



October 5th – International Lesbian Day

BHM Celebration of Black Lesbians

As we recognise and celebrate Black History Month, it is important to take a moment to reflect and honor the contributions of LGBT black figures who have shone throughout the course of history. Why not hold a coffee morning and discuss the achievements that these iconic black lesbians have achieved throughout history? Consider the challenges a black lesbian woman might have experienced.



Audre Lorde

As a self-professed black, lesbian, feminist mother, poet, warrior, Ms. Lorde fought injustices against the marginalised throughout the mid-20th century through her revered literary works. Despite many trying to silence her, she fearlessly embraced her identities.



Sheryl Swoopes

WBNA all-star Sheryl Swoopes was the Michael Jordan of female competitive basketball. The first player ever to sign with the WBNA when it was established, Sheryl was a three-time recipient of the WBNA MVP and won three Olympic gold medals.



Linda Bellos

Linda Bellos was a key figure in the second wave feminist movement in 1970s Britain, as well as Labour council leader for Lambeth in South London from 1986 to 1988.

One of Bellos' achievements is that she started Black History Month in the UK in 1987. She is also patron of Broken Rainbow UK which supports LGBT victims of domestic violence. Linda is married to Caroline Jones, and they were one of the first couples to have a civil partnership in Britain in 2005.



Ma Rainey

Iconic blues singer Ma Rainey often sang of her love for women, including the hook to one of her best-known songs, "Prove It on Me Blues."

"I went out last night with a crowd of my friends/ It must've been women, 'cause I don't like no men/ Wear my clothes just like a fan/ Talk to the gals just like any old man."

We would love to see how you get on – email photographs to communications@napa-activities.co.uk or tag us on social media [@napalivinglife](https://www.instagram.com/napalivinglife) [#NAPAActivitiesCalendar](https://www.instagram.com/napaactivitiescalendar)