

Trailblazing Women

SELF-GUIDED WALKS

Credits & Thanks

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Xenia's map of Trailblazing Women highlights the inspiring Untold Stories of local Hackney Women. Their contribution to the community has gone unmarked in our public spaces, until now! Based on nominations received from people across Hackney, we worked with Xenia participants and illustrator-as-historian Kremena Dimitrova to bring to life the work of these women. Take a walk around Hackney and discover the stories of some fantastic individuals and women's organisations in our area.

Special thanks to Amy, Anna B., Anna S., Helen, Khadija, Maya, Thilini, Juliana and Saba who lent their voices for the recording of the audio trail.



FUNDED BY
Untold Stories, part of the Mayor of London's Commission for Diversity in the Public Realm



SCAN THE CODE TO LISTEN TO THE FULL STORIES ONLINE

Ama Josephine Budge Johnstone 17

A British-Ghanaian speculative writer, artist, scholar and pleasure activist whose praxis navigates that which she has termed "Intimate Ecologies" to explore blackness, aesthetics and queer, pleasurable, interspecies futures.

no limits



Angela Large 18

Executive Director at the Ivy Street Family Centre, offering drop-in sessions open to anyone with a pre-school child.

19

Lil Warren



Director and Producer for Stage, Film and TV and Artistic Director at Unity Arts London—a not-for-profit based in Hackney, with a remit to deliver theatre, arts, heritage and training access to those often excluded from such resources.

PERSEVERANCE

TACKLE PERIOD PENALTY

END PERIOD POVERTY

Eleanor Hall 20

Union Representative and creator of the Period Dignity Campaign at the Museum of the Home.

Sistah Space 16

Award winning specialist charity supporting women of African and African-Caribbean heritage affected by domestic and sexual abuse.



Patience

Latin American Women's Aid 15

LAWA runs the only refuges in Europe and in the UK by and for Latin American women and children fleeing gender-based violence. They also offer holistic and intersectional services, providing everything black and minoritised women need to recover from abuse and live empowered lives.

Marie Murray 14

The face, heart and soul of the Dalston Eastern Curve Garden.



13

Dr Susan Croft

A writer, curator, archive adviser and Director of Unfinished Histories, the oral and archival history project on Alternative Theatre in Britain.

TO ASK FREEDOM FOR WOMEN IS NOT A CRIME

Bad Lay-Dee 9

A singer, rapper and educator delivering music workshops for schools with a focus on helping young people find their voice and encouraging them to use it positively.

EQUALITY

Jennie Loh & Yan Ma

The backbone of the Hackney Chinese Community Services. Between the two of them, they share a plethora of responsibilities, coordinating a number of different activities including lunch clubs, exercise classes, IT/tech support for older members, days out and traditional festival activities and events.

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STRONG Caring



Hyacinth Myers 11

Creative, writer, community engagement specialist as well as CEO and Founder of the EMPOWER 7[®] method—a Personal Empowerment Programme that supports women who have been through serious adversity to rediscover more freedom and happiness.

Pathways to Employment

Kome Owuasu

Co-founder of the African Community School alongside her husband Frank who passed away in 2018. Together they founded the school in 2000 in order to help reverse educational underachievement among children of African and African-Caribbean heritage.

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Love

Hackney Flashers 8

Mother



Women's mixed media art collective that was started by a small group of photographers and an illustrator. They produced exhibitions of photographs and cartoons focussing on two key areas of women's lives: paid work, and the lack of childcare for working mothers.

Helpful

TELLING UNTOLD STORIES.

7

Jo Carter



Founder of Immediate Theatre, a company that has worked across Hackney since 1996, creating theatre with local residents aged 5-95; giving people a creative voice, improving health and wellbeing and increasing life skills and employability through engagement in the arts.

6 Ali Kakande

COURAGE

Founder of CaribEats, cooking Caribbean food and delivering it to those who need it across Hackney.

KIND



5 Margaret Boateng

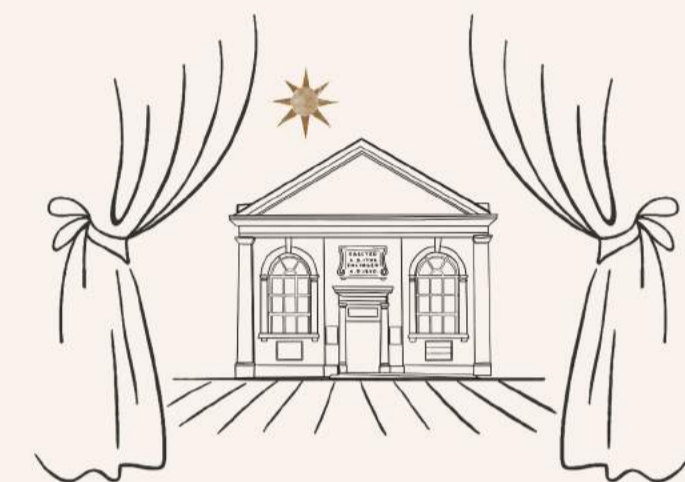
Headteacher of Holmleigh Primary School, recruited in 2023 after many years of dedication to the children and communities that have flourished within the school. One of those teachers that nobody forgets!



Xenia 1

SHARING

A small women's charity bringing women together to connect, share and learn. At our weekly conversations and creative workshops in Hackney (Newington Green Meeting House and Hackney Museum) we welcome migrant, asylum seeking, refugee and British women, using Xenia sessions as a time to find out about each other's cultures, experiences and perspectives through friendship and shared learning.



Anna Birch 2

An inspiring theatre director and researcher who has been creating live art and performance in public spaces since the late 90s.

Soul



Orlene Badu 3

Racial literacy expert, educator and author passionate about the education and personal development of all children irrespective of background.



Luminary Bakery 4

Social enterprise providing training, employment and community to some of the most disadvantaged women in London.



STOKE NEWINGTON

SPRINGFIELD PARK

CLISSOLD PARK

NEWINGTON GREEN

HACKNEY DOWNS PARK

DALSTON

HACKNEY

SHOREDITCH PARK

HAGGERSTON PARK

START

FINISH

CAMBRIDGE HEATH

Map labels include street names such as Portland Ave, Fairholt Rd, Grangecourt Rd, Stoke Newington Church St, Dalston Ln, Kingsland Rd, and Haggerston Rd. It also identifies various landmarks and parks like Clissold Park, Hackney Downs Park, London Fields, and Haggerston Park. Rail stations marked include Dalston Kingsland, Dalston Junction, Hackney Central, Hackney Downs, and Cambridge Heath. The map is framed by a decorative floral border.