



# Reach Society

Building Connections

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Patrons: Lord Herman Ouseley, Prof Trevor Williams, Mr John Budu-Aggrey, Prof Sir Geoff Palmer & Mrs Marva Rollins OBE Newsletter: 021

**Welcome:** Dear Friends/Supporters, here's our first newsletter in 2022 and hope you are all safe and well given the current circumstances and thanks for your continued help and support.



**About Reach Society: Inspiring Young People since 2010:** Our core purpose is *to encourage, motivate and inspire our young people* to development of their potential. The picture shows one of our Role Models 'inspiring' at

our annual Careers Conference which took place in 2019, at Royal National Hotel. **IMPORTANT INFORMATION:** We are pleased to announce that Reach Society will be hosting its next **Careers Conference on 5th April 2022**. Please regularly check our website for updates and the registration details.

**Reach Society in the Community: Covid-19 and Vaccination Awareness Discussion:** A panel consisting of Health



Professionals and Scientists spoke to pupils, staff and parents/guardians of Newman Catholic College; and answered questions primarily from pupils about this subject matter. Perhaps the first of its kind, giving young people the chance to raise questions concerning Covid-19 and the vaccine. Headteacher Mr Danny Coyle commented, "I was delighted with this event and received positive feedback from several staff members and pupils."

**Ask Our Experts:** We have produced a series of in-depth discussions from a panel of experts that analysed some important topics which impact the modern Black community. These include: **The Report Analysed:** The Sewell report on race and ethnic disparity was the focus of this episode. **Recognising and Conquering Trauma:** This episode is linked to a short article on trauma by Angela Clarke which is on online News page: <https://www.reachsociety.com/latest-news/trauma-in-the-modern-black-community/>

**The Qualification Society:** highlighting what this phrase means and what our community can do to prepare our young people to compete more successfully. **Reach Society's Smart Health Project (SHP):** The rationale for the SHP and hints and tips for maintaining robust health are discussed. **Who is responsible for the destiny of the modern Black community?** The role of a range of stakeholders in the Black community are examined; and answers are described for consideration. **Understanding System Consciousness in the modern Black community.** The phrase 'System Consciousness' is defined and analysed and its importance to the community is highlighted. The recordings of the 6 episodes can be found here: <https://www.reachsociety.com/ask-our-experts/>

**Reach Society featured in the book *Jamaicans in Britain: A Legacy of Leadership*:** The Brainchild of His Excellency the Jamaican High Commissioner Seth George Ramocan, the book recognises many of the people from the Windrush Generation & their children, and documents them for posterity. Our Chairman Dr Dwain Neil OBE, says:

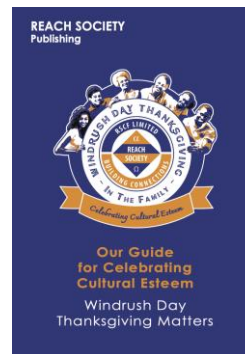


"The Society is proud to see that its three founders – Rob Neil OBE, Prof. Donald Palmer and Dr Dwain Neil OBE – are included in the 500 featured in this prestigious publication. And the Society also hopes that it will help to inspire all young people in the modern Black community to develop their potential." You can read more about it here:

<https://www.reachsociety.com/latest-news/jamaicans-in-britain-a-legacy-of-leadership/>

**Windrush Day Thanksgiving In The Family; The Society's approach in celebrating cultural esteem:** On 22 June 1948,

the SS Empire Windrush arrived at Tilbury Docks in London and since 2018 we have marked this special anniversary as Windrush Day, and to celebrate the contributions of the Windrush generation and their descendants to the UK. Since 2019, the Society has been urging the Black community to celebrate this day with family and friends on the first Sunday after Windrush Day to come together and share stories of life in the UK as a part of *Windrush Day Thanksgiving In The Family*. Encouraged by one of our patrons Prof Sir Geoff Palmer who commented that: "Windrush Day Thanksgiving Gatherings could become for the Black community as significant as St Patrick's Day for the Irish or Burns Supper for the Scottish." In response Reach Society has chosen to be the catalyst for spreading the



idea of Windrush Day Thanksgiving Gatherings via local groups or hubs. To help in this process we have recently published a booklet: 'Our Guide for Celebrating Cultural Esteem: Windrush Day Thanksgiving Matters.' The booklet, amongst other things, provides suggestions of how the community can celebrate culture esteem. To purchase a copy of it please click on this link:

<https://www.reachsociety.com/product/our-guide-for-celebrating-cultural-esteem-windrush-day-thanksgiving-matters/>

In this regard, the Society recently hosted a virtual meeting with a number of community groups from around the UK and some of our patrons to share what they hope to do locally for their Windrush Day Thanksgiving Gatherings. You can view what they said via this link: <https://www.reachsociety.com/windrush-day-thanksgiving-celebrations/>. We also have a dedicated WDTCCCE twitter account and urge everyone to visit it regularly: <https://twitter.com/WDTCCCE>

**The Society's 2022 Honorees:** We are pleased to announced **Jacky Wright**- Tech industry pioneer, named the UK's most influential Black Briton by The Powerlist 2022. **The Most Rev Desmond Tutu** - Anglican archbishop who fought against apartheid in South Africa and led the subsequent Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

