



The Race Equality Centre in Leicester and Leicestershire

Trec Blog: <http://trec1972.wordpress.com>

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## The Race Equality Centre

The Race Equality Centre actively promotes, seeks, and implements a racially just, fair and equitable society, which will enhance the quality of life for all citizens of Leicester and Leicestershire.

### July 2017

## TREC Updates

### • **Walter Tull – His Life And Legacy**

TREC is holding an event to celebrate and remember the life and legacy of Walter Tull. Tull was one of Britain's first Black professional football players. He was also the first Black person to become an officer and lead troops into battle in the British Army. He was killed in action on 25 March 1918. Featured speakers at the event will include Simone Pound, Head of Equality and Diversity, Professional Footballers' Association, and John Williams, University of Leicester Unit for Diversity, Inclusion and Community Engagement. The speakers will be followed by an open discussion. It will be held Thursday 4 October, 7pm, 3rd floor, at The Race Equality Centre, LE1 5TE and entry is free. If you are interested please contact TREC by phone: 0116 204 270, or email: [administrator@theraceequalitycentre.org.uk](mailto:administrator@theraceequalitycentre.org.uk)

### • **Life In The UK Workshop**

Over the past year or so TREC staff member Jill Hay has been running a "life in the UK" workshop with the British Red Cross and City of Sanctuary. It is a tenancy support group workshop which explains basic issues that need to be addressed when refugee status is gained such as how to get and keep housing, and what services they need to budget for. To date four such workshops have taken place at TREC, two also at the City of Sanctuary drop in and two with Red Cross but delivered at Kennedy House which is National Asylum Support Service (NASS) property. For more information including case studies please click here: <http://trecblog.tumblr.com/post/176443995768/life-in-the-uk-workshop>

### • **Volunteer ESOL Assistant**

TREC has had some voluntary positions open up with our ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Language) as volunteer tutor assistant. It could be a great opportunity for successful volunteers to gain experience and develop new skills while making a difference to peoples' lives. By volunteering with The Race Equality Centre individuals will gain experience of teaching, operating as part of a team and with learners from all over the world. Individuals will also develop communication, presentation and organisational skills. For more information, including the requirements for potential applicants, more about the role and its opportunities, the times you would need to be available, and to apply, please click this link: <https://do-it.org/opportunities/1709abc2-0021-44f7-877c-ab70a0e60bc1>

## Local News

### • **EDUK8 Meets Leicester's Caribbean Carnival**

EDUK8global is organizing an event called 'Island Link Up': Emancipation Walk to coincide with Leicester Caribbean Carnival 2018 on 4 August. For the last few years their 'Walk' has merged with the Leicester Caribbean Carnival. The walk will visit and stop with presentations at places significant to African history in Leicester and Leicestershire, honouring those who came before. The walk will depart from Nelson Mandela Park at 9.30AM. Tickets are £20 per person and all-inclusive featuring breakfast and lunch, face painting, professional photography, and more. For more information please click here: <https://shoobs.com/events/28940/educ8-meets-leicester-s-caribbean-carnival> email [walk@emancipationday.uk](mailto:walk@emancipationday.uk) or call 07479 708 009.

### • **Leicester Caribbean Carnival 2018**

Leicester Caribbean Carnival is being held this year on 4 August. The carnival is a mixture of costumes, a blend of tropical rhythms, food, and floats parading the city celebrating culture. Each year they bring a different cultural theme to the city celebrating different cultures and displaying through the streets of the city centre in Leicester where their parade takes the vibe to Victoria Park and there the tropical party continues, with a host of events happening. They have music stages, sound systems, workshops, food stalls, a fun fair, and much more. As of writing this, tickets cost £4 for adults and £1 for children. For more information on the carnival and to buy tickets please click here: <https://leicestercarnival.com/>

### • **Journeys Festival International**

Journeys Festival International celebrates the creative talent of exceptional refugee and asylum seeker artists and shares the refugee experience through great art. From 17 - 26 August the Festival will host free artistic events, within leading venues and in the public spaces of Leicester city centre. The Festival aims to share the refugee experience through great art with as many people from different backgrounds as possible through a whole range of free arts activities including live music, hands-on artist-led workshops, theatre, performance, film, discussion, exhibitions, storytelling, pop-up events and more. For more information, and to see a full programme of the festival's events please click here: <http://www.journeysfestival.com/leicester>

### • **Black History Month 2018**

Black History Month (BHM) is held each year in October, with a programme that promotes the history and contribution that African and Caribbean communities have made to Leicester, helping to understand the present through our past. The 2018 programme will reflect upon representation and free speech, to mark Nelson Mandela's centenary year. The programme for 2018 will focus on a female to coincide with the thirtieth anniversary of Sisters of the Long March touring the UK, and the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of The West Indian Gazette by Claudia Jones. 2018 will also reflect on the African and African Caribbean contribution to the First World War (marking the centenary of the end of the First World War) and the seventieth anniversary of the arrival of the Empire Windrush. For more information including the full programme for BHM's events please click here: <https://serendipity-uk.com/black-history-month-leicester/>

- **Rutland councillor reported to police over racist Facebook posts**

Recently elected Rutland Councillor Richard Alderman has been referred to police over allegedly making racist and abusive social media posts. These posts to a Facebook account apparently owned by Alderman included abuse of Labour shadow home secretary Diane Abbot, and a picture of a noose which was posted as being the UK's gift to Theresa May. She was described as its "most traitorous PM". Abuse aimed at Tory female MPs Anna Soubry and Esther McVey was also posted. For more information please click here: <https://www.leicestermercury.co.uk/news/local-news/oakham-rutland-councillor-richard-alderman-1796353>

- **Social Welfare Guidance Course – Highfields Centre**

Highfields Centre are starting a new Social Welfare, Advice and Guidance course in September. This is a unique collaborative course that tutors from Highfields Centre have helped to design and is accredited by the University of Leicester. The Social Welfare, Advice and Guidance is a part time Certificate in Higher Education course aimed at anyone working in, or aspiring to work in a broad range of advice and social welfare roles. Students will gain an understanding of current social policy and welfare legislation which will help to enhance employability in advice and social welfare work. For more information please contact Aiyub Zamakda at The Highfields Centre by phone: 0116 253 0153 or by email: [aiyub.zamakda@highfieldscentre.ac.uk](mailto:aiyub.zamakda@highfieldscentre.ac.uk) or email [www.le.ac.uk/lifelonglearning](http://www.le.ac.uk/lifelonglearning). Or to download a flyer with more information on the course please click here: <https://archive.org/download/13438SWAGFlyerPoster/13438%20SWAG%20flyer%20poster.pdf>

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## National News

- **Universal Credit Roll Out**

Full roll-out of Universal Credit for everyone in Leicester began from Wednesday 13 June 2018. Universal Credit will be replacing Income-based jobseeker's allowance, Income-related Employment and support allowance, Income support, Working tax credit, Child tax credit, and Housing benefit. Universal credit is claimed online. Payments are made monthly directly into your bank, building society or Post Office account. It also includes an amount for your housing costs (rent payment). You are responsible for paying rent to your landlord. If you do not have a bank account, you will need to set one up before you claim. To find out more information on Universal Credit, including if you are eligible, how to claim and how you will be paid please click here: <https://www.gov.uk/universal-credit>. There is also a guidance booklet (PDF) available here [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/680837/universal-credit-and-you-140218.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/680837/universal-credit-and-you-140218.pdf) which covers, your commitment, payments, sanctions, searching for full-time work, self-employment, childcare costs and housing.

- **Black Male Graduates Face Largest Pay Gap Penalties**

Large pay gaps remain between black and minority ethnic workers and their white counterparts, a new report has revealed. Among the report's key findings were that the pay gap was largest for black male graduates. The report, which looked at data between 1996-97 and 2016-17, found that black male graduates can expect to be paid 17 per cent less than white male graduates after accounting for their background and their job. For more information please click here: <http://www.voice-online.co.uk/article/black-male-graduates-face-largest-pay-gap-penalties>

- **Young Black Men More Likely To Be Prosecuted Over Dispersal Orders**

Young black men in London are disproportionately more likely to be prosecuted for breaking public dispersal orders available to police as part of a range of measures to crack down on antisocial behaviour. Research produced by the Centre for Crime and Justice Studies looked at a range of powers given to councils and police in 2014 and found that they had resulted in almost 1,000 young adults being prosecuted in two years. One of these, the controversial dispersal power, allows police to ban individuals from an area for 48 hours if they believe there is a risk of antisocial behaviour. For more information please click here: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jul/18/young-black-men-more-like-prosecuted-over-dispersal-orders-new-antisocial-behaviour-powers>

- **Brexit Will Trigger Rise In Hate Crimes, Warns Police Watchdog**

A recent report from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services has warned of a "real possibility" that Britain's exit from the European Union next year will trigger a spike in hate crimes, as a victims' group warned of a return to a climate of hostility such as that seen in the 1990s. It found large-scale failings in the way hate crimes were dealt with, despite the issue supposedly being a priority. It also says reforms promised after past concerns were raised have not been started, nor delivered upon, and a national policy to visit victims has been effectively ignored, although it also uncovered outstanding examples of police tackling the issue. For more information please click here: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/19/brexit-will-trigger-rise-in-hate-crimes-warns-police-watchdog>

- **Greater Manchester: 65% Of People Victims Of 'Hateful Behaviour**

Two-thirds of Greater Manchester residents have experienced hateful behaviour on the grounds of characteristics such as race, religion and gender, according to a report commissioned in the aftermath of the Manchester Arena bomb. The report, commissioned by the region's mayor, Andy Burnham, after the attack last year, asked an independent group of experts to consider how to tackle hateful extremism, social exclusion and radicalisation across Greater Manchester. In a survey conducted for the report, 65% of respondents reported being a victim of hateful behaviour. Proportionately, hate crime based on ethnicity was the most frequently reported, with 33% of all respondents saying that they had experienced it. Of this group 16% said that they experienced hate crime related to their ethnicity on a "frequent" basis. For more information please click here: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/jul/30/greater-manchester-65-of-people-victims-of-hateful-behaviour>

- **Facebook protects far-right activists even after rule breaches**

Leading far-right activists have received special protection from Facebook, preventing their pages from being deleted even after a pattern of behaviour that would typically result in moderator action being taken. The process, called "shielded review", was uncovered by Channel 4 Dispatches, after the documentary series sent an undercover reporter to work as a content moderator in a Dublin-based Facebook contractor, Cpl. In the documentary, a moderator tells the Dispatches reporter that Britain First's pages were left up, even though they repeatedly broke Facebook's rules, because "they have a lot of followers so they're generating a lot of revenue for Facebook". For more information please click here: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2018/jul/17/facebook-protects-far-right-activists-even-after-rule-breaches-dispatches-c4>