

A TASTER OF EVENTS BEING HELD FOR INTER FAITH WEEK 2017

The following are just a few examples of hundreds of events that will be taking place. For more information about these and other Inter Faith Week activities visit www.interfaithweek.org

- **Remembrance** Many events will be taking place which are being held jointly for Inter Faith Week and Remembrance Sunday or linked to the ongoing centenary commemoration of World War 1. These include involvement in local remembrance services and other events such as a Remembrance Day Commemoration held by the Woolf Institute and Churchill College Cambridge involving Jewish and Christian choirs
- **Faith trails and open door days** exploring different places of worship, such as churches, gurdwaras, mandirs, mosques, synagogues and viharas in places such as Bolton, Northampton, Lincoln, and Watford. Other special events are being held such as two inter faith cycle trails organised by Westminster City Council's road safety team with the Westminster Faith Exchange and Cycle Confident, visiting local places of worship.
- **Sport** A special symposium being held in Leicester by The Inter Faith Network for the UK in partnership with Sporting Equals, on Using the power of sport to build good inter faith relations <https://www.interfaith.org.uk/news/press-release-the-power-of-sport-to-build-good-inter-faith-relations>. Also many local inter faith sporting activities such as a Surry FA Youth Forum and Palace for Life Foundation Inter Faith Week tournament at Carshalton Athletic FC.
- **School activities** including themed assemblies, lessons, visits and arts and craft activities in many schools, such as Blessed Trinity Roman Catholic College in Burnley, All Saints CEVA Primary School, Newmarket and others for example a themed week at Batley Grammar for students and staff with competitions, quizzes and a whole school Sikhism day with workshops
- **Discussions on social issues** such as a Faiths4Change day on multi-faith approaches to climate change in Birkenhead, a Q & A with faith leaders in Wrexham; a workshop on 'spiritual ecology' at St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace, a discussion of faith and the environment at Stranmillis University College, Belfast and an event on 'Domestic Abuse and Faith: A Vision for Leicester.'
- **Social action projects** including many held jointly with Mitzvah Day, and other Inter Faith Week-focused activities, such as a Tree-Planting in Wakefield.
- **Locally focused consultations** such as Tower Hamlets Inter Faith Forum's 'faith and community' event and a Wisbech Interfaith Forum event to discuss faith perspectives on the 'Wisbech 2020 Vision'
- **Workplace and employer events** such as Arcadis' panel event with clients and stakeholders to explore the issues and opportunities in relation to faith, race and culture in the workplace
- **Inter Faith Week campaigns** such as those by NHS Blood and Transplant to raise awareness of the importance of donors from all backgrounds.
- **Health focused events** such as a discussion of Faith, Spirituality and Dementia at St Hilda's Church Newcastle-Upon-Tyne; a 'Faiths, Health &

Wellbeing' seminar on the theme of disability organised by Birmingham Council of Faiths and Queen Elizabeth Hospital Chaplaincy; an event focusing on 'Spirituality in the Hospice Context' at Myton Hospice, Coventry, a Devon Faith and Belief 'Health, Belief and Wellbeing' conference in Exeter, and a conference in Wolverhampton bringing together different faiths and religions to highlight the importance of organ donation

- **Exhibitions** about different faiths and beliefs in places of worship, such as Ely Cathedral arranged by Babylon Arts and East Cambridgeshire Community Safety Partnership and others in museums such as at the Jewish Museum London and in higher education contexts such as at Singleton Park Campus, Swansea.
- **Arts, cultural and music events** such as the 'Interfaith Variety Show' in Nottingham, a multi faith Akhanda Bhajan event being held by Interfaith Milton Keynes, multi faith story telling held by Grassroots Luton, a Batley Poets' event and a performance of a play 'The Bundle – An Asylum Seeker's Story' in Brentford and Isleworth, West London.
- **Dialogues** involving different faiths – as well as some between those between religious and atheists, such as an event at Conway Hall arranged by Humanists UK and New Horizons in British Islam and an event organised by Together We Grow in Halifax where a group of refugees will hear talks about Islam, the Church of England, Methodism and Humanism.
- **#IFWcoffeeconvos** – a strand of the Week encouraging people of different backgrounds to talk to one another about faith or belief over a hot drink <https://www.interfaithweek.org/resources/coffee-conversations>
- **Special issues focused events** such as a Board of Deputies and CTBI event in Leeds, 'Invest in Peace'; a #Moreincommon peace event in Lytham and a Middleborough Interfaith network and Teesside University event celebrating tolerance, understanding and communication
- **Youth inter faith dialogues and projects** such as the 3FF 'Interfaith Summit' and Initiatives of Change's 'Breaking Down Stereotypes: Youth Perspectives', Islington Faith Forum's youth debate: 'How can we have harmony in a multi faith environment?', and 'Young, Free and Religious', a project of South Cardiff Interfaith Network
- **Campus events** – many universities and colleges are holding IFW events – from dialogues and faith trails to 'speed faithing' at Leeds University. The National Union of Students is encouraging wide participation.
- **Food focused events** – as ever, hugely popular! Many events, from a 'Bring and Share Meal' in Carlisle celebrating Carlisle's inter faith community; a Bring and Share food feast in Eastbourne and a Sai Group and the Hindu Temples of Walthamstow Women's Interfaith Lunch. There are also a number of places where food will be prepared or collected for the homeless.
- **Get togethers**, such as 'The Big Interfaith Social' at Clifton Road Mosque in Birmingham, the 'Diversity Food Festival' in Truro, Cornwall an 'Interfaith LGBT coffee evening' in London.
- **Celebrations and festivals** such as the 'Festival of Light' at Portsmouth University Chaplaincy and the Festival of Peace organised by Stafford and District Friends of Faith

- **Week-long programmes** in many towns and cities such as Barking and Dagenham, Leicester, Burnley, Norwich and Preston and within institutions such as Southampton and Solent Universities.
- **Events tackling hate crime and ‘upstanding’** such as ‘No place for hatred in our community’ at the Victoria Hall in Bolton with contributions from young people, schools, Greater Manchester Police and others; ‘Love Your Neighbour’: Muslims Who Rescued Jews during the Holocaust’ being held by Barnet Multi Faith Forum, a ‘We stand together’ event in Tarporley, Cheshire
- **Events with civic involvement** from a seminar held by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to a Richmond upon Thames InterFaith Forum ‘have tea with the mayor’ for religion and belief groups to an event organised by Kent County Council, Kent SACRE and the Kent Equality Cohesion Council to bring together representatives of different faith groups across the county
- **Many women’s events** such as a ‘Get to know your neighbour’ event being arranged by the new Sheffield Women’s Interfaith Forum.
- **Events bringing different types of body together in partnership** such as ‘Faith and Inclusivity’ event of the Warwick District Faiths Forum (WDFE), Crown Prosecution Service West Midlands, Warwickshire Police, Warwickshire Community and Voluntary Action (WCAVA), Warwickshire County Council and South Warwickshire CCG at Gurdwara Sahib Leamington Spa

A number of local events this year are supported through the Near Neighbours programme of the Church Urban Fund, with support of the Department for Communities and Local Government or through the small grants programme of the Inter Faith Youth Trust.

Contact details for these events and a full listing of known events can be found at www.interfaithweek.org/map and www.interfaithweek.org/list. Scottish Interfaith Week is led by Interfaith Scotland, and events can be found on the dedicated Scottish Interfaith Week website at www.scottishinterfaithweek.org. The theme for Scottish Interfaith Week 2017 is ‘Creativity and the Arts’.

This ‘taster’ sheet accompanies a press release issued on 9 November about the Week by the Inter Faith Network for the UK. The text of the press release can be found at www.interfaithweek.org/press

Details of events in Scotland can be obtained from www.scottishinterfaithweek.org.

This list accompanies a press release which can be found at <https://www.interfaithweek.org/resources/inter-faith-week-2017-begins-this-sunday-12-november>

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