

Black History Month 2020

Eldica Joachim
1922 – 2000
and
Peter Joachim
1923 - 2004

I have decided to choose my Great Grandparents,
Eldica Joachim and Peter Joachim as my inspirational black figures for
Black History Month 2020.

By Skye-Beatrix 8M



Trinidad & Tobago to Camden

- I thought hard about an influential person I could nominate for Black History Month then I started to look closer to home and I nominated 2 people, my Maternal Great Grandparents Peter and Eldica Joachim who are a part of our local history.
- My Great Grandparents passed away before I was born. The stories about them influence me and continue to do so in a positive way.
- Peter and Eldica Joachim were born in Trinidad & Tobago





Peter Joachim (Billy Mo)

- Just after the Second World War my Great Grandfather was invited to the UK by the British Government. My Great Grandfather was a trumpet player (his stage name was Billy Mo) he played in Winifred Atwell's band and left Trinidad in 1946 and settled in London.

Eldica Joachim

- In 1947 My Great Grandmother Eldica Joachim arrived in London from Trinidad & Tobago to be with her husband, they settled in the London Borough of Camden not far from Camden School for Girls, in a large house on Camden Park Road. My grandparents were one of the first black families to settled in the London Borough of Camden. Many people do not know that there were black people in the UK before The Windrush Empire docked in Tilbury in 1948.
- The photo is my Great Grandmother standing outside the house my Great Grandparents rented at No.41 Camden Park Road in the 1940's



Life in London

- My Great Grandparents raised three children, my Grandmother and her two sisters, who in turn had eight children amongst them including my mother.
- Life was hard in London after the second world war, there was prejudice and food shortages and rain!
- Thankfully my Great Grandfather's music career took off and the style of music he played became popular and other Calypso musicians came to London.
- There is a song he played on in the Paddington Bear Film called `London is the Place For Me`. I like to hear this because it makes me think that although it was Lord Kitchener singing the lyrics it could and probably was my great Grandparents thoughts about London too.

