

MIS HANES POBL DDUON 2014 YNG NGOGLEDD CYMRU

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2014 IN NORTH WALES

HANES DU – EIN HANES NI

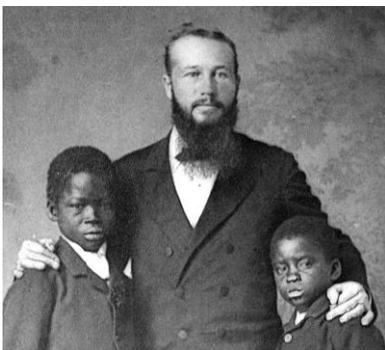
BLACK HISTORY IS OUR SHARED HISTORY

You are invited to this year's Launch Event for Black History Month

“Please do not forget to remember me”

on Thursday 2nd October at 7.00pm held at

Conwy Archives, The Old Board School, Lloyd Street, Llandudno, Conwy, LL30 2YG



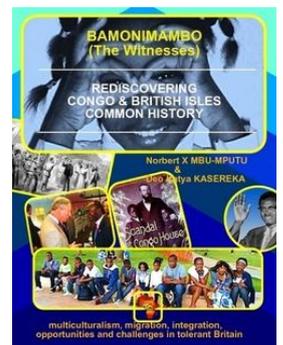
The event is to celebrate the exceptional life and times of Rev William Hughes, who successfully set up and ran Congo House and then the African Institute based in Colwyn Bay from 1885 to 1911 to train young and gifted Africans as Christian missionaries and also trained them with craft or medical skills to use when they returned to Africa. This story is particularly significant in recognising the open minded, respectful and inclusive approach taken by William Hughes and the support given by the people of Colwyn Bay to their numerous African visitors, before a scandal was created to discredit and besmirch Hughes work and vision.

There will be a buffet from 6.30pm, followed by a presentation by John Lawson Reay, Co-Author of “The Scandal of Congo House”.

This will be followed by the launch of “BAMONIMAMBO (The Witnesses): Rediscovering D.R. CONGO and BRITISH ISLES Common History”

written by Norbert X Mbu-Mputu, an exiled journalist from the Democratic Republic of Congo who now lives in South Wales.

Please phone or email Susan Ellis at Conwy Archives on (01492) 577550 or susan.ellis@conwy.gov.uk to reserve your place.



Places are limited because of space, but we hope to do further events and activities in Colwyn Bay later in the month and start to involve local people in research to find out more about this incredible story to ensure that the valuable work of Rev William Hughes and the Africans he helped with support from the local communities of North Wales.

Background to Black History Month in North Wales:

A programme of BHM events was put on for the first time in North Wales in 2010, supported by the Bangor University Afro Caribbean Society and Learning Links International. Since then each year members of the North Wales "Black History is our Shared History" Network have carried out further research into "shared histories" and also linked with the North Wales Capoeira Group "Capoeira Mocambo" who are experts in this art form from South America in a celebration of this historically fascinating form of dance / self defence developed by enslaved Africans in Brazil, with a range of Workshops, Master Classes and Performance Events.

In 2011 the North Wales BHM Steering Group included the North Wales Association for Multi Cultural Integration (NWAMI), the North Wales "Black History is our Shared History" Network, BAWSO Wrexham (Black Association of Women Step Out), and the North Wales Jamaica Society.

2014 will see more exciting events and activities with increasing support from groups and organisations like the new Wales Black History Association, Race Council Cymru and Conwy Archives. Yasus Afari, Jamaican Dub Poet and Reggae Artiste, will also be back in Wales again to support the celebrations of BHM in his own unique way, with school workshops and performance events – contact Yasus Afari via Liz Millman at lizmillman@yahoo.co.uk

The month will start with recognition at the Equality Exchange Network event to be held in Wrexham on Wed 1st October, followed by a focus on Thursday 2nd October on the story of the Congo Boys, with a trail arranged in the afternoon to explore the key locations in Colwyn Bay of the African Institute, Congo House and the memorials in the graveyard of some of the Africans who sadly died here. This will be followed by the presentations in the evening at Conwy Archives.

Please check www.bhmnw.com for more details and information about this year's activities.

Contact NW BHM Co-ordinator, Liz Millman, at lizmillman@yahoo.co.uk or 07711 569 489 for more information or to join / support the North Wales Black History Network