

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: 10 KEY FACTS

1

2017 is the 30th anniversary of BHM in the UK.

2

BHM is celebrated in October in the UK – in the US it is February.

3

8 June 2017 general election – House of Commons now has 51 MPs from non-white backgrounds.

4

1 April 2017 – Darcus Howe, British broadcaster, writer and civil rights campaigner dies.

5

Black workers with degrees are 2.5 times more likely to be unemployed than white graduates.

6

11 June 1987 – historic election of four black MPs to Parliament: Diane Abbott, Paul Boateng, Bernie Grant and Keith Vaz.

7

34% of black, Asian or minority ethnic people (BAME) witnessed or experienced racial abuse in the months after the Brexit vote.

8

It is 50 years since Robert Lawrence became the first black astronaut.

9

2018 will be 50 years since the Empire Windrush sailed into London with 492 British Caribbeans.

10

Black History Month began as “Negro History Week,” which was created in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson. It became a month-long celebration in 1976, in the US.

How can you get involved?

1. Organise an event at your branch/workplace
2. Use the photo Op cards and send pictures to equality@pcs.org.uk
3. Check for events in your PCS region/nation
4. In your local area/ get involved/blackhistorymonth.org.uk
5. Not yet a member? Join PCS, the campaigning union pcs.org.uk/join

