>

The issue has two very interesting articles: *Conflicting Narratives of Black Youth Rebellion in Modern Britain* and *British Pakistani Muslim Women's Political Empowerment and Boundary Crossing, Case Studies*. If you would like to be put on our journal mailing list to receive notifications about new issues, or would like more information about the journal, please email racereviewjournal@manchester.ac.uk

Contact Details

The Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre and Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Education Trust are open 9.30am - 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

Address:

University of Manchester, J Floor, Sackville Street Building, Sackville Street Area, M60 1QD (M1 3BB in sat navs)

tel: 0161 275 2920 fax: 0161 275 0916

Centre website: www.manchester.ac.uk/racerelations

Trust website: www.racearchive.org.uk

The Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Education Trust is a registered charity. Its registration number is 1089257.

