



Reach Society

Building Connections

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Patrons: Lord Herman Ouseley, Prof Trevor Williams, Mr John Budu-Aggrey & Prof Sir Geoff Palmer Newsletter Issue: 008

Welcome: Dear Friends/Supporters, here is our newsletter which highlights some of our activities over the first two months of 2018.

About Reach Society: Founded by a group of professional Black men in 2010. Our core purpose is *to encourage, motivate and inspire our boys and young men* to own the development of their potential and make viable transitions into adult life. The



picture shows one of our role models inspiring young people at our annual Careers Conference which took place at Royal National Hotel, London.

Reach Society in the Community: Over the past months our role models have visited, schools, colleges, universities, youth centres, community and private sector organisations, being panel members and seminar speakers. In February, Reach Society ran an Employability Day at City & Islington College. To view the report click here: <https://goo.gl/ot9m66>

Also in February the Foundation for Reach Society in association with the Wesleyan Holiness ran an Employability Day which was held in Molineux stadium, Wolverhampton. To view the report click here: <https://goo.gl/N2qxjh>.

If you would like to be a role model please contact Mr Tony Tiyou: tonytiyou@hotmail.com



Left: Employability Day at City & Islington College. Right: Employability Day at the Molineux Stadium.

Reach Society's Network Conversation: On the last Friday of every month (with the exception of August and December) professional Black men meet to discuss issues that affect our community; with the aim of finding solutions and building



amity. Speakers have included Prof Iyiola Solanke discussing the history of the Race Relation Acts; David Mullings talking about his organisation Father Figure; Dame Prof. Elizabeth Anionwu

discussing her life story. These conversations are open to any professional individual and take place at various venues. For more info visit our website or contact Dr Donald Palmer: db_palmer@yahoo.co.uk

Celebrating 70th Anniversary of Windrush: In 2018 Reach Society will be celebrating the 70th year, the platinum anniversary, of the modern Black community (MBC) in the UK, which began with the arrival of the 492 Windrush pioneers in 1948. We will be hosting a series of events throughout the year and in Feb the network conversation was led by **Dr Leroy Logan MBE**, a former Met Police superintendent who retired in 2013, after 30 years' service. Picture below shows participants of this event.



Our next network conversation will centre on the creative arts: **'Creation for liberation: Can Art Change Culture and Society?'** We shall be exploring the role of art in bringing about political change.

Here we take a look at some Black contributors to the creative arts. **Althea McNish, FCS D** (Fellow of the Chartered Society of Designers) a British textile designer of Trinidadian origin who has been called the first British designer of African descent to earn an international reputation. **Cyril Lionel Robert James or CLR James** (centre image) – he was an Afro-Trinidadian historian, journalist and socialist. His works are influential in various theoretical, social, and historical contexts. **John La Rose** (image on right) – he was a political and cultural activist, poet, writer, publisher, founder of New Beacon Books and chairman of the George Padmore Institute. He was originally from Trinidad but was involved in the struggle for political independence and cultural and social change in the Caribbean in the 1940s and 1950s and later in Britain, the rest of Europe and the Third World. **Dr Benjamin Zephaniah**, born in Birmingham though spent his early years in Jamaica, where he absorbed much of the music and poetry that influences his work.



FUTURE EVENT: Reach Society's Careers Conference 2018! We are pleased to announce that our next Annual **FREE**



Careers Conference will take place on **April 4th** at **Royal National Hotel**, London. This will again feature a cohort of 60 Black professionals from various careers, together with 10 workshops associated with empowerment and

30 plus exhibitors from the 3 sectors and academia. See our website for more details. **To register send your name to:** info@reachsociety.com
We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued help and support.