

Celebrating Black History Month



# Black History Month

Recognising Contributions to Travel & Transport



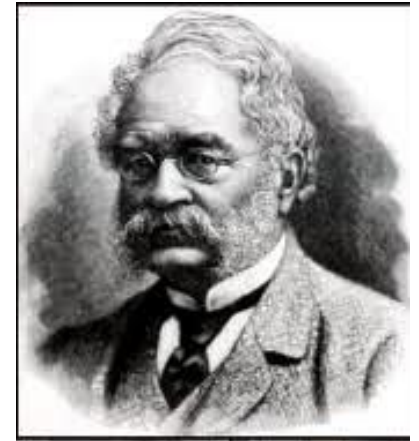


- Modeshift has created this presentation to celebrate the contribution that black people have made and continue to make to create a better, more inclusive and well run transport system, as well as the contribution they have and are making to active travel and keeping air pollution on the agenda.
- We hope you enjoy finding out more about some of the people who have helped to shape transport and active travel. Please share this presentation.

Picture of Major Taylor ©

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- **Elbert R Robinson - a great inventor who helped to revolutionized rail (1839)**  
<https://www.myrts.com/blog/Article/258/African-Americans-in-Transportation-History>
- **Granville T. Woods - invented the Induction Telegraph System allowing trains to communicate with each other(1887)**  
<https://www.myrts.com/blog/Article/258/African-Americans-in-Transportation-History>
- **Major Taylor - a cyclist who became the first African American to achieve World Champion at the World Track Championships(1899)**  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major\\_Taylor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_Taylor)



Picture of Elbert R Robinson

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- **Joe Clough – first black bus driver (1910)**  
<https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/bhm-firsts/joe-clough-the-first-black-bus-driver/>
- **Garrett Augustus Morgan Jr – improved traffic light signal(1922)**  
<https://www.rtcsv.com/news/black-history-month-influencing-mobility-for-centuries/>
- **Claudette Colvin – 9 months before Rosa Parks, Claudette Colvin refused to give up her seat to a white passenger, helping to change segregation laws(1955)**  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/stories-43171799>

Picture of Claudette Colvin ©ALAMY

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- **Rosa Parks - refused to give up her seat to a white man sparking the Montgomery Bus Boycott (1955)**

<https://www.rtcsnv.com/news/black-history-month-influencing-mobility-for-centuries/>

- **Paul Stephenson and the West Indian Development Council - led a four-month boycott of the Bristol Omnibus Company(1963)**

<https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/article/section/bhm-heroes/the-bristol-bus-boycott-of-1963/>



Picture of Bristol bus boycott



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- **Asquith Xavier - the first black guard at Euston Station (1966)**  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-54272188>
- **In 2016 a plaque was unveiled at Euston in honour of Asquith Xavier**



Picture of the plaque and Asquith Xavier ©GETTY IMAGES

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- **Maurice Burton – Britain’s first Black Cycling champion (1973)**  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maurice\\_Burton\\_\(cyclist\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maurice_Burton_(cyclist))
- **David Clarke - highest placed British rider in the 2012 Tour of Britain. (2012)**  
[https://www.britishcycling.org.uk/points?person\\_id=16351&year=2012&d=4](https://www.britishcycling.org.uk/points?person_id=16351&year=2012&d=4)
- **Mac Ferrari - co-founder of BikeStormz and Bikes Up Knives Down campaign (2014)**  
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/dec/23/bikestormz-riders-saddle-up-to-protest-against-knife-crime-london>



Picture of Maurice Burton



- **Shaneze Reade - a British BMX and track cyclist (2019)**  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shanaze\\_Reade](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shanaze_Reade)
- **Vanessa Nakate - Ugandan climate justice activist, who started her activism after becoming concerned about the unusually high temperatures in Uganda (2019/2020)**  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vanessa\\_Nakate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vanessa_Nakate)

Picture of Vanessa Nakate courtesy of Instagram





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- **Jools Walker - Author of 'Back in the Frame' and cycling blogger (2020)**  
[Cycling for Everyone Sustrans Arup.pdf](#)
- **Maria Adebowale - Schwarte - Founding Director of Living Space Project, a social enterprise that helps communities create green neighbourhoods in urban areas (2021)**  
<https://livingspaceproject.com/about-us>
- **Elsie Owusu OBE - Architect and Designer and expert in transport and infrastructure as well as the issues facing emerging economies (2021)**  
<http://owusu.uk/about.html>

Picture of Elsie Owusu OBE

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