

H I D

D E N I

P A G E S

IN RESPONSE TO...

HIDDEN PAGES

Hidden Pages is an online platform that shares the stories of “Black” people who have had a significant impact on Britain and the further world’s development. Hidden Pages’ goal is to increase awareness of Black history across the globe.

This zine pays special tribute to George Floyd and many other Black individuals who have lost their lives to police brutality. In this issue Hidden Pages provides sources that will help you gain a greater understanding of Black history, culture and pertinent issues that affect Black people across the world.

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A T R I B U T E T O
GEORGE FLOYD
AND ALL THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN KILLED BY POLICE BRUTALITY



Before the coronavirus pandemic there already existed a more insidious, stubborn and deadly virus that continues to infect the world with origins many hundreds of years ago. This virus or disease led some humans to inhumanely harm others for profit and implement laws that permitted the ill treatment of certain groups of people, all based on how much melanin their skin contained. This virus is called systemic racism. Today, systemic racism still plagues humanity and the myth of "White supremacy" is at the core of this pandemic.

On 25th May 2020, Derek Chauvin, a White police officer, pinned his knee and entire body weight on George Floyd's neck for 8 minutes and 46 seconds - Chauvin killed Floyd in the process. Unfortunately, George Floyd's murder is not the first instance where a Black person has been killed by a police officer using excessive force. Despite only making up 13 percent of the US population, Black Americans are three times more likely to be killed by the police than White Americans.^[1] As major police forces across the United States have disproportionately more White officers than non-White people in the communities they serve,^[2] the implication is entrenchment and institutional racism. Hence, many argue that increasing diversity within police

forces is one solution to help improve relations with local communities and tackle racial profiling as the presence and perspectives of different ethnicities will challenge racial bias amongst law enforcement.

As innate as our birth right to breathe, so to is our right to not worry that our appearance might lead to experiencing overt racism or microaggressions; to not be concerned that our appearance might affect our teachers' academic expectations of us, to not worry that our names might affect our chances of employment and to know that we can leave our homes without fear that a "routine police check" might lead to incarceration or worse, death. We all have the right to be ourselves without worry and just... breathe. However, as Floyd gasped for air straining to say "I can't breathe", his final moments sadly symbolise how many non-White people across the world feel: socially and politically suffocated by systemic racism.

Some reacted with bewilderment to the protests that erupted across the UK in response to Floyd's murder, perhaps believing that issues of inequality and marginalisation of Black and minority ethnic

(BAME) people are not as widespread in Britain as the United States. However, there is a plethora of research which showcases the disproportionate rates of arrest, deaths in police custody, unemployment, school exclusion and poverty that ethnic minorities experience in comparison to White Britons.^[3] All of which strongly suggests that not "all lives" have equal opportunities or experiences in Britain.^{[4][5]} Considering this, it is no surprise that protests to George Floyd's murder have also proliferated here in Britain.

As a society, we need to invest more effort towards eradicating systemic racism and social inequality from the top down. Social media posts and polemic rhetoric are not enough to achieve this goal. The real work towards real equality happens in the real world. In order to achieve the utopia of a "post-race" society where everyone thrives socially and economically regardless of their hue, we must be willing to have (sometimes uncomfortable) discussions about how the social construct of race is being used to perpetuate social inequality and maintain the status quo. We all need to discuss practical steps and solutions to eradicate the devastating and debilitating pandemic that is systemic racism.

Our thoughts and prayers are with George Floyd and his family, friends and loved ones.

BLACK BRITISH HISTORICAL ICONS

CHEDDAR MAN

OLDEST COMPLETE SKELETON FROM THE FIRST
BRITONS WHO LIVED 10,000 YEARS AGO

A DNA analysis of Britain's oldest complete skeleton, 'Cheddar Man', proves that the first Britons had dark to Black skin. Scientific research suggests that Cheddar man's ancestors migrated from Africa to the Middle East, before crossing the ancient land bridge known as Doggerland (the remains of which are now called Dogger Bank in the North Sea) which connected Britain to mainland Europe. "Around 10% of White British ancestry can be linked to this ancient [Cheddar Man's] population."^[6]

JOHN EDMONSTONE

UNIVERSITY TUTOR WHO INSPIRED
CHARLES DARWIN (BORN 1793)

Edmonstone was an ex-slave from British Guiana (now Guyana) who taught Charles Darwin taxidermy. Without Edmonstone, Darwin might never have developed the skills needed to preserve the specimens he found on the Galapagos Islands, nor perhaps would he have the tools to develop his Theory of Evolution which the world has held in such high regard. Darwin described Edmonstone as a "pleasant and intelligent man."^[8]

QUEEN CHARLOTTE

QUEEN OF ENGLAND (1744 - 1818)

Queen Charlotte was the wife of English King George III and a direct descendent of Margarita de Castro y Sousa, the Black branch of the Portuguese Royal House. Sir Allan Ramsay's portraits of Queen Charlotte (such as the one dated 1762 and another dated c.1761-69) display facial features which indicate a Black African ancestry. Queen Charlotte also championed womens' right to education. She is quoted as once saying: "I am of the opinion that if women had the same advantages as men in their education they might do as well."^[7]

JOHN ARCHER

MAYOR OF BATTERSEA (LONDON) AND DEPUTY
LEADER OF THE LABOUR GROUP (1863 - 1932)

Archer was heavily involved in emancipatory politics in the UK and fought for racial and social equality. He was the founding president of the African Progress Union, a Pan-African association with the primary goal of uniting, emancipating and empowering African and Caribbean countries across the globe.

T H E AFRICAN PRESENCE THROUGHOUT BRITISH HISTORY

MODERN HISTORY DOES NOT INCLUDE ALL EXAMPLES OF PEOPLE OF AFRICAN ORIGIN & BIRTH WHO LIVED AND SETTLED IN EUROPE. SOME EXAMPLES...

AFRICANS IN ROMAN BRITAIN

At its peak, the Roman Empire spanned from north-western Europe, to North Africa and the Near East, the Levant, encompassing various ethnicities and cultures that intermingled due to Roman military conquest, subsequent civilisation and trade throughout the territories.

One example dates from 1901 when the skeleton of a Roman woman known as the Ivory Bangle Lady was found and dated to the latter half of 4th century AD. She was buried with expensive items including pendants and bracelets which indicated her higher-ranking status in Roman York. "Isotope analysis showed she had spent her early years in a warmer climate whilst her skull shape suggested she had some North African ancestry."^[9] Also, dated back to 4th century AD was an inscription found at Burgh-by-Sands (in the City of Carlisle) which referred to Aurelian Moors, soldiers from the Roman province of Mauretania in North Africa, modern-day Morocco.

"It's most likely those troops were mustered by the Emperor Septimus Severus, who himself was born in Roman Libya and became Rome's first African emperor."^[9] In 2014 the forensic analysis of an ancient skeleton known as "Beachy Head Lady" (as she was discovered in Beachy Head, East Sussex) suggested that she was alive during the Roman period around 200-250 AD and was of sub-Saharan African descent.

THE MOORS "BLACKAMOORS" OF EUROPE

In AD 711, the Moors occupied Spain and ruled in Iberia for over 700 years.

During this time scientific progress in Astronomy, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Geography and Philosophy flourished in Moorish Spain.

"Moor", derived from the Latin word "Maurus," "was originally used to describe Berbers and people from the ancient Roman province of Mauretania in what is now North Africa. Over time, it was increasingly applied to Muslims living in Europe. Beginning in the Renaissance, "Moor" and "Blackamoor" were also used to describe any person with dark skin."^[10]

One of the most notable Blackamoors in Tudor England was Diego Negro who helped Sir Francis Drake (pirate and slave trader) during various expeditions as his 'chief conductor'. Despite Drake's slave trading history, it could be argued, that Diego Negro collaborated because at one point they shared a common enemy in the Spanish. Evidence suggests that Diego was a Symeron or Maroon – people originally "from West Africa who separated themselves from 'their Spanish Masters'"^[11] – who showed the English "how to wage guerrilla warfare against the Spanish" as well as "new routes to the North and South Atlantic"^[3] and may have been Drake's principle interpreter as he spoke English, Spanish and numerous Native American languages.^[11]

A letter signed by Elizabeth I on 11 July 1596 addressed to the Aldermen and Mayors of London and other cities read: "Blackamoors brought into the Realme, of which kinde of person there are all ready here to manie ... should be sent forth of the lande."^[11] This letter indicates that the number of Black people present in Tudor England was visibly significant and highlights the xenophobic attitudes of the monarchy towards them at the time.

About Race with Reni Eddo-Lodge

Reni Eddo-Lodge, author of the bestselling *Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race*, presents a podcast that explores race relations in recent historic and contemporary Britain. Eddo-Lodge delivers insightful interviews with a range of guests from then-Shadow Home Secretary Diane Abbott to rapper, author and activist Akala.

In Search of Black History with Bonnie Greer

Bonnie Greer uncovers the stories of people of African descent across the world that have largely been omitted from the history of Western civilisations. Greer explores the stories of various historical figures from philosophers to warrior women.

Have You Heard George's Podcast?

An award-winning and critically-acclaimed podcast from George the Poet explores race, crime, music and identity using poetry, fiction, news and song to deliver a novel perspective on inner city life.

The Stoop

Journalists Hana Baba and Leila Day discuss experiences of the Black diaspora through compelling stories.

The Echo Chamber

Friends Jade and Ez discuss issues they feel resonate with Black British people, speaking from the perspective of Black, working-class women.



AMOS BURSARY
BECOME IMMERSIVE
CLUB CORE
BLACK MINDS MATTER
THE SICKLE CELL SOCIETY

READ

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When We Ruled: The Ancient and Mediaeval History of Black Civilisations - **Robin Walker**

Black Inventors, Crafting Over 200 Years of Success – **Keith Holmes**

Natives: Race and Class in the Ruins of Empire – **Akala**

Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race - **Reni Eddo-Lodge**

The Falsification of Afrikan Consciousness: Eurocentric History, Psychiatry and the Politics of White Supremacy - **Amos N. Wilson**

Black Skin, White Masks - **Franz Fanon**

Dark Days - **James Baldwin**

LISTEN

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BLACK AND BRITISH: FORGOTTEN HISTORY

BBC

13TH
NETFLIX

SITTING IN LIMBO
BBC

AMERICAN SON
NETFLIX

HIDDEN FIGURES
AMAZON PRIME

WATCH

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S

A TRIBE CALLED PROGRESS

NUBIANSHIP

JAMII

UP & COMING SPORTS

NEW BEACON BOOKS



WE WILL NOT FORGET REST IN PEACE

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED IN THE UK

SARAH REED	JOY GARDNER	ADRIAN THOMPSON
MARK DUGGAN	SEAN RIGG	JEAN CHARLESDE MENEZES
SHEKU BAYOH	LEON PATTERSON	DEMETRE FRASER
CHRISTOPHER ALDER	CYNTHIA JARRETT	ASTON MCLEAN
SMILEY CULTURE	CHERRY GROCE	OLASENI LEWIS
JIMMY MUBENGA	DEREK BENNETT	ANTHONY GRAINGER
MICHAEL POWELL	KINGSLEY BURREL	DAVID ROCKY BENNETT
LEON BRIGGS	ROGER SYLVESTER	ALTON MANNING
RICKY BISHOP	AZELLE RODNEY	MARK NUNES
BRIAN DOUGLAS	HABIB ULLAH	ADRIAN MCDONALD
	FARUK ALI	

THOSE WHO HAVE DIED IN THE US

ERIC GARNER	FREDDIE GRAY	DYZHAWN PERKINS
KALIEF BROWDER	DARRIUS STEWART	CHRISTOPHER DAVIS
JOHN CRAWFORD II	BILLY RAY DAVIS	MARCO LOUD
MICHAEL BROWN	SAMUEL DUBOSE	PETER GAINES
EZELL FORD	ASSHAMS PHAROAH MANLEY	TORREY ROBINSON
DANTE PARKER	FELIX KUMI	DARIUS ROBINSON
MICHELLE CUSSEAU	KEITH HARRISON MCLEOD	TERRILL THOMAS
LAQUAN MCDONALD	JUNIOR PROPSE	SYLVILLE SMITH
GEORGE MANN	LAMONTEZ JONES	KEVIN HICKS
TANISHA ANDERSON	PATERSON BROWN	MARY TRUXILLO
AKAI GURLEY	DOMINIC HUTCHINSON	DEMARCUS SEMER
TAMIR RICE	ANTHONY ASHFORD	WILLIE TILLMAN
RUMAIN BRISBON	ALONZO SMITH	ALTON STERLING
JERAME REID	TYREE CRAWFORD	PHILANDO CASTILE
MATTHEW AJIBEDE	INDIA KAGER	TERENCE CRUTCHER
FRANK SMART	LA'VANTE BIGGS	PAUL O'NEAL
NATASHA MCKENNA	MICHAEL LEE MARSHAL	ALTERIA WOODS
TONY ROBINSON	JAMAR CLARK	JORDAN EDWARDS
ANTHONY HILL	RICHARD PERKINS	AARON BAILEY
MYA HALL	NATHANIEL HARRIS PICKETT	RONELL FOSTER
PHILLIP WHITE	BENNI LEE TIGNOR	STEPHON CLARK
ERIC HARRIS	MIGUEL ESPINAL	ANTWON ROSE II
WALTER SCOTT	MICHAEL NOEL	BOTHAM JEAN
WILLIAM CHAPMAN II	KEVIN MATTHEWS	PAMELA TURNER
ALEXIA CHRISTIAN	BETTIE JONES	DOMINIQUE CLAYTON
BRENDON GLENN	QUINTONIO LEGRIER	ATATIANA JEFFERSON
VICTOR MANUEL LAROSA	KEITH CHILDRESS JR	CHRISTOPHER WHITFIELD
JONATHAN SANDERS	JANET WILSON	CHRISTOPHER MCCORVEY
FREDDIE BLUE	RANDY NELSON	ERIC REASON
JOSEPH MANN	ANTRONIE SCOTT	MICHAEL LORENZO DEAN
SALVADO ELLSWOOD	WENDELL CELESTINE	BREONNA TAYLOR
SANDRA BLAND	DAVID JOSEPH	GEORGE FLOYD
ALBERT JOSEPH DAVIS	CALIN ROQUEMORE	DAVID MCATEE

AND SO MANY OTHERS WHOSE NAMES
ARE NOT MENTIONED HERE

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