

# SOUTH WEST RURAL BME CONFERENCE

**Breaking Down Barriers**

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2006**

**TAUNTON Race Course, Somerset**

## **Speakers' Biographies**

### **Rupert Daniel**

Rupert Daniel is the Regional Project Manager for the Black South West Network.

Rupert's background includes the areas of Politics and Economics, Information Technology, Strategic Management and Marketing, Viable Management Systems, Resource Management, Health and Safety, Impact Assessments, Action Research Project, Management, the development of Social and Economic services.

He has twenty years of experience working within the voluntary and community sector (VCS) in a variety of capacities from communications to mediation, managing community buildings, development and renewal programmes. In his role as Regional Project Manager he draws on this broad background and experience to inform the conception and implementation of Black Net Solutions. In addition to this BSWN ChangeUp project, Rupert has played a key role in the unfolding of ChangeUp across the region, both serving on the Regional Steering Committee and providing guidance and resources to the ChangeUp Support Programme.

### **Wilfred Emmanuel-Jones: The Black Farmer™**

Emmanuel-Jones is, in his words, 'a poor boy, done good'. He was born in Jamaica and raised in inner city Birmingham. Unqualified but ambitious and persistent, he talked his way into television, becoming a producer/director for the BBC. He is credited with bringing many of the top celebrity chefs to the small screen including Gordon Ramsay, Antony Worrall-Thompson, Brian Turner and James Martin, before founding a food and drink marketing company with his wife in London, working on such brands as Cobra Beer, KETTLE Chips and Lloyd Grossman sauces. Wilfred subsequently fulfilled a lifelong ambition in purchasing a small farm in Devon, and has been responsible for one of the most successful food launches of recent times in the UK with his own range of meat and sauces under The Black Farmer label™.

Flavours without Frontiers – the promise offered by his products also goes some way to sum up his personality. He, nor his products, will be confined by race, convention or tradition. Wilfred's strong opinions on issues such as rural affairs, justice for small producers and giving ethnic minorities more opportunity have driven much media attention in recent times.

The Black Farmer has recently launched a rural scholarship scheme through which young people from inner city communities are given the opportunity to experience what it is really

like to live and work in the rural community. This scheme was the subject of a Channel 4 Documentary and was aired in Spring 2005.

## **Anthony Newson**

Social Inclusion Officer, Penwith District Council

Anthony has been in this post for 2 years. He works actively with hard-to-reach and marginalised groups including people with disabilities, learning difficulties and older people.

He has been leading on the multi – agency work pioneered in Penwith tackling issues regarding Migrant workers at a local level and sits on the County Migrant Worker Task and Finish group, that meets to address the needs of Migrant Workers across Cornwall.

He has worked extensively abroad and is a Trustee of two disability charities.

## **Kauser Ahmed**

A qualified teacher with a background in legal practice, Kauser has a passionate belief in all equality issues and has always been involved in community work, primarily with issues concerning BME women and children.

Kauser has lived in Devon since 1991, working as a teacher in the largest comprehensive school in Britain and then becoming a freelance trainer. Kauser is involved with a range of organisations, both voluntary and public and is a co-founder of the Olive Tree Association, which organises educational, social and health related events not only for the diverse ethnic community in Exeter and Devon. She has carried out and written up a wide range of consultations with the Black and Minority Ethnic groups within the county for statutory and public bodies such as the Devon and Cornwall Police authority and Devon County Council and Exeter City Council

As a parent of two special needs sons, Kauser has a keen interest and involvement in ensuring that Disabled people in society are acknowledged and receive equality in the provision of services to improve the quality of their lives. She is a carer representative on the National Taskforce on Learning Disability.

Kauser is also a trustee of Community Council of Devon.

## **Azumah Kwartey Titus-Glover (aka) Ossie Glover**

I am the founder member and Chief Executive of Fata He BME Development (a West African phrase which means 'inclusion').

In May 2003 Fata He became the first black led social enterprise with both social and community objectives in the city of Plymouth to gain Limited Company status. The organisation is representative of many Black and Minority Ethnic (B&ME) groups including the Gypsy and Traveler community. Fata He are currently involved in the Home Office funded ChangeUp Infrastructure programme as the sub-regional B&ME lead for Devon, Cornwall, Plymouth and Torbay consortiums.

We are also actively involved in the 'Devonport People's Dreams' NDC regeneration programme in ensuring effective inclusion and participation of B&ME and other minority groups within project and programme activity. We were also recently successful in securing Single Regeneration Budget (SRB) 6 funding to develop a B&ME citywide capacity building programme. I have also been recently elected to serve as the B&ME Community Empowerment Network representative on the Plymouth Local Strategic Partnership (LSP), and also serve as a Company Director on the Wolseley Community and Economic Development Trust (our accountable body), and the regional Black South West Network (BSWN).

I was until recently the Chair of the Plymouth Anti Racism Task Force (ARTF), which was tasked with eradicating racism in the city through the outcomes of the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry, and since the withdrawal of Plymouth City Council from the ARTF, Fata He has continued to facilitate a Black and Ethnic Minority Advisory Group (BEMAG), which is made up of former B&ME members of the ARTF, and organisations which work with BME groups. I have also had the privilege of Chairing the Home Office Funded Plymouth Community Cohesion Facilitation Programme along with a multi-agency member panel (supported by GOSW) who were responsible in drawing this programme to a successful conclusion.

Since the end of the Plymouth Community Cohesion Facilitation Programme, Fata He has continued to assist two youth groups, the Plymouth Talented People's Project (PTPP), and the Plymouth Urban Living Sound Enterprise (PULSE) become constituted organisations who will come under the umbrella of Fata He and receive help and support in becoming future stand alone organisations.

## **Linda Buckley**

Community Development Co-ordinator, Fata He (Torbay)

My deep connections with Plymouth and the South West go back many generations culminating in Devonport where my Grandmother grew up. The other side of my family came from the Caribbean, both of my cultures I enjoy and embrace. From a very early age I was brought up with an acute awareness about social justice and have spent all my life facilitating and enabling initiatives to become realities from: extensive work within the BME Community in Plymouth and London around issues like Asylum and Immigration, Mental Health, Domestic Violence and Abuse, Monitoring Racism Locally and Nationally and being involved in many campaigns for Civil and Human Rights.

I joined the Chief Executive of Fata He Ossie Glover, as a representative on the Anti Racist Task Force and then on the Plymouth Community Cohesion Facilitation Programme. Fata He is a most positive step for the BME community in Plymouth and the South West I know it will prove to grow and draw strength from the people who want Plymouth to be a shining light for the understanding, empowerment, peace and harmony we as a community want to create together.

## **Su Ormerod**

Su Ormerod came to work for Community Council of Berkshire in 2003 from a health care and teaching background.

Using these skills Su has been involved in a wide range of Community Development Work. This has included supporting Parish Councils with the Parish Planning Process and wider community cohesion work with minority communities. A significant element of this work programme has been working with the Gypsy and Traveller Communities in Berkshire. A multi-level approach over the last two years has seen growing trust develop with the community and a number of outcomes delivered. These include delivery of basic skills and family learning programmes on sites within Berkshire and the development of local forums enabling Travellers and Statutory agencies to liaise on issues of common concern.

Currently Su is actively engaged with ACTVAR (Association of Council in the Thames Valley Region) supporting consultation with Travellers for compliance with the Housing Needs Surveys for the Local Development Framework Process and also working with the community to develop a multi-media project to reflect their culture in an alternative format.