

A SELECTION OF THE EVENTS HELD TO MARK INTER FAITH WEEK 2016

In all cases, there are just a few examples from the hundreds of events which took place to mark the Week.

- Multi faith remembrance events such as that at St Barnabas' Church, Walthamstow with Waltham Forest Faith Communities' Forum; an exhibition and conference to commemorate the contribution of soldiers of what became the Commonwealth countries to World War 1 (Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe and Golden Tours Foundation); and a 'Remembering Together' event in Smethwick organised by Near Neighbours, the Abrahamic Foundation, Holy Trinity Smethwick, 1914 Sikhs, and WAWI.
- Faith trails, multi faith pilgrimages and open door days, such as those held by Bolton Inter Faith Council; the Bristol Multi Faith Forum; Medway Inter Faith Action; Sheffield Interfaith; and Rainbow Bridge and National Hate Crime Report and Support Centre Wales.
- Faith communities welcoming other faith leaders to join a service or gathering, such as the 'Inter Faith Service' at Harlow Synagogue.
- Youth events such as 3FF's 'Interfaith Summit'; the Inter Faith Council for Wales' youth celebration; and a number of events supported by the Interfaith Youth Trust, such as a Civic Arts Centre and Theatre inter faith drama called 'Ramesh and Juliet' performed at the Hipping's Vale Community Centre, in Oswaldtwistle, Accrington and an inter faith youth tree planting held by York Interfaith.
- Conferences and seminars on a wide range of topics such as mental health (Birmingham Mind, Breaking Down Barriers Ipswich events); 'Dying Well' (Interfaith Wolverhampton and Partners); climate change and the environment (events at Manchester Cathedral and Birmingham Central Mosque); 'Faith in Modern Britain' (Faiths Network 4 Manchester and Greater Manchester inter faith groups) and 'Sexuality, Gender, Identity & Belief' (St Philip's Centre Leicester and Trade Sexual Health).
- Dialogues such as the Baha'i Community of the UK's 'Conversations and Beyond'; 'Conversations in Mercy' at Clifton Cathedral (RC); and, at Luton Mandir, with Luton Council of Faiths, Shree Sanatan Seva Samaj, Grassroots, and Churches Together in Luton.
- Sporting Events, such as an inter faith football event arranged by Sporting Equals and Shapla Sports in Bradford.
- Peace events, such as the Stafford and District Friends of Faith Peace Festival; the 'Annual Walk for Peace' in Newcastle; and the 'Festival of Non-Violence' at the London Inter Faith Centre.

- Anti-hate crime events, including the launch of new national awards by Tell MAMA and Faith Matters; a United Religions Initiative event with City College, Eden Girls School and Coventry University; and an Islington Faiths Forum event responding to faith and community challenges collectively around Brexit.
- Campus events held by Chaplaincies, Student Unions and Faith and Belief Societies at institutions such as Anglia Ruskin; Bath University, Bedford University, Bradford University; Cardiff University, De Montfort University, Edge Hill University; Glyndwr University Wrexham; Leeds University, Liverpool University, a number of universities within the University of London, Portsmouth University, Southampton and Southampton Solent Universities, Warwick University and West Suffolk College.
- Engagement by the emergency services, such as a series of visits to places of worship by Surrey Police; a Chief Constables Community Supper in Northampton; and engagement with students at Witchford Village College by Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service.
- On line marking of the Week (such as the Open Universities virtual tours of places of worship and the London Borough Faiths Networks video of London places of worship)
- Launches of new initiatives such as the Middlesbrough 'Love Your Neighbour' programme and a Joseph Interfaith Foundation project working with young refugees.
- A number of events at the Houses of Parliament including a 'Faith and Society' APPG event looking at 'faith covenants' between faith groups and local authorities; and a joint Interfaith APPG and Inter Faith Network event exploring local inter faith activity.
- Craft workshops, such as Hounslow Friends of Faith's 'Day of Craft for Women'.
- School activities and full week programmes at primary and secondary level, such as those held by Kings Norton Girls School, Watford Grammar School for Boys, All Saints Academy Plymouth, Cardiff Muslim Primary School and St Helens Church of England Primary School, Warrington.
- Quizzes and competitions, such as those held in Burnley and Merton, South London.
- Cookery Sessions, such as those organised by Mitzvah Day in conjunction with organisations such as SUFRA Food Bank and local faith communities.

- Social action, including meals for the homeless; a river clean up in Leicester by the Outdoor Pursuits Centre Leicester City Council and Interfaith Task Force; tree planting arranged by Wakefield Interfaith Group; collecting of clothing and toiletries for refugee arrival packs (LSE Faith Centre); and discussions, such as 'Welcoming the Stranger or Closing the Borders - the ethics of hospitality' at Belfast South Methodist Church.
- Blog series' such as those of the Progressive Christianity Network and Jewish News; blogs such as those of the chaplain of University College London and a Buddhist member of Southampton Council of Faiths; individual articles about the Week such as that in Pagan Dawn; and videos, such as those made by Sproatley Primary School and St Francis' Hospice, Berkhamsted.
- Exhibitions, such as a special object handling session held by Durham University Oriental Museum with items from its Buddhist, Hindu, Islamic and Sikh collections.
- Photographic and artistic competitions such as Congregational's 'Faith Through a Lens', on which the Inter Faith Network is proud to be a partner alongside Churches Together in England.
- Celebrations such as those at Blackburn Town Hall, the Drill Hall Library in Chatham, a celebration of inter faith work at Lancaster Castle and the 'Celebrating Faith in Our Community' event in Brighton.
- Music and other cultural events such as that held by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Merthyr Tydfil and a music and dance celebration from different faiths in Solihull.

Further information about these events and many more can be found at www.interfaithweek.org

For any media or other enquiries, contact: ifnet@interfaith.org.uk

For information about the range of ways in which Inter Faith Week was marked in Scotland, contact Interfaith Scotland: admin@interfaithscotland.org

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