OLIVE MORRIS

http://www.rememberolivemorris.wordpress.com

Olive Morris was a passionate and committed community organiser and activist. She tirelessly campaigned and organised anti-racist and anti-imperialist campaigns, working within the Black community and for the rights of women in Brixton and Manchester during the late 60s and throughout the 70s.

Olive was born in Jamaica in 1952 and moved to Britain with her family when she was nine. In 1977 she completed a Degree in Social Sciences at Manchester University, despite leaving school with no qualifications.

She co-founded and worked with various organisations: the Organisation of Women of African and Asian Descent (OWAAD), the Brixton Black Women’s Group, the Manchester Black Women’s Co-operative and the Manchester Black Women’s Mutual Aid Group and the Brixton Law Centre. She was also active in the Brixton Black Panther movement and involved in the squatter movement.

She was a principled and passionate fighter for Black rights and women’s rights until her tragic, untimely death from cancer in 1979 at the young age of 27. A council building in Lambeth bears her name, and at present the Remembering Olive Collective is leading a campaign to ensure her life and achievements are publicly acknowledged and recognised. Her contribution to the fight for equal rights and justice will not be forgotten.

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