

BBC unveils 'ambitious' series on Black British history

The BBC has revealed plans for a 'landmark' six-part series examining the lives of black Britons going as far back as the Roman Empire.

A Black History of Britain will be hosted by British-Nigerian historian, author and broadcaster David Olusoga and promises to offer "a very different take on British history", said BBC2 boss Kim Shillinglaw.

It will provide an authored account of the people and moments that have defined Britain's black history. The factual programme will also show that 'Africa and her people have been part of the British story for far longer than many people would imagine'. There is a common misconception that the black presence in Britain started with the docking of the SS Windrush at Tilbury in 1948. The series was commissioned by Martin Davidson, head of History Commissioning. Olusoga was born in Denmark and grew up in the northeast of England.