



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.

September 2019

TREC Updates

- **TREC Has Moved**

TREC has relocated its office to the Highfields Centre, 96 Melbourne Road, Leicester, LE2 0DS. Our telephone, and email contact details will remain the same: Telephone: 0116 204 2790 Email: administrator@theraceequalitycentre.org.uk Web: www.theraceequalitycentre.org.uk. This move will be beneficial to clients, and service users as the fully accessible centre has facilities for the wider community including adult education, children and young people services, and a library facility next to the centre to give a few examples. We look forward to continuing to help existing clients, and service users as well as new ones from our new location.

- **TREC AGM 2019**

This year's TREC AGM is set to take place on **Wednesday 11th September**. It is planned to run from 6PM to 9PM at the **Highfields Centre, 96 Melbourne Road, Leicester, LE2 0DS**. We are very excited about this year's meeting as we will be hosting Martin Forde QC as our keynote speaker. Martin Forde QC's was appointed as an independent adviser to the Home Office, in respect of the then proposed Windrush Compensation Scheme. Following which the Windrush scheme: support in urgent and exceptional circumstances, was launched by the Home Office in December 2018. We are looking forward to hearing him speak and the discussion he will no doubt spark among attendees. For more information please call 0116 204 2790. To register your attendance electronically please email: administrator@theraceequalitycentre.org.uk.

- **It Is In Everyday Use Globally But, Where Does It Come From?**

'Where Does Your Mobile Phone Come From?' is a collaborative exercise between TREC and The University of Leicester. It is an exploration of global connections in the history and contemporary production of mobile phone technology. Using the medium of a small-scale digital interactive, the programme aims to help learn about, and explore, the connections these devices have with technological and social landscapes across many parts of the globe. This programme will be launched in September 2019 at the University of Leicester's Digital Reading Room. We invite you to engage with the project outcomes and explore where your mobile phone really comes from. For more information please click here: <https://trecblog.tumblr.com/post/187443589568/it-is-in-everyday-use-globally-but-where-does-it>

Local News

- **Leicester Black History Month 2019**

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 theme for 2019 is Archiving the Past, Reflecting the Future, which will focus on Black British history and the contribution of the African and African Caribbean community to the artistic and cultural heritage of the East Midlands over the last 80 years. For more information including a full programme of events please click here:

<https://serendipity-uk.com/black-history-month-leicester/>

- **Black Chat Integrated Casting**

As part of Black History Month the Curve theatre is holding a discussion on integrated casting, the practice of casting without considering an actor's ethnicity. It will feature panelists including producers, programmers, artistic directors and actors who will explore best practice in increasing representation of cultural diversity on stage and making a step change for year-round programming in theatres. Confirmed contributors include actor Cathy Tyson and representatives from Equity. For more information please click here: <https://tinyurl.com/y3p8oxuv>

- **Freelance Arts Development Worker Position**

An exciting new position is available at Highfields Centre for an arts development worker (£9,000 for 10 months). A dynamic and resourceful worker is required to initiate and develop an Arts programme at this vibrant inner-city community education/development centre and link it to the annual Highfields Festival. For more information please click here: <https://tinyurl.com/y4akjkn5> For a more in-depth job description and further details please click here: <https://tinyurl.com/y3h2jbkt>

National News

- **Althea Gibson: The Pioneering Champion America Forgot**

Recently a statue of Althea Gibson, the first black player to win a Grand Slam, was unveiled outside Arthur Ashe Stadium at Flushing Meadows in New York - the world's biggest tennis arena named after another pioneering African American. TREC wanted to take this opportunity to highlight Gibson and her contribution to sport and share this article looking at the life of Gibson and the lack of recognition she experienced as she was pushed to the periphery of her sport and into poverty. Her story of a Black woman excelling in her field and yet being marginalized is one that has been seen far too many times to count and though one article alone can't encapsulate all the facets of a person its worth taking the time to read it. For more information please click here:

<https://tinyurl.com/y4reppt9>

- **New Study Explores Race Disparity In Youth Justice System**

The youth Justice Board have just launched and released materials which explore racial disparity in the youth justice system. Titled The Journey of the Child, the study considers the areas of pathways, education, pre-court, offences, court, custody and reoffending. Taken as a whole, the study seeks to highlight where disproportionality occurs with a view to bring about change in those areas. For more information please click here: <https://www.voice-online.co.uk/article/new-study-explores-race-disparity-youth-justice-system>

- **Complaints By Female & BAME Military Staff Rise**

Female and BAME military staff had made complaints of 'serious concern' about the racial disparity in the armed forces. In a Commons Defence Committee Report published on August 7 a number of complaints were made, outlining discrimination bullying and harassment of female and BAME military staff as a 'serious concern'. The report added some chose not to raise grievances, saying they have "little faith" in the complaints system, however the Ministry of Defence insisted it would "overhaul" the complaints process. For more information please click here: <https://www.voice-online.co.uk/article/complaints-female-bame-military-staff-rise>

- **Sadiq Khan Backs Plans For A Slavery Museum In London**

Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, has given his full backing to recent plans for a slavery museum which is hoped to positively challenge the increasing levels of racism in the capital post Brexit. The proposal comes from the Fabian Society, who argues that the introduction of a slavery museum could address head on discrimination faced by London's black and ethnic minority population by dispelling of the historical myths and stereotypes often unfairly fixed on them. For more information please click here: <https://www.voice-online.co.uk/article/sadiq-khan-backs-plans-slavery-museum-london>

- **Citizens Advice training document 'propagated racist stereotypes'**

After Citizens Advice BAME Network criticises an internal training document as perpetuating racist stereotypes, it is taken off the organisation's website and an investigation launched. The document lists 'common traits' allegedly found within BAME communities, including a distrust of British authorities, gender bias and discrimination and a cultural focus on honour and shame. For more information please click here: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/aug/14/citizens-advice-training-document-propagated-racist-stereotypes>

- **Obsession With White Working Class Fuels Inequality In North, Study Warns**

A report by the Runnymede Trust and Leeds University, Class, Race and Inequality in Northern Towns, warns that an obsession with the 'white working class' ignores deep racial and ethnic inequalities in the north of England and warps policy. For more information please click here: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2019/aug/15/white-working-class-fuels-inequality-north>

- **Home Office Planning To End Family Reunion For Children After Brexit**

The Home Office is preparing to end the current system of family reunification for asylum-seeking children if the UK leaves the EU without a deal. The government has privately briefed the UN refugee agency UNHCR and other NGOs that open cases may be able to progress, but a no-deal Brexit would mean no new applications after 1 November from asylum-seeking children to be reunited with relatives living in the UK. Even if there is a deal, the future of family reunion is not certain. For more information please click here: <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2019/sep/01/home-office-planning-to-end-family-reunion-for-children-after-brexit>

- **Islamophobic Incidents Rose 375% After Boris Johnson Compared Muslim Women To “Letterboxes”**

Islamophobic incidents rose by 375 per cent in the week after Boris Johnson compared veiled Muslim women to “letterboxes”, research has shown. Monitoring group Tell Mama said the Daily Telegraph column written by the now-prime minister was followed by the biggest spike in anti-Muslim hatred in 2018, as his words were repeated by racists abusing Muslims on the street and online. For more information please click here: <https://tinyurl.com/y2wh3mst>