

The Newsletter for Chapeltown, Harehills & Surrounding Area

ISSUE 9

#### Introduction

Sept 1997

Hello once again, and welcome to our Anniversary Issue. Thanks for all the help and support from the community. Without your help we couldn't last two years. Keep the letters coming.

#### In this Issue:-

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Community Highlight:

#### Take a Glance at Northern Contemporary Dance

Letters to the Editor .....

Community Anniversaries .....

An official opening of the new studios and students' facilities at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance took place on Tuesday 30th September, and included speeches, tours of the new building and a buffet lunch from Chapeltown's Dr. B's Caribbean Restaurant, which provided the catering in the new restaurant. Richard Alston was the guest of honour for the event. A dance specially created by Chantal Donaldson from the Phoenix Dance Company was performed.

The first section of the project include three new studios, an administration block, a library, seminar rooms and a lighting suite. There is a new foyer and restaurant area ready for the new academic year. The building is now astonishing - the décor includes imprints of dancers engraved into the glasswork.

The day was enjoyable, the food was sweet, the turn-out was good and everyone who attended had to stand back in amazement. Well done.

Northern School of Contemporary Dance, you're a blessing to the community.

#### Reggae Jazz Contemporary Dance Theatre

The RJC Dance Theatre, which is based at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance and was founded five years ago, consists of eight dancers and produces accessible and exciting dance performances, offering a dynamic blend of reggae, jazz and contemporary styles. They have toured the UK with recent successes such as Captured and Passionelle. Now they have been awarded £350,000 lottery funding to develop an extensive "dance in education" project throughout the country. By means of workshops, performances, residencies and the creation of a national youth dance company, they hope to encourage young men to take part in cultural dance activities.

## Community Talent Lloyd Leslie Herah

At the age of 7, Lloyd started drawing. Now aged 20, he is a fresh, up-and-coming artist with unbelievable talent. Lloyd attended college and obtained a diploma in information technology and has a GNVQ in art & design. He also did a parttime City & Guilds course in computers. Lloyd had various jobs in the warehouse industry, and worked at Farm Foods on Roundhay Road for a few months. He applied for various jobs in graphics. Lloyd's father works in Milton Keynes at a dry-cleaners, where Lloyd helps out by doing design and advertisement work (which has greatly inspired him to start up his own business). At the present he is on a course at CHEL "Head Starting business course". Lloyd has had quite a few commissions. He admits he didn't charge at first. "In the future I would like to have a successful business. At the present, I have an office in my mum's house. My hobbies are cycling, travelling and RMB Soul."

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## Unity in the Communities

On 25th August thousands of people from all backgrounds gathered to enjoy the annual West Indian carnival in Chapeltown, but this time was more special than usual because it was the 30th anniversary. Bright colourful costumes, Caribbean music, flamboyant dance and smiling faces brought an exotic cheer to the otherwise sombre streets of Leeds.

Elsewhere in Leeds other communities were holding summer events, for example Unity Day, organized by the Hyde Park Residents Association. This event lasted 10 hours and featured all kinds of music including reggae and grunge. There were community stalls including one for Victim Support and one for Royal Park Primary School (threatened with closure next summer). For the children there was a circus, a Mad Hatter's tea party, a bouncy castle, parachute games, skateboarding and pony trips.

September was the month of "Talkin' Reality", the multicultural arts festival run by Leeds City Council's leisure services department. This included various types of entertainment from local, national and international artists, e.g. a painting exhibition by Grenadian artist Denzil Forrester at Leeds Town Hall Crypt, which featured the interiors of clubs and dance halls interspersed with solitary figures in lonely streets; "Twisted Roots", an exhibition by French photographer Marie-Pierre Trigla at Yorkshire Dance Centre, which featured photographs of people with dreadlocks; the first National Didgeridoo Festival in the UK, which featured workshops and performances; a dominoes championship; a live Jazz performance by Jazz Jamaica; a poetry reading featuring English and Urdu poetry; a showcase for female vocalists; a workshop on the influence of Rastafarians on history and society; a performance by Guinean drummer Musa Suma; a jazz-reggae fusion; and a documentary about Muhammad Ali the boxer.

#### UNSUNG HEROINE

Do you know someone who has done well but never gets noticed?

Someone who has fostered a child or maybe a good hearted person?

Send us a written piece with £15.00 and we will come out and suprise them with a bottle of wine and a present.

# Positive News Campaign Against Discrimination

The Commission for Racial Equality has launched a campaign in Leeds to end job discrimination against women from ethnic minorities. Passengers in buses will see a new advertisement bearing the slogan: "What does she have to do to get a job?" According to Zahida Manzoor, the Commission's deputy chair: "The campaign will highlight the contribution made by women from ethnic minorities. We will offer positive role models to ethnic minority women, encouraging them to take on wider challenges in the Britain of the 21st century. However, research and experience reinforce the message that they can experience multiple discrimination." Unfortunately, advertisements in buses are more likely to be noticed by the people who are looking for jobs than by the people who do the recruiting.

#### ChildLine

ChildLine is the charity which provides a 24-hour telephone counselling line for children who are victims of abuse. So overwhelming is the need for such a service that two-thirds of calls from children go unanswered owing to lack of resources. The resources which are needed are money and time. If you care about this charity, you can volunteer your time without having to offer your services as a counsellor, because everyone can help with fundraising. Co-ordinating fund-raising activities is the job of Sandra Harding from Chapeltown, who would be pleased to hear from potential volunteers on 284 8807. Sandra's aim is to raise £20,000 by next March. She brings to ChildLine two years of experience in fund-raising (for the United Leeds Teaching Hospitals Trust) and a degree in applied social studies. She says: "I was really pleased to get the job with ChildLine. I was shocked to actually see what kind of service they provide, and just how difficult it is to do the work of a counsellor. ... People out there just need to know about the vital work of ChildLine and what would happen if the service was not there. They will be raising funds to provide more counsellors so more calls from distraught children can be answered. If that counsellor is not there it could result in a child committing suicide. It is as serious as that."

The number for children to phone if they need someone to talk to is 0800 1111.

West Yorkshire Community
Work Training Group

WANCIATO

WYCWTG

10 Hall Royd • Shipley • Bradford BD18 3HP Tel/fax 01274 582191

Get Implied!

### Give Them Hope

In Chapeltown and surrounding areas there are many of our local young people who have been allowed to drift into idleness and a variety of unproductive and unacceptable activities. Many are talented with a reserve of skills that can be used more profitably if opportunities are given. But sadly, all too often it is the negative aspect of their lives and their deprived communities that come quite frequently to the forefront.

As a local church leader I feel somewhat duty-bound to try and encourage change within these communities, in particular to instil a community spirit and try to harness local talents, channelling these perhaps wasted energies into achieving meaningful things. From a spiritual point of view I feel I must work along with others to endeavour to provide hope and some direction, and to develop initiatives that in some way might open the way for a better future.

#### Music School

Recently I met with Jerome Williams and Geraldine Conner to consider what types of challenging initiatives, starting off with things of leisure interests, our young people can/might find stimulating enough, and would offer opportunities to develop some of these under-utilized skills mentioned above. The idea of arts and cultural activity was a strong possibility and thus a music school was suggested as a means of educating and challenging, and certainly useful sufficiently to stimulate interests among the young people within the Chapeltown and Harehills communities.

An initial meeting was held in May 1997 at the Church of God of Prophecy, Austin Burke Memorial Centre, and about 40 young people (accompanied in some case by their parents) attended. The make-up of this group influenced church and others outside the church from the target communities. The idea was put forward and the response to establish the project was unanimous. It was agreed that activities would embrace not only music but a variety of creative arts.

Training should be provided in the following areas:singing, vocal training, piano and keyboards, guitar, drums, song-writing, music lessons, music production, violin, saxophone, steel pan, bass guitar, clarinet, breathing exercises, dance sequencing, contemporary jazz, poetry and so on.

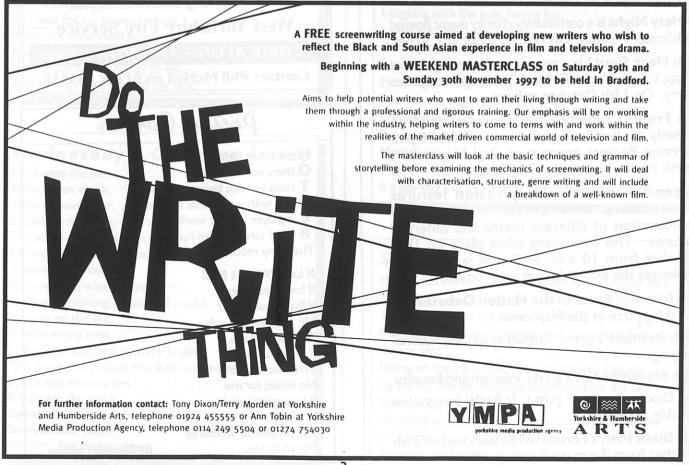
Teachers/trainers/instructors are all required, as well as the necessary instruments. An action plan is to be developed and sources of funds to be sought if the project is to take off and succeed. Volunteers who are prepared to contribute to the project are most welcome.

This is seen as a way forward and I know that the young people would benefit greatly and would certainly enjoy it, particularly with the much needed help and support of the local and wider communities.

Rev. Allan H. Sam

#### **Come & Support Chapeltown Library**

I insist this is an event not to be missed!



## Black History Month

"It's a Must. Come and celebrate with us."
At West Yorkshire Playhouse.

A celebration of cultural diversity is taking place at the Playhouse. Garfield Allen (the black arts coordinator) has been kept busy organizing and turning the spotlight on the achievements of black people in Britain and on our rich contribution to the life of the nation. A refreshing blend, lots of events, exhibitions, conferences, talks, shows, theatre companies, workshops and so much more. This event also showcases the work and ideas of multimedia artist and musicians, giving you chance to take part in workshops.

**Being Here** is a photographic exhibition giving an insight into the lives of Caribbeans and South Asians who came to Britain in the sixties. Open from 1st October to 2nd November.

A Tainted Dawn is a production by the Tamasha Theatre Company which tells the story of Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs caught up in the storms of history following the partition of India and the foundation of Pakistan. On from 27th October to 1st November at 7.45 pm, + 30th October 2 pm.

Radical Book Fair offers new publications from Africa, Asia and the Caribbean. Open from 1st October to 31st October until 6 pm.

Black Writers in Conversation is a series of readings and discussions on Tuesday evenings at 7 pm throughout October. Writers featured: 14th Oct.: Marcia Hutchinson; 21st Oct.: Bernadine Evaristo; 28th Oct.: Farrukh Dhondy, Maurice Bessman and Trish Cooke.

Variety Night is a community charity event hosted by Ishmael Thomas. On 12th October at 7.30 pm.

Yuh Hear Bout? is a poetry jam featuring Lemn Sissay, Valerie Bloom, Debjani Chatterjee and James Berry. On 17th October at 5 pm.

**Up Front Comedy Club** presents stand-up comedy the first Sunday of every month at 8 pm. Lorraine Benloss appears on 2nd November; Curtis Walker appears on 7th December.

Second Generation Inspiration features revolutionary new artists with original combinations of different media and different cultures. This free event takes place on 18th October from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and serious challenges the establishment art world.

The following **State of the Nation Debates** will be taking place at the Playhouse:

**15th October 7 p.m.:** English as an International Language.

12th November at 7 p.m.: Women and Equality.

3rd December at 7 p.m.: Is Racial Integration Possible in Leeds?

The Black Men's Forum will be launched on 29th October from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

### Community Role Model

Mr. Junior Norman Linton, 34 years old, has now been in the fire service for eight years. From a young age, Junior had always been fascinated by firemen and fire engines. Working in the Chapeltown and surrounding areas, Junior admits he finds it very interesting. "What really inspires me is when I see little children's faces, and watch them pulling their parents' hands and pointing. Just seeing their beaming faces when a black man comes out of the fire engine gives me a buzz." Junior is taking his leading fireman's exams soon, and hopes to progress further.

Junior admits that he'd love to see more of a multicultural balance in the fire service. Junior gave it a chance not knowing what to expect, but stresses that if there had been more coloured people in the services he would have been keener to join at an earlier age. All Junior's family are really fond of him, and he's glad that he made a vital move in his life.

Community Highlights is organizing a Promotional Show at Chapeltown Library in November (date yet to be confirmed), where you can come along to find out about the fire services, meet Junior and ask him questions. (Promotion items will be on show. You can watch videos about the fire service and so much more.) Come and see a black fireman from the Chapeltown community. (Bring your children along also.)

28-year-old Junior Linton had a burning ambition to join

-West Yorkshire Fire Service

COME ALONG AND JOIN HIM!

Contact Phil McNeil on 01274 655815

## Poetry Corner

M ost times right,

O thers not so bright,

T reats us with love and respect,

H eals with words that are perfect,

E mployer hard at work,

R ather strong when hurt,

That's my mother.

#### If Love Wasn't Real

If love wasn't real.

What would it be?

No animals on earth

For you and me.

If love wasn't real,

What would it be?

No music for me.

If love wasn't real.

What would it be?

No couples or weddings

For us to see.

By Dionne Fleming

## Children's Community Publishing Yesterday's Children

## Monday - Washday When I get up in the morning

It's freezing in my bedroom
And it looks very cold outside.
In my dreams I think about washing
Because I do it every day.
I feel alone and sad knowing this will be all I do for years to come.
First I have to collect it all up,
Then get the water hot.
Soap in the water.
Scrub and scrub,
Don't stop until I drop,
Then I put them on the line.
All done but all to come again next week.

#### Tuesday - Baking Day

Tuesday is baking day. I quite look forward to today. I sometimes get an aching back, I really do not like that. First I have to knead the bread So I can get the family fed, Then I roll the bread in shape And rub my hands when they start to ache. Then I put the bread in the oven. It's very, very hot. Then I put up my feet As I wait for my loaves to heat. When it's done I feel good, Knowing that it tastes like it should. I dish it out for my family to eat, And feeling tired, I put up my feet.

#### Wednesday - Cleaning Inside

It's always the same. Same as last week. Same as next week. Scrubbing the grimy floors, The strenuous, circular scrubbing Of the hard bristles on the brush. Sneezing with the dust As I wipe the window clean, Endlessly polishing, round and round. I sweep up the grit, It irritates my eyes. I thrust the dust as I push my brush. The dustpan is poised, the dust is collected And it falls into the bin. It's always the same. Same as last week,

Same as next week.

I'm dirty, but feeling clean.

Last May, Priesthorpe Secondary School organized a project whereby children researched their family history and the lives of their grandparents, and this culminated in a show which included drama and poetry. Here are some of the poems describing the daily life of their grandmothers and grandfathers.

#### Thursday - Cleaning Outside

First I scrub the step.

It's exhausting and everlasting work.

I scrub every week but it keeps on getting dirty.

My back breaks and arms ache.

At the end of the day I ache all over

And my hands shake.

The donkey-stoned doorstep is sparkling clean.

I am proud of my day's work.

#### Friday - Fish & Chips

Going to the Fish and Chip shop,

Relaxed, relieved, ready for something to eat.

Happy, glad to have been paid.

The cool breeze keeps me cool from the beating sun.

Now I'm thirsty. I'll go to the pub.

I'm sober but ready to get drunk,

Laughing with the lads, having fun,

I wish the night was eternal.

Getting my rounds in the pub.

It's an expensive job but it's fun.

Now I'm in the pub.

Everyone is laughing and cheering.

It's pay-day.

I've got all the drinks for the lads.

Home.

Now I'm in the doghouse.

It's pay-day, but I've got no money until next week.

#### Saturday

Happy and excited, getting dressed in a hurry but very carefully.

Thrilled as I enter the smoky cinema,

Pushing and shoving to get through the long line for a decent seat.

Sitting on the front row, watching Charlie Chaplin.

I greet my friends, then the organ plays for the silent film

We stand up and clap as it finishes, then go the home for a bath.

Tomorrow is Sunday and that means church.

### Community Link-up

#### Community Highlight Development Fund

If you're a registered charity, get your project mentioned. A small donation would be greatly appreciated.

GROW (Giving Real Opportunity to Women) is a black women's educational project, staffed by black women. The project offers an accredited induction package aimed at self-awareness, personal growth and confidence-building, enabling its women to progress from the foundation laid into further studies, training or employment. We offer on-site training as well as opportunities at local colleges and training bases. It provides tutorial, psychological and childcare support as its commitment to the women. The project is primarily aimed at women aged 16-25 with young children. However, if you feel you could benefit from talking to us, please contact us on 237 4362.

Women's Health Matters, Room 8C, 1st Floor, Vassalli House, 20 Central Road, Leeds LSI 6DE. (0113) 242 1070

Black Mental Health Resource Centre. Jamaica House, 277 Chapeltown Road, Leeds, LS7 3HA. Tel. 237 4229.

Leeds CultureBox. Tel. 240 5181.

Victim Support Tel.: 246 1167. Charity No. 511223.

ChildLine for children in danger or in trouble.

Youth Point: Free info on housing, health, relationships, drugs, benefits, etc.! Phone Leeds 274 9959.

Leeds Drugs Project: 14 St. Michael's Lane, Headingley, Leeds, LS6 3AH. Tel.: Leeds 230 6262.

West Leeds Works Exchange. Telephone Clair, Pol or Annette on Leeds 236 1713.

Heydays. Over 55's club. Call Lou Ford at the West Yorkshire Playhouse on Leeds 244 2141.

Substance Use/Misuse Project. Personal, confidential information and support. Call Sonia on Leeds 236 1713.

Cardigan Community Action. Services for older people in South Headingley and Burley. The Cardigan Centre, 145-149 Cardigan Road, Leeds, LS6 ILJ. Tel.: Leeds 275 9282.

The Ten to Two Club, Chapeltown Community Centre, Wednesday night 10 pm to 2 am, and Friday the same time. Socialize, play games, careers advice, poetry competitions and much more.

Chapeltown Community Centre. Youth clubs, activities, steel-pan workshops, etc. Tel. Leeds 237 4744.

Roundhay & Harehills Business Forum hold regular meetings regarding closed premises and security problems in Roundhay and Harehills. If you would like to get involved and come to the meetings, please write to Community Highlights. Where to get information and help in Leeds:-

National Drugs Helpline 0800 77 66 00

A free 24-hour confidential service for people who may be worried about drug use and would like more information. The call is FREE and will not show up on the telephone bill.

#### Leeds Addiction Unit 0113 292 6940

A wide range of services for people with alcohol, other drug an HIV problems. Call for advice or to make an appointment.

LDP (Leeds Drugs Project) 0113 230 6262

Offers consideration, information, advice and counselling on substance and HIV problems.

01977 790999 Dashline

A 24-hour helpline offering advice and counselling on solvents and drugs.

01785 817885 Resolv

Advice, information and education about solvent use for parents and young people. Phone Monday-Friday (between 9 am and 5 pm); answerphone at other times.

The Market Place

0113 246 1659

83 Kirkgate, Leeds, LS2

City Centre drop-in offering confidential information, support and counselling on issues affecting young people - homelessness, benefits, sex education, HIV, substance use and general health.

#### Axis 0113 222 5507

Is a drug prevention programme for East Leeds. Community Link-Up Page highlighting Universal Projects (free). No more than 10 words please.

#### **Community Dance Classes** at the NSCD

The Northern School of Contemporary Dance in Chapeltown holds a variety of fun and exciting classes for adults and children!

Classes for adults (aged 14 plus) are held during the week, 6.30-8.00pm, and include a new dance class taken by the leading Black British company RJC Dance Theatre, as well as Contemporary, South American and Afro-Caribbean classes.

Our ever-popular classes for children (aged 8-13) are held every Saturday from 9.30am, and offer youngsters a variety of styles from ballet to street dancing.

Classes run from 22 Sept to 29 Nov 1997. Cost is just 10p for children and 50p for adults.

Call the NSCD on 0113 262 5359 for more info. or drop in and pick up a leaflet!



The Northern School of Contemporary Dance Higher Education College

98 Chapeltown Road Leeds, LS7 4BH

## Letters to the Editor

From: Jo Dunleavy,
Al Accounting Service,
Harehills

One of my clients recently brought a copy of your newsletter into my office for me to see, and I must say how impressed I am by the enterprising spirit in which it was founded. One thing I've observed since opening my practice is the amount of enthusiasm and determination to succeed which is evident in Chapeltown & Harehills. Many local people, both young and not-so-young, are coming to me with practical skills and innovative business ideas which can be developed into sustainable businesses, thanks to the availability of grants in the area. It is always heartening to see how people's dreams can be realized with help from various agencies and professionals, provided people have the will and confidence to succeed. Many people don't realize what grants are available, not just for starting up new businesses but also for expanding existing businesses and for researching business ideas. For manufacturing businesses grants can be particularly generous. Some grants are available in inner city areas which are not available elsewhere, so a business address in Chapeltown & Harehills is a positive attribute. A business grant is not a hand-out, it's an empowerment to help you help your community.

From: Mr. W. Clarke, Chapeltown

The Carnival is a day when the atmosphere of Chapeltown is characterized by confidence and well-being; people feel proud of themselves and glad to be alive. Let's try to make the feeling last another 364 days.

#### Editor's Note:

In the next issue we are going to be discussing the new initiatives to change the image of Chapeltown & Harehills. Please let us have your views on the subject. Please indicate if you do not wish your name to be printed.

Address for correspondence and advertising copy:

Community Highlights, c/o The Print Shop, 275 Harehills Lane, Leeds. LS8 3RQ

#### COMM LINK UP

Are you a Community Project or Registered Charity? Why not highlight your project (on the comm link up page?). A voluntary donation will be greatly appreciated.

## Birth Announcement Ayrton Dominic Saunders

Date of Birth:

22nd August 1997

Time: 6.59 a.m.

Place:

St. James's, Leeds

Weight: 71b

Wishing Pat & Clive and the new baby all the best for now and the future.

P. Jones & All The Saunders Family

## Celebrate Good Times

Are you celebrating?

Send in your requests.

Get your Anniversary,

Christening, Graduation or Birthday

mentioned for £10.

## Advertising

Community Highlights is now out every 6 weeks. Money is now to be sent in with all adverts. Remember: "You have no say, if you don't pay."

Working together. This will help pay for the printing up of the newsletter. Now's your chance to advertise at a price that suits you, no matter what you do. So get advertising now.

### Revive Your Business

Is your business dying?

Don't give up! Try your luck with

Community Highlights!

Why not promote your business or project with a Newssheet/Newsletter all done at a reasonable rate? We'll even organise a show to promote your business - why not give us a bell or write to:

275 Harehills Lane, LS8 3RQ.

Don't Postpone!
Pick Up The 'Phone And Dial
Community Highlights

0976 539533

## LEARN KICKBOXING

An established style designed for men, women and children. Learn self-defence and keep fit in a friendly, safe environment.



FIRST LESSON FREE Classes held at:

Physique Fitness Centre,
Opp. Irish Centre, York Road.

Wed. 7.30 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.

Thurs. Children Only
6.00 p.m. - 7.15 p.m.
Sat. 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.
Sun. 1.00 p.m. - 3.00 p.m.
World Class Sports
Otley Town Centre

Mon. and Tues.
7.00 p.m. - 8.30 p.m.
Chapeltown Community Centre

Tues. 7.00 p.m. - 9.00 p.m.

FOR DETAILS, TEL: 0411 105709 (MOBILE)

YOU'VE BEEN BLESSED WITH A SPECIAL GUEST

\*

NO SKY LARK QUICK TO THE MARK

\*

FIRST 10 WOMEN
RECEIVE A BLACK ROSE



EXHIBITIONS OF BLACK HEROES

.

POETS, RAPPERS, SPEAKERS & DANCERS

+

IF YOU'RE WISE YOU MAY WIN A PRIZE (IN OUR BLACK HISTORY QUIZ)

\*

DON'T SIT BACK COME ON DOWN TO CHAPELTOWN IN BLACK

\*

DON'T LET BLACK HISTORY BE A MYSTERY

RECEIVE A BLACK
OBJECT AS YOU ENTER THE
COMMUNITY CENTRE

## Chapeltown in Black

presents

## Chapeltown Black History Celebration

The month of October 1997 has been designated Black History Month and as part of the Chapeltown celebration the Chapeltown Community Centre, will be hosting a day of events for children and parents, to celebrate the rich and diverse cultural that the people of Afrikan-Caribbean descent have contributed to the City of Leeds and to the world.

The event is sponsored by the Leeds City Council - European Year Against Racism, Community Highlights and the Chapeltown Community Centre Management Committee.

#### $\star$ LOOK OUT FOR THE BLACK HISTORY QUEEN $\star$

Place: Chapeltown Community Centre

Reginald Terrace Leeds LS7 3EY Time: 1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Date: Saturday 25th October 1997

Cost: Parents £1.00 & Children Free

This is a Community event for parents and children to celebrate our black cultural heritage so show your support.