The Windrush Plaque Trail

The Windrush Plaque Trail celebrates and commemorates the contribution the Windrush generation and communities have made to the City.

1 Cllr Eileen Taylor – Lord Mayor 2019, Antechamber – Leeds Civic Hall
Born in Jamaica and moved to Leeds in the early 1970s. Eileen worked for the NHS in the Learning Disability and Mental Health department until she retired in 2012 to focus on her political career. Eileen Taylor is the 126th Lord Mayor of Leeds. She is also the city’s first Black Lord Mayor.

2 Leeds General Infirmary
To commemorate and celebrate the Windrush generation’s significant contribution to the NHS and in particular the delivery of services at Leeds General Infirmary.

3 Errol James MBE, Town Hall
Errol came from Jamaica to join the RAF in WW2. He dedicated his life to the community and actively worked to bring people together. He was awarded an MBE for services to the community. He was chairman of the Community Relations Council and a Justice of the Peace.

4 Leeds Railway Station
To commemorate and celebrate the Windrush generation's contribution to the railway and in particular the delivery of services at Leeds Railway Station.

5 Mr St Clair Morris, Merrion House
Born in St Kitts, St Clair was the first Steel Pan teacher in England. A passionate musician, he taught numerous generations of children of all backgrounds. His Paradise Steel Band & Paradise Steel Orchestra introduced the steel pan to many communities throughout the country. He leaves a proud legacy.

6 St James’s University Hospital
To commemorate and celebrate the Windrush generation’s significant contribution to the NHS and in particular the delivery of services at St James’s University Hospital.

7 Reverend Nelson, New Testament Church of God
Rev RV Nelson came to Leeds from the parish of Westmoreland, Jamaica as an Overseer of Faith. A man who had a strong sense of leadership, he became one of the first Black Bishops in Leeds. Being a spiritual guide for the community and Pastor at New Testament Church of God.

8 Annette Francis nee Liburd, BAME Hub
Annette has had a lasting impact on the Chapeltown community, championing local issues around Education, Employment, Training and Equality issues: developing young Black children through creative arts, sports and literature. As a student teacher under the pupillage of Gertrude Paul (the first Black Head Mistress in Leeds) working at Elmhurst Middle School, establishing After-School Clubs at Cowper Street School and transforming the then Chapeltown Boys Club into the now Mandela Community Centre.

9 Reginald Centre
The Reginald Centre was built on the site of the former Hayfield House and pub which was the centre of the Chapeltown community.

10 Allan Herbert, Carnival House
Allan came to England in 1955. He was a founder member of The Leeds West Indian Centre, Leeds West Indian Carnival, United Caribbean Association, CASAC, and The St Kitts and Nevis Association, Leeds where he was a Chairman and Choirmaster. Allan was a member of Roscoe Methodist Church since 1955 and held many roles including Choirmaster and Boys Brigade Leader.

11 Mrs Diana Phillip, Leeds West Indian Centre
Diana Phillip became a pillar of the community in Chapeltown, taking a leading role in many organisations: Citizens’ Advice Bureau, Mayflower Children’s Club, Leeds Afro-West Indian Self-Help Association and Leeds Playhouse. A teacher by profession, she taught in several local primary schools and was active in the Labour Party. She was appointed the first black Magistrate in Leeds.

12 Granley Bovell, Mandela Centre
Born in Barbados, Granley was a founder member of the Leeds Black Elders, chairman of the Mandela Centre and active member of the West Indian Centre.

13 Veryl Harriott, Chapeltown CAB
Born in Jamaica and moved to Leeds in 1960. Veryl worked to improve race and community relations and influenced the formation of the Race Relations Act. Veryl was the first Director of Chapeltown Citizens Advice Bureau, a respected activist, a trustee on many boards and founder of the Afro West Indian Brotherhood and Chapeltown News.

14 Mr James A Sadler, Roscoe Church
Arrived in England 1960 a fully accredited preacher (1951) served at Roscoe Methodist Church for many years. A proud founder member of the St Kitts and Nevis association also founder member of Leeward Island family enterprise 1970, active member of 1st Chapeltown community resident group. A proud Chapeltown community activist.

The Lord Mayor of Leeds Councillor Eileen Taylor, Leeds City Council and Leeds Civic Trust have worked together to prepare this special Windrush Plaques Trail. To all who have made a nomination for a Windrush Plaque, thank you.