

Award Winning Magazine, Established in 1995

# COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS



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**W**ell it's the countdown to Christmas, can you believe it? This is our first ever Christmas in lockdown, and it's going to be a strange one. But through it all we must uplift each other and stay positive.

Community spirit can be achieved through little things, such as checking on your neighbours and friends that you haven't seen in a while, or taking time out for the sick and lonely, but make sure you remember to wear your masks and stay protected. You could even pick up the phone to someone you haven't seen or spoken to for a while, as that small gesture could mean everything to someone during these hard times. With unemployment becoming more common, managing kids while working from home and trying to pay the bills, it's been a strange year for everyone.

Try to remember the bereaved families without their loved ones this year. The Covid vaccine has finally arrived, but we can't let our guard down just yet. Is the vaccine going to save us?

Please send us in your thoughts.

As Community Highlights celebrates 25 years in December 2020, we look back over many years, businesses which have come and gone, and stories that have unfolded in our community. We now have a 25 year archive of magazines that we can look back on fondly. We have seen lots of changes throughout these unpredictable times, and with people working from home we've seen entrepreneurial spirits within and around Chapeltown, with new businesses being set up from home. Covid has caught us unaware but it's actually made people try their hands at other things and inspired people in different ways.

Moving forward to 2021, we will be working with and alongside more members of the community and organisations, with lots of offers and support.

We give a big shout out to everyone who has made Community Highlights what it is today, as you have all been a tower of strength.

Last but not least, we're working on Fruits of Labour, a story about the 25 years journey of Community Highlights, which will be out next year in 2021, so watch this space!

## **MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.**

*"Believe in the Lord your God, and you shall be established; believe His prophets, and YOU shall prosper." 2 Chronicles 20:20.*



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LOOK OUT FOR MY COVID EXPERIENCE BLOG COMING SOON

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS IS RUN VOLUNTARY PLEASE DONATE  
SUPPORT PLEASE GET IN TOUCH

NEXT DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES AND ADVERTS IS JANUARY 16TH





# Let's Sing4Jesus 2020 is Christmas Singing for Everyone.

This annual Christmas Carol Singing provide an opportunity not to be missed!

Oh Come all you faithful. Come let's us adore Him!

Please join us Online this Christmas and let's get singing online on Zoom and Facebook Christmas Carols.

## When?

Every Tuesday and Thursday online in the evening at 6:00 pm -7:00 pm.

## Dates:

Starting on Tuesday 1st Dec 2020 and Thursday 3rd Dec 2020

Time: 6:00 pm -7:00 pm

End on 18th Dec 2020

Oh Come all you Faithful

Let's Adore Jesus Christ by Christmas Sing4Christ

a scheduled Zoom meeting.

## Topic: Christmas Singing4Christ

Time: 18:00pm -19:00pm

Every Tuesday & Thursday Dec 2020 up to 17th Dec 2020

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3483496931>

Meeting ID: 348 349 6931

Passcode: 275073

Singers and Musicians are welcome!

Interested? Drop us a line.

Event Contact:

[Leedswordofgrace@yahoo.com](mailto:Leedswordofgrace@yahoo.com)

<https://m.facebook.com/watchparty/826700334573037/>

# ***GRAFT WINS BBC THREE'S THE RAP GAME UK!***

Leeds-based Rapper Graft has been crowned winner of BBC Three's The Rap Game UK. The former professional football player realised his first love was music, and put all his efforts into becoming an artist – going on to win MOBO UnSung 2018.

With six new MCs and one record deal, rap legends DJ Target, Krept and Konan have been searching for the next big MC to take over the scene. And last night Graft battled the remaining contestants to win the prize.

Other PRS Foundation grantees made guest appearances on the show as mentors, including Ms Banks (Momentum, International Showcase Fund) Yungen (Momentum) and Fanatix (Hitmaker).



God Bless Man like **Jovanni Sterling Graft** is a absolute winner,he bought it back home and put Leeds on the map.what a talent Heather It's Gods Plan absolute success ,a star in the making,On wards and upwards now,a fine example of following your dreams and never giving up God bless.

# Gospel writer to receive MBE after being featured in Queen's birthday honours list

One of the longest serving writers at The Voice newspaper, and former Editor of Keep The Faith magazine, has been featured in the Queen's Birthday Honours List and awarded an MBE for Inter Faith services.

Marcia Dixon is one of the UK's most recognized Black Gospel journalists and is known for writing articles that tell the stories and share the views and experiences of the people within Britain's Black Christian community. She has a column in Keep The Faith and is also actively involved in the UK Gospel music scene.



Marcia has organised concerts featuring international artists like the Winans, she has staged gospel music awards and was the Project Manager and served as a judge on GMTV's Gospel Challenge, which encouraged Christian artists from across the UK to enter a competition which was broadcast on the popular morning show. The winner won a record contract with Integrity Music, the world's largest Christian music label.

In 2008 Marcia founded Marcia Dixon Public Relations, a company that provides PR services for the church, charities, gospel artists and businesses within the black Christian community and organisations that want to promote their product and services to Britain's black church community.

Organisations that have used MD PR's services include the NHS, Sony Music, Street Pastors, the Wise Women Awards, Tearfund, Christian Aid and the Pentecostal Credit Union.

In 2015 Marcia launched the DTS Women's Ministry Breakfast, an event that brings together women involved in ministry to network and hear how to start, grow and build organisations that would have a major impact. In 2019 she launched the DTS Women's Ministry Conference.

Marcia is humbled at being listed in the Queen's Birthday Honours list. She said, "When I started out as a reporter on the Voice newspaper in 1988 I did not envisage at all that I would be honoured in this way. I was just a young woman, doing work that I loved and work that I felt I was called to do. To be recognised in this way for my work is truly humbling and I'm grateful to God for enabling me to do the work that I do."

For an interview, contact Marcia on [marciatdixon@aol.com](mailto:marciatdixon@aol.com)

Marcia Dixon is the daughter of Jamaican parents who migrated to the UK in the 1960s. She started writing her column in the Voice called Soul Stirrings in September 1988



## Leeds Unleashed Christmas Market

A pop culture and geeky market where you can come and buy from your favourite traders in confidence and safety. This is a large open air hard standing market with solid covered market stalls for the traders.

When: Sunday 20th December 2020 from 10am to 4pm

Where: Leeds Kirkgate Market, 28-34 George Street, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS2 7HY

Please note that this market is outdoors behind the main Kirkgate Market.

**FREE ENTRY!**

Hot and cold food served all day!

Awesome geeky traders selling:

Comics, Graphic Novels, Books, T-Shirts, Toys, Collectables, Art, Jewellery, Props, Autographs, Gaming, Funko Pops!, Action Figures, Records, Cakes, Sweets and so much more...

Trader tables available now, drop us an email with event name in the header and include the following information:

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Business Name  
Telephone Number  
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[trader@unleashedevents.co.uk](mailto:trader@unleashedevents.co.uk)

\* This event will be fully risk assessed and will be COVID secure. All events, attractions and activities at events are subject to COVID-19 restrictions. Your statutory rights will not be affected.

# “Where There’s a Will, There’s a Way” - Auntie Mary’s Story

**M**y name is Mary and I have lived and worked in Leeds as a midwife for 50 years. Most people call me Auntie Mary.

This story is about the journey that brought me to the vocation that I love.

I went to Blenheim School. I studied hard, but in those days racism was overt and my efforts at learning were challenged. Nevertheless, my family was supportive. “You’ll have to work twice as hard to get to the same position as your classmates, but you’re a clever girl and you can do it,” my dad said. Eventually, I left school with an O Level in English and considered which career path I should take.

When I was 15, my younger brother became ill. I had always been protective of him and seeing him like that was heartbreaking for me. He became so ill that he had to take to his bed. He said to me, “If you were a nurse,

I wouldn’t have to go into hospital.” Soon afterward, my brother died. He was just nine years old. In spite of my grief, I never forgot his words to me. It was then that I decided that I wanted to be a nurse.

Because I only had one O Level I wasn’t sure that I would be able to qualify as a nurse, but I worked hard to achieve my dream. Studying at night, I got up at 5am to make my days longer and get more done. Soon, I was getting top marks as I studied for my SEN qualification. I reached my goal but I wanted to do better. I continued studying and eventually I received my SRN qualification from Huddersfield Infirmary. However, despite my achievements, I was not allowed to practice there because of what was known then as “the colour bar”.

I was determined not to give up. I decided to move to Leeds and found a position at the General Infirmary. I’ll never forget the date:

1 August 1970. It was a Saturday. I always had a good work ethic, but I was also very caring. I enjoyed nursing. In a strange way, I felt that my late brother was watching over me. As time went on though, I noticed that whenever I lost a patient I would feel very sad. I didn’t want to leave nursing altogether, so I decided to begin practicing midwifery instead. As was my pattern, I worked to make it happen. I told myself that where there was a will, there was a way.

After a certain period of time I expected to achieve a promotion, as my colleagues had. Most of them were promoted after six months. But after a year I was in the same position. When I asked the hospital managers why this was, I was told that it was a “mistake”. That struck me as an odd explanation. As they explained further it dawned on me that they actually had low expectations for me, despite my high grades

and good work in the past. I knew that they were wrong and insisted that I be allowed to progress. Reluctantly, they agreed. Not only was I successful, but I achieved better results than many of those who had been allowed to go ahead of me. Finally, I qualified as a Ward Sister. It was my calling. I performed in the role from December 1973 until August 2002, when I retired.

Sometimes, I am asked for advice from younger people about nursing and midwifery as careers. I always begin by telling them to obtain their SRN or RN qualification first, as it will help them to expand their options. But I also tell them that is less about paper qualifications and more about doing what you love. I was a tough nut, I had to be. But underneath I was, and still am, as sweet as pie! I pushed hard for what I wanted, but in spite of it all I did it because I loved it.

I'm 74 years old now. I'm still passionate, have an excellent memory, I'm driven, focused and caring. I enjoy my life, and I love my family and friends. But I will never forget my 9 year old brother's words, so long ago. Thanks to him, I chose nursing and midwifery as professions. I am glad that I did as I was able to spend many happy years working at a career that I loved.

As told to Sandra Muhammad. Visit

[QueenSilverJewellery.com](http://QueenSilverJewellery.com)

## ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE - IF YOU ARE WILLING TO WORK HARD ENOUGH



It was only recently that I announced to my friends and acquaintances that I achieved my dream of becoming a university lecturer. They say confession is good for the soul, and in light of this, I have to share that I have been in post for just over 18 months. If you had asked me twenty years ago if this dream was achievable, or even a thought, or a flicker in my mind, then answer would be no. Back then, I was a Youth Worker whose only passion was to support other young people by enabling them to carve out their own pathways which would allow them to achieve their dreams.

Fast forward twenty years and I am a lecture, a module lead and soon to be course leader managing a new degree which both excites me and scares me at the same time. Dreams are possible but only with hard work, focus, determination and the occasional necessary sacrifice to make them become a reality.

This started with me gaining my PGCE in Teaching in 2007 and even then, I did not see myself as a teacher although I was and did not know it. Then in 2014 I made the decision to return to university to complete my master's as I did not enjoy my university experience the first time round and the big difference this time was being older, wiser and most importantly I was ready. Studying again did not come easy but I had some good lecturers and I made some good lifelong friends.

I had one lecturer, her name is Theresa, who saw my potential and inspired me. She encouraged me as my dissertation tutor to become a guest lecture. This also gave me the confidence to become an external moderator which I did for some time.

However, my greatest story is my testimony and how I secured my current position. I was applying for positions and whilst doing this something told me to apply to do a part time degree in social work and I booked myself onto an open day. On the day of this open day I was ill and fighting of the flu and I decided not to go. However, my spirit had other ideas, and there was a feeling I could not shake even though I had no energy and felt terrible.

Therefore, I made the decision to get into my car and go. On arrival I went to the relevant stall and enquired about the course and was informed that this part time degree was no longer available. I immediately felt dejected and responded with "there are no other viable routes for me which is frustrating considering I have both a PGCE and a Masters". This response was met with surprise and I was asked what I currently did. I explained that I was a Family Worker who was no longer satisfied in her current role and I proceeded to share my additional teaching responsibilities.

I was then asked to wait a moment and I was introduced to another person. In my mind all I could think is that I feel so ill and I just want to go home. This is when I knew my faith in God was unrelenting. I was asked further questions, wondering why throughout and then I was told there were no guarantees but there was a current vacancy in their department and they would like me to apply.

As they say the rest is history as I applied and was successful after a two-stage process which included delivering a 15-minute presentation to a group of students and a 45-minute interview. I still pinch myself even now as it is a pressurised position to be in but more so a fulfilling and rewarding experience which continually offers me the opportunity to grow. Remember on that day my focus was to undertake a degree and I left with an opportunity. Opportunities can come in all shapes and forms so be open and ready to receive them. This could be described as luck but for me it was faith. My final thought: just know that we are all teachers, and everyone teaches whether this happens within the lecture theatre, the classroom or the home. Every day is a school day, and the day that you stop thinking this, is the day when you lose your ability to learn and grow. Your dreams need to be nurtured just like everything else and mine continue to be.

**Dawn Lawrence**

# MEET GRAFT - ONE OF THE RAPPERS IN THE RAP GAME UK

*The Rap Game UK returned to BBC iPlayer at 7pm on Thursday 22 October, hosted by UK rap legends DJ Target, Krept and Konan.*

Meet Graft - one of the rappers in The Rap Game UK. The Rap Game UK returns to BBC iPlayer at 7pm on Thursday 22 October, hosted by UK rap legends DJ Target, Krept and Konan.

## **Have you always been a rapper?**

**I used to be a footballer, I** played for Leeds. When I was with them we were in the championship. We thought we were gonna make it to the Premier League, but we bottled it. We kept bottling it. I stopped playing when I didn't get my pro contract. But my music was going well - so I put all my energy into my music and here I am.

## **How did you come across The Rap Game UK?**

I found it on Instagram. I thoroughly enjoyed the first series and have kept up to date with all of the contestants. I knew of Ransom, FOS and Lady Ice beforehand. It's good to see artists that I know on TV, putting their skills to the test, battling against each other for the main prize. It's surreal that it's me doing that now. I'm ready to seize the opportunity and share my talent with viewers.

## **What do you want to get out of the competition?**

I'm here to win. Whenever I'm involved in something I play it to win and I play it to better myself. I want to demonstrate all of my capabilities to everyone. I'm here to grow as an artist and I'm here to have a really great time. I think that hunger comes from my sporting background - I love to learn and progress. I love to see myself levelling up in everything I do. I'm hungry to win, learn and succeed. I want to be the best person I can be.

## **How would you describe your style?**

I'm versatile. I'm energetic. My music involves a lot of content that is relatable and real. I pride myself on being different to what other people are rapping about. There's a lot out there. I've got flows, metaphors - my stuff is intelligent. I've got something for everyone.

## **What does music mean to you?**

Music is my life. Music has helped me through times when I couldn't express myself. Writing music is a way for me to express how I'm feeling - I write about situations going on in my life or the world. Music is universal - I wanna be able to reach people who have a similar taste in music as me and who appreciate my sound and wanna listen to some real music with some proper content. Music is me.

## **How do you feel when you're making music?**

I'm in my element when I'm making music - especially when I'm performing. I love the writing and recording process too. I'm a perfectionist so I love to be able to lay the song and lyrics down and just work through it. I wanna create the best body of work possible.

## **How does music compare to football?**

Football's a very competitive sport. Everyone's got an opinion about you. It's the same with music. You have to be mindful of who you're around. But they're both fun and fast paced. They both take a lot to reach the top. You have to stand out from the rest. I'm here - if I wanted my football career to work out, I wouldn't be here today. Music is my calling, it's my purpose in life. Music resonates with me on a deeper, spiritual level. I have a lot to share through my music. I love football, but music is me - truly. The only thing I miss about football is the banter in the changing room. It's a lot of fun when you're with your teammates.

## **Who's your favourite player?**

Ronaldinho is my favourite player of all time.



## **Favourite rapper?**

Good question. I have a few but I would go with Nas or Jay-Z.

## **Where do you see yourself in five years time?**

In five years' time I see one of the biggest music artists not just in the UK but in the world. I'm gonna be known worldwide. I wanna be able to tour worldwide, win even more awards. I wanna create generational wealth for my family, look after myself, my friends, my loved ones. I want to have my own record label in that time - GCO records. I want to show how great I am to the world. I want to be one of the greatest UK acts worldwide.

## **What would winning The Rap Game mean to you?**

If I won The Rap Game... that would be my biggest achievement to date. The exposure would open so many doors that I would not be able to walk through otherwise - it would put me in the right place with the right people. It'd allow me to network with huge UK and worldwide acts. It would show the world who I am. I'm hungry and I'm motivated and the world needs to know who I am. Winning The Rap Game would be the best thing for me in my career right now. Everyone would get to know who I am

# BLACK LIVES MATTER

*Mr. Floyd died after being handcuffed and pinned to the ground by an officer's knee in an episode that was captured on video, touching off nationwide protests.*



The killing of George Floyd led to large protests against police brutality and systemic racism in more than 150 American cities. Credit...Victor J. Blue for The New York Times By The New York Times

George Floyd, a 46-year-old African-American man, died on May 25 after being handcuffed and pinned to the ground by a white police officer's knee in an encounter that was captured on video and incited large protests against police brutality and systemic racism in Minneapolis and in more than 150 American cities in the weeks and months that followed. The explosive footage, recorded by a bystander and shared widely on social media, led to community outrage, an F.B.I. civil rights investigation, and the firing and arrest of the officer, Derek Chauvin. The Minneapolis Police Department also fired three officers who were with Mr. Chauvin at the scene. In June, Mr. Chauvin, 44, was charged with second-degree manslaughter and second-degree murder, a more serious charge than he had originally faced. If convicted, he could face up to 40 years in prison. The other fired officers, Thomas Lane, Tou Thao and J. Alexander Kueng, face aiding and abetting charges.

After Mr. Chauvin's arrest in May was announced, Mr. Floyd's relatives called the charges "a welcome but overdue step on the road to justice." George Floyd was pronounced dead on May 25. On the evening of May 25, a man identified as George Floyd — not yet a household name — was taken to the Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis. He was pronounced dead at 9:25 p.m., according to the medical examiner.

The preliminary results from an autopsy found that Mr. Floyd did not appear to have died from strangulation or asphyxiation. "Mr. Floyd had underlying health conditions, including coronary artery disease and hypertensive heart disease," prosecutors said in a criminal complaint, which also listed "potential intoxicants." The combined effects of his conditions and the way the police restrained him "likely contributed to his death," the complaint said.

Editors' Picks



Video footage from Thomas Lane's body camera shows him pulling his gun and confronting Mr. Floyd as he sat in the car. Credit...Minneapolis Police Department, via Reuters

Around 8 p.m. on May 25, Minneapolis police officers responded to a call from a store clerk who claimed Mr. Floyd paid for cigarettes with a counterfeit \$20 bill, the Police Department said in a statement. The police said the man was found sitting on top of a blue car and "appeared to be under the influence."

"He was ordered to step from his car," the statement said. "After he got out, he physically resisted officers. Officers were able to get the suspect into handcuffs and noted he appeared to be suffering medical distress." The statement said that the officers had called for an ambulance. According to charging documents however, the officers had tried to get Mr. Floyd into a police vehicle. Mr. Floyd struggled with the officers, "intentionally falling down, saying he was not going in the car, and refusing to stand still."

Mr. Floyd began saying repeatedly that he could not breathe.

Mr. Chauvin eventually placed him in the police car with Mr. Kueng's help. At 8:19 p.m., Mr. Chauvin pulled Mr. Floyd out of the passenger side of the squad car. Mr. Floyd hit the ground, face down, handcuffs still on. Mr. Kueng held Mr. Floyd's back while Mr. Lane held his legs.

Mr. Chauvin lodged his left knee in "the area of Mr. Floyd's head and neck," the documents said, and Mr. Floyd continued to protest: "I can't breathe."

The day after Mr. Floyd's death, the police updated a statement, originally titled "Man Dies After Medical Incident During Police Interaction," to say that the F.B.I. was joining the investigation after additional information had "been made available."

## **A cellphone video shows the aftermath of the arrest.**

Bystanders pleaded and cursed, begging the officer to stop. A paramedic arrived and reached under the officer's knee, feeling for a pulse on the man's neck.

The medic turned away, and a stretcher was wheeled over. Mr. Floyd was rolled onto the stretcher, loaded into an ambulance and taken away.

The video did not show what had happened before he was pinned to the ground by his neck.



A bystander's video shows Derek Chauvin kneeling on Mr. Floyd's neck for over eight minutes. Credit...Darnella Frazier, via Agence France-Presse

Mayor Jacob Frey of Minneapolis said he did not know how the initial police statement, which described a "medical incident," had come to be written, but he said he wanted to be "absolutely as transparent as possible."

Additional footage, from cameras worn by two officers, shows a delayed medical response.

The Police Department's statement said that no weapons had been used and that the officers' body cameras were recording. Mr. Frey said he had asked the F.B.I. to investigate, and in a statement posted on social media said, "Being Black in America should not be a death sentence."

The same day, the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension said in a statement that the F.B.I. was conducting a federal civil rights investigation.

Keith Ellison, Minnesota's attorney general, announced in June that Mr. Lane, Mr. Thao and Mr. Kueng had been charged with aiding and abetting second-degree murder as well as aiding and abetting second-degree manslaughter.

Mr. Chauvin, who had initially been charged with third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter in May, was charged with second-degree murder in June. A judge dismissed the third-degree murder charge on Oct. 22, but let the other charges against Mr. Chauvin and the three other former officers stand, clearing the way for them to be tried in March.

In July, Mr. Floyd's family filed a lawsuit against the officers.

## Police used tear gas and other means to break up protests in Minneapolis.



People gathered at East 38th Street and Chicago Avenue in Minneapolis, the site of George Floyd's fatal encounter with the police, to remember him and protest his death on May 29. Credit...Caroline Yang for The New York Times

After the release of the initial video, demonstrators poured into Minneapolis streets for several nights to protest Mr. Floyd's death.

Officers used tear gas and fired rubber bullets into the crowds.

Images on television and social media had captured businesses being lit on fire and people carrying goods out of a store that had been vandalized. Some demonstrators had gathered at the house of Mr. Chauvin and the house of the local prosecutor, according to The Star Tribune.

State officials said that a series of errors and misjudgments — including the Minneapolis police's decision to abandon a precinct on May 28 that protesters overtook and burned — had allowed demonstrators to create what Gov. Tim Walz called "absolute chaos."

On May 29, demonstrators returned to the street for a fourth consecutive night in violation of a curfew imposed by Mr. Walz, who activated the National Guard to help the police patrol the streets. Protesters had again overwhelmed law enforcement.



The remains of some businesses on East Lake Street in Minneapolis after demonstrators burned it down the previous night. Credit...Caroline Yang for The New York Times

Minnesota's top officials acknowledged on May 30 that they had underestimated the destruction that protesters in Minneapolis were capable of inflicting. The curfew did little to stop people from burning buildings and turning the city's streets into a smoky battleground.

In total, a five-mile stretch of Minneapolis sustained extraordinary damage. Not since the 1992 unrest in Los Angeles has an American city suffered such destructive riots.

Protests had also spread across the country to Los Angeles, New York, Boston and Louisville, Ky., where demonstrators protested the March shooting by the police of Breonna Taylor, a young Black woman who worked as an emergency medical technician. That shooting is also under federal investigation.

**WHY MINNEAPOLIS BURNED**  
Pent-up frustrations, provocateurs and inexperienced leadership led to mayhem for three nights.

## **The case has drawn condemnation and comparisons to the death of Eric Garner.**

As the video spread on social media, the arrest quickly drew comparisons to the case of Eric Garner, a Black man who died in New York police custody in 2014 after an officer held him in a chokehold. Mr. Garner's repeated plea of "I can't breathe" — also recorded by a cellphone — became a rallying cry at demonstrations against police misconduct across the country. Former Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr., the Democratic presidential nominee, had condemned the force used by the officers in Minneapolis. "George Floyd deserved better and his family deserves justice," Mr. Biden tweeted on May 26. "His life mattered." Days later, he addressed the nation in a brief speech from his Wilmington, Del., home and called on white Americans to confront the enduring inequities faced by Black Americans.

"The pain is too intense for one community to bear alone," Mr. Biden said.

President Trump had called Mr. Floyd's death "a very very sad event," and later tweeted that he had asked for the F.B.I. investigation to be expedited, adding: "My heart goes out to George's family and friends. Justice will be served!"

Mr. Trump later suggested on Twitter that protesters could be shot.

"These THUGS are dishonoring the memory of George Floyd, and I won't let that happen," Mr. Trump said. "Just spoke to Governor Tim Walz and told him that the Military is with him all the way. Any difficulty and we will assume control but, when the looting starts, the shooting starts. Thank you!" Mr. Walz said Mr. Trump's tweet was "just not helpful."

"In the moment where we're at, in a moment that is so volatile, anything we do to add fuel to that fire is really, really challenging," he told reporters.

## **The former officers make their first appearance in court.**

On Sept. 11, Mr. Chauvin and his fellow former officers appeared in court in person for the first time. Prosecutors said in court documents that Mr. Chauvin had used neck and upper body restraints during at least seven previous arrests.

In four of those arrests over the last six years, prosecutors said that Mr. Chauvin used those restraint techniques "beyond the point when such force was needed under the circumstances." Prosecutors signaled that they intended to describe the earlier arrests by Mr. Chauvin as a sign that what happened with Mr. Floyd was part of a pattern, not an outlying occurrence.

Lawyers for the defendants argued that they should be tried separately and that their trials should be moved out of Minneapolis. Prosecutors want one trial, arguing that all four acted together, and that separate trials would traumatize Mr. Floyd's family and eyewitnesses.

Court filings offered indications of Mr. Chauvin's defense: that he arrived late to the scene and that drugs found in Mr. Floyd's system most likely caused his death, not Mr. Chauvin's knee.

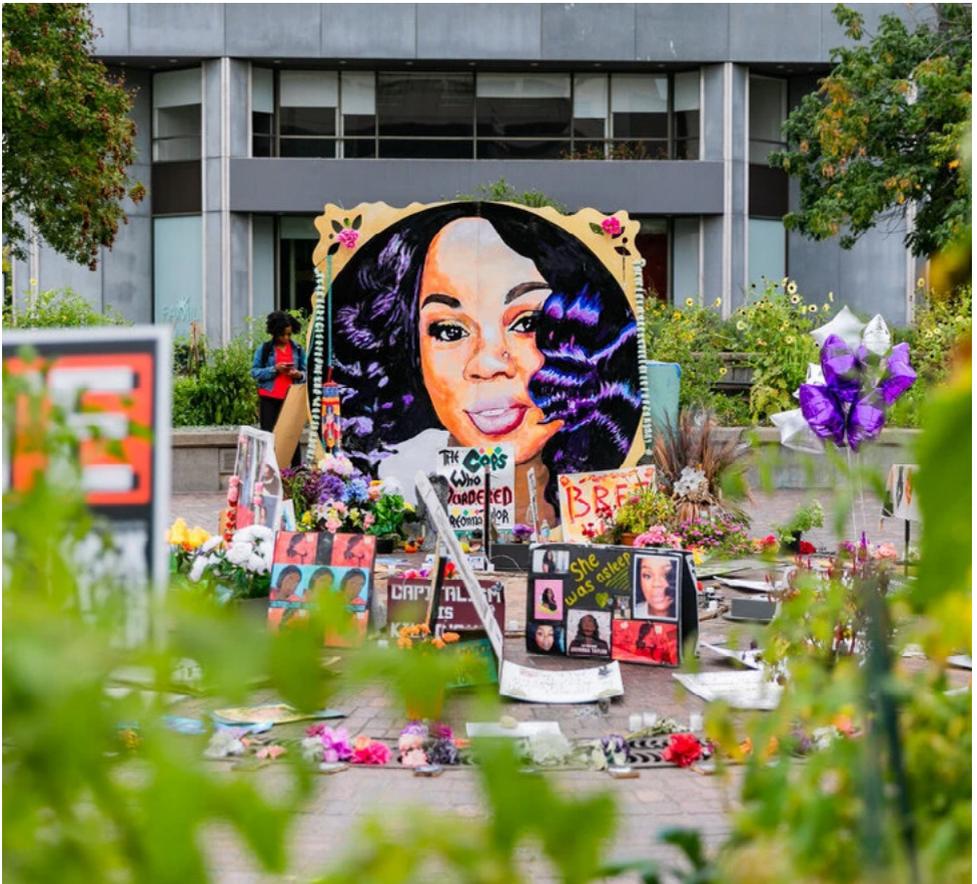
# BLACK LIVES MATTER

Breonna Taylor, 26, was shot and killed by the police in her home in Louisville, Kentucky, on March 13 during a narcotics bust.

The police said someone inside the apartment opened fire at them, injuring an officer.

But a defense attorney for Taylor's boyfriend, Kenneth Walker, said in a court filing that the police didn't announce themselves while entering, so Walker thought someone was breaking into the apartment.

Taylor's family were represented by Benjamin Crump, a well-known civil-rights attorney who has represented other black shooting victims, including Ahmaud Arbery and Trayvon Martin.





## **Bessie Coleman, First African American Licensed Pilot**

Bessie Coleman (Jan. 26, 1892–April 30, 1926) was a bravely independent and determined woman who decided that learning to fly provided an exciting challenge. However, in the early years of the 20th century she had two strikes against her: her race and her gender. Unable to secure flight training in the U.S., she went to France and earned her license. On June 15, 1921, Bessie Coleman received the first pilot's license issued to an African American, male or female, from the Federation Aeronautique Internationale.

She returned to the U.S. in September 1921, and began to perform in the Chicago area, doing aerobatic loops and figure

eights. Her ultimate goal was to establish a flying school for African Americans. In 1925, she moved to Houston and performed throughout the South, drawing multicultural crowds. She had nearly reached her goal of opening a school, when on April 30, 1926, she went up for a practice flight for a May Day celebration in Jacksonville, Fla. About 10 minutes into the flight, the Curtiss Jenny biplane, piloted by her mechanic and publicity agent, William Will, went into a nosedive and flipped. Coleman, whose seat belt was unfastened, was thrown from the plane and plunged to her death. It was later found that a wrench that had been used to service the engine had jammed the controls.

Coleman's brief flying career inspired many young African Americans to enter the field of aviation and her legacy continues in the form of aviation clubs and tributes, including the 1995 U.S. postal stamp issued in her honor. Each year on the anniversary of her death, African American pilots fly over "Brave Bessie's" grave in Chicago to drop flowers in her honor.

# BLACK HISTORY

## **Martin Luther King Jr.**

Martin Luther King Jr. was an American Christian minister and activist who became the most visible spokesperson and leader in the civil rights movement from 1955 until his assassination in 1968.

Born:

January 15, 1929 in Atlanta, Georgia

Died:

April 4, 1968 (age 39)

Education:

Boston University,  
Morehouse College

## **Rosa Parks**

Rosa Louise McCauley Parks was an American activist in the civil rights movement best known for her pivotal role in the Montgomery bus boycott.

Born:

February 4, 1913 in Tuskegee, Alabama

Died:

October 24, 2005 (age 92)

Education:

Alabama State University

## **Harriet Tubman**

Harriet Tubman was an American abolitionist and political activist. Born into slavery, Tubman escaped and subsequently made some 13 missions to rescue approximately 70 enslaved people, including family and friends, using the network of antislavery activists and safe houses known as the Underground Railroad.

Born:

1820

Died: March 10, 1913 (approx. age 93)

## **Mary Seacole**

Mary Jane Seacole was a British-Jamaican nurse, healer and businesswoman who set up the "British Hotel" behind the lines during the Crimean War.

See less

Born:

1805

Died:

May 14, 1881 (approx. age 76)

**Liverpool attacker Harvey Blair** has signed his first professional contract with the club – and has since taken to Instagram to celebrate his new deal with the team whom the teenager described as 'the best club in the world'.

Blair, 17, has been with the club since U12 level having joined the Reds from Manchester United. He said: "Delighted to have signed my first professional contract with the best club in the world, dream come true."

A number of his Liverpool teammates were quick to respond to the contract news including Harvey Elliott, Billy Koumetio, Layton Stewart, James Balagizi, Liam Millar and Conor Bradley who all congratulated Blair following his new deal.





## 7 WAYS CHURCHES CAN MAKE THE BEST OF LOCKDOWN 2.0

**Church facilitator Chris Bright believes pastors and ministers should be using lockdown to start thinking about their church's mission and strategy for 2021. Here are his seven tips for where you could be focusing your time and attention**

The second lockdown can bring with it a healthy dose of introspection. With more time at home, there should be more space to think. At least you're not being interrupted every two seconds with another request, so take the opportunity to not just work in the ministry, but work on it as well.

Working in the ministry is what you do all the time. Pastoral visits, sermon preparation, team meetings. Working in the ministry is vital, nothing happens without that, but it's not the most important ministry you'll do. What's more important is working on it. It's working on the system of how your church functions, making sure it is fit for purpose and ready come the new year. Get this right and the whole church becomes more effective. Here's seven things to think about:

### 1. Your mission

Your mission is why you do what you do. It's the most important thing, because it's the foundation on which everything else is built. That mission should be something memorable, a rallying cry for your church.

Your mission statement must speak the language of who you're called to reach, and it must be reflective of who you are as a church. Fundamentally though, it must reflect the heart of the gospel. Get this right and you'll have the basis for church health in 2021.

### 2. Your discipleship pathway

We've always thought of discipleship as a course, and once you complete the course, you're a disciple, right? Wrong.

Discipleship is an ongoing process. We all still need to be continually disciplined, whether you've been a Jesus follower for five minutes or five decades. A 'Discipleship Pathway' is a framework that turns your whole church into what it should be...a means for making ongoing, passionate and fully-devoted followers of Jesus. By creating a 'Pathway' of 3-5 simple goals, you give people next steps they can take to deepen their walk with Christ.

This becomes the best way for helping you audit your church programmes. How are they helping disciple people? You want each programme to do just one step in the pathway and you'll see how each programme now has a sense of purpose. Don't be afraid to cut something too – lockdown gives you a fantastic opportunity to do this.

### 3. Your values

Your values are how you do what you do. Most

churches use values as a list of things they like: “We value worship”, “we value community”, “we value Integrity”.

This, however, doesn't help your church at all. How can your church live out worship, live out community, live out integrity? You need to rephrase this list to give your church something tangible. Instead of passive words, create actionable phrases that help people, whether they are inside the four walls of church, on a Zoom meeting or out a work. These phrases become the sayings that encourage your congregation to live out the mission God has placed on your church.

#### **4. Your growth strategy**

Your growth strategy is simply identifying the programmes that will help you reach more people with the gospel; it's your evangelism strategy. Once you've identified the top three programmes, invest your finance and resources in them to enable them to be effective.

Every year your church naturally loses a percentage of the congregation, either through natural movement because of jobs, or disgruntled congregants wanting to find a new church. Thinking though your strategy for reaching new people (not just Christians) is imperative.

#### **5. Your vision plan**

Your vision plan is more crucial than ever. In a lockdown where people don't know where they're going or what they're doing, there is a greater need than ever for a church that is passionately moving towards the mission God has for it.

Set one thing you can achieve as a church over the next three to five years and ask your church to use their time, money and prayers to help you achieve it. The mission should never be “stuff” (numbers, buildings etc) but rather, focus your church on the people you're called to reach. The

“stuff” is just a plan to help you get there.

#### **6. Your finance strategy**

Now is a great time to start looking at how you budget as a church. Many churches will have signed off the budget for 2021, but the process of how you'd like to budget in principle can be done now, ready for next year.

How you budget links to your financial principles, and as such, its best to think of your finance strategy in terms of percentages, that way it's not based around actual amounts, so it will scale up or down as your church changes.

Set some minimums and maximums to guide you. What would be your maximum amount for spending on staffing or on debt repayment? What would be the minimum amount you'd give away or save for growth? Create a pie chart of your ideal budget and then try to get there over the next five years.

Great vision needs a great budget to help you get there.

#### **7. Your online strategy**

In 2020 every church was launched into the online sphere, but what's your plan moving forward? What's going to happen when in-person gatherings are back?

Online Church is here to stay, so you'll need to carefully think through how you're going to use it, whether as a “shop window” strategy, an alternative to in-person services for those who are unable to attend in-person, or will it be a combination of both? Don't leave your online strategy to drift before you hit 2021.

#### **Take one step further**

This year has shaken to the core how we thought church should operate, so now you've already started to change, take that one step further in 2021. This second lockdown gives you the perfect opportunity to make real changes that will help your church be healthier and more effective for the long run.

Chris Bright is the Co-Founder of [thinking.church](http://thinking.church), a company that offers facilitation services to help churches think through their mission, vision and strategy. You can book a free consultation call with Chris by going to [bookme.name/thinkingchurch](http://bookme.name/thinkingchurch)

Premier Christianity is committed to publishing a variety of opinion pieces from across the UK Church. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the

Tributes have been paid to a Leeds woman who tragically died after testing positive for coronavirus following an outbreak at a Morrisons store in Leeds city centre.

**Hansa Parmar**, 54, worked at the Morrisons store at The Merrion Centre, where it has been alleged that an outbreak occurred in October, with claims 28 employees tested positive for Covid-19



Due to delicate issues some families didn't want any publicity, may all loved ones lost throughout the last couple of weeks rest in peace.

An advertisement for First Bus. It features a man and a woman in winter coats and face masks, embracing in a snowy outdoor setting. The text "Let's get you where you want to be this Christmas" is overlaid in white. The First Bus logo and slogan "Let's get there together" are at the bottom.

Let's get you where you want to be this Christmas

**First Bus**  
Let's get there together

## ***Ginger Tea through out the winter season will do you good.***

Treat yourself to a cup of piping hot ginger tea. When made with fresh ginger root, it will be far tastier than ginger tea brewed from a stale tea bag. This is a healthy drink that's great for digestion, and it has a reputation for being soothing and healing. Many people find that the best time to drink ginger tea is in the morning because it's an invigorating way to start the day. Ginger tea is sometimes called ginger water. It is, quite simply, hot water infused with fresh ginger. It's a spicy drink that can be adjusted to taste by adding more ginger or letting it steep longer. This recipe brightens up the flavor with fresh lime juice and sweetens it with honey. It can be enjoyed either hot or cold, and you can make a big batch to store in the fridge.



My sons book is called **Bee Yourself**. It promotes self confidence in children by educating children about the differences in others.

If you look on the page and the about section you can get more info on there. So taking book orders now.

[www.kreativekritters.co.uk/the-kreative-mission](http://www.kreativekritters.co.uk/the-kreative-mission)

## Andrew Saddler

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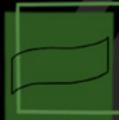
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# Leeds boy's lockdown skincare project wins award



Cairo began making moisturisers using natural ingredients during lockdown

An 11-year-old boy who started a skincare business in lockdown has won an entrepreneurial award.

Cairo Barrett from Leeds began Cairo's Organic Creams from his kitchen, making moisturisers to a recipe his mum created to treat his childhood eczema.

He sells his products on social media, but hopes to one day have his own shop.

Cairo has now been named Male Entrepreneur of the Year by Bradford charity the Afro-

Caribbean Achievement Project (ACAP).

"I want other people to be working for me," he said.

"A lot of my friends, and my mum's friends who have kids, have been coming up to me saying can you hire me, can you hire my son or daughter?"

More stories from around Yorkshire

"I can't really tell you the ingredients but shea butter, aloe vera oil and coconut oil is one of my main ones and my most popular one.

"We've also got a mango and apricot oil one and also hemp and avocado oil.

# Legacy Awards

“The awards which celebrates excellence by those seldom recognised for their achievements. Going over and above to reach their goals and impact on their community, city and wider. The Awards with a social conscience supporting a charity that addresses inequities amongst us in Education, Health and Social Care.”

Legacy Awards was a direct response to celebrate 50 years of the Black British communities in Leeds and the positive impact and contribution that was made. This grew into the fantastic celebration we know now. Saluting and highlighting progress, inclusion and involvement of the diversity city we all know and love





**MindWell**, the mental health website for people in Leeds, has just launched its Winter Wellbeing campaign sharing tips and ideas to help people stay mentally well during the winter season.

We've had to adapt to many changes this year; coping with more uncertainty and less social contact. Now that nights are getting darker and temperatures are dropping, it's even more important that we all take care of our mental wellbeing during this more challenging time.

The campaign will share self-care tips on social media as well as highlighting ways we can cope better with the pressures of Christmas which is likely to be quite different this year.

The MindWell team will also be sharing information about:

- Festive community events including virtual gatherings and activities on Christmas day and other faith festivals for people who are isolated or want to come together to celebrate.
- Opening times for key mental health and crisis services over the Christmas holidays (mid December).

Follow the campaign on Twitter @MindWellLeeds and find more tips and information at [www.mindwell-leeds.org.uk/winter](http://www.mindwell-leeds.org.uk/winter). Keep checking back to this web page for the latest information. MindWell is funded by NHS Leeds CCG to provide a 'go to' place for mental health information in the city and supported by public health colleagues.





# ON AIR

MusuKando  
creative possibilities

An introduction to **Miss Pearlina the audio series**. She is a tribute to Caribbean and African women who travelled far from their homelands to work, raise their families and build the nations known as 'first-world' nations we know today. Miss Pearlina is her own woman living her life her way and still a proud Jamaican

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsBS-lo2b6kUKbQQ78kOgYw>

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### **WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?**

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### **FOR MORE DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT US AT:**

Email: [chaptownnursery@aol.com](mailto:chaptownnursery@aol.com)

Phone: 0113 237 4696

Address: Reginald Street, Leeds, LS7 3HL

Website: [www.chapeltownnursery.com](http://www.chapeltownnursery.com)

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**Look forward to meeting you then.**

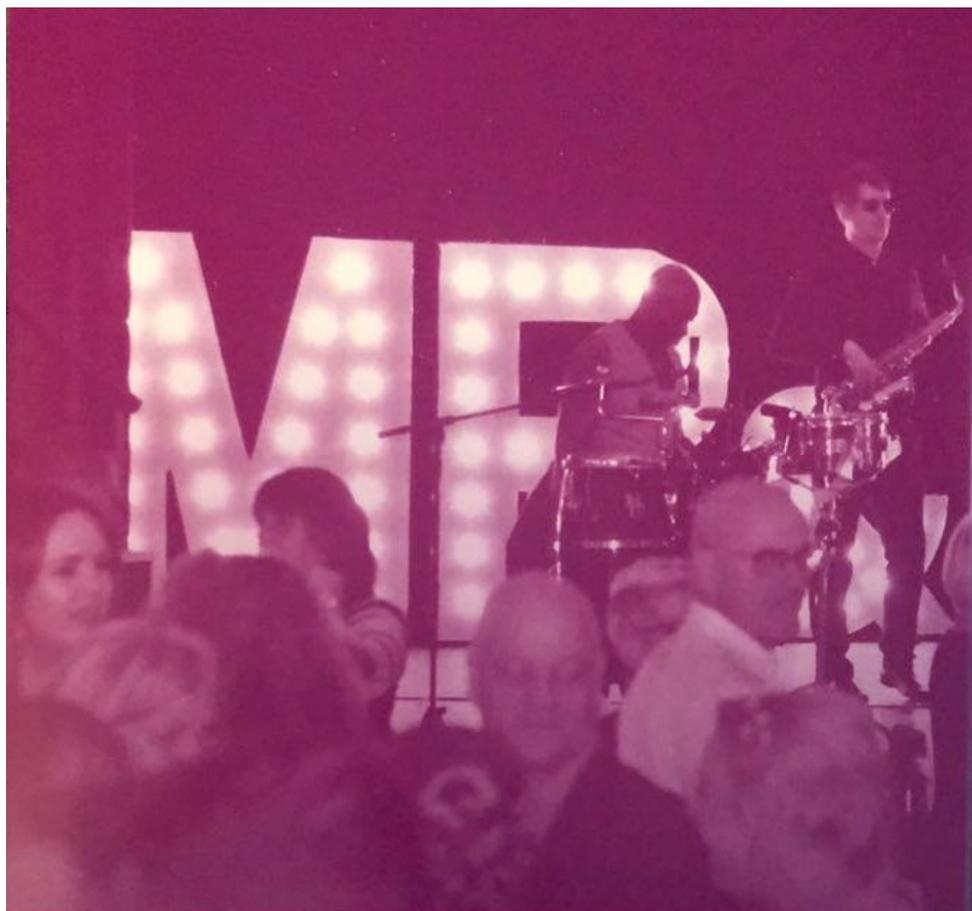


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Leeds Employment Hub is part funded through the European Social Fund. It pulls together a number of projects aimed at supporting Leeds residents, including the Leeds City Region Employment Hub managed by West Yorkshire Combined Authority, Youth Engagement and Progression Programme, and Skills Training and Employment Pathways managed by City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council.



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