



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 2016

TREC Updates

- **TREC Annual General Meeting 2016**

TREC held its Annual General Meeting this year at our offices on Monday September 12th 2016. It was a success with a full audience of more than sixty individuals. Our keynote speaker was Lord Willy Bach, Police Crime Commissioner for Leicester, Leicestershire, and Rutland. It was an evening of healthy debate and discussions with both our Chair and Lord Bach. For more information on the AGM and what was discussed please click here:

<http://trecblog.tumblr.com/post/150963412218/trec-annual-general-meeting-2016>

- **Satisfaction level of clients using the new arrivals integration services**

TREC has compiled a report on the satisfaction levels of the clients using our new arrivals integration services. The report analyses feedback received from clients over the period of January to December 2015. The overwhelming majority of respondents had positive interactions with TREC and we were able to help them to a satisfactory level. The report breaks this down by looking at the different people we helped to include among other things: gender; countries of origin; whether we kept them up to date on their case; and whether they received the document, or benefit they applied for. For more information and to see the report and our findings in full please click here: <http://trecblog.tumblr.com/post/150963265778/jan-dec-2015-173-people-responded-to-our>

Local News

- **Black History Month Leicester**

October is approaching quickly and with it comes Black History Month. Serendipity are co-ordinating Black History Month in Leicester with a programme that celebrates the heritage, history, arts, culture and accomplishments of people across the African and African Caribbean Diaspora. There is a wide variety of events and shows at a number of venues across Leicester throughout the month of October and, there should be something of interest for everyone. For more information and to see the full Black History Month Programme please click here:

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

- **Encompass Training – Managing Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) In The Workplace (UK) – Online Course**

Encompass are offering a course designed to enable learners to gain a general awareness and understanding of equality, diversity and inclusion issues in line with UK equality legislation and how to implement policies to champion EDI within the workplace. The course is based on **UK equality legislation focusing mainly on the Equality Act 2010** and the responsibilities of organisations and their staff in line with this law. It will take up to two hours to complete, consisting of six modules, and can be paused and restarted at any time. The price of the course is £35 per learner and upon successful completion, a personalised Training Certificate can be downloaded which is valid for 3 years. For more information and to sign up please click here: <http://encompass-training-limited.teachable.com/courses/managing-equality-diversity-inclusion-edi-in-the-workplace>

- **Live Healthier Stay Healthier Community Events**

The Centre for BME Health (University of Leicester) and the National Centre for Sport and Exercise Medicine (Loughborough University) are hosting free community events to raise awareness and prevention of Type 2 Diabetes. These events will offer support and guidance for living healthier and staying healthier. These events will provide free healthy food, physical activity sessions (such as exercise, basketball, yoga and rock climbing), nutrition and exercise advice for adults and children. The first event, (1st October 11-3pm) focuses on African and Caribbean communities and, the second (15th October 11-3pm) targets South-Asian communities. The Clinical Commissioning Group has offered support and at present there are two GPs from each racial group at each event to run Type 2 Diabetes and health-related checks. For more information please click here: https://archive.org/download/A5FlyersBMEPRINT/A5_Flyers_BME_PRINT.pdf

- **Arrival – Bring Your Bars Refugee Project**

Arrivals Leicester is a spoken word project conducted in collaboration with young people from the inner city and new arrivals to the city from the refugee communities of Sudan and Syria. The individuals gave their stories in both written and video format and the young people develop spoken word creations which were performed at the Belgrave Library and Highfields Festival. The project was developed with the support of the Waterfront Education and Sports Centre, The Race Equality Centre and Leicester Library Services. This was presented through weekly youth workshops held at the Waterfront Education and Sports Centre. To view the video they made please click here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzBWAhFoRrI&feature=youtu.be>

- **DICE Lecture: Equality, Diversity & Belonging in 21st Century Britain**

The Unit for Diversity, Inclusion and Community Engagement (DICE), University of Leicester are holding their Second Annual Lecture on Wednesday 19th October at 6pm. Yasmin Alibhai-Brown, journalist, author and political commentator will speak on: 'Equality, Diversity & Belonging in 21st Century Britain.' This is an excellent opportunity to discuss what 'belonging' and 'equality' mean to us amidst major social changes and challenges in a multi-faith and multi-cultural pluralist society like Britain. The event will be held in the Peter Williams Lecture Theatre, Fielding Johnson Building, University of Leicester, LE1 7RH. The speaker will be available for questions from the audience. This is a FREE public engagement event. You can register by visiting: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/equality-diversity-belonging-in-21st-century-britain-tickets-20855497354> Or for more information about the event, please click here: <http://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/sociology/dice/news/equality-diversity-belonging-in-21st-century-britain-2013-new-challenges>

National News

- **This is the bombshell dropped by Theresa May's government while the media whined on about Traingate**

While the mainstream media joined Richard Branson's smear campaign against Labour Leader Jeremy Corbyn, the Conservative government dropped a bombshell. It is going to scrap the Human Rights Act. On Wednesday 24 August, the front pages of almost every national newspaper – from *The Telegraph* to *The Guardian* – were railing against one thing, Traingate. What they failed to mention was the most authoritarian and regressive decision taken by a UK government in modern history: the decision to push ahead with the scrapping of the Human Rights Act. For more information please click here: <http://www.thecanary.co/2016/08/25/this-is-the-bombshell-dropped-by-theresa-mays-government-while-the-media-whined-on-about-traingate/>

- **Theresa May launches race audit of public services**

Prime Minister Theresa May has ordered a review into how racial minorities and white working class people are treated by public services such as the NHS, schools, police and the courts. The audit is aimed at highlighting racial and socio-economic disparities and showing how outcomes differ due to racial origin, class, gender and income. The prime minister said the findings would "shine a light on injustices". A recent report found racial inequality remained "entrenched" in Britain. The Equality and Human Rights Commission, which analysed existing evidence, said black graduates earn on average 23% less than white ones and are far more likely to be unemployed. For more information please click here: http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-37194207?ocid=wsnews.chat-apps.in-app-msg.whatsapp.trial.link1_.auin

- **Bletchley woman loses baby in 'racist' attack**

A pregnant woman has lost her baby after she was kicked and fell to the floor in a "racially aggravated" attack. The 34 year old was shopping in Bletchley, Milton Keynes, when she was racially insulted by a man, police said. He later followed her and kicked her in the torso, causing her to fall. The woman was attacked as she returned to her car from a shop in Water Eaton Road at about 21:40 BST on 6 August. For more information please click here: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-beds-bucks-herts-37352942>

- **Figures Show Lasting Rise In Hate Crime After EU Referendum**

Hate crime surged in England, Wales and Northern Ireland in the second half of July – nearly a month after the EU referendum vote – and still remains at significantly higher levels than a year ago. The latest set of figures quietly released by the National Police Chiefs' Council show a 49% rise in incidents to 1,863 in the last week in July when compared with the previous year. The week after saw a record 58% increase in recorded incidents to 1,787. For more information please click here: <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2016/sep/07/hate-surged-after-eu-referendum-police-figures-show>

- **Met Police officers 'fear reprisals' over discrimination complaints**

An Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) study finds that black police officers in the Met 'expect to be victimised and fear reprisals' if they complain about discrimination. A reluctance to admit mistakes, poor record-keeping and misplaced loyalty was among the poor practices, but no laws were breached, the EHRC found. The Met said it was working "to tackle the perceptions of victimisation". In total 68 employment tribunal claims were brought against the Met last year, of which it lost three. Complicating factors identified by the Commission in its study were a police culture of "looking after your own", and the Force's "painful history" over racism. For more information please click here: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-london-37299109> Or to read the report please click here: <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publication-download/section-20-investigation-metropolitan-police-service>

- **Good Wife actress slams lack of diversity in UK media**

Cush Jumbo, best known for appearing in hit US series The Good Wife, has called for more ethnic diversity on British TV. The London-born actress told BBC Radio 5 live UK television "doesn't represent the country we live in". She added the US has "huge race problems", but said she could find more work there because there were "more options for you to try". She revealed she had been told her mixed race background made her unsuitable for several roles she had auditioned for on British TV shows. For more information please click here: <http://www.voice-online.co.uk/article/good-wife-actress-slams-lack-diversity-uk-media>

- **Aston McLean death: Decision not to charge PCs to be reviewed**

The Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) announced that two police officers will face a gross misconduct hearing after the death of Aston McLean, who was hit by a police car in Reading in August 2014. His family can now hold his funeral after his body was released. The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) decision not to prosecute the officers involved is to be reviewed under the Victim's Right to Review scheme. For more information please click here: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-berkshire-37309079>