**DISABLED PEOPLE in the 20TH CENTURY**

1913 **The Mental Deficiency Act** required school boards to identify children who were ‘defective’ and send them to live in institutions.

1914–18 **The First World War** created 20 million disabled men across Europe.

1920s & 30s Many disabled veterans fought for the Right to Work as part of the unemployed workers movement.

1933 **The Nazis came to power in Germany and introduced compulsory sterilisation of disabled people.**

1939 **The Nazi euthanasia programme murdered 240,000 disabled people.**

1944 **The Disabled Persons (Employment) Act** required employers with 20 or more staff to ensure that 3% of employees were registered disabled.

1944 **Education Act** introduced selection by disability with disabled children sent to 11 types of special school depending on their impairment.

1952 **The Spastics Society (now Scope) was set up to campaign for better education and other opportunities for people with cerebral palsy (cp).**

1957 **Bill Hargreaves, a man with cerebral palsy, started his pioneering work to support over 1,000 disabled people into their first jobs.**

1972 **Alf Morris MP** was appointed as Britain’s first Minister for Disabled People.

1976 **Union of Physically Impaired Against Segregation** was set up, the first organisation to argue for a ‘social model of disability’.

1978 **British Council of Disabled People’s Organisations** was set up to campaign for disabled people’s rights.

1981 **The Education Act** paved the way for the integration of children with ‘special needs’ during the United Nations International Year of Disabled People.

1986 **A Spastics Society study entitled “An equal chance for disabled people” revealed widespread discrimination against disabled people in the workplace.**

1990 **The Americans with Disabilities Act** became law.

2000 **The Speak for Yourself campaign** was launched – to highlight the difficulty disabled people had getting communication aids. As one person said, “If you can’t walk you get a wheelchair… if you can’t speak you get nothing”.

2001 **Scope launched the Engage Network to increase the representation of disabled people in public and political life.**

2004 Nelson Mandela launched Scope’s Time to Get Equal campaign, calling for an end to disablism.

2005 **The Disability Amendment Act introduced a duty** on the public sector to promote disability equality.

2005 “Up to one in five British adults is disabled and can find themselves cut off from the opportunities others enjoy… This Government is committed to improving the life chances of disabled people” Tony Blair.

2006 **The statue of disabled artist Alison Lapper in Trafalgar Square.**