

1965-1975

1965

1965 Dyke & Dryden opened a small retail shop in West Green Road. Len Dyke and Dudley Dryden initially sold records and products for black skin and hair. By 1973, they focussed solely on selling black beauty, hair and cosmetic products. The founders used their own money to set up the company as High Street banks did not support black businesses. By 1986 the company had numerous branches and an annual turnover of £5 million.

1966

1966 New Beacon Books was founded by John La Rose and Sarah White. Based on Stroud Green Road, it was the UK's first black publisher, specialist bookshop and international book distributor. John established the Caribbean Artists' Movement and later the George Padmore Institute. In the 1970s he was a founder member of the Black Parents' Movement.

1966 Guyana-born Arif Ali opened Fruitex, a greengrocer's on Tottenham Lane stocking Caribbean produce. Customers travelled across London to socialise and discuss politics. Arif used a Gestetner machine to reproduce articles from Caribbean newspapers for his customers. He set up a co-operative with members of the Hornsey Credit Union, and weekly contributions could be left at Fruitex. Proceeds from selling the business financed publication of the 'Westindian Digest'. The venture became Hansib Publications, producing 'Westindian World', 'Caribbean Times', 'Asian Times' and 'African Times'.

1967

1967 Fashion designer Ozwald Boateng was born in Muswell Hill. His parents emigrated from Ghana in the 1950s. Ozwald was bought a purple mohair suit at the age of eight and went on to establish a tailoring business in Saville Row. In 2008, he joined the REACH committee, as part of an independent panel to identify and recruit national role models who work to help raise aspirations of black boys.

1967 Historian and writer CLR James delivered a speech in London, opening with the words "Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, Black Power. I believe that this slogan is destined to become one of the great political slogans of our time. Of course, only time itself can tell".

1968

1968 Jamaica-born Basil Lewis became Haringey's first black councillor, elected as Conservative member for Stroud Green Ward.

1968 Conservative MP Enoch Powell delivered his 'Rivers of Blood' speech in Birmingham, criticising mass immigration.

1968 Wesley de Mendonca from Guyana was appointed to Haringey Council's Town Clerk Department to carry out duties in community relations.

1969

1969 Haringey Council's 'Report to the Education Committee on Comprehensive Education' recommended a controversial banding system across Haringey's Comprehensive Schools. An earlier leaked document, the 'Doulton Report', stated that academic standards would be lower in schools with a large proportion of children from the West Indies. The NLWIA's counter report, 'The Real Challenge', warning parents of the proposals was widely circulated in the black community. The campaign led to the withdrawal of proposals by the Conservative administration. After the 1970 local election, banding was dropped by the new Labour Council.

1969 On 26 October Patsy Peltier Scott, now of Haringey U3A, was crowned Miss Afro-Caribbean of Great Britain.

1971

1971 The Immigration Act ended large scale immigration to Britain from the Caribbean.

1974

1974 Aquarius Hair Salon was set up on Stroud Green Road, and in 2019 is still run by the third generation of the Parry family.

1974 'BBC Radio Black Londoners' show started, hosted by Alex and Joyce Pascall.

1975

1975 Cliff Mc Daniel, a 17 year old black schoolboy was beaten by police outside the Stationers' Company School in Weston Park. The Black Parents' Movement was formed to respond to this and other incidents of police harassment of local young black people. The BPM built up alliances with similar organisations nationally and internationally, going on to participate in campaigns involving political crises in South Africa, Grenada and Guyana.

1975 OSCAR (Organisation of Sickle Cell Anaemia Research), the first Sickle Cell Support Group was founded in Wood Green by Sickle Cell patient Dr Neville Clare.

