



CanyouCme

KINGSTON CANCER CONFERENCE

**29TH
MAY 2025**

Beyond the Postcode:

Making Cancer Care Accessible
for Every Community in Kingston



In partnership with

**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**


CROYDON BME FORUM

 **Places
Leisure**

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About the Can You C Me? Project

The Can You C Me? project is a Macmillan-funded initiative led by Croydon BME Forum, working across six London boroughs to improve cancer care awareness, access, and experiences for Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities. Through a combination of outreach, support, lived experience engagement, and professional collaboration, we are working to reduce inequalities and break down barriers in cancer care.

Our Network

The image below showcases the wide network of partners, organisations, and services we've built strong relationships with. From NHS trusts and hospices to grassroots community groups, each plays a vital role in supporting our shared mission of making cancer care more inclusive, equitable, and culturally responsive.



WELCOME TO THE KINGSTON CANCER CONFERENCE 2025

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

This conference aims to address racial disparities within cancer support, an area that requires more attention according to documented evidence. The Croydon BME Forum has partnered with Macmillan Cancer Support on a three-year project spanning six southwest London boroughs: Croydon, Merton, Sutton, Wandsworth, Richmond, and Kingston. This initiative tackles health inequalities and amplifies the voices of marginalised communities from Black and minority ethnic backgrounds.

According to the British Journal of Cancer, Black people are more than a third less likely than White people to be diagnosed with cancer via screening in England. This research highlights stark disparities, showing that Black people are 38% less likely to be diagnosed via screening compared to White people. Cancer rates vary by race and ethnicity, revealing significant discrepancies between different groups. It is imperative for minority ethnic communities to understand these differences and inequalities in cancer. Addressing these disparities will not only improve regular screening and early diagnosis but also highlight the need to fill gaps in policy and practice.

While there have been significant strides in cancer diagnosis and treatment, these achievements are not equally distributed. At the Croydon BME Forum, we will continue to raise awareness of long-term health conditions, provide appropriate community-led interventions, and champion the voices of those with lived experiences.

Thank you for attending, and we hope to see you at the next conference.



A heartfelt **thank you** to everyone who has attended, participated, and helped organise this impactful conference on racial disparities within cancer healthcare and support. A special thanks to our dedicated **Can You C Me?** - Macmillan Team at Croydon BME Forum for their meticulous planning and execution of this event.

In recent years, and particularly in the wake of the pandemic, we have become acutely aware of the severe inequalities affecting our minority ethnic communities. Working on cancer awareness has been an enlightening journey, revealing significant racial disparities in cancer support and care. It has been truly inspiring to see so many remarkable individuals amplify the voices of marginalised communities by sharing their cancer journeys and lived experiences. Your stories have profoundly changed my perspective on life.

Croydon BME Forum remains committed to supporting the community by raising awareness and providing crucial information to our underserved populations. We aim to build sustainable, long-lasting relationships and ensure equality in healthcare. The disparities in cancer treatment and patient experiences are alarming, with many individuals from minority ethnic groups reporting worse outcomes and lower survival rates for certain cancers.

We extend our gratitude to Macmillan for their faith in us, enabling this conference and forging a three-year partnership.

Your enthusiasm and support have been overwhelming, and we eagerly anticipate our next conference later this year. Together, we will continue to address health inequalities and be catalysts for change.

Dr Andrew Brown
CEO, Croydon BME Forum

AGENDA

TIME ACTIVITY

WHO

10:30	Registration & Exhibition	
11:00	Welcome	Anthony King (Host)
11:15	Can You C Me?	Saffron Hanson, Zak Miah, Michael Samuel, Shakira Hector
11:25	Croydon BME Forum	Andrew Brown, CEO
11:30	Macmillan Cancer Support	Anton Morgan-Thorne
11:35	Address by Mayor of Kingston	Noel Hadjimichael
11:40	Leisure Centre Cancer Programme	Marie O'Loughlin
11:55	Addressing Health Inequalities in Cancer Care: Kingston Upon Thames	Archana Sood & Chaya Patel
12:15	It's Beyond The Stats and The Postcode: Let's Talk about the Big C	Orin Lewis
12:30 – 2:00 PM Lunch and Exhibition		
2:00	Lived Experience	Anslim Pope
2:20	Lived Experience	Sophie Brown
2:40	St George's Hospital - Lived Experience Project Films	Helen Ricketts, Can You C Me Team
3:00	Thank You	Can You C Me Team, Marie, Georgie
3:15	Workshops	Multiple Facilitators

4:00 PM NETWORKING, MUSIC AND VACATE

Workshops:

- Clinical Trials SWL: CLINICAL TRIALS:** Reaching to Connect in the BME Community (R2C)
- ACLT:** The Silent Importance of Culture, Ethnicity and Faith, when Fighting & Living with the Big C
- Places Leisure:** Hands in Clay – Korean Pottery & the Art of Mindful Making
- Royal Marsden Hospital:** Can You Hear Me? The Value of BAME Voices within Cancer Care
- Princess Alice Hospice:** Palliative Care – Let's Talk About What It Really Means Across Cultures and Communities
- Places Leisure:** Art Mindfulness
- Places Leisure:** Line Dancing

CONFERENCE HOST



Anthony King

Founder of Majestic Community Care Services and Chair of the Our Town Croydon, Project.

Anthony was diagnosed with a Benign Tumour in 2012 which nearly turned his world upside down, but he has used his experience to raise funds for organisations such as Prostate Cancer UK. After the last Cancer Conference in Croydon, Anthony did a 5K run with a group of men and jointly raised over £8000.00 for Prostate Cancer UK. Anthony has a BSc in Public Policy and is about to Embark on a MSc. Anthony is committed to reducing knife crime locally and seeing young people thrive.

SPEAKERS



Anton Morgan-Thorne

Hello everyone my name is Anton Morgan-Thorne and I am the Macmillan Cancer Support communities manager for the South of England.

I am so pleased to be here today and to welcome you to the Can you C me conference in Kingston, conferences like this are absolutely vital in ensuring that everyone affected by cancer is made aware of services available in their area.

Here at Macmillan Cancer Support we are passionate about supporting the community and are delighted to support thecan you see me conference.

the MacMillan team will be available throughout the day to answer questions to all things cancer related so please feel free to stop by and have a chat.



Marie O'Loughlin

Marie represents Places Leisure, part of the Places for People group, a social enterprise focused on improving community health. She leads on integrating leisure centres into public health delivery, working closely with the NHS and GPs through their Healthy Communities strategy.

At the Kingston Cancer Conference, Marie will present a new cancer support pathway developed with Kingston Hospital and Princess Alice Hospice. She'll highlight current and upcoming programmes at local leisure centres, especially those supporting the BME community. Marie looks forward to sharing this work and building new partnerships to expand cancer support in Kingston.



Archana Sood

Archana brings over 33 years of experience in oncology, with a career spanning clinical care, patient education, and community outreach. Starting as a Therapy Radiographer, she quickly advanced to become the youngest Superintendent Radiographer of her time. Her passion for improving patient experiences led her to Macmillan Cancer Support, where she transformed radiotherapy education and co-founded PHASE, a prostate cancer support group.

As a Macmillan Manager at Kingston Hospital since 2008, Archana has taken a holistic approach to cancer care, supporting patients through every stage of their journey while actively engaging with community organizations to promote cancer awareness and prevention. Her award-winning work has focused on reducing health inequalities, particularly among underserved populations.

At the Kingston Cancer Conference, Archana will share insights from a targeted outreach project addressing cancer awareness and access barriers among migrant and minority communities in Kingston upon Thames.



Helen Ricketts

With over two decades of experience as a physiotherapist, Helen has dedicated the last ten years to specialising in oncology. Since joining St George's in 2004, Helen has been involved in supporting patients through all aspects of cancer care, from treatment to rehabilitation.

A highlight of Helen's career includes presenting work at several international conferences, showcasing her expertise and commitment to advancing the field of cancer rehabilitation. Currently, Helen serves as the Trust Lead for Living With and Beyond Cancer, a role driven by a passion for creating sustainable change and involving patients in their care.

In addition to her professional achievements, she has a tortoise called Doris and participates in humanitarian work. She has made significant contributions internationally by establishing a respiratory physiotherapy training program in Gaza and supporting breast cancer training programs across the occupied Palestinian Territories.



Orin Lewis OBE

Orin Lewis OBE is the co-founder and CEO of the African Caribbean Leukaemia Trust (ACLT), a leading UK charity dedicated to raising awareness about stem cell, blood, and organ donation, particularly within Black and ethnic minority communities. Founded in 1996 after the diagnosis of his son Daniel with leukaemia, Orin and his partner Beverley De-Gale OBE turned personal tragedy into a powerful national movement for change.

At the Kingston Cancer Conference, Orin will present “It’s Beyond the Stats and the Postcode: Let’s Talk About the Big C”, addressing the systemic barriers that Black and ethnic minority patients face in accessing timely, equitable cancer care. He will advocate for tailored pathways that reflect the unique needs of these communities and ensure fairer health outcomes across the board.



Anslim Pope

Anslim’s journey with cancer began unexpectedly in 2021 while preparing for back surgery to address chronic pain. On the day of the procedure, a routine blood test revealed an elevated PSA level, leading to a diagnosis of prostate cancer.

At the Kingston Cancer Conference, Anslim will share his personal experience - from the shock of diagnosis to navigating treatment - offering insight into the importance of early detection and the unexpected paths a cancer journey can take.



Sophie Brown

Sophie is living with stage four advanced bowel cancer, which has spread to her liver. Following a total pelvic exenteration, she now lives with both a permanent colostomy and urostomy. Through her journey, Sophie has become a powerful voice for education, awareness, and visibility for those living with metastatic cancer.

At the Kingston Cancer Conference, Sophie will share her lived experience to highlight the realities of late-stage cancer, the importance of being seen and heard, and the critical need for more open conversations around complex cancer journeys.

MEET THE TEAM



Saffron Hanson - Programme Manager

I extend a heartfelt thank you to all of you for joining and supporting us today as we work together to address health inequalities and enhance cancer support for Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities across six Southwest London boroughs.

This partnership symbolises a shared commitment to humanity, equity, and progress. For too long, individuals from BME backgrounds have faced disproportionate barriers in accessing quality healthcare and support,

especially in cancer care.

Over the next three years, my team and I are committed to providing holistic care that addresses the unique needs and challenges faced by BME individuals and their families when diagnosed with cancer. We will work within local communities in our six boroughs to ensure culturally sensitive support is delivered with compassion, understanding, and unwavering dedication.

Thank you to our stakeholders, community members, and attendees for your support and presence today.



Zak Miah - Kingston & Richmond

A special thank you to all those that have supported and engaged with the “Can You C Me” project. It has only been ten months, but yet we have achieved so much!

We are shining a light on the disparities in healthcare outcomes for those of a BME background dealing with Cancer. Addressing racial disparities within Cancer support and giving a voice to marginalised communities.

This project will give a better understanding in to the

barriers which create inequality in healthcare outcomes for minority communities. Our work will ensure that we help shape the future of Cancer support and Healthcare and create equity for all.

Through education and challenging current mindsets by better understating real stories and experiences, we hope to bridge the gap between healthcare providers and the communities they serve.

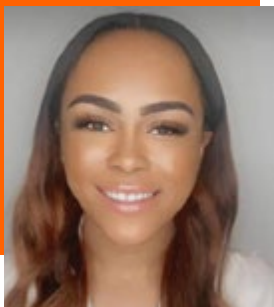
We look forward to your continued support and the overall success of the project.



Michael Samuel - Wandsworth & Sutton

Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to attend today's event and support the "Can You C Me" project.

With over 30 years of experience in the corporate sector, I am committed to using my knowledge and expertise to address health inequalities, not only in Croydon, Kingston, Merton, Richmond, Sutton, and Wandsworth, but also across London and beyond. I look forward to expanding our impact through this exciting work. Enjoy the day, and please take the opportunity to connect with others—you never know where the journey might lead.



Shakira Hector - Croydon & Merton

Shakira has recently stepped into the role of Macmillan Cancer Support Wellbeing Coordinator, bringing fresh energy and a deep commitment to improving health outcomes through targeted cancer awareness initiatives. In this position, she is focused on leading meaningful engagement with diverse communities—particularly Black and South Asian groups—by coordinating outreach efforts that emphasise cancer prevention and early detection.

She plans to host focus groups to gain valuable community

insights, foster stronger relationships with healthcare providers, and offer tailored support to individuals following a cancer diagnosis. Shakira also facilitates and attends community events, helping to raise awareness and share vital information. Her long-term goal is to build an inclusive and informative resource library that empowers individuals with knowledge about cancer risks and supports community-led health improvement.



PREVIOUS CANCER CONFERENCES





FURTHER SUPPORT INFORMATION

Company Name	Telephone Number	Website	Email address
Marie Curie	0800 716 146	www.mariecurie.org.uk	info@mariecurie.org.uk
African Caribbean Leukaemia Trust (ACLT)	0203 757 7700	www.aclt.org	Info@aclt.org.uk
Macmillan Cancer Support	0808 808 0000	www.macmillan.org.ukc	ontact@macmillan.org.uk
Cancer Black Care	0734 047 1970	www.cancerblackcare.org.uk	info@cancerblackcare.org.uk
MAGGIE'S	0300 1231 801	www.maggies.org	enquiries@maggies.org
Race Equality Foundation	020 7428 1880	raceequalityfoundation.org.uk/	admin@racefound.org.uk
Black in Cancer		www.blackincancer.com	blackincancer@gmail.com
Cancer Care Map		www.cancercaremap.org	
The Leanne Pero Foundation		www.theleanneperofoundation.com	foundation@leannepero.com
Errol McKellar Foundation		www.theerrolmckellar-foundation.com	info@errolmckellar.com
From Me To You		www.fromme2u.uk	
Throat Cancer Foundation	0203 4754 065	www.throatcancerfoundation.org	hello@throatcancerfoundation.org
Melanoma UK	0808 171 2455	melanomauk.org.uk	info@melanomauk.org.uk
Blood Cancer Uk	0808 208 0888	bloodcancer.org.uk	support@bloodcancer.org

FURTHER SUPPORT INFORMATION

Company Name	Telephone Number	Website	Email address
RM Partners		www.rmpartners.nhs.uk	rmpartners.info@nhs.net
Safeena Cancer Support		www.safeena.org.uk	info@safeena.org
multiculturalrichmond.org.uk	020 8893 9444	multiculturalrichmond.org.uk	hello@multiculturalrichmond.org.uk
Cancer Don't Let It Win	0333 33 55 916	Cancerdontletitwincic.org	Info@cancerdontletitwincic.com
Black women rising		blackwomenrisinguk.org	foundation@leannepero.com
Kingston Voluntary Action	0208 255 3335	kva.org.uk	admin@kva.org.uk
MILAAP Centre	0208 547 2887	www.milaapcentrekingston.org.uk	info@milaapcentrekingston.org.uk
Korean Community Centre	0741 318 5354	www.newmalden.org	info@newmalden.org
The Kingston Association for The Blind	0208 605 0060	www.kingstonassociationforblind.org	kab@kingstonassociationforblind.org
Tamil Centre	0777 002 9617	www.itc-uk.org	info@itc-uk.org
Kingston Race and Equalities Council	0208 547 2332	kingstonrec.org	info@kingstonrec.org

ABOUT AND CONTACT

Croydon BME Forum is the umbrella organisation for Croydon's Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) voluntary and community sector, working to engage people, build capacity, and promote equality and cohesion. We are a registered company limited by guarantee.

Our projects focus on various areas, including mental health, general health, family support, financial assistance, and overall well-being. The Forum was established to maximise the engagement of BME communities in all aspects of living and working in Croydon.

We represent Croydon's Black and minority communities to public sector agencies and other statutory and non-statutory organisations.

Get in touch with the Croydon BME Forum by calling us or dropping in:
0208 680 3635 | 0208 684 3719

Address

The Wellness Centre

1st, Floor Whitgift Centre , Croydon CR0 1LP

Croydon BME Forum

56A Mitcham Road, Croydon, CR0 3RG

Croydon Health And Wellbeing Space

Unit 1101-1102, Whitgift Centre , Croydon CR0 1TY

For more information about the Can You C Me Project or to contact the team , please visit www.canyoucme.org or email macmillanteam@bmeforum.org

You may also contact Macmillan Cancer Support on

0808 808 0000 or visit their website www.macmillan.org.uk

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