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LAMPAG OPEN MEETING
Monday 21 October 2024
12.00 pm to 2.30 pm
Room 16 Lambeth Town Hall

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY

Speaker: Simone Higgins: Music from the Divatones: Bring and Share Food: Raffle: Traditional Dress Welcome

Black History Month is a celebration and recognition of the role of people from Africa and the Caribbean in shaping UK History and the economy. It provides an opportunity for everyone to show-case and applaud our past and existing influential Britons. It gives us a chance to share, learn, and have more understanding of the impact of black history and culture on the world platform. Black History Month is a month for revisiting our history, for unearthing untold stories of heroism, sacrifice and struggles for change. It is about shedding a light on individuals whose contributions are often overlooked in the mainstream. Their actions would be invisible were it not for Black History Month.

The theme of this month is celebrating change makers. It highlights the crucial role of black people who have influenced history, promoted change and built communities. We salute Wangari Maathia 1940-2011, Nobel Prize winner 2004 for environmental work in Kenya. Marcus Garvey, Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela, the campaigners for Justice for the Windrush generation and will mention women like Amy Ashwood Garvey and Mavis Best Clarke. We will revisit the campaigns against racism in Notting Hill and Nottingham in 1958 and in 1948 in Deptford and Canning Town as well as in Liverpool. We also need to shine a light on women like Olive Morris, Dame Doreen Lawrence and Olivette Otele and many others who have made a difference.

Come and pay tribute to and honour the change makers past and present who have left their footprints in the sands of time.

Winter Fuel Payment Cuts - The backlash.

Pensioners' organisations are stepping up their actions against the government's decision to retain the cuts to the Winter Fuel Payment. Pensioners' organisations like AgeUK, the NPC, Fuel Poverty Action, the Fuel Poverty Action Coalition, Silver Voices, the TUC retired workers and others have stepped up the campaign. A spokesperson from Fuel Poverty Coalition commented, "Axing winter fuel payments is not about rot in the system. It is about basic fairness for older people facing soaring energy bills in retirement." The charges this winter will mean that some older people will face the highest ever bills. Around 2m pensioners in poverty will no longer be eligible for the payment. 90% will lose their payments. Labour's own reserves from 2017 suggest that the cuts to the winter fuel payment could result in the death of pensioners.

Pensioners have already suffered under austerity and the cost of living. The personal tax allowance on the state pension has been frozen at £12,570 since 2012 and the government is to keep it frozen until 2028. Energy prices went up on 1 October. Pensioners who need the energy more than others will be hit even harder. What is more, the richest families in the country own 50% of the wealth in country. How fair is that?

Pensioners are angry and feel betrayed by a government which has promised to improve the lives of working people. Pensioners **are retired working people**. The NPC calls on the government to step away from this ill advised strategy immediately, to increase the uptake of pension credit and to have a proper risk assessment strategy.

Committee Meeting: Monday 28th October 1pm at Town Hall Room 1



If you would like to join a campaign calling for improvements to the provision of public toilets in Lambeth

Email: campaigns@ageuklondon.or.uk

Experience not necessary and will involve 4-5 meetings this winter