

CARJ

Annual Report 2012-13



ONE RACE • THE HUMAN RACE

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Catholic Association for Racial Justice

CARJ People in 2012-13

Trustees

President: Bishop Patrick Lynch

Chair: Margaret Ann Fisker and later Yogi Sutton from January 2013

Vice-Chair: Haynes Baptiste and later Nikki Petch from January 2013

Secretary: Sue Smailes

Treasurer: Rita Forster and later Malcolm Forster from January 2013

Other Trustees: Deacon Alfred Banya, Bill Chambers, Malcolm Foster, Father Albert Ofere, Nikki Petch, Protasia Torkington and Richard Zipfel.

Staff

National Coordinator: Rosie Bairwal

Schools Project Worker: Charlene Fraser

Schools Project Worker: Dale Bradshaw

Administrator: Nicolette Burdford De Oliveira

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Introduction

This annual report relates to the activities undertaken by CARJ from April 2012 to March 2013. A CARJ AGM and St Martin de Porres Mass took place on Saturday 26 January 2013 at the CARJ Office. The AGM guest speaker was Luther Blissett from Show Racism the Red Card.

A. Racial Justice Sunday 2012 on Being an Inclusive Church

Racial Justice Sunday (RJS) took place on 9 September 2012 with a focus on the theme of '**Being an Inclusive Church**'. The Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI) and CARJ writers group contributed to the production of the materials. Bishop Patrick Lynch the President of CARJ and Paul Anderson-Walsh the Chief Executive Officer of the Stephen Lawrence Trust contributed to the suggested homilies.

The CARJ office worked around the schedule of the

Olympics (27 July - 12 August) and Paralympic (29 August - 9 September) games timetable to prepare and promote the RJS campaign and materials. CARJ circulated the RJS materials to all Catholic Bishops, dioceses, parishes, religious orders, secondary schools, Justice and Peace and other Network contacts in England and Wales. The materials were also circulated to the Catholic Communications Network (CCN) and to Diocesan Communication Officers. CARJ is grateful for all the support received for the campaign and for all donations received and letters of Thanks were sent to all dioceses, parishes, individuals and others that supported the campaign.

**Being an
Inclusive Church
...and not an exclusive club**

**Racial Justice Sunday
9 SEPTEMBER 2012**

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Catholic Association for Racial Justice

churches
Together

RESOURCE PACK

B. The CARJ Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Support Network



16-17 April 2012

The National Gathering of the CARJ Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Support Network, brings together people who wish to support Travelling communities each year

<p>Date and Time: from 5pm on Monday 16 to 4 pm on Tuesday 17 April, 2012</p> <p>Venue: Focolare Centre for Unity, 69 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, England, AL9 6JG (25 minutes from London King's Cross station)</p>	<p>We will discuss with invited speakers:</p> <p>Family and Married Life and caring for Roma and Irish Traveller communities with Bridie Collins from Marriage Care, Sr Petronia Williams, Westminster Diocese, Gaba Smolinska-Poffey from the Roma Support Group and Margaret Doran</p> <p>Mental Health and Child Mental Health support issues with Micheal Ridge, Travelling People's Team, Haringey Council and Ann Kobayashi</p> <p>Government Policies and the current context with Matthew Brindley and a colleague from the Irish Traveller Movement in Britain</p>	<p>To book a place: please contact: Rosie Bairwal, National Gathering, Catholic Association for Racial Justice (CARJ), 9 Henry Road, London N4 2LH, 020 8802 8080, info@carj.org.uk. Please indicate if you are coming for both Monday and Tuesday or only for Tuesday.</p> <p>Cost: £60 for the full residential event (Monday and Tuesday) or £25 for Tuesday only. Please make cheques payable to 'CARJ'. If you are not able to reclaim the cost from your parish, diocese, agency or religious order, please ask CARJ about the free places that can be offered.</p>
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1. The **National Gathering of the CARJ Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Support Network** took place at the Focolare Centre in Hertfordshire from 16-17 April 2012. The National Gathering brought together 25 participants including Archbishop Bernard Longley and six people from Traveller communities to discuss issues of concern.

The focus for discussions at the National Gathering was on:

Family and Marriage Life and Caring for Travellers, with Bridie Collins from Marriage Care, Sister Petronia Williams from Westminster Diocese, Gaba Smolinska-Poffey from the Roma Support Group and Margaret Doran from Charismatic Renewal. New draft Guidelines on preparing Traveller Couples for Marriage, jointly produced by Marriage Care and Westminster Diocese were presented to the meeting

Government policies and the current context, with Mathew Brindley and Sophia Vale, from the Irish Traveller Movement in Britain (ITMB)

Mental Health and Child Mental Health support, with Ann Kobayashi from the Dale Farm Solidarity Group and Traveller Solidarity Network and Michael Ridge, a Community Social Worker from the Travelling People's Team at Haringey Council, London. Michael co-authored a paper with Annie Yin-Har Lau, a Consultant in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust on Addressing the impact of social exclusion on mental health in Gypsy, Roma and

Traveller communities 2010, which was circulated at the meeting.

2. A meeting of the **Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Support Network, Working Group** on 11 July at the CARJ Office discussed the Marriage Preparation Guidance for Travellers in more detail and media and advertising standards in regard to Traveller communities.

3. The meeting of the **Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Support Network, Working Group** on the 24 October 2012 and discussed how to incorporate The Year of Faith into its work with Travellers. Clare Ward from the Home Mission Desk at CBCEW gave a presentation to the Working Group on the Year of Faith, which was much appreciated.

4. At the meeting of the **Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Support Network, Working Group** on the 15 March 2013, Chris Whitwell the Director of Friends, Families and Travellers spoke to the meeting about the work of



The Travellers Network and the Year of Faith

On 24 October 2012, the CARJ Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Support Network Working Group meeting, which includes priests, religious sisters and laity discussed how its members could use the **Year of Faith in their work with Travelling communities**. Clare Ward, from the Home Mission Desk at the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW) gave a presentation and workshop at the meeting. There was discussion about how **the gospel message could be re-presented in a manner to engage and assist Travelling communities to rediscover their faith**. New resources that are tailored to the needs of Travelling communities could be useful. These could include holy images and pictures to assist those with literacy issues and information on a possible Spanish saint with a Gypsy heritage (however additional information was needed regarding this). It also discussed ways of adapting current programmes and activities to mark the Year of Faith.

the organisation, including its regional activities. Archbishop Bernard Longley informed the Working Group that he would be stepping down from the post of liaison Bishop between CBCEW and the Network from Easter 2013 due to his other commitments. The Network is very grateful for all the guidance and support that he has provided to it over a number of years.

C. Countering Political Extremism

CARJ is part of the **Countering Political Extremism Resource Group (CPERG)**, an ecumenical group that includes representatives from the Joint Public Issues Team (Baptists, Methodists, United Reform Church) the Church of England, local Baptist, Methodist and URC church representatives and CARJ. The CPERG was created following the British National Party (BNP) winning two European Parliamentary seats in 2009. It aims to bring together a network of people from the different church denominations to work together to counter political extremism. As support for far-right parties historically rises during periods of economic recession, the CPERG is monitoring developments in the UK and Europe.

1. The CPERG met on 12 July and discussed the May 2012 local election results for the British National Party and others. At the CPERG meeting on 21 November in Birmingham there was a discussion of how far-right political parties like the British Freedom Party and the English Democrats had fielded some candidates in the Police and Crime Commissioner elections on 15 November 2012. Due to low levels of voter participation far-right parties gained between 10-15% of the vote in some areas like Bedfordshire and South Yorkshire.

2. CARJ participated in a **Patriotism Seminar on loyalty and cohesion in a religiously plural and culturally differentiated nation**, on the 19 May 2012, at the University of Manchester. Speakers at the seminar included Ian Bradley, St Andrews University, Anthony G Reddie, Queens's Foundation, Birmingham, Nigel Biggar, Oxford University and Doug Gay, Glasgow University.

3. A meeting was held with Tariq Bashir project manager of the **Who is your Neighbour** project and CARJ on 22 May 2012 in London. The Who is your Neighbour project works in South Yorkshire (Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield) and has Father Shaun Smith from Hallam Diocese as a Trustee. The project began in 2009 and challenges racism and faith-based prejudice by bringing together communities that do not usually interact in a safe space to encourage discussion of issues around racism, to promote a better understanding of diversity and to prevent the rise in support for far-right political parties and organisations. It also works to promote positive stories of good relations between different community groups in the media. The project works in a sensitive way and has addressed the existence of racism or fear and mistrust in a variety of contexts including in Catholic schools.

4. CARJ is also part of the **One Society Many Cultures** initiative which brings together politicians, faith communities, civil society activists and trade unions. At meetings in 2012-13 there was discussion of racism in football and racism in the Euro 2012 football tournament, a proposed Islamophobia Awareness Month, the court case on religious symbols in the workplace and the new government strategy on Integration, among other areas.



D. CARJ's work with Parishes and Dioceses

A representative of CARJ is on Westminster Diocese Justice and Peace Commission and participated in meetings in 2012-13, to communicate CARJ's work more widely. On 7 May 2012, CARJ participated the Mass for Migrants organised by the dioceses of Westminster, Southwark and Brentwood at Westminster Cathedral. The CARJ Office gave support to Ellie Redhead who organized a display at Hackney Library on Black History Month on 20 October 2012. CARJ met with Sr Pat Holloway, from St John Vianney Parish, Westminster Diocese to support her work on racial justice and addressing human trafficking on 27 February 2013. CARJ also met with Father Mark Powell on 20 March 2013 and discussed multi-ethnic ministry.



E. CARJ's work with the Catholic Bishops' Conference and its departments and agencies

As an agency of the Church, CARJ participates in meetings of the **Christian Responsibility and Citizenship Department** of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW). Full department meetings took place on 3 May, 20 June, 11 October 2012 and 7 March 2013. Additional team meetings took place between these dates. CARJ also attended meetings of the RADAR public policy group at CBCEW on the 31 May and 26 June and 31 October 2012.

CARJ is part of the **Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN)**. This enables a closer collaboration between CARJ and CSAN and with the other member organisations of the CSAN Network. CARJ participated in the Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) **Directors' meeting** in Birmingham on 17 July 2012 and also in London on the 6 February 2013 where the main speaker was Alison Gelder from Housing Justice.

F. Schools and Young People

During the year, **Charlene Fraser** worked regularly (weekly or fortnightly) with small groups of pupils in three primary schools: St Anne's (Lambeth), Our Lady of Lourdes (Brent) and St Paul's (Wood Green) building self-confidence, self-esteem, speaking and listening skills, team work and other personal qualities .

CARJ has recently establish a new Associates Programme. Associates are offered work by CARJ, as and when it arises. **Patsy Cummings** has been working one day a week as a CARJ Associate in Cardinal Pole Secondary School (Hackney), **Suddie Komba Kono**, a new CARJ Associate, has been making contact with schools and responding to invitations to give presentations and organise inter-active sessions with young people in schools and parishes.

CARJ held its **annual Seminar for Schools** on 26 September 2012 at Heythrop College in London. Themes for the Seminar included:

- The Inclusive Church (Racial Justice Sunday theme for 2012)
- Black History Month (October 2012)
- The Year of Faith (2012-13) – including Vatican II and Catholic Social Teaching Youth Leadership
- During the year, CARJ Associates have been addressing these themes with young people in schools and parishes.

CARJ received funding to establish a satellite young people's project in Liverpool, and we have begun organising a support network for a new **Liverpool Project**. In early 2013 **Dale Bradshaw**, a retired Police Constable with considerable experience of community involvement, was appointed as Liverpool Project Worker.

Building on an earlier interest in the Cristo Rey Schools Network in the USA CARJ established a **Cristo Rey UK Working Group** to explore the possible replication of the Cristo Rey model in the UK. The Group has met regularly and is now exploring the wider theme– *Offering Higher Quality Education to Young People from Marginalised Communities*. The Group hopes to publish a pamphlet or booklet exploring this theme during the coming academic year.

All the current work described above will continue during the coming year. In addition, CARJ is beginning to make plans to hold a **Young People's Congress on World Citizenship** in July 2014 (30th Anniversary of CARJ) at Liverpool Hope. This could be an important event for the future of CARJ's work with young people.

G. Urban Network

Theresa Byrne has taken over from Alison Gelder as **Chair** of the Urban Network. Theresa was formerly Secretary to the Committees for the World of Work and Public Life at the Bishops Conference. She is an



elected Councillor for the Borough of Ealing.

The Urban Network met three times during the year. Key themes discussed at these meetings included:

- the Demos Report, *Faithful Citizens*
- employment and unemployment
- the 50th Anniversary of Vatican II
- the cost and politics of austerity
- financial issues facing marginalised communities
- key questions underlying urban policy and urban mission

Through its Urban Network, CARJ has links to the ecumenical, **Christian Coalition for Urban Mission (CCFUM)**. In addition to its own work, CCFUM organises a Coordinating Group on Urban Mission for Churches Together in England (CTE). CCFUM also supports the ecumenical *Jesus in the City* Urban Mission Congress which is held every three years.

H. Leadership for Social Change – Joint Training Programme

CARJ has entered into a **partnership with Voice of Dalit International (VODI) and Maryvale Institute Birmingham** to organise training courses and workshops on *Leadership for Social Change*. The first course (a pilot) took place on weekday mornings, from March thru July 2012, based at St Anselms RC Parish, Southall. Twelve students began the Course in March, and six students attended regularly, completed the course and successfully completed the assessed elements. The Closing Ceremony was held at St

Anselms on 30 August 2012. Mgr Paul Watson, Director of Maryvale, spoke and gave out awards. All six students received both a Certificate and Diploma from Maryvale. Approximately 50 people attended the Closing Ceremony, including the local MP. The pilot course was evaluated positively and discussions are taking place as to the feasibility and desirability of future courses / workshops. A ten day workshop is provisionally planned for autumn 2013.

I. CARJ's work to influence the public policy agenda

1. CARJ participated in the Perspectives on race and racism in the 21st Century conference on 12 April 2012. The National Coordinator was invited to be part of the panel discussion for the conference which was organized by Voice4Change, England. A number of racial equality organisations participated including Friends, Families and Travellers, Stephen Lawrence Trust and Runnymede Trust as well as other organisations like the Trades Union Congress, Charlton Athletic Race & Equality Partnership and the Guardian Newspaper.

2. DEMOS Project on Faith, Community and Society
The Demos project on Faith, Community and Society was set up in 2011 to explore the role of faith in UK society and politics. It is led by Stephen Timms MP and the CARJ National Coordinator was invited to be part of the Advisory Committee and participated in meetings on 13 September 2012 and in February 2013. The Faithful Citizens report on faith and civic and political engagement was released in April 2012. It received media coverage in the Observer on Easter Sunday and

on Radio 4. The second report Faithful Providers on the role of faith groups in delivering public services and was released in January 2013.

3. CARJ participated at the Supplementary Education and Ethnic Minority achievement conference, on the 21 June 2012, in London. The event was sponsored by the John Lyon's Foundation and included information from the National Resource Centre for Supplementary Education. Speakers included Lord Adonis and Baroness Walmsley who strongly endorsed using the Supplementary school model to improve ethnic minority pupil achievement. These could also engage and assist parents with their own support needs. The conference discussed a number of issues including that many Headteachers and teachers were not familiar with the 3000 Supplementary schools that exist, which are often led by and serve Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) communities in delivering core curriculum support to improve pupil attainment.

A new research report was launched on the impact of Supplementary education in significantly improving Minority Ethnic achievement including at GCSE level. There are many Supplementary schools with links to mainstream schools, including to Catholic schools and which use their school buildings. An editor from the publication Race, Ethnicity and Education participated in the conference. Issues discussed included the new pupil premium, the significant under-representation of BME communities as teachers (only 5%) and Head teachers (around 1%) and the low number of governors against a context of 24% of pupils having a BME heritage. Problems with the retention of BME teachers, the reduction in the total number of exclusions in recent years as a result of various initiatives and the emphasis on raising pupil attainment, including achieving A-C grades at GCSE were also discussed.

J. Caribbean Pilgrimage to Walsingham

The Annual Caribbean Pilgrimage to Walsingham took place on Sunday 24 June 2012. CARJ supports the Pilgrimage for around 600-800 pilgrims by providing sponsorship and materials. We also liaise with colleagues at the Shrine on arrangements. CARJ also coordinates planning meetings to support coach organisers and pilgrimage coordinators who are located in dioceses across the country and the music director and choir. CARJ is very grateful to the Chief Celebrant at the 2012 Pilgrimage, Father Ireneus Vincent and to music director Leila Persaud and to all the St Ignatius Caribbean Choir for their contributions to the Pilgrimage.

National Caribbean Pilgrimage to Walsingham 2012

We invite you to the Annual National Caribbean Pilgrimage to Walsingham on Sunday 24th June 2012 celebrating the feast of the Birth of St John the Baptist



Birth of St John the Baptist, Desiderius Ferraer, 1605-7, Musée de Brno, Bourg-en-Bresse

Programme

- 1.20 pm Coaches leave Shrine for Friday Market in the village
- 1.30 - 2.00 pm Assemble at Friday Market for the start of the procession
- 2.00 pm Start of the Rosary Procession along Old Pilgrim Way
- 3.15 pm Mass at the Shrine
- 5.00 pm Pilgrims board coaches for journey home

All are welcome. Please also bring a packed lunch

For coach prices, details of departure time & pick-up points please refer to your Coordinator. Please find their contact details below or alternatively contact the CARJ Office on 0208 802 8080

If you want to come by car then please also feel free to join us



K. Working with the National Council for Lay Associations

CARJ is also a lay organisation and is a member of the National Council for Lay Associations (NCLA). CARJ uses this forum to network and communicate information about its work to other organisations. CARJ participated at meetings in October 2012 and February 2013. Father Stephen Fawcett, Chair of the Year of Faith Committee for the Archdiocese of Birmingham spoke at one of the meetings about the role of Lay Associations in the Year of Faith. A CARJ representative is also part of the NCLA Executive, as the Southern region representative.

Note of appreciation

With thanks to all who have made a positive contribution to achieving racial justice and equality through the work of CARJ.

Bank account details

Lloyds Bank
Southampton Row
London

Auditor

S Banerjee

Catholic Association for Racial Justice

CARJ tackles racial discrimination within the Church and within society. We work to ensure that racial inequality and the racism that causes it are eradicated. We do this through programmes like:

Racial Justice Sunday – raising awareness of the issues.

Training parish and diocesan groups on racial justice issues

Outreach to ethnic minority communities, including Gypsies and Travellers

Countering Political Extremism working with other Church denominations

Supporting Black and Minority Ethnic **students reach their potential**

Providing a forum for exchange among those working in **marginalised urban communities**



To join CARJ or to make a contribution
to the future work of CARJ:
contact CARJ, 9 Henry Road, London N4 2LH
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Cheques payable to CARJ
or the Catholic Association for Racial Justice.
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