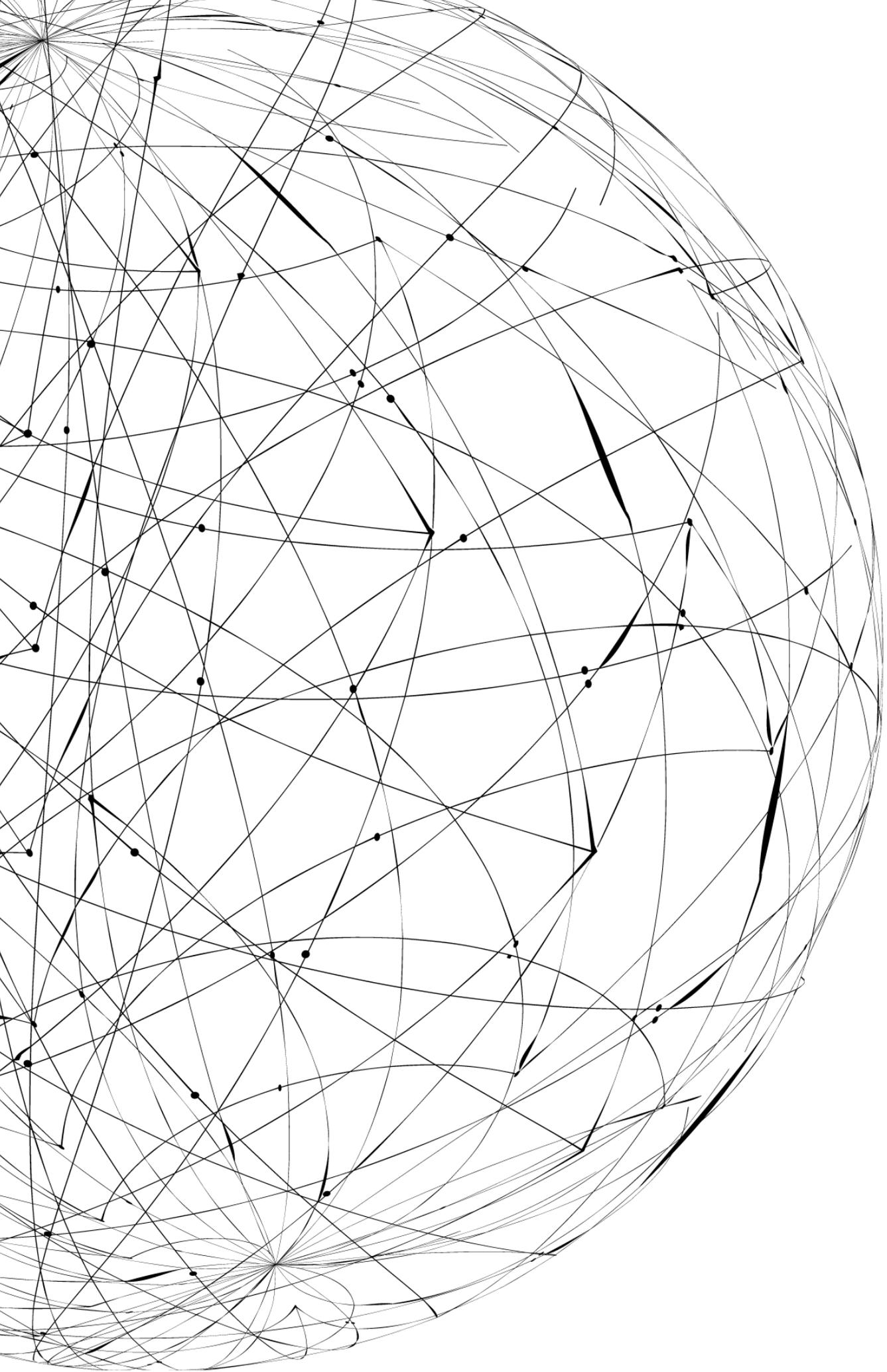




2019
AWARDS

WHAT
GOOD
LOOKS
LIKE

Criminal
Justice
Alliance



Foreword

I am delighted to be presenting the 2019 Criminal Justice Alliance Awards as part of my visit to the UK to launch the Incarceration Nations Network, a global platform and movement working to reduce mass incarceration, build safer communities and reduce recidivism. I believe that we can't just *oppose* mass incarceration, we have to be positive – we have to be *for* something altogether different.

And this is where imagination and innovation is critical. As practitioners, academics, artists and thinkers, it's incumbent on us to conjure up this something altogether different. We must imagine our way to a fairer and more effective justice system. And then we must actualize our vision, which must be grounded in reality and the here-and-now possibilities.

The CJA Awards shine a light on Outstanding Organisations doing exactly this. I was impressed by the ground-breaking work being done to enable those directly affected by the justice system to lead the movement for its reform. Evidence-based programmes supporting people at risk of sexual offences are absolutely vital, as are developing

alternatives to custody through intensive support in the community. I was also moved and inspired by the Outstanding Individuals tackling knife crime and race discrimination, supporting post-release employment, exposing the needs of children of imprisoned mothers and promoting more trauma-informed and restorative practices.

The Incarceration Nations Network aims to change the global narrative about prisons and the people in them, and to amplify progressive programmes to the public and policy makers worldwide. The CJA Media Awards highlight the fantastic work of journalists and digital champions in supporting this objective through their engaging, evidence-based, and sensitive reporting of criminal justice topics, making use of the full spectrum of means to communicate with the public and policy makers, reaching both UK and global audiences.

My huge congratulations to all the shortlisted nominees. I look forward to sharing your work, and others in the UK, through the Incarceration Nations Network.



Dr. Baz Dreisinger

Professor of Criminal Justice,
City University of New York,
Author of 'Incarceration Nations'

INCARCERATION
NATIONS
NETWORK



2018 winners



OUTSTANDING ORGANISATION 2018

“This recognition meant a lot for our small team”

We were extremely pleased and honoured to receive the CJA Award for Outstanding Organisation in 2018. This recognition meant a lot for our small team and it helped us in many practical ways too. As a campaigning and advocacy organisation on justice and fairness in the prison system, we often work with very small, restricted funding. The Award enabled us to support two ex-prisoners in delivering their workshops to prisoners which would not otherwise be possible. Most importantly, this appreciation of our niche work showed that ‘a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world.’

The Zahid Mubarek Trust



OUTSTANDING ORGANISATION, RUNNER UP 2018

“We were able to use the prize money to share the model and inspire others”

Winning the runner-up award at the CJA Awards was such a proud moment for us. It was fantastic to be recognised for our work co-creating a new national peer support model with people with lived experience and the NHS. As we've said before, lived experience done in the right way can change the world. We were able to use the prize money to share the model and inspire others. We ensured the Lived Experience Team co-designed and were well-represented at the national Liaison and Diversion Conference – putting peer support models and lived experience voice right at the heart.

Revolving Doors Agency



OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL 2018

“The award came at a time when we really needed the boost”

Winning the CJA Outstanding Individual award was an extremely proud moment for me and my family, especially after being sat in a prison cell just over a decade ago. It was also a great experience for New Leaf; the visibility and financial support from the award came at a time when we really needed the boost. The £1000 went towards helping me conduct important research on people with convictions now leading organisations within the Criminal Justice System. From this study, we plan to form the New Leaf Network. Thank you CJA for your ongoing support and guidance.

Marie-Claire O'Brien, Director, New Leaf Initiative CIC

Outstanding organisations

CIRCLES UK

Circles UK oversees the provision of Circles of Support and Accountability (Circles) across England and Wales. A Circle consists of trained community volunteers who both support and hold sexual harm causers accountable as they reintegrate into society after a prison sentence. Behaviour is addressed through restorative and desistance approaches, preventing further sexual abuse and keeping communities safe. Circles UK also led with Circles Providers the development of a specialist Circles Programme for Young People, recognising that at least one third of all sexual offences against children and young people are committed by other children and young people. Sexual harm causers are amongst the most stigmatised and marginalised groups in society and those who participate in a Circle are, consequently, often isolated and shunned by family, friends, employers and accommodation providers, all factors likely to contribute to reoffending. Circles UK also works hard to challenge these perceptions and improve public understanding of their work to prevent further victims.



What the judges said:

“Circles UK are doing important work with those that few care to, offering rehabilitation, support and the potential to prevent future victimisation.”

BROWNS COMMUNITY SERVICES CIC

Browns Community Services CIC promotes prevention, diversion and rehabilitation by offering an individually-tailored Intensive Support Service to their clients, who have all been considered 'hard to engage'. They receive support 24 hours a day through calls and meetings with a dedicated Support Worker. As a result some have been diverted away from custody on bail and others have had their prison sentence suspended, which enable them to move forward more positively in their lives. The Rebuild Project supports the parents of children affected by exploitation providing support to deal with family trauma and upskilling parents on topics including social media and cyberbullying. They equip parents with the information and confidence to support their children and also run an 'Empower, Educate and Encourage' course to support clients with employment, domestic abuse, debt and housing.





RUNNER UP

PEER POWER

Peer Power supports young people with lived experience of significant traumatic and/or adverse life events, including experiences of the social care, health and justice systems. The

team consists of adults in support roles working with young people as paid Peer Leaders and volunteer Peer Experts, with the mission to disrupt, influence and change youth support services to be more empathic, to improve individual wellbeing and create future leaders. They have a powerful voice in this space, giving evidence in Parliament with the Youth Justice Minister about the mental health needs of young people in the system, contributing to the development of the National Healthcare Standards for Children and Young People in Secure Settings and facilitating two young people with lived experience to develop as Young Commissioners for procurement of custodial healthcare services, amongst many other influential projects.

“Peer Power supports young people to have a real dialogue with decision makers in an impactful way to shape policy and practice.”



PRISON REFORM TRUST (PRISONER POLICY NETWORK)

Since its launch in 2018, the Prisoner Policy Network has engaged with over 3000 prisoners, former prisoners, their families and 26 supporting organisations, firmly establishing it as a national mechanism to convene collaboration amongst prisoners, develop expert insight gained through lived experience of the CJS, and harness that insight collectively to maximise impact. The PPN’s report on incentives in prison fed into the national IEP policy review and has been used in development of local policies, and a forthcoming report on the solutions for conflict and violence in prison has already attracted over 600 responses. The PPN’s recently launched podcast series, the Secret Life of Prisons, is another fresh contribution to a national lived experience movement. As a PPN member and PRT trainee said ‘PPN is a brilliant innovation and is making waves. It helps a lot of prisoners feel like they count and can play a meaningful role in the prison reform debate.’



SAFER LIVING FOUNDATION

The Safer Living Foundation (SLF) is an innovative joint venture between HMP Whatton and Nottingham Trent University’s Sexual Offences Crime and Misconduct Research Unit. It aims to prevent victims of sexual abuse and protect the public by reducing sexual crime. The SLF runs three types of Circles of Support and Accountability – community-based, prison-based, and for young people. In 2017, the SLF commenced a transformational primary prevention service, The Aurora Project, for individuals distressed by their sexual thoughts and interests. SLF also runs the Corbett Centre for Prisoner Reintegration, a safe space where individuals who have been in prison for a sexual offence can access crucial support services. It aims to facilitate the development of social skills and tools that encourage safe integration with the community and good citizenship. Researchers from the university conduct process and outcome evaluations on all SLF projects, ensuring research is used to achieve evidence-based best practice across the organisation and evaluations are widely disseminated.



Outstanding individuals

BARRY FLANAGAN, RECYCLING LIVES

Barry is Head of Rehabilitation Programmes for Recycling Lives' HMP Academies. His work has contributed to the team reducing re-offending rates to less than 5% and increasing employment rates to 84% for the hundreds of men and women they support. In 11 prisons the Academies create employment for up to 300 men and women at a time developing their life and work skills. Barry's wealth of knowledge and trusted relationships are matched by the deep empathy he has for the men and women he works with. His expertise comes from both professional and lived experience. His experiences mean he is compassionate, patient and understanding and is a real role model to the men and women he is supporting. Barry is said to be a mentor, coach, brother, father, and counsellor rolled into one - 'So many people owe their lives free from offending to Barry.'



WINNER

What the judges said:

"Barry goes over and above supporting people to learn new skills, gain confidence and stay out of the criminal justice system."



SABRINA PARKINS, UNLOCKED GRADUATES

Sabrina is an exemplary prison officer who has impacted the men in her care as well as the prison environment and system. One of 50 pioneers who joined the prison service as part of the first Unlocked Graduates cohort, after two years working on the landings, she will now progress to the competitive 'Accelerated Development Scheme' and become a Governor-grade manager. In her two years working as a prison officer she has been a catalyst for change, particularly in implementing a

new violence reduction process. Sabrina will now become one of very few Operational Managers who are from a BAME background, an issue she is passionate about addressing - she played a vital role in the Unlocked Graduates' campaign to attract more BAME applicants, and has spoken on a panel with David Lammy. She has undertaken extensive speaking engagements, including at 10 Downing Street, to promote a better understanding of what the prison officer job entails.

RUNNERS UP

SOFIA BUNCY, MUSLIM WOMEN IN PRISON PROJECT, KHIDMAT CENTRES

Sofia is the National Coordinator for Khidmat Centre's Muslim Women in Prison project, which provides support to BAME women of Muslim heritage. Sofia has championed the needs of BAME / Muslim women, helping to open up conversations in the community about a socially taboo and stigmatised area of need. Sofia co-authored a groundbreaking report 'Sisters in Desistance', which promotes the voices of Muslim women who worked with Sofia to highlight their 'through the gate journey'. Sisters in Desistance not only documents gaps in the system but scrutinises the particular vulnerabilities, cultural nuisances, faith needs and intersectionality of disadvantages that Muslim women prisoners face. An accompanying film is currently being used as an awareness and training tool in prisons and the community. Sofia is described as 'A northern powerhouse. Without her, the issue of Muslim women prisoners and equality both in the CJS and community would remain invisible.'

"Sofia's pioneering work has raised awareness and interest in a previously ignored issue."



"Shelley embodies hope and motivates change. She is an inspiration to us all"

SHELLEY, WALES RESTORATIVE APPROACHES PARTNERSHIP (WRAP)

Shelley is an outstanding role model, evidenced through her volunteering, work choices and leadership roles. Shelly is a trained restorative practitioner who uses her lived experiences to support others. She volunteers with WRAP's restorative team in inclusion units and youth groups, as well as training criminal justice professionals in restorative practices. Shelley also designed and co-delivers a multi-agency restorative justice programme about the impact of knife crime that is being rolled out with positive feedback from young people at risk and staff. Shelley is also a Director of the WRAP Board, works as an advocate for the street homeless at the Huggard Centre and has been keynote speaker at national restorative approaches conferences.



GETHIN JONES, UNLOCKING POTENTIAL

Gethin is the Author of 'Unconscious Incarceration: How to Break Out, be Free and Unlock Your Potential' and Founder of Unlocking Potential. He delivers talks and training across the prison estate to staff and residents, breaking down narratives of 'them and us'. The talks aim to improve the outcomes of people in prison, in particular those with a care experience background. Gethin's talks and training, which draw on his own experiences of the care and criminal justice systems,

highlight the complex needs of those who have been in care. He explains that due to the trauma they have experienced they have learnt not to trust the system and many now also suffer with mental health, alcohol and or substance misuse issues. He also raises awareness of these issues and has worked with The Forgiveness Project for over two years, speaking at public events and to prisoners within their RESTORE Prison Programme with powerful effect.



DR SHONA MINSON, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Dr Shona Minson undertook research examining whether impacts on children are considered when a mother is sentenced and whether children's rights are upheld. Following publication, Shona has worked with dedication and perseverance to ensure that children whose mothers are in conflict with the law are seen and heard by lawyers, sentencers, policy makers and legislators. Her impact on this issue is far-reaching - from a film series which now forms part of the Judicial College core training to her work

being referenced in court decisions, including in the Court of Appeal. A new Sentencing Guideline also includes an 'expanded explanation' of 'sole or primary carer for dependent relatives'. Shona has established a reputation as an authoritative and persuasive advocate for better informed criminal justice responses to mothers and their children. It is unusual to see academic research have such impact on awareness and practice in the criminal justice system.

Outstanding journalism

ADELE ROBINSON, SKY NEWS

Adele Robinson's documentary 'Special Report: Inside the Circle' describes how Circles of Support and Accountability uses community volunteers to prevent sexual harm. The documentary questions many of the negative and stereotypical attitudes towards sexual harm causers and highlights the marginalisation and stigmatisation this causes. Planning the documentary took over a year, working with Circles UK and Circles Providers to ensure it was well designed, fully researched and executed to a high standard. Extreme care was involved to prevent distress to victims and survivors and to protect the Circle recipients involved from threats of harm. The documentary powerfully questions the widespread belief that perpetrators of sexual abuse cannot be rehabilitated and, by highlighting that most people with convictions for sexual offences are released from prison and return to their communities, shows the 'lock them up and throw away the key' response to be counter-factual. It attracted positive reactions from viewers both in the UK and as far afield as South Africa and Hong Kong.



What the judges said:

"A great documentary done in such a sensitive and professional way to challenge viewer perspectives."

WINNER

ANUSHKA ASTHANA AND THE TODAY IN FOCUS PODCAST TEAM BY THE GUARDIAN

Today in Focus produced an insightful and authoritative podcast questioning the recent increase in stop and search despite the lack of evidence that it works to reduce crime. The team spoke to a wide range of experts before conducting a deep dive into this extremely contentious subject. The episode features a thought-provoking and powerful interview with a young man who revealed he had been targeted with stop and search since the age of 11, and was left extremely troubled by a stop and search that had escalated to a shocking level. The interview challenged the listener with its humanity and emotion and, overall, the piece brought clarity to the history and evidence around stop and search. Another podcast featured the excellent reportage of writer Tom Lamont, who spent months building up the trust of families who lost their loved ones in police chases that had gone wrong, shining a light on a rarely questioned practice.



FRANKIE MCCAMLEY, BBC

Frankie's work has focussed on women who are shunned and forgotten when they fall into a life of crime, challenging myths and stereotypes, and opening the eyes of those who might normally disregard these women. Her pieces highlighted serious problems in the criminal justice system, but also offered solutions - inside a safe home that housed mothers and their children together. Frankie spent more than two weeks with the women in order to tell their stories in a sensitive and humane way. Additionally, Frankie's BBC Radio 4 programme featured an in-depth investigation into how the children's human rights are not being upheld when their mothers are sent to prison, followed by an interview with the Justice Secretary David Gauke, who admitted short sentences for mothers should be avoided. In a third piece Frankie worked closely with a survivor of rape to cover the opening of a maternity ward for victims of rape or sexual abuse.



HAZEL SHEARING,
BUZZFEED

Hazel's articles widely exposed the hidden experiences of women in police detention, where they are left to manage their periods without adequate menstrual care. Hazel's pieces gained national attention and applied pressure that ultimately resulted in legislative change. Her work featured an exclusive long-read outlining the Independent Custody Visiting Association's findings on menstrual care in police and recommendations for changes in policy and practice. The article gave voice to the hidden menstrual needs of female detainees and included expert opinion from top legal counsel, Police and Crime Commissioners, the Shadow Attorney General, former detainees, campaigners, inspectors, human rights experts and ICVA. She interviewed a former detainee turned detainee advocate and used ICVA reports to describe case studies. The piece achieved excellent traction, trending on Twitter and receiving coverage from the BBC and major newspapers. Follow-up pieces covered the Government's announced changes to PACE Codes and the need for greater menstrual care in court custody.



CLAUDIA-LIZA ARMAH, CAROLINE GAULEY AND THE CHANNEL 5 6:30 NEWS TEAM

This in-depth news piece focussed on the Joint Committee on Human Rights report on the right to family life of children of imprisoned mothers. The piece was the only television coverage of the report and included academic analysis and opinion, as well as personal experience. The team focussed on the rights of children rather than women's imprisonment and the anchor, Claudia-Liza Armah, avoided clichés, jargon, negative terminology and sensationalism, giving time for proper discussion of issues. The team also invited a mother to share her experience - Claudia-Liza ensured her experience was portrayed authentically, sensitively and humanely. Importantly, the human story was set within the wider social policy context of the JCHR recommendations. The online version of the piece has had more than 9000 views in addition to their main evening news viewing figures.

Outstanding digital media champions

BIRD PODCAST - KATE LITTLER AND NINA MCNAMARA

Bird was hatched in 2018 to explore criminal justice issues, build understanding and generate support for a system founded on people's capacity for growth and change. The presenters provide a platform for those within the prison system to challenge stereotypes through talking about their lived reality. Bird began as a podcast but has since expanded to include social media and live events. Each episode focuses on a different aspect of a complex issue, from knife crime and women in prison to mental health and substance misuse. A recent episode, about knife crime, was recorded from inside HMP Pentonville, where they spoke with a group of residents who believe their experiences, as both victims and perpetrators of knife crime, can help prevent other people from ending up in the same circumstances. Bird has been featured in Grazia, BBC Sounds, The Guardian, and local press.



WINNER

What the judges said:

“The Bird podcast is well executed, accessible, insightful, refreshing and focuses on solutions.”

Jon is founder and editor of the Justice Gap website and a freelance journalist.

Jon shines a light on miscarriages of justice and his journalism has had tremendous impact for the individuals and their families whose cases he has highlighted. Jon highlights systematic issues in our justice system that produce wrongful convictions, the institutions that fail to correct them and the serious lack of compensation for the tiny number of cases where convictions are overturned. Generally, the media has largely overlooked these issues, despite many commentators agreeing that the justice system is 'broken'. A community of concern has developed around the Justice Gap, with real impact at political and individual levels. The Westminster launch of his 2018 book 'Guilty Until Proven Innocent' was also the first public meeting of the APPG on miscarriages of justice. His book featured 11 miscarriage of justice cases and the event was attended by more than 100 people including almost all of those families involved.



JON ROBINS



straightline with Brenda Birungi

BRENDA BIRUNGI

Brenda makes a vital contribution to creating a better understanding of criminal justice and gives a platform to other people with lived experience. She co-hosts National Radio Prison's 'Straightline' show and has recorded vlogs and podcasts for the online platform on everything from mental health advice to life on Home Detention Curfew and the support Women's Centres can offer. She uses her lived experience to inform her questions, exploring themes that might not be covered by someone without direct experience. For example, Brenda interviewed her mother for a Straightline podcast, shining a light on issues that other families of those in prison will have faced and be facing. Brenda also recently led a 'Twitter Takeover' where she tweeted and vlogged through her day, sharing her experiences and her thoughts before and after going on a prison visit. Brenda also founded Unchained Poetry, a platform for people with experience of the criminal justice system to share their stories and encourage others to do the same.

SIMON SHEPHERD

Simon Shepherd's 'The Good Book of Prisons' project for the Butler Trust is designed 'to foster conversation, hope and action' and highlight 'the good stuff' rarely discussed in sectoral and public conversations about prison life. Simon visited all 102 closed adult prisons in England & Wales to hold focus groups with prisoners, staff, and management, providing a nuanced account of prison. The project involved over 300 meetings with 2067 people, reported in 102 blog-posts and supported by dozens of interviews and podcasts, culminating an authoritative e-book. A dedicated website received 25,000 hits in 3 weeks, facilitated by regional and national media coverage with a collective audience reach of 7-8 million, prison staff and managers, but including interested public. Over two dozen interviews, available on the website, feature conversations offering interesting alternatives to current narratives, challenging myths (e.g. 'prisons are holiday camps'), and encouraging audiences to explore these positives further.



THE GOOD BOOK OF PRISONS



LADY EDWINA GROSVENOR, JUSTICE PODCAST

The JUSTICE Podcast was launched in September 2018. In the last year, Edwina has hosted 30 podcast episodes - all of which aim to explore aspects of the criminal justice system and the difficult issues therein from a range of different perspectives. The podcast amplifies evidence, research and expertise from those who have experience and knowledge, and in its first year reached over 25,000 listeners. The first four episodes featured four different women in the justice system and their experiences of surviving trauma and abuse - providing a platform for voices that are seldom heard and rarely understood, to promote understanding and empathy. These episodes were published shortly after the publication of the Female Offender Strategy and strengthened its recommendations around taking a trauma informed approach. Other episodes include interviews with Penelope Gibbs of Transform Justice and with author Sathnam Sangera considering the role of the media in justice and mental health debates.



Lifetime achievement award

WINNERS:
BARRY AND
MARGARET
MIZEN MBE



**FORGIVENESS,
PEACE & HOPE
FOR JIMMY**

“It doesn’t have to be like this”. So said Barry Mizen following the murder of his son Jimmy, aged just 16, who had gone to the local bakery with his brother on a Saturday morning in May 2008. They had been confronted and attacked by a local youth, in what was described in the trial as “three minutes of absolute madness” that ended when the attacker threw a glass dish with great force at Jimmy that shattered on his chin and neck.

Barry and Margaret believe that the issues of anger, confrontation and violence in our communities will not be altered by ever harsher punishment and retributive action. We will only achieve safer and more cohesive communities by working together and understanding the root causes of the issues we are seeking to rectify. This involves early intervention, education and engagement with young people and their communities that is run through the Charity, For Jimmy.

Drawing on their strong Catholic faith, Barry and Margaret campaign tirelessly in Jimmy’s memory, with their core message

of forgiveness, peace and hope conveyed through ‘Talks for Change’ and have positively impacted on thousands of young people’s lives all around the country, including in youth offender establishments. Talks in their home Borough of Lewisham have evolved into an interactive six-week schools programme and the development of ‘Safe Havens’ in high street shops and ‘Safety Conferences’ where young people engage with local authorities in problem solving for greater community safety.

Barry and Margaret’s sphere of positive influence has grown exponentially, from the Prince of Wales to police advisory groups to the Ministry of Justice Advisory Panels. Barry has also been heavily engaged in peer support through the Victim Support Homicide Service. Put simply: people like what they stand for and the positive change they bring about. Each was appointed MBE in the New Year Honours 2014.

Bill Griffiths CBE BEM QPM,
Chair of Trustees, For Jimmy

FROM THE DIRECTOR

This is my second Awards as Director of the CJA and I am delighted that this year we have made a few changes to increase the impact of the awards for those involved and more widely.

Firstly – with the continuing generous support of The Hadley Trust – we have introduced a cash Runners Up prize for the Outstanding Individual category as we received an increased number of fantastic nominations in this category this year. We also changed the criteria to reflect the CJA's new vision:

a fairer and more effective criminal justice system which is safe, smart, person-centred, restorative and trusted.

Secondly, we developed a set of criteria for what good criminal justice reporting looks like with the assistance of a wonderful group of experts (Penelope Gibbs, Philippa Budgen, Raphael Rowe, Harpeep Manthu, Katy Oglethorpe, Veronique Mistiaen, Denise Baden and Jodie Jackson). We concluded that good criminal justice reporting has relevant content, challenges perceptions, is well-crafted and responsibly sourced, is safe and sensitive and has reach and impact. For the first time we opened up nominations for Outstanding Journalism and also introduced an award for Digital Media Champion.

I want to thank our wonderful judges, who had such a hard task on their hands:



Iqbal Wahhab
Chair of EQUAL



Marie-Claire O'Brien
CJA Outstanding Individual 2018
Director of New Leaf Initiative CIC



Dame Vera Baird
Victims Commissioner



Babafemi Dada
Governor HMP Featherstone



Raphael Rowe
Investigative Reporter, Panorama, Netflix, The One Show



Penelope Gibbs
Transform Justice, Author of 'Reframing Justice'



Danny Shaw
BBC Home Affairs Correspondent



Jodie Jackson
Author of 'You are what you read', Constructive Journalism Project

I want to thank Dr. Baz Dreisinger, Founder of Incarceration Nations Network, for presenting the awards this year. I am delighted we have been able to support the launch of this global network and contribute to sharing the innovative and effective practice highlighted by our shortlisted nominations internationally.

Lastly, I want to thank the continued generous support of The Hadley Trust, without which these awards would not be possible.

Nina Champion
Director, Criminal Justice Alliance





Collaborative



Empowering



**Independent
and influential**



Systemic

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