

# 2018

# ANNUAL REPORT

INSTITUTE OF  
**RACE**  
RELATIONS

# About the IRR

**THE INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS** (IRR) was the first educational charity on race relations to be established in the UK, in 1958. Since then, it has striven to change its focus in response to changing needs and pioneer new thinking to keep abreast of changes in racism itself. Today, IRR is at the cutting edge of the research and analysis that informs the struggle for racial justice in Britain, and internationally. It seeks to reflect the experiences of those who suffer racial oppression and draws its perspectives from the most vulnerable in society.

Most of IRR's information and publishing is now electronic and reports are in many cases available as free downloadable files from the website. But, in addition, IRR produces the international quarterly *Race & Class* also in print format, occasional pamphlets and has a back file of print materials available for use in education and training. Educational materials are downloadable from the website, and the DVDs *Struggles for Black Community* and *Catching history on the wing* are also available. IRR's library, known as the Sivanandan Collection, has moved to the University of Warwick; a Black History Collection of leaflets, pamphlets and journals from the 1950s to the 1980s has been retained at the IRR. The organisation also holds occasional meetings, seminars, workshops and conferences.

**INSTITUTE OF  
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RELATIONS**

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# Chair's comment



**'ME SAY, ME KYARN' BELIEVE IT'** was the repeated biting punch-line to a heartrending poem by the Jamaican dub-poet Mikey Smith, back in the 1970s. With his performances of this piece he attempted to at once shame and shock his audiences to urgent activism. Tragically, when still a very young man this outstanding poet of the people was violently cut down in his prime.

There is a haunting sense of dread about events in Britain in the present. Another year of 'Brexit means Brexit' has passed. And for all the continuing uncertainty about what it all adds up to, we find out a little more each day about what is at its heart – a mix of islander nativism and imperialist nostalgia. Britain is walking into a place with a dark past.

The 'hostile environment', pronounced by prime minister Theresa May in her previous role of home secretary, is now adjusted to a darker slogan as she re-brands her aim as the installation of a 'compliant environment'.

In a year which has seen more Black and working-class deaths in custody, more self-harming violence from alienated and humiliated urban Black youth, and more mental health traumas among detained migrants and

asylum seekers, the nation's biggest 2018 race-related media story was the so-called 'Windrush scandal'. The story, revealing what was already known by Caribbean communities in Britain, was broken by and through the serious investigative work of the *Guardian* journalist Amelia Gentleman, supported by tenacious Channel 4 TV coverage. It centred on the appalling insult to tens, then hundreds, and eventually as it turned out, thousands of Black British and virtual-British citizens, who were being routinely, variously, fired from jobs, denied hospital care, rendered homeless, summoned, arrested, locked up, and threatened with deportation – many actually wrongfully deported – because they were unable to provide a suspicious and hostile Home Office, and the employers, landlords, NHS staff conscripted as its unwilling agents, with paper evidence of their right to reside in Britain. These British residents with Caribbean roots, after schooling, working, paying taxes, bringing up families over several decades, found and still find themselves with utterly disrupted lives, living in legal limbo (to paraphrase another major Caribbean performance artist). Week in, week out, more and more harrowing details have accumulated about people literally driven mad by state policy. And the final wicked irony is that the ancestors of all these people were fully British subjects when they first arrived here out of the British Empire. 'Me say, me kyarn' believe it'.

## ... Chair's comment



The Windrush-related instances of citizens' and human rights abuse and oppression are only the most exposed part of a variety of everyday stories that add fresh insult to old injuries. In October 2018 a Conservative MP, Henry Smith, reportedly used the phrase 'piling fresh suffering upon unresolved historical injustice' when defending the interests of a number of his constituents – third-generation descendants of people whose grandparents, ejected from the Pacific Chagos Islands by their British colonial overlords to make way for a US air base, finished up in Britain. Now the grandchildren, having lived their entire lives, born, bred, and paying taxes in Britain, are being detained and threatened with expulsion to places unknown – collateral damage in the battle to further embed the hostile-cum-compliant environment: more British residents being labelled as not-belonging and therefore not-deserving of common humanity.

And what about those who suffered the devastating effects of last year's Grenfell residential tower fire (discussed in 2017's IRR Annual Report) – and who, against the historical backdrop of local state contempt, still have no clear sense of how their futures are to be governed within local or national state apparatuses? And how much of the substance of our much vaunted British Welfare State, now spun as the 'well being' state,

will we be able to depend on in future, beyond the mere trappings? All this is context for the installation of the 'compliant environment'. Increasingly, Brexit signals a departure from much more than just a European Union. ●

**COLIN PRESCOD**

# Director's report



**THE PAST IN THE PRESENT** may have been the title of a 2018 special issue of *Race & Class*, but it also emerged this year as something of a metaphor for the overall direction of IRR. A quick look at the 'Out & About' section of this report shows just how broad is the range of issues that IRR staff have addressed: from European far-right terrorism to the over-representation of BAME people in the British criminal justice system; from the hostile environment for migrants to racialised data profiling; from the prosecution of refugee support workers in France to the marginalisation of NGO search and rescue missions in the Mediterranean Sea. Yet, at the same time as facing these current injustices, IRR staff have also met the needs of students, making our Black History Collection available to young people hungry to know more about the history of Black and anti-racist politics in the UK. Certainly, this year, it felt like something of a paradox that the death of Emeritus Director A. Sivanandan on 3 January 2018, a moment of sadness for us, also became an occasion for a radical reappraisal and celebration of anti-racist progressive politics in this country. And not just at 'The Heart is Where the Battle is', the packed memorial event which took place at Conway Hall, central London on 23 June, but also in the immediate aftermath of Siva's death, when a younger

generation took to social media to express sadness, note his unique voice and tell those who weren't already in the know where to find his seminal works.

This year has seen major changes on the British far-right scene, with UKIP accepting into its ranks several members of the Alternative Right. Its leader even attended a demonstration in support of former EDL leader Tommy Robinson, who has profited from financial and political support from the US in his campaign to present himself as a political prisoner and a martyr following contempt of court proceedings arising out of a Facebook Live video broadcast from outside Leeds crown court during a child sexual exploitation case. The racialisation of sexual violence has become key to European-wide far-right activism, with it now co-opted into an anti-Muslim, anti-immigrant agenda. Not surprisingly, this has become a key concern for both IRR's European and UK research programmes. In October we brought together activists, practitioners and researchers to discuss not just the far Right but the broader ways that racialised discourses and frameworks are utilised in the media and by mainstream politicians. Media frameworks were also an issue that Frances Webber took up in her briefing paper on the hostile environment where she

## ... Director's report

examined how press coverage feeds into the 'good immigrant, bad immigrant' narrative.

Many extra demands have been put on IRR staff this year and I am proud of the determined way IRR's younger members of staff have responded. On behalf of us all, I would like to thank a number of people and organisations who have helped us meet these challenges. Avery Gordon and Neville Hoad guest-edited the special issue of *Race & Class* (out in January 2019) in memory of (sorely-missed) Editorial Working Committee member Barbara Harlow, and SAGE Publications and Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust provided extra financial support for the Sivanandan memorial event. Special thanks are due to The Monitoring Group, who helped organise 'The Heart is Where the Battle is'. TMG Director Suresh Grover was one of Siva's closest allies over the years, and the sterling support he has given to IRR this year, as well as to me personally, is another marker of the way the past continues to influence the present. ●

**LIZ FEKETE**



# IRR News, Projects and Research



**THIS YEAR**, the IRR has published over fifty news and comment pieces on *IRR News*, our free online fortnightly news service. At the same time, we have been striking out in new directions with some exciting new initiatives.

On *IRR News* over the last year, under the editorship of Harmit Athwal, we have maintained high standards in areas that are pivotal: providing pioneering analyses in areas of acute racism; reporting on deaths in custody; drawing parallels with political moves across Europe; and also creating a searchable, regular calendar of key cases, happenings and publications in the previous fortnight. See <http://www.irr.org.uk/news/type/email/>

In the past year our writers have provided a series of article on the asylum support system of Direct Provision in Ireland; on the origins and implications of the 'hostile environment' culminating in the 'Windrush debacle'; on the growth of Islamophobia, its impact on young people and the effect of the Prevent programme on professional services such as health and education; on the racialised data profiling inherent in the London Metropolitan Police's Gangs Matrix; on immigration-related deaths, such as that of Mustafa Dawood in Cardiff and Lukasz Dębowski at Morton Hall. Birmingham poet Roy McFarlane, who has visited the

IRR on several occasions over the past two years, has just published 'The Healing Next Time', which includes eighteen sonnets in memory of Black people who have died in the custody of the police.

The incorporation of IRR's European research perspectives into *IRR News* has strengthened its coverage and importance this year, when across mainland Europe, populist anti-immigrant groups and parties seem to be gaining in strength and respectability, often given succour by the media. We were able not only to report on and try to mobilise support for anti-fascists involved in the situation in Chemnitz (in Saxony, Germany), but also to investigate developments in Denmark vis à vis the newly introduced 'ghetto list', and to publish the comprehensive rebuttal by Marwan Muhammad of the *Daily Mail's* Islamophobic and racist reporting of supposed events in the 'immigrant ghetto' of Saint-Denis, Paris.

We hope in the coming year to follow the lead of the European Research Programme and cross-fertilise new thinking available in *Race & Class* into the bulletins which go out from *IRR News*. In the autumn of 2018 we were able to highlight the debate in the journal on 'The Americanisation of CLR James' and also the

The IRR's Jessica Perera and Liz Fekete hitch a lift to the protest against the Danish ghetto list. Pics: Almen Modstand



## ... IRR News, Projects and Research

thoughtful examination of the labelling in the global North of migrants and refugees and the interplay of such labelling with their increasingly barbaric treatment by EU states.

Alongside Goldsmiths (University of London) student Jessica Perera, whose MA thesis was on 'The racialised regeneration of London's council estates', the IRR has initiated a new research-cum-youth outreach project on 'Racism, dispossession and the policing of inequality'. It charts the impact of housing dispossession, regeneration and gentrification on BAME communities in London, and the ways in which housing dispossession is shaping policing in the capital. We are very fortunate that Jessica started working with us as a volunteer in March 2018, carrying out a literature review of central, local government and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) documents, as well as building up

case files on issues relating to the government's Estate Regeneration Plan, anti-social behaviour orders, gang injunctions, Gangs Matrix, dispersal orders, public space protection orders and specialist police operations and gang interventions such as Operation Nexus, Operation Sceptre and Operation Shield. In September, Jessica joined the staff as a part-time researcher, and is currently completing work on a briefing paper for IRR on 'Race, class and "social cleansing"' (on areas of London), to be published later in the year.

We are also pleased to report that *Race & Class* assistant Sophia Siddiqui, who has a strong interest in anti-racist feminism, has been developing her writing for both *IRR News* and the women of colour feminist online and print magazine *gal-dem*, as well as in *Race & Class*. Sophia's research interests cover the racialisation of sex crimes, the emergence of 'white fascist feminism' and the cooption of violence against women for a racist agenda. This year, Sophia has also coordinated the IRR's work on Prevent, and in May she convened the IRR seminar on 'Researching Prevent: obstacles and backlash', which explored ways of building a support network for researchers, particularly in the education and health sectors, who are experiencing organised trolling on social media by those who routinely ridicule their work as unscientific and biased against Prevent.

PERMANENT PEOPLES TRIBUNAL

PPT TPP

SESSION ON THE VIOLATIONS WITH IMPUNITY OF THE

HUMAN RIGHTS OF MIGRANT AND REFUGEE PEOPLES

HEARING: LONDON, NOVEMBER 3-4



## ... IRR News, Projects and Research



But if these are new beginnings, pioneered by younger members of staff receptive to the concerns of IRR's younger users, the work of IRR chair, Colin Prescod (see [page 12](#)) and vice-chair Frances Webber has ensured that the scandalous treatment of the older 'Windrush generation' was not ignored this year. As politicians argued as to which government's policy caused the 'Windrush debacle' while simultaneously vowing to keep in place the laws and policies which created it, Frances Webber wrote a brief and accessible downloadable guide to the politics of the hostile environment.



Frances Webber and Liz Fekete have also represented the IRR on the co-convenors' working group for the London hearing of the Permanent Peoples' Tribunal (PPT) on the violations of the human rights of migrant and refugee peoples in Europe, with a particular focus on the working conditions of migrants and refugees. We are delighted to again be working with the PPT, also known as the Basso Tribunal (since 1979, successor to the Bertrand Russell Tribunal), having previously participated in the 1994 Tribunal on the Right of Asylum in Europe, where Liz was a jury member and Frances acted as prosecutor.

Amrit Wilson, Waqas Tufail and Shabana Kausar at IRR anti-racist feminism seminar chaired by Sophia Siddiqui

Pics: Sujata Aurora

We have to thank many volunteers on IRR News who have contributed to our coverage and to maintaining databases connected to our press monitoring. In particular we thank Rajesh Bhattacharjee as well as Ifhat Shaheen-Smith for their contributions, monitoring newsfeeds and creating calendar entries; and Trevor Hemmings and Ann Dryden for helping to maintain databases. ●

***'This is brilliant! Thank you so much. This is the first coverage that truly understands the findings and accurately represents the scale of the problem'. Dr. Charlotte Heath-Kelly, author, Counter-terrorism in the NHS: evaluating the Prevent duty safeguarding in the NHS.***

# European Research Programme



**'Thank you for taking time  
the time to talk to us. Your  
answers were clear and full of  
insight.'**

Lena Roche, Euronews

Pic: Camilla Uhrskov Bank

**THIS HAS BEEN** a year of interventions across Europe.

On the publishing side, a significant intervention was made in January 2018 with the publication by Verso of *Europe's Fault Lines: racism and the rise of the Right* by Liz Fekete. This new book, drawing on eleven years' research, was both a milestone for the ERP and a solidarity intervention in its own right, aiming as it does to resource professional bodies, NGOs and social movements concerned about the rise of far-right electoral parties and the escalation of neo-Nazi inspired racial violence. This year, Liz Fekete spoke at eleven book launches-cum-discussion events in London, Manchester, Bradford, Nottingham, Cardiff, Belfast, Galway, Copenhagen and Ostrava in the Czech Republic. The event in Denmark, co-hosted by Action Aid Denmark and the *Eftertryk* magazine, also afforded IRR's researchers opportunities to meet with residents from Copenhagen districts stigmatised as problem areas through inclusion in the Danish government's 'ghettos list'.

ERP assistant Anya Edmond-Pettitt's essay, 'Territorial policing and the "hostile environment" in Calais', drawing on her research for the ERP's 2017 report *Humanitarianism: the unacceptable face of solidarity*, was included in a special issue of the journal of the

European Group for the Study of Deviance and Social Control. Anya continues to oversee the ERP's two databases – the first on 'crimes of solidarity' (ie, prosecutions of those who come to the aid of refugees and migrants), the second on asylum- and migrant-related deaths across Europe. Alongside Frances Webber, she has represented the ERP at two important human rights events: a symposium, in Berlin, at the invitation of Team Humanity and the Heinrich Böll Foundation, and in London, a Birkbeck College, University of London conference on 'Borders, Racisms and Harms', where she convened a panel discussion on crimes of solidarity.

On 20 June, World Refugee Day, to mark the collaboration between the organisation United for Intercultural Action in Amsterdam, the Turkish artist Banu Cennetoğlu, the Chisenhale Gallery and Liverpool Biennial, the *Guardian* newspaper published the full list of the names of the 34,361 refugees and migrants who had died, that United has compiled since 1993. We were pleased that Banu visited the IRR when she was in London and invited us to speak at the Chisenhale Gallery alongside Mark Rice-Oxley, head of *Guardian* special projects. The meeting, a discussion of the migration crisis using 'the list' as a source document, gave us an opportunity to describe the IRR's approach

## ... European Research Programme

**Last night I watched your [Youtube] conversation with Mark [on The List]. You were so amazing, sharp and generous. Thank you.'**

*Banu Cennetoğlu,  
artist*

to memorialising death as attempts to restore human dignity and establish culpability for these deaths. (It is a very sad sign of the times that a public street installation based on this list in Liverpool has been repeatedly attacked by racists.)

The ERP was set up in 1991, at a time of anti-foreigner pogroms in Rostock and Hoyerswerda. The far-right violence which erupted in late August 2018 in Chemnitz, Saxony, where for two days police all but lost control of the streets, was a shocking reminder of those events nearly thirty years ago. We worked with colleagues in Germany's well-organised anti-fascist documentation centres to alert *IRR News* readers in the UK to the dangerous situation in east Germany.

All too often the media discusses anti-fascism as an example of leftist extremism, when anti-fascism should be a core value of a democratic Europe. An organisation of social workers in the Czech Republic, recognising this, invited ERP to speak at its annual symposium in Ostrava, where we were also interviewed by *Sociální práce*, the professional journal of Czech social workers, about how social workers can combat anti-Roma stereotyping in their practices and strengthen professional resilience against fascism.

This year, apart from speaking at ten meetings across Europe, we have been consulted by ABC, EuroNews, Danish TV and radio, the *Guardian*, *Newsnight*, *Galway Advertiser*, *Público*, the Dutch anti-racist magazine, *One World*, the Slovenian newspaper, *Delo* and the Baltimore-based multi-news service, The Real News Network. We continue to work with a wide cross-section of NGOs, including Last Rights, Apabiz, NSU Watch, Watch the Med, the Anti-Racist Centre in Oslo, Almen Modstand (Common Resistance) and the Aarhus anti-racist campaign (both in Denmark) and the Transnational Institute and United for Intercultural Action in Amsterdam. Thanks to all the volunteers who have helped on the project this year, in particular two hard-working and diligent young students, Alice Rogovoy and Samuel Myers, who worked with us one day a week for three months during the course of the year helping to ensure that the ERP's two databases were up to date. ●



Pic: Chisenhale Gallery

# Black History Collection



**THE RESURGENCE OF INTEREST** in black British history and struggles against racism has not waned over the year. One contribution to this increased interest has been the 70th anniversary celebrations of the arrival in 1948 of the *Empire Windrush*, the ship that has come to encapsulate post-war colonial migration, docking in London with its 'cargo' of West Indian immigrants come to the Mother Country. The exhibitions and events that have taken place across London, including one in the British Library, on which IRR was a partner and Colin Prescod lead external adviser, have had a unifying theme – a focus on the contributions made to the UK by the Caribbean community as well as engaging new audiences with the history of why people moved in the first place. Ironically, such celebrations coincided with the media exposé of how the government's hostile environment policies were affecting the 'Windrush generation' now being forced to prove their right, with paper evidence, to be here in order to keep their jobs, homes and residence. This, as well as the rise in fascist and alt-right movements, could well explain the increase in the number of students, academics and activists looking to access the archive. There is a feeling of history repeating itself and a desire to learn from the past.

The archive is now co-ordinated by Anya Edmond-Pettitt, a historian with a Masters degree focusing on

colonial migration in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and community self-organising. Though we are still forced to restrict access to the IRR's Black History Collection, for lack of staff, to one day a week, the increase in demand has meant we now allow several readers on any one day, with an average of seven visitors per month.

Our unique collection of journals, leaflets, posters, booklets, flyers from the times of post-war black settlement to the 'riots' of the 1980s has been widely consulted over the months by a variety of callers from undergraduate to doctoral level and from across the world. A number of requests have come from students and academics in the United States, Canada and South Africa. Significantly, interest has focused around the period of the late 1960s to the mid 1970s, with particular call on our materials on Black Power groups, the origins of the Organisation of Women of Asian and African Descent, campaigns around discriminatory educational policies, the development of 'race' legislation, the role of the Trades Union Congress, as well as interest in the 'Campaign against Race Discrimination in Sport' and the Grunwick strike.

We have also advised and helped those working in the cultural and arts field, such as playwrights, photographers, poets, and even in a search for a



## ... Black History Collection



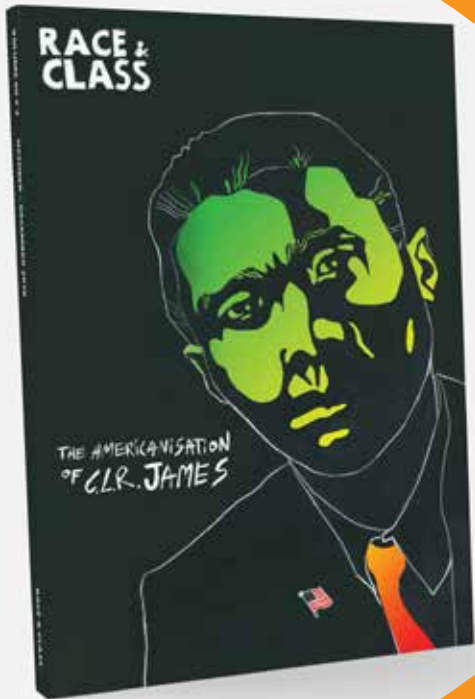
photo of 'Brixton's Best Dressed' for a eulogy, as well as community-based history projects. In October, we hosted a study session for teachers and pupils from the Inspired Directions School in Hackney, which offers alternative provision for high-need learners struggling to access mainstream education.

As part of our commitment to gradually make available, in a free to download digitised form, key documents from the black/anti-racist struggles of past generations, we plan to make available within the next year key writings and speeches by the late IRR Director Emeritus A. Sivanandan, in whose analyses of racism in the 1970s and 1980s there is now a renewed interest. ●

**My research on Black Publications meant that having access to the Black History Collection was essential as the main publication that I needed to research, Flamingo, is only available as a significant collection at IRR. When IRR did not have the staff resources a couple of years ago during the summer to cover library access time, my supervisor said I would have to say that the collection was not accessible, which would have left a big hole in my project! So I waited and I've now been able to come in on a regular basis to undertake a thorough textual analysis. It has made a difference.**

*Kadija George, PostGraduate Researcher – University of Brighton*

# Race & Class



*Dilruba Tayfun's striking cover design for the October issue*

**IT WAS WITH GREAT SADNESS** that we learnt of the death of the journal's founding editor, A Sivanandan, on 3 January 2018. In addition to the remembrance page on the website of the Institute of Race Relations, on which almost one hundred people paid their respects, the journal has also marked the importance of his thinking and influence in its coverage during the past year. The issue 59/4 (April 2018) ran a key interview with him, 'The heart is where the battle is', and in 60/2 (October) we carried excerpts from a number of speeches given at the celebratory event held on 23 June in Conway Hall (see pages 17-18 for images). But perhaps the strongest tribute to Siva has been the fact that the journal has had such a very strong output this year.

There have been two key special issues: the first (60/1), 'The past in the present', which addressed reparative history, political legacy and memory, had contributions from key thinkers such as Catherine Hall, Cathy Bergin and Anita Rupprecht, Bill Rolston and John Newsinger. The second (60/3), 'Solidarity here and everywhere' looked at the lifework of the late Barbara Harlow and was guest-edited by Avery Gordon (a member of the Editorial Working Committee) and Neville Hoad, a colleague at the University of Texas, Austin. As with the appreciations of Sivanandan, the issue recalled

not just the person but the importance of her method, imagination and geographical and inter-disciplinary reach, which had made her such a stalwart in the *Race & Class* stable.

In unthemed issues, two key challenging articles examined the nature of policing in terms of contemporary neoliberalism – Micol Seigel in 'Violence work: policing and power' (59/4), and William J Robinson in 'The next economic crisis: digital capitalism and global police state' (60/1). Islamophobia and the supposed threat from radicalisation were examined in '"Radicalisation: the journey of a concept" revisited' by Derek M Silva (59/4), and two pieces in the October issue (60/2): Chloe Patten's 'Forced marriage and the Australian media debate' and a review article on Islamophobia in Scotland by Scarlet Harris.

Although *Race & Class* can in no way be considered a cultural studies journal, it has this year published three very exciting pieces which situate cultural developments in a political frame. Most important amongst these was the piece by Jonathan Scott (60/2) decrying the recent Americanisation of C.L.R. James by academics who try to resituate his politics and deny his links to both Marxism and anti-colonial pan-Africanism. In the same issue, Tazreena Sajjad examined the



## ... Race & Class



politics of labelling – in relation to migrants and refugees – and Jessica Perera explained the support of a section of working-class black musicians for the Labour leadership at the general election in 'The politics of Generation Grime'.

As ever we owe much to our many contributors and those others who support the journal in many ways and without financial payment. But this year we need to particularly thank the staff at Sage, not just for making the production such an easy and successful process, but also for the very welcome financial support towards the 23 June memorial event. ●

***'I am a subscriber to Race and Class and I wanted to congratulate and thank you for the current issue "The past in the present". From the title to very article and review this is a marvellous, valuable issue – I found it really informative and inspirational!'***  
Mark Adams

# Volunteers

**WE HAVE ENJOYED** working with three new volunteers this year. Alice Rogovoy and gifted French student 18-year-old Samuel Myers, who left us to take up his studies at Oxford, worked with us one day a week for three months during the course of the year helping to ensure that the ERP's two databases were up to date. And recent graduate Rajesh Bhattacharjee provided sterling support on *IRR News*, curating calendar entries.

**Rajesh Bhattacharjee writes:**

Growing up as a third-generation British-Asian in Newham, I hadn't always had an interest in my family's history. But, as I got older, I began to feel more of a need to make sense of my 'identity' and to try and understand how it was related to my own personal experiences of racism. After speaking about this with my family, I learnt more about my grandparents' journey from India to Britain in the 1960s and the struggles my family had faced when building their lives here in London. I also found out that my dad had been active in the antiracist movement in the 1980s/90s with groups like Newham Monitoring Project, and this sparked my interest to further explore the history of antiracism in Britain.

During my research, I came

across the work of A. Sivanandan. For me, like many others, his writing gripped me from the very beginning and has hugely influenced my understanding of issues of racism and identity ever since. Most importantly, Siva's imagination allowed me to link my family's history to the broader arcs of antiracist and anticolonial struggle, showing me that identity is not about *who we are*, but *what we do*.

This sense of *doing*, rather than *being*, was at the forefront of my mind when I began volunteering at the IRR, working for the news service and collating incidents of racist violence for the fortnightly calendar. I feel that I am contributing to a vital resource which shows that racism is not simply a thing of the past and remains a brutal reality for many BAME people, highlighting the continuing need for antiracist struggle in Britain.

Having both my family's history and these contemporary issues of racism in mind, I also wrote my dissertation whilst at the IRR, which focussed on understanding and comparing intergenerational experiences of racism.

**Alice Rogovoy writes:**

Despite my own background growing up in Germany

as a child of Russian migrants, I always felt unfairly protected from the racial prejudice that effected other migrant children, because of my 'white skin'. I grew up with a sense of shame about my cultural difference and foreign background, and spent most of my teenage years trying to negate their traces. But I soon came to realise that the most valuable thing I could do to break the cycle of guilt and shame was to educate myself, understand what racism meant from the lived experiences of all those exposed to structural discrimination. In 2017, as German Erasmus+ student at the School of Oriental and African studies, I moved to London to undertake a BA in World Religions and Philosophies/South Asian studies. At the same time as becoming active in the 'Decolonize SOAS' student movement, I stumbled upon the incredible work of the IRR, volunteering with the ERP from March to June 2018. Maintaining the database of refugee and migrant deaths across Europe made me feel as though I was playing a small part in bringing to light the tragedies of those who had been silenced and forgotten. I am eternally thankful for my time at the IRR. In three short months, I gained the confidence to put into words the many questions which had for so long preoccupied my thoughts. I now have a vision of the fight I want to dedicate myself to in the future. ●



# The heart is where the battle is



**ON SATURDAY 23** June, the IRR, with The Monitoring Project and the support of a number of European anti-racist groups, organised an afternoon event at Conway Hall, central London to celebrate Sivanandan's legacy. This packed event, which included music, song, poetry, film and speeches, was live streamed, and film of the afternoon is available on youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/user/IRRnews>. We are most grateful to those who gave time and effort to help make the event such a success, and particularly wish to thank Sage Publications and the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust for financial support.

This was a chance for family and friends of Siva, present and past colleagues, and supporters of IRR from across the world and the generations to meet up again, and not only to recall old political times but to commit themselves to a renewed fight for racial justice in the years ahead.

*Pics: Christopher Newfield*





## ... The heart is where the battle is



Previous page: From left to right,  
Chris Searle, audience, Elizabeth and Najda  
Robinson, Suresh Grover, Khalid Salimi, Luk  
Vervaeet, Jenny Bourne.

This page: From left to right,  
Linton Kwesi Johnson, Herman Ouseley,  
Colin Prescod & Bali Gill, Musurat Dar,  
Suresh Grover, Cilius Victor and Neil Lazarus,  
Graham Murray & Frances Webber, Gary Younge.

Pics: Christopher Newfield

# Out & About

## Diary of events, meeting and seminars at which IRR staff and Council members have made contributions

### 2017

#### 4 October

Attendee at Great British Community Workshop, Kings College London.

#### 25 October

Attendee at seminar on 'Black Power and the State', National Archives, London.

#### 9 November

Keynote address at 'Race War Networks' an international Working Group Conference on Right-Wing Terrorism, Berlin.

#### 11 November

Panel speaker at Haldane/ ELDH conference 'The EU, Brexit and workers' rights' Diskus Centre, Unite, London.

#### 15 November

Participant at relaunch of JENGbA, Houses of Parliament, London.

#### 16 November

Participant at research symposium on 'Improving outcomes for young Black men', Hackney Council, London.

#### 18 November

Speaker at book launch and meeting on 'Citizenship and the War on Terror', P21 Gallery, London.

#### 20 November

Keynote speaker on 'Alternative knowledge and the search for racial justice', SAGE Publications AGM, London.

#### 29 November

Panel speaker at 'The Lammy Review: less than half of the picture?' Centre for Crime & Justice Studies, Vauxhall, London.

#### 30 November

Attendee at discussion forum, 'Brexit and Labour Exploitation', Labour Exploitation Advisory Group, Vauxhall, London.

#### 30 November

Panel speaker at 'Beyond the Good "Immigrant"', Migrant Rights Network Annual Summit, AI Human Rights Centre, London.

#### 4 December

Seminar at IRR to launch report 'Humanitarianism: the unacceptable face of solidarity', IRR offices, London.

### 2018

#### 7 February

Northern book launch meeting on *Europe's Fault Lines*, Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Centre, Manchester.



*Frances Webber addresses Berlin conference in support of refugee rescue worker Salam Aldeen*

#### 14 February

Lecturer on asylum rights and state crime at Queen Mary's, University of London.

#### 14 February

Discussion meeting on *Europe's Fault Lines*, Housman's Bookshop, London.

#### 20 February

London book launch meeting, *Europe's Fault Lines*, Waterstone's Trafalgar Square, London.

# ... Out & About

## 21 February

Lecturer on fascism and state collusion at Queen Mary's, University of London.

## 21 February

Participant at Bordering, everyday racism and the "hostile environment" symposium, Birkbeck College, University of London.

## 7 March

Participant at launch of Jawaab report, *Young Muslim Aspirations*, Al, London.

## 15 March

Attendee at 'Brit(ish)', a discussion between Gary Younge and Afua Hirsch, Kings Place, London.

## 19 March

Participant at University of Warwick seminar, 'Counterterrorism in the NHS: Evaluating Prevent Duty Safeguarding in Healthcare', The Shard, London.

## 29 March

Discussion meeting on *Europe's Fault Lines*, Islamic Human Rights Commission, London.

## 9 April

Participant at Race, Mental Health and State Violence: A Two-Day Symposium, Birkbeck College, University of London.

## 10 April

Panel speakers at Criminalizing Humanitarian Aid in Europe, Solidarity event, Heinrich Böll Foundation, Berlin.

## 16 April

Speaker at roundtable on Racism and Hate Crime organised by The Monitoring Group, Houses of Parliament, London.

## 20 April

Attendee at 'Our Lives Our Future: The government's war on gangs & why it affects our young people', Tottenham Rights, London.

## 21 April

Speaker on the legacy of A. Sivandandan at the TUC Black members AGM, London.

## 25 April

Speaker on Grenfell neighbourhood campaign, Queen Mary University of London.

## 3 May

Organisers of panel on Crimes of Solidarity at 'Borders, Racisms and Harms', Birkbeck College, University of London.

## 3 May

Discussion meeting on *Europe's Fault Lines*, Plato Ostrava Art Gallery, Ostrava, Czech Republic.

## 4 May

Keynote lecture on strategies against racism at Horizonty international collaborative and dialogical symposium, Hlubina coal mine, Ostrava, Czech Republic.

## 4 May

Attendee at Race and Surveillance conference at Birkbeck College, University of London

Launch of *Europe's Fault Lines* at Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Centre, Manchester





# ... Out & About

## 31 May

IRR seminar on 'Researching Prevent: Obstacles and Backlash', IRR offices, London.

## 15 June

Participant at Rethinking Security National Conference at Friends' House, London.

## 23 June

'The heart is where the battle is: a celebration of Sivanandan's legacy' organised by IRR and The Monitoring Group, London.

## 25 June

Panel speaker on racism and social exclusion at Ariadne/Diversity Migration Integration workshop, Philanthropy House, Brussels.

## 3 July

Attendee Black Archive collective meeting, Hackney Archives, London.

## 5 July

Speaker on Windrush, mid-20th century Caribbean migration to the UK, and reparatory history, Society for Caribbean Studies Conference, Senate House, London.

## 8 July

Panel speaker, with Rafael Behr, Elaine Glaser and Matt Carr on 'Europe's Love Affair with the Far Right', Bradford Literature Festival, Bradford.

## 16 July

Discussion meeting on *Europe's Fault Lines*, Five Leaves Bookshop, Nottingham.

## 16 July

Attendee Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust's review workshop, York.

## 22 July

Discussion meeting on *Europe's Fault Lines* with the editor of the *Connacht Tribune*, Galway International Arts Festival, Galway.

## 23 July

Discussion with *Guardian* correspondent Mark Rice-Oxley on 'The List', Chisenhale Gallery, London.

## 10 August

Speaker at meeting on the criminalisation of solidarity actions, Louisburgh, Co. Mayo, Ireland.

## 30 August

Attendee at *The Heart of the Race* book launch at New Beacon Books, London.

## 6 August

Discussion on *Europe's Fault Lines*, West Belfast Festival, St Mary's College, Belfast.

## 5 September

Presentation and screening of IRR documentary, 'From you were black you were Out' at Festival of Dissent, Grenfell event, The Reed, North Kensington, London.

## 6 September

Speaker at meeting 'Confronting Racism in the UK: a return to collective principles', Conway Hall, London.

## 14 September

Speaker at 'Hospitality, the hostile environment and the law' weekend, organised by Birkbeck law school and the Haldane society.



Migrant Rights Network conference

# ... Out & About

## 15 September

Panel speaker at 'Black, British, Banned' event, British Film Institute, London

## 16 September

Discussion meeting on *Europe's Fault Lines*, Wales – Unite Against Fascism, Cardiff.

## 19 September

Participant at launch of Stopwatch report 'Being Matrixed: The (Over) Policing of Gang Suspects in London', AI, London.

## 21 September

Speaker at Charlbury Refugee Action Group (CRAG) meeting, 'Should it be a crime to rescue refugees?' Charlbury.

## 28 September

Discussion meeting on *Europe's Fault Lines* hosted by Eftertryk magazine and Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke, Action Aid Denmark, Copenhagen.

## 2 October

Respondent to paper on 'Migration, Solidarity and the limits of Europe', Global Discourse, Carlton House Terrace, London.

## 3 October

Presentation at screening of IRR documentary 'Southall – a town under siege', Unite union, London.

## 6 October

Panel speaker on 'shrinking space for humanitarian action in crisis situations', MSF/'Internazionale a Ferrera festival, Emilia-Romagna, Italy.

## 11 October

Keynote address at 'Windrush 70th anniversary community event', Brent Museums & Archives, Willesden Green library, London.

## 13 October

Panel speaker on 'State Racism, Collusion and Resistance, TMG/CCJS, South Bank University, London.

## 22 October

IRR seminar on 'Anti-racist feminism in Islamophobic times', IRR offices, London. ●



Anya Edmond-Pettitt attends the *Limits of Europe* workshop at the British Academy

# Finance report

## Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2018

	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Total Funds 2018 (£)	Total Funds 2017 (£)
<b>Incoming resources</b>				
Incoming resources from generated funds:				
Voluntary income	32,662	56,312	88,974	105,358
Activities for generating funds	108,069	–	108,069	98,863
Investment income	230	–	230	273
Other incoming resources	370	–	370	19,349
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>141,331</b>	<b>56,312</b>	<b>197,643</b>	<b>223,843</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>				
Charitable activities	152,347	59,786	212,133	250,400
Total resources expended	152,347	59,786	212,133	250,400
Net movement in funds	(11,016)	(3,474)	(14,490)	(26,557)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds brought forward	74,116	125,094	199,210	225,767
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>63,100</b>	<b>121,620</b>	<b>184,720</b>	<b>199,210</b>

## ... Finance report

### Balance sheet as at 31 March 2018

	2018 (£)	2017 (£)
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Tangible assets	122,952	125,184
<b>Current assets</b>		
Stocks and work in progress	800	800
Debtors	65,905	61,372
Cash at bank and in hand	2,469	21,044
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>69,174</b>	<b>83,216</b>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(7,406)	(9,190)
<b>Net current assets</b>	<b>61,768</b>	<b>74,026</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>184,720</b>	<b>199,210</b>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>		
Restricted funds	121,620	125,094
Unrestricted income funds:	63,100	74,116
<b>Total charity funds</b>	<b>184,720</b>	<b>199,210</b>

The purpose of these pages is to provide a summary of the charity's income, expenditure and year end position. This summary is derived from the full annual accounts, and is not a full representation. This report may not be sufficient to give a full understanding of the charity's finances. A full copy of the annual accounts and auditor's report can be obtained from the charity's offices. The statutory accounts have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

# Contacting the IRR

## Council of Management

Sam Berkson, Lee Bridges, Jon Burnett,  
Eddie Bruce-Jones, Tony Bunyan, Sue Conlan,  
Saqib Deshmukh, David Edgar, Gholam Khiabany,  
Herman Ouseley, Colin Prescod (Chair), Danny Reilly,  
Cilius Victor, Frances Webber (Vice-Chair)

## Funders

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust  
Open Society Foundations  
Garden Court Chambers

## Volunteers

Ann Dryden, Trevor Hemmings, Graham Murray,  
Jasbinder S. Nijjar, Lisa Schäder, Ida Sprengers,  
Ifhat Shaheen-Smith, Samuel Myers, Alice Rogovoy,  
Rajesh Bahattachargee, Jessica Perera, Daniel Renwick,  
Virou Srilangarajah

## Staff

**Liz Fekete** *Director and head of European Research Programme*

**Hazel Waters** *Joint editor Race & Class*

**Jenny Bourne** *Company secretary and joint editor Race & Class*

**Harmit Athwal** *Editor IRR News*

**Anya Edmond-Pettitt** *Office Manager and Research Assistant to the Director*

**Sophia Siddiqui** *Editorial Assistant Race & Class*


**Jessica Perera** *Researcher (from October 2018, part-time)*

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