



# IFN e-bulletin

September/October 2017

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If you have items which you would like considered for inclusion in the next e-bulletin please email these to [ifnet@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:ifnet@interfaith.org.uk) by **20 November** with 'e-bulletin' in the subject line. Submissions may be edited for length or style. The e-bulletin is designed primarily to flag up new developments and projects and future events. If your organisation distributes a programme, newsletter or e-bulletin, please add [ifnet@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:ifnet@interfaith.org.uk) to your mailing list.

Disclaimer: Information in this e-bulletin has been sourced and compiled with care. IFN does not take responsibility for accuracy of information supplied by external organisations and inclusion of items within this e-bulletin does not imply endorsement or validation by IFN of the events, publications or the bodies which have produced these.

Increasingly, IFN is making use of social media, in particular Twitter ([www.twitter.com/IFNetUK](http://www.twitter.com/IFNetUK)) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/IFNetUK](http://www.facebook.com/IFNetUK)).

Please take a moment to 'follow' and 'like' IFN and also Inter Faith Week ([www.twitter.com/IFWeek](http://www.twitter.com/IFWeek) and [www.facebook.com/IFWeek](http://www.facebook.com/IFWeek)) and also check in with the IFN website to see new items, which are added on a regular basis.

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## **FAITH AND PUBLIC LIFE UPDATES**

### **Responses to terrorist attacks**

On Friday 15 September 30 people were injured in a terrorist attack on a train at Parsons Green underground station in London during rush hour. Local residents from many different backgrounds came to assist those affected by the attack and at national level a number of faith bodies responded including the President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews <https://www.bod.org.uk/board-of-deputies-statement-on-terrorist-attack-at-parsons-green-station/> and the Muslim Council of Britain <http://www.mcb.org.uk/parsons-green-attack/>. IFN's Co-Chairs and the Moderators of IFN's Faith Communities Forum issued a statement in response to the attack, which concluded:

*"We re-state in the strongest terms our condemnation of terrorism, noting the toxicity of spurious justifications by terrorists on the basis of religious beliefs which they claim to espouse.*

*In recent months, people of all faiths and none have stood together in the face of this kind of cowardly aggression. Let us continue to do so, and let us work with vigour to counter narratives of hatred and also to resist division and support all those who face hatred and the fear of discrimination due to ignorant or prejudiced minds linking them with terrorist attackers."*

Last month, on 17 August there was a major terrorist attack in Barcelona and a related attack in Cambrils the following morning. IFN's Co-Chairs and the Moderators of IFN's Faith Communities Forum issued a statement in response to these in the context of UK inter faith relations. The following day 2 people were killed and 8 wounded in a knife attack in the Finnish city of Turku. IFN's Co-Chairs included a message about this in a

Circular to member bodies. The statements and messages can be seen at <https://www.interfaith.org.uk/news/statements-and-messages>.

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## **Hate crime**

In the July/August edition of IFN's E-Bulletin it was noted that there had been an increase in reported hate crime attacks in the wake of terrorist attacks in Manchester and London in the preceding months.

Levels of hate crime remain at very concerning levels affecting Jewish, Muslim and other communities such as the Hindu and Sikh communities. On 24 September there was a knife attack on lay imam Dr Nasser Kurdy near the Altrincham Islamic Cultural Centre. This is still being investigated but is being treated by the police as a hate crime. A multi faith vigil was held at the mosque that evening and there were expressions of support from around the UK.

In August, the Crown Prosecution Service published new public statements on how it will prosecute hate crime and support victims in England and Wales. This follows consultation with community groups and criminal justice partners. In addition to the public statements the CPS has also published revised legal guidance that sets out how prosecutors should handle hate crime cases in court and make charging decisions.

To mark the publication of the documents, the CPS has also launched a social media campaign, #HateCrimeMatters to encourage people to come forward and report hate crimes. The new documents can be viewed on the hate crime homepage of the CPS website at [http://www.cps.gov.uk/news/latest\\_news/cps-publishes-new-public-statements](http://www.cps.gov.uk/news/latest_news/cps-publishes-new-public-statements).

Also in August, the Community Security Trust in partnership with the Crown Prosecution Service and Tell MAMA, and supported by the Department for Communities and Local Government, published 'Hate Crime: A guide for those affected'. The guide provides victims of hate crime with guidance and advice on reacting to and reporting hate crime, as well as navigating the criminal justice system and understanding the UK courts. The guide can be downloaded on the Community Security Trust website at <https://cst.org.uk/news/blog/2017/08/23/hate-crime-a-guide-to-those-affected>.

National Hate Crime Awareness Week takes place from 14 to 21 October. For information about the Week, events taking place to mark the Week, and to find out about other ways to get involved, visit <https://www.stophateuk.org/hate-crime-awareness-week/>.

The ceremony of the National No2H8 Crime Awards 2017 takes place on Tuesday 10 October. The awards aim to highlight the work of those combatting hate crime, and are supported by a range of national hate crime agencies. The theme for 2017 is 'Upstanders

not bystanders'. More information about the awards can be found at <http://no2h8crimeawards.org/>.

The Inter-faith Council for Wales has been looking at the challenges faced by faith communities. One of these was that many people were too scared to report hate crimes. IfCW will be holding a meeting to show religious communities what they can do when they face hate crime.

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### **Bank of England decision on polymer bank notes**

The March/April issue of IFN's e-bulletin noted that the Bank of England had launched a consultation on the new polymer £20 and future print runs of polymer £5 and £10 note in the light of concerns by a number of organisations, including Hindu and some other faith community bodies, about the manufacturing methods which contained trace amounts of chemicals derived from animal products.

The consultation ran until 12 May and the Bank of England published its response on 10 August. It said that "after careful and serious consideration and extensive public consultation there will be no change to the composition of polymer used for future banknotes. The new polymer £20 note and future print runs of £5 and £10 notes will continue to be made from polymer manufactured using trace amounts of chemicals, typically less than 0.05%, ultimately derived from animal products."

The full response can be found at <http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/banknotes/Documents/consultationdecision.pdf> and the press release at <http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/publications/Pages/news/2017/052.aspx>.

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### **National Association of Teachers of RE report expresses concern about state of RE**

On 17 September the National Association of Teachers of Religious Education, in collaboration with the RE Council of England and Wales and RE Today Services, published its annual 'State of the Nation' report.

The report focuses on the provision of RE in England's secondary schools against the backdrop of increased 'academisation' of schools – making them independent of their local authorities. All state-funded schools, including academies and free schools, are legally required by the 1998 School Standards and Framework Act to provide Religious Education as part of a balanced curriculum. Whilst community and voluntary controlled maintained schools have to follow the locally agreed syllabus, schools that have become

academies do not. Academies, though, do have to provide RE in accordance with their funding agreement.

The report has twelve key findings which highlight a number of issues. These can be summarised under the following headings: Provision - pupils in schools with a religious character are likely to have more RE than those in schools or academies without a religious character. Pupils in academies are least likely to have RE as part of their curriculum; Teachers - in schools and academies with a religious character teachers are more likely to be qualified to teach RE. Those in academies without a religious character were most likely not to be qualified to teach RE; and Qualifications - the number of schools not offering GCSE Religious Studies has risen on the previous year's figures. Those not following an accredited course in RS at Key Stage 4 are unlikely to have any RE at all.

The report makes a number of recommendations for the Department of Education, school leaders, including headteachers and governors; Ofsted and one for Parents and Carers. The key recommendation is that schools should be held to account by the Department for Education and that this should be supported by Ofsted. Schools should ensure that they have suitably qualified teachers and that all pupils should have a meaningful entitlement to RE in both key stages. Parents and carers should be more proactive in holding their children's schools to account if RE appears to be missing from their curriculum.

The full report can be found, with the press release at <https://www.natre.org.uk/news/latest-news/800-000-secondary-pupils-lose-out-on-religious-literacy/>.

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## **Commission on Religious Education – Interim report**

In July 2016 the Religious Education Council of England and Wales established an independent Commission on Religious Education (RE) to review the legal, education, and policy frameworks for RE in England. Its aim is to propose a new settlement for RE.

On 20 September the Commission published its Interim Report entitled 'Religious Education for All'. Among its recommendations are that there should be a national entitlement statement for RE which sets out clearly the aims and purpose of RE and what pupils should experience in the course of their study of the subject. A draft statement for consultation is included in the report.

There are three ways to respond to the Interim Report:

- An online consultation process will run from mid-October to mid-December 2017. Details will be published at [www.commissiononre.org.uk](http://www.commissiononre.org.uk) and on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/Commissiononre>.
- A consultation event will take place in late November or early December 2017. Further details of this event will be publicised in due course.

- Views can be emailed to [evidence@commissiononre.org.uk](mailto:evidence@commissiononre.org.uk) throughout the next year up until the publication of the final report.

There is also a call for case studies in paragraphs 273 to 275 which may be of interest to inter faith groups and practitioners.

The Interim Report can be found at <http://www.commissiononre.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Commission-on-Religious-Education-Interim-Report-2017.pdf> and the Executive Summary of the Report at <http://www.commissiononre.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/Executive-Summary-FINAL.pdf>

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## **Equalities updates**

Rt Hon David Lammy MP has published his final report following his independent review into the treatment of, and outcomes for, Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic individuals in the criminal justice system. The report can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/lammy-review-final-report> in both English and Welsh.

The Equality and Diversity Forum, on which IFN has Observer status, has produced a number of briefings on the possible impact of Brexit and the European Union (Withdrawal Bill) on equality and human rights law in the UK. The Briefings emphasise both the positive aspects and areas where change may be helpful to ensure that relevant protections are not undermined. The briefings can be found at <http://www.edf.org.uk/our-policy-work/brexit-equality-and-human-rights/>.

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## **Lord Bourne tour of places of worship**

Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth, Minister for Faith at the Department of Communities and Local Government, this month completed, with a visit to Canterbury Cathedral, a year-long tour of England's 42 cathedrals, which he began last October.

Throughout his tour, Lord Bourne noted that he had found many faith communities working in partnership. Just some examples were: Peterborough Cathedral, which has been working collaboratively with Peterborough Interfaith Council; Liverpool Metropolitan Catholic Cathedral's engagement with Inter Faith Week, hosting part of a faith tour of Edge Hill University students; and Coventry Cathedral, which hosted a Big Iftar in 2016. The Minister also met faith leaders of Manchester in the city's Cathedral following the terrorist attack earlier this year. The Cathedral has been a key place where different communities and faiths have met to discuss how to move forward together as part of the process of response and healing.



Lord Bourne will shortly be starting a new tour of other faith community places of worship. If communities have suggestions for places to visit that are doing good inter faith work, particularly in rural areas, they can contact: [philip.davies@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:philip.davies@communities.gsi.gov.uk).

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## INTER FAITH NETWORK FOR THE UK NEWS

### Inter Faith Week

Inter Faith Week 2017 will run from Sunday 12 to Sunday 19 November.

- Inter Faith Week begins on Remembrance Sunday and run for 8 days, finishing on the following Sunday. The overlap with Remembrance Sunday enables greater coming together of people of different faiths to remember at that time.
- The map showing activities taking place is now live at [www.interfaithweek.org/map](http://www.interfaithweek.org/map) and more activities are being added regularly. If you are organising an activity to mark the Week, you can add it to the map at [www.interfaithweek.org/submit](http://www.interfaithweek.org/submit) or send details to the IFN office.
- A ‘2 months to go’ press release was circulated on 12 September, which included quotes of support from IFN’s Co-Chairs and Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth, Minister for Faith at DCLG (both repeated below). The press release can be found at <https://www.interfaithweek.org/resources/2-months-to-go-press-release>
- IFN’s Co-Chairs, Bishop Richard Atkinson and Jatinder Singh Birdi say:

*“Amid challenging times, the Week is a powerful opportunity to create and demonstrate friendship and solidarity and to continue to work towards a society rooted in shared values and cooperation.”*

*We invite you to hold an activity for the Week – large or small. Be part of making new connections and friendships, learning about the faiths and beliefs of other people you share your daily life with, or volunteering with people of other faiths on a project to help your local community.”*

- Minister for Faith Lord Bourne said:

*“In recent months we have seen how faith communities have come together to offer help to people caught up in appalling incidents and tragedies – literally throwing open their doors to offer sanctuary. They have been superb.”*



*“Inter Faith Week gives us an opportunity to celebrate the contribution that faith communities make and show how that can be strengthened by working together.”*

- The Inter Faith Week Toolkit provides ideas for activities. It can be found at: [www.interfaithweek.org/resources/toolkit](http://www.interfaithweek.org/resources/toolkit).
- You can connect with the Week on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/IFWeek](http://www.twitter.com/IFWeek) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/IFWeek](http://www.facebook.com/IFWeek). IFN will again be using the hashtags #IFWeek and #InterFaithWeek across all social platforms it is using. Tagging our accounts and using the hashtags helps us to find and share what you are doing.
- The homepage of the Inter Faith Week website has been updated to include an image of two of IFN’s Faith Communities Forum members – Julie Jones of the Inter-faith Council for Wales and Smita Oza of BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha – holding a card with a message about the Week. The IFN office has produced a series of these and will be posting them on Twitter and Instagram ([www.instagram.com/ifweek](http://www.instagram.com/ifweek)) in the run-up to the Week. If you would like to join in, print-at-home cards will be available on the website soon.
- Flyers about Inter Faith Week can be downloaded from [www.interfaithweek.org/flyer](http://www.interfaithweek.org/flyer). If you are holding an activity, or would like to raise awareness of the Week, please contact us and ask for some flyers and we will be happy to post some to you!

Scottish Interfaith Week will also run from Sunday 12 to Sunday 19 November. More details under [Special Weeks/Days](#).

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## **Meeting of IFN’s Faith Communities Forum**

A meeting of IFN’s Faith Communities Forum was held on 5 September. On the Agenda were:

- current issues of interest or concern to faith communities, including in particular UK inter faith relations and terrorism and extremism and the need for responsible journalism which avoids compounding or stirring up prejudice;
- emergency planning, response and recovery and faith communities, with a short reflection from Major Alan Dixon of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland on bases within the Christian tradition for coming to the aid of those affected by emergencies and disasters and presentations from Mr Max Brodie, Community Resilience Lead, Civil Contingencies Secretariat, Cabinet Office and Dr Jo Gillespie, Head of Resilience (North) and Recovery, Resilience and Emergencies Division, Department for Communities and Local Government;
- the Inter faith engagement of faith communities;
- Inter Faith Week;

- inter faith work with young people and the update of IFN’s Connect guide, with a short presentation by Ashley Beck; and
- preliminary discussion on ways in which the work of the FCF can be highlighted and that the FCF can best contribute to the overall engagement of faith communities in public life.

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## **Arts and culture profiles**

In August-September IFN published a series of Facebook profiles on the theme of ‘Arts, culture and inter faith encounter’. These highlighted recent examples of the work of member bodies that have used arts and culture to help people develop inter faith understanding and cooperation, and to engage with one another. The profiles can be seen at [www.facebook.com/IFNetUK](http://www.facebook.com/IFNetUK).

Scottish Interfaith Week (SIW) this year has as its theme ‘Creativity and the Arts’. More about SIW is at <http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/>.

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## **Day event for local inter faith practitioners**

In October IFN will be holding a day event in Manchester for local inter faith practitioners from inter faith groups across the UK to share their experiences, discuss issues of common interest and concern and have focused learning opportunities about practical aspects of developing successful inter faith programmes.

Reports on previous day events for local inter faith practitioners held in Bristol, Coventry, London and Sheffield can be found at <http://www.interfaith.org.uk/publications/all-publications/all-publications>.

For further information, email [ifnet@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:ifnet@interfaith.org.uk).

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## **INTER FAITH PROJECTS, PROGRAMMES AND DEVELOPMENTS**

### **Sexuality, Gender Identity and Belief: The Leicester Approach**

Trade Sexual Health and the St Philip’s Centre Leicester have concluded a year-long project: ‘Sexuality, Gender Identity and Belief: The Leicester Approach’. The project, launched in November 2016, explored the intersection between faith and issues of sexuality and gender identity, and aimed to bring individuals and communities together to discuss these subjects and build bridges. Several shared conversations have taken place,

along with one-to-one conversation with faith leaders from a range of faith communities in Leicester. The project culminated in the launch of a guidance document, on which there is more [below](#) in the Resources section.

The project hopes to be a platform for further work in this area. For more information, visit [www.tradesexualhealth.com/](http://www.tradesexualhealth.com/) or email [info@tradesexualhealth.com](mailto:info@tradesexualhealth.com).

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### **Interfaith Scotland Rwanda exchange and youth programme**

Interfaith Scotland has been working in partnership with the Church of Scotland on a Muslim/Christian youth exchange to Rwanda. In September five young Muslim and five young Christians along with four Church of Scotland and Interfaith Scotland leaders travelled to Rwanda to engage with young Rwandan Christians and Muslims. A full programme of inter faith learning took place and the young participants are now back in Scotland where they are continuing their inter faith dialogue work over the next year. 2018 is the Year of Young People in Scotland and so there are many opportunities for inter faith engagement for young people. The Rwandan participants will be undertaking many engagements including;

- In October 2017 engaging with Scotland's Religious Leaders Forum, sharing with the Leaders what they learnt from their trip
- In November 2017 they will assist with the launch of Scottish Interfaith Week, host an event at the Al Maktoum Institute in Dundee and speak to 20 European Youth workers on a learning exchange to Scotland
- In January 2018 at the Holocaust Memorial National Scottish event, two of the young people will share their experience of visiting the Rwandan Genocide Museum
- In April 2018 they will assist with the organisation of, and will speak at, the National Interfaith Youth Conference taking place in St Andrews. This conference is co-organised by Interfaith Scotland and the St. Andrews Co-existence team of young people.
- In May 2018 they will speak at the Church of Scotland Youth Assembly

Many other engagements are planned and the above is just a flavour of what these young people have committed to for the Year of Young People and in commitment to inter faith dialogue and engagement.

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### **Inter faith charity shop at Selfridges**

Selfridges department store in London is hosting an inter faith charity shop in its store until 22 October as part of a commission by arts organisation Artangel. The shop is run and staffed jointly by four religious charities chosen by the artist, Miranda July. The

charities are Islamic Relief, Jewish charity Norwood, the London Buddhist Centre and the Spitalfields Crypt Trust. The proceeds will be shared equally between the four partners, all of whom run their own charity shops. Items for sale are typical of those traditionally sold in charity shops at charity prices. More information is at <https://thebuddhistcentre.com/londonbuddhistcentre/london-buddhist-centre-part-new-artwork-miranda-july-and-artangel-which-takes>.

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## **Local authorities and local faith communities**

The relationship between local authorities and local faith communities is an important one. A number have been exploring and agreeing new methods of joint working, in some cases using the term Faith Covenants. The idea of a 'Faith Covenant' was the fruit of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Social Action and Faith Action. These 'covenants' are designed to enable a joint commitment between faith communities and local authorities based on a set of principles that guide engagement, aiming to remove some of the mistrust that exists and to promote open, practical working on all levels. More information about faith covenants is at <http://www.faithandsociety.org/covenant/>.

This month Blackpool Council together with key faith leaders across the town met to sign up to a new partnership framework. The idea is to work to promote better partnership between the Council and Faith groups. The process has been led by Together Lancashire, which has coordinated initiatives to map the extensive day to day work that local faith groups do to help serve need in their communities. A copy of the partnership agreement can be seen at <http://www.faithandsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/blackpool-faith-partnership-agreement.pdf>.

A proposal for Basildon to sign up to the Essex Faith Covenant signed by Essex County Council last year can be seen at [http://www.echo-news.co.uk/news/local\\_news/15515492.Different\\_faith\\_groups\\_to\\_work\\_together\\_to\\_reduce\\_isolation/](http://www.echo-news.co.uk/news/local_news/15515492.Different_faith_groups_to_work_together_to_reduce_isolation/).

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## **RESOURCES AND STUDY/TRAINING**

### **Sexuality, Gender Identity and Belief – Guidance for faith communities**

To conclude a year-long project (see [above](#)), Trade Sexual Health and the St Philip's Centre Leicester have launched *Sexuality, Gender Identity and Belief: The Leicester Approach – Guidance for faith communities*. The guidance document explores issues surrounding issues of faith, sexuality and gender identity and can be used by faith communities, LGB&T organisations and others to discuss explore and action how to make

communities, groups and places of worship more LGB&T inclusive. The guidance also contains case studies and links to resources for LGB&T organisations, as well as support organisations from a variety of faith communities. The document can be downloaded at [www.tradesexualhealth.com/](http://www.tradesexualhealth.com/).

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## Local resources

Three new resources have been added to the IFN website at <https://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/local-1>. These are part of a series of planned items looking at different themes in inter faith engagement. They are primarily focussed on local activity, but some will be of interest more widely.

The first three are 1) Inter faith engagement in social action; 2) Standing together; and 3) Local inter faith organisations and schools. If you have any suggestions for future themes that might form part of this series, please email these to [ifnet@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:ifnet@interfaith.org.uk).

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## Report on IFN day event for local inter faith practitioners

In March IFN held a day event in Bristol for local inter faith practitioners across the UK to share their experiences, discuss issues of common interest and concern and have focused learning opportunities about practical aspects of developing successful inter faith programmes. The report of the day will be available shortly at <https://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/publications>.

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## Looking After One Another: The Safety and Security of our Faith Communities

As previously reported, earlier this year IFN published *Looking after one another: the safety and security of our faith communities* in partnership with the Department for Communities and Local Government, the Home Office, the Crown Prosecution Service, the National Fire Chiefs' Council and the National Police Chiefs' Council.

*Looking After One Another* gives guidance on:

- responding jointly to attacks on places of worship;
- working for calm at times of tension; and
- working to build on and strengthen existing good inter faith relations.

and contains material about:

- how and where to report hate incidents, cyber attacks, and actual or suspected terrorist activity;

- where to find information on strengthening the security of buildings;
- and where to find information about working to build – and strengthen – good inter faith relations locally.

These practical pointers for responding in solidarity have particular resonance at the present time when there is a need to watch out for the wellbeing of any groups who may be targeted because of terrorist actions which claim, or are perceived by some, as having a link to them.

The document can be found at: <https://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/looking-after-one-another-the-safety-and-security-of-our-faith-communities-2017>.

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### **Let's Talk: Practical pointers for inter faith dialogue**

Earlier this year IFN published a resource on dialogue: *Let's Talk: Practical pointers for inter faith dialogue*. This is available to download at <https://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/publications>. The resource draws on existing IFN materials and contributions from member bodies to provide tips and ideas for productive dialogue and conversation between people of different faiths and beliefs in a range of different contexts. Hard copies can be supplied by the IFN office. If you would like a copy, contact [ifnet@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:ifnet@interfaith.org.uk).

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### **Festival dates**

September has been a month with many key festivals. October will be similarly rich in festivals.

IFN carries a list of festivals on its website at <https://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/religious-festivals> which are included in the form kindly provided by the Shap Working Party on World Religions in Education whose calendar can be purchased from <http://www.shapworkingparty.org.uk/calendar.html>.

IFN's short guidance note, produced in consultation with its Faith Communities Forum, on which of their religious festivals faith communities would appreciate receiving greetings from people of other faiths and beliefs, and suggested forms of greeting can be found at <https://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/faith-festivals-guidance-on-sending-greetings-2017>.

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## **St Ethelburga's Young leaders programmes**

The St Ethelburga's Centre in London is currently recruiting for two programmes for young adults.

The Spiritual Ecology programme brings together “the next generation of leaders who will build a future rooted in interconnectedness, stewardship and reverence for nature”. It is open to 20-32 year olds and is an 8 month programme during 2018 including retreats and workshops. The programme is fully funded so participants only pay travel costs. The closing date for applications is 31 October. For further information, including how to apply, visit <https://stethelburgas.org/projects/spiritual-ecology/>.

Interfaith Activists is a 6 month leadership programme, beginning in November, designed to offer young people an opportunity “to explore alternative solutions to global issues, engage their own faith community and grow resilience and leadership skills for turbulent times”. This programme draws on the philosophy of sacred activism – “a non-oppositional movement for societal change rooted in prayer and a worldview of interdependence”. It is open to 18-36 year olds and runs on weekend dates. For further information, including how to apply, visit <https://stethelburgas.org/projects/interfaith-activists-leadership-turbulent-times/>.

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## **London Inter Faith Centre course**

The London Inter Faith Centre is running a six week course from 4 October on ‘Religion and the Nation’. The course, being held on Wednesday afternoons, will look at how religion is affecting politics and society in the UK today. For further information, contact [laurence.hillel@londoninterfaith.org.uk](mailto:laurence.hillel@londoninterfaith.org.uk).

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## **Sion Centre for Dialogue and Encounter course**

The Sion Centre for Dialogue and Encounter is running a 3 day course on ‘Belief and Unbelief’. The 3 study days will be on ‘Secularisation’ (10 October), ‘The Assault on Tradition’ (24 October) and ‘Religion and Science’ (7 November). The course will be led by Jonathan Gorsky, Lecturer in Jewish Studies at Heythrop College. For further information, email [sioncentrefordialogue@gmail.com](mailto:sioncentrefordialogue@gmail.com).

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## **CALLS FOR INFORMATION, COMPETITIONS, AND NOMINATIONS**

### **Faith communities' work on Sustainable Development Goals**

The United Society Partners in the Gospel is carrying out a survey into how faith communities are already addressing the Sustainable Development Goals agreed by the United Nations (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>). They would be pleased to hear from as many faith communities as possible. The survey can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RC6ZY33>.

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### **Faith recognition and celebration**

In November 3FF, with the support of Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London's Council on Faith, will be holding an event to recognise the good work of faith communities building bridges in London. During the event 3FF will recognise projects with small monetary rewards. Nominees should be based in Greater London and should be involved in initiatives which seek to increase a sense of belonging across London's diverse communities, particularly the marginalised communities, and/or; Nominees should work with groups from different faiths or none to build bridges and impact on increasing life chances or wellbeing. The nomination deadline has now been extended to 9 October. For further information, visit <http://www.3ff.org.uk/celebration> or contact Jess Hazrati at [councilonfaith@3ff.org.uk](mailto:councilonfaith@3ff.org.uk).

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### **Involvement of faith communities in World War One and Remembrance Sunday**

It is planned to prepare some materials about faith communities' involvement in World War One and in Remembrance Sunday. IFN would welcome information about relevant materials. Please send to [zac.lloyd@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:zac.lloyd@interfaith.org.uk) with 'WW1 and Remembrance' in the subject line.

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### **Inter faith sports projects**

If you have examples of a project or event involving sport which has taken place within the last two years or is ongoing we would love to hear from you. Examples of inter faith projects involving sport can be emailed to [ifnet@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:ifnet@interfaith.org.uk) Please mark these 'inter faith and sport' in the subject line.

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## **Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service – changes to Courts in England and Wales**

Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Services (HMCTS) is holding a Public Community Event that will take place on the 2nd November 2017, at Ministry of Justice, 102 Petty France, London SW1P 9AJ. The event is 10am – 1pm (registration from 9.30am).

The event will give participants an overview of progress made so far in reforming the court system. There will be an opportunity to test both HMCTS newest services and view those under development as well as a discussion on the Government's plans for the future.

HMCTS is keen to hear from faith communities. If you are interested in attending the Public Community Event or would like further information, please contact [nicola.kefford@Justice.gov.uk](mailto:nicola.kefford@Justice.gov.uk).

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## **JOBS, INTERNSHIPS AND VOLUNTEERING**

IFN's website lists job and internship opportunities with a significant inter faith dimension with IFN member organisations at <https://www.interfaith.org.uk/involved/vacancies/jobs>.

### **Inter Faith Network for the UK – Clerical Assistant**

Each year the Inter Faith Network for the UK employs a Clerical Assistant for 8 hours per week to assist with office administration. The role is flexible and ideally fits around university studies. The closing date for this year's applications is 3 October. For an application form, contact [ifnet@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:ifnet@interfaith.org.uk).

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### **Woolf Institute – Alumni and Support Relations Manager**

The Woolf Institute, which has this month moved into new purpose built premises, combines teaching, scholarship and outreach, focussing on Jews, Christians and Muslims, to build tolerance and foster understanding between people of different beliefs around the world. It is currently seeking an Alumni and Support Relations Manager. The role is full time and based in Cambridge. For further information, the job description and how to apply, visit <http://www.woolf.cam.ac.uk/news/detail.asp?ItemID=1235>.

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## Home Office – Lead Commissioner for Countering Extremism

The Commission for Counter Extremism, for which the Home Office has lead responsibility, is seeking a Lead Commissioner.

The Lead Commissioner will “be an independent voice on countering extremism and promoting British values. Where issues of integration arise, the Commissioner will engage with the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, and will have the opportunity to discuss findings that may benefit the wider integration agenda. S/he will work with a diverse group of commissioners with expertise across the public sector, law enforcement, online industry, civil society, faith, and equality and integration issues, among others.” The role is part time up to 3 days per week, based in London, with UK travel. It is a fixed term appointment for 3 years. The closing date for applications is 15 October. For further information, visit

<https://publicappointments.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/appointment/lead-commissioner-countering-extremism/>.

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## 3FF roles

3FF is seeking to recruit to three roles:

*Programme Lead – Workplace and Community Learning and Development*

A full time role based in London. Closing time for application is 9am on 16 October. More information is at <http://www.3ff.org.uk/blog/3ff-programmes-coordinator-workplace-community/>.

*Finance Manager*

A full time role based in London. Closing time for application is 9am on 30 October. More information is at <http://www.3ff.org.uk/blog/finance-manager/>.

*Programme Officer, Schools (West Midlands)*

Full time, home based with travel to London and around the West Midlands. Closing time for application is 9am on 6 November. More information is at

<http://www.3ff.org.uk/blog/programme-officer-schools-west-midlands/>.

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## Heritage Lottery Fund – Committee members

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) is looking for people to join its committee to help make decisions on where to invest funds from the National Lottery. HLF is particularly keen to reach out to as many communities as possible and to draw on expertise from many cultural backgrounds. It currently has vacancies for the London and South East England committees. Applicants need to have a good knowledge of the region to which they are

applying. The closing date for applications is 9 October. For further information, visit [https://forms.hlf.org.uk/applications/HLFCommittees\\_PublicPortal.ofml](https://forms.hlf.org.uk/applications/HLFCommittees_PublicPortal.ofml).

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## **Inter Faith Network for the UK - Volunteers and interns**

The Inter Faith Network for the UK has regular volunteering opportunities and occasional internships. Further information about these can be found on IFN's website.

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## **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Near Neighbours grants programme**

The Near Neighbours grants programme, administered by the Church Urban Fund, offers small grants of between £250 and £5,000, as seed funding for local groups and organisations working to bring together neighbours, and to develop relationships across diverse faiths and ethnicities to improve their communities.

As part of the criteria, projects should:

- Bring together peoples of two or more different faiths and/or ethnicities, to build friendships and develop relationships of trust.
- Work locally. We want to see people who are living very locally (ie in the same street, estate or neighbourhood) come together.
- Work sustainably. We want to see long term and natural relationships grow, that will last beyond the period of funding.
- Work to improve the community. We want to see people working to make their communities a better place to live.
- Involve diverse people in planning and implementation. People from more than one faith group and/or ethnicity are involved in planning and implementing the proposal.

The closing date for applications is 17 November. The full criteria, information on areas in which the grants are available and information on how to apply can be found at <https://www.cuf.org.uk/near-neighbours-small-grants>. For general enquiries, contact [near.neighbours@cuf.org.uk](mailto:near.neighbours@cuf.org.uk).

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## **Building a Stronger Britain Together programme**

The Home Office programme Building a Stronger Britain Together is continuing to offer in-kind support such as social media training, technical assistance to help a group improve their website, or capacity building work to help a group protect more vulnerable individuals. It is open to bodies in England and Wales. Further information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/building-a-stronger-britain-together>.

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## **Faiths in Scotland Community Action Fund**

Faiths in Scotland Community Action Fund is open for applications to its new rolling small grants scheme. Small grants of up to £750 are available to faith based anti-poverty projects with an annual turnover of £30,000 or less and can be applied for at any time. For more information call Chris on 0141 221 4544 or visit <https://www.faithincommunityscotland.org/faith-in-community-scotland-action-fund/our-grants/smallgrants/>.

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## **Supermarket grant schemes**

Bags of Help is Tesco's local community grant scheme where the money raised from the 5p bag levy in Tesco stores is being used to fund community projects across the UK. The projects must meet the criteria of promoting community participation in the development and use of outdoor spaces. Bags of Help is administered by Groundwork in England and Wales and supported in Scotland by Greenspace Scotland. (It is not available in Northern Ireland where carrier bag money is managed centrally.) Further information is at <http://www.groundwork.org.uk/Sites/tescocommunityscheme/pages/Category/the-tesco-bags-of-help-programme-tes2>.

Waitrose supports charities through its Community Matters scheme. Local branches are each given £1,000 to share out between three local good causes each month such as welfare organisations, community groups and schools. To apply, fill in a Community Matters form at a local branch or contact the branch champion for community giving at a local branch, using their branch finder tool at: <http://www.waitrose.com/branches/index.aspx>.

Sainsbury's stores each partner with a Local Charity of the Year voted on by the local people. To apply, fill in a nomination form at your local store. More information is at <https://www.sainsburyslocalcharity.co.uk/>.

The Asda Foundation offers grants for local community projects which will “make a real long term difference, benefitting the wider community with [its] vision to ‘Transform Communities, improving lives locally.’” Further details are at <https://www.asdafoundation.org/applying-for-funding/significant-local-community-projects>.

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### **Aviva’s UK Community Fund**

Aviva has made around £1.7 million available for its 2017 Community Fund. Funding is available to voluntary and community organisations for projects that will make a real difference to local residents. The grants support all kinds of projects providing they are causes that the community really cares about and are charitable in nature. Not-for-profit organisations and groups that are operating for the good of their local community and have been in existence for at least six months and have an income of £1 million or less can apply. For further information, visit <https://www.aviva.co.uk/good-thinking/community-fund/>.

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### **Comic Relief’s Core Strength Grants Programme**

This programme offers grants to help cover the day to day costs of small locally led and based voluntary and community sector groups that are doing ‘much needed’ work in their local communities. Grants of between £1,000 and £5,000 or between £1,000 and £10,000 (depending on the local community foundation) are to be used to support groups that can evidence a sustained beneficial impact on people’s lives who are excluded or disadvantaged. For further information, visit <http://www.comicrelief.com/apply-for-grants/open-grants-initiatives/core-strength-local-communities>.

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### **Funding websites**

The National Council for Voluntary Organisations offers advice on fundraising and grants on its Knowhow Nonprofit site at <https://knowhownonprofit.org/funding>.

Funding Central - <http://www.fundingcentral.org.uk/default.aspx> - is a free website for charities, voluntary organisations and social enterprises in England that provides access to thousands of funding and finance opportunities, together with tools and resources for supporting organisations to develop sustainable income strategies appropriate to their needs. Similar websites for funding in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland can be found

at Funding Scotland - <http://www.fundingscotland.com/> - Wales Council for Voluntary Action - <http://www.wcva.org.uk/funding/search> - and Grant Tracker for Northern Ireland - <https://www.grant-tracker.org/>.

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### **Heritage Lottery Fund grants to commemorate First World War**

The Heritage Lottery Fund has £4million of funding available for communities to get involved in projects marking the Centenary of the First World War. Projects applying for funding must be able to meet one of a number of successful outcomes based on heritage, people and communities. Grants can be given between £3,000 and £10,000. There is no current deadline for applications as grants are considered on a monthly basis up to 2019.

Further information can be found at <https://www.hlf.org.uk/looking-funding/our-grant-programmes/first-world-war-then-and-now>.

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### **Community foundations**

Community foundations are local, grant-making organisations to which local community organisations can apply for funding. There are 46 community foundations in the UK, covering Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and most of England. A map of community foundations across the UK and how to contact them, can be found at

<http://www.ukcommunityfoundations.org/our-network>.

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### **Transform Foundation**

The Transform Foundation is offering funding to charities to help with new website builds. Grants of £18,000 are available. For further information and to apply, visit [www.transformfoundation.org.uk](http://www.transformfoundation.org.uk).

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### **Google, Microsoft and charities**

The internet search engine Google is offering a service to registered charities which brings: Google Ad Grants: Free AdWords advertising to promote your website on Google through keyword targeting; YouTube Nonprofit Programme: Access exclusive resources, features and programs designed to maximise your organisation's impact on YouTube; and Google Apps for Non-profit: Free version of the Google Apps business productivity suite, including Gmail, Docs, Calendar and more. For further information, visit [www.google.co.uk/intl/en/nonprofits/join](http://www.google.co.uk/intl/en/nonprofits/join).



## **Subsidised fundraising workshops**

The Foundation for Social Improvement offers heavily subsidised training programmes for small charities across the UK. The courses cover a wide range of subjects from event planning to leadership but the majority of their training courses are focused on helping charities learn the skills to raise and earn income. Further information can be found at <http://www.thefsi.org/services/training>.

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## **SPECIAL WEEKS/DAYS**

**Sewa Day** takes place on Sunday 1 October. Sewa Day is an international faith-based day of social action rooted in the traditions of the Dharmic faiths. Sewa Day projects will be taking place across the UK, including volunteering in old people's homes, homeless shelters, schools in disadvantaged areas, hospitals and hospices, country parks, conservation areas and city farms – all with an aim of making a positive difference to individuals and communities. For more information about Sewa Day, visit to [www.sewaday.org/about-sewa-day/](http://www.sewaday.org/about-sewa-day/). To find out more about how to get involved, visit [www.sewaday.org/get-involved/](http://www.sewaday.org/get-involved/).

**National Hate Crime Awareness Week** runs from 14 to 21 October. The Week is organised by the '17-24-30 No To Hate Crime Campaign' in partnership with Stop Hate UK. It aims to bring people together, to stand with those affected by hate crime, to remember those who have been lost, and support those who need ongoing support. Further information can be found at <https://www.nationalhcaw.uk/>.

Hate crimes are any crimes that are targeted at a person because of hostility or prejudice towards that person's:

- disability
- race or ethnicity
- religion or belief
- sexual orientation
- transgender identity

This can be committed against a person or property.

Hate crimes can be reported at <http://www.report-it.org.uk/home>.

**One World Week** will take place from 22 to 29 October. Its theme this year is 'Good Neighbours: My world depends on us'. One World Week seeks to raise people's awareness and understanding of the injustices which cause poverty and conflict across the planet

and in local communities and threaten a bleak future for future generations. [www.oneworldweek.org](http://www.oneworldweek.org)

**National Inter Faith Week** in England, Wales and Northern Ireland will be an '8 day week' this year taking place from 12 to 19 November. [www.interfaithweek.org](http://www.interfaithweek.org)  
See more [above](#).

**Scottish Interfaith Week** will take place from 12 to 19 November. It is led by Interfaith Scotland. Its theme this year will be "Creativity and the Arts." A new Scottish Interfaith Week website has been launched at <http://scottishinterfaithweek.org/> and events in Scotland can be listed on this. The Week in Scotland also has its own Twitter (<https://twitter.com/FollowSIFW>) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/FollowSIFW>) and is using the hashtag #SIFW17.

**Mitzvah Day** will take place on 19 November. It is an annual day of faith-based social action led by the Jewish community. On Mitzvah Day, people give their time, not their money, to make a difference to the community around them. Many events and projects held for the day have an inter faith focus. [www.mitzvahday.org.uk/](http://www.mitzvahday.org.uk/)

**Holocaust Memorial Day** will take place on 27 January. Its theme in 2018 is The Power of Words: - Words can make a difference – both for good and evil. Holocaust Memorial Day is a time for everyone to pause to remember the millions of people who have been murdered or whose lives have been changed beyond recognition during the Holocaust, Nazi Persecution and in subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. It honours the survivors of these regimes and challenges everyone to use the lessons of their experience to inform their lives today. [www.hmd.org.uk/](http://www.hmd.org.uk/)

The Muslim Council of Britain has announced that **VisitMyMosque Day** 2018 will take place on Sunday 18 February. In 2017 over 150 mosques across the UK held open days to welcome in their neighbours from other communities. Registrations are now open to take part in the 2018 event. For further information, visit [www.visitmymosque.org](http://www.visitmymosque.org).

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**SUPPORT THE INTER FAITH NETWORK'S WORK  
TO INCREASE INTER FAITH UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION**

We need your help to ensure that the Inter Faith Network for the UK's work to promote inter faith understanding and cooperation continues and grows, helping people of all backgrounds to live and work together with mutual respect and shared commitment to the common good.

Gifts at all levels are much valued and make a real difference. You can donate directly at [www.interfaith.org.uk/donate](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/donate) or via PayPal or JustGiving at <https://www.justgiving.com/interfaithnetwork-uk>

Donations can also be made by sending a cheque to The Inter Faith Network for the UK, 2 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DH.

**REMEMBERING A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND**

If you would like to make a gift in memory of a loved one, please get in touch by emailing [remember@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:remember@interfaith.org.uk) or call us on 0207 730 0410.

**A GIFT IN YOUR WILL**

By leaving a gift in your will to the Inter Faith Network for the UK, you can leave a living inheritance to help deepen and strengthen inter faith understanding and cooperation in this country – for now and for the future. If you are thinking about making a will, the best thing to do is to get in touch with a professional will writer, such as a solicitor or advocate; they can help to ensure it is legally correct and that your wishes are met. If you have already made a will, you can still make an addition or amendment in the form of a codicil. If you would like to pledge a gift, please provide our name and address, along with our registered charity number 1068934.

Please get in touch with us if you have any queries.

You can call us on 0207 730 0410 or contact us at [remember@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:remember@interfaith.org.uk)

*Thank you!*

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## DIARY DATES

This section includes some of the events taking place around the UK during from October to November. We also include information on diary dates between e-bulletins on its website at <http://www.interfaith.org.uk/take-part/events>.

The **Open University** is leading on an exhibition, entitled 'At the Heart of the Nation' which documents the diverse histories which make up the shared heritage of India and Britain from 1870, the earliest image in the exhibition, to the present day. The images show the wide-ranging contributions that Indians from many faith backgrounds have long made to Britain's cultural, economic, intellectual, political and social life. The project is led by the Open University, in collaboration with the Indian High Commission, the Nehru Centre, and the University of Exeter. It is in Edinburgh until 1 October; in London from 8 to 15 October; and in Leeds from 16 to 26 October. For further information, visit <http://www.open.ac.uk/arts/research/asianbritain/india-britain>.

**York Interfaith Group** is holding an event on Tuesday 3 October. It will begin with a 'Bring and Share' Meal with Music from 5.30pm to 7.30pm and will then be followed at 7.30pm by its Monthly Meeting, for which the theme is Conflict Resolution: the Place of the Faiths. It is being held from 5.30pm to 7.30pm at the York Medical Society Rooms, 23 Stonegate, York YO1 8AW. For further information, contact [yorkinterfaithgroup@gmail.com](mailto:yorkinterfaithgroup@gmail.com).

**St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace** is holding a dialogue on the theme of 'Hot Topics: Race and Faith' on Tuesday 3 October from 6.30 to 9.30pm. This participatory evening dialogue creates a space for activists, scholars, policymakers and faith communities to engage questions of race and faith together. The event will be held at St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace, 78 Bishopsgate, London, EC2N 4AG. For further information, contact [020 7496 1610](tel:02074961610) or visit <https://stethelburgas.org/event/race-faith-oct-2017/>.

**Interfaith MK (Milton Keynes)** is holding a lecture on the subject of 'The Spirituality of Sufism, a way to create greater inclusiveness and harmony in society' on Thursday 5 October from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. The speaker will be Mrs Sandra Ortiz. The event is being held at St James Ecumenical Church, Church Street, New Bradwell, MK13 0DA. For more information, email [interfaithmk@gmail.com](mailto:interfaithmk@gmail.com).

**Interfaith Glasgow**, in partnership with **St Mungo Museum of Religious Life and Art**, is holding the second of a monthly dialogue series on the theme of 'Faith to Faith' on Sunday 8 October from 2 to 4pm. The second dialogue is on the theme of 'Reflections on Ahura'. The event will feature keynote speakers, dialogue and a question and answer session. The event will be held at St Mungo Museum of Religious Life and Art, 2 Castle Street, Glasgow, G4 0RH. For further information, contact [development@interfaithglasgow.org](mailto:development@interfaithglasgow.org).

**London Interfaith Centre** is holding a talk on Monday 9 October by Dr Mike King entitled 'Why Secularism Matters for Peace in the Middle East'. The event will be held from 7.30pm to 9pm at St Anne's and St Andrew's Church, 125 Salusbury Road, London NW6 6RG.

There is a charge to attend. For more information, visit <http://londoninterfaith.org.uk> or contact Laurence Hillel at 07801 286819 or email [laurence.hillel@londoninterfaith.org.uk](mailto:laurence.hillel@londoninterfaith.org.uk).

**Nottingham Inter Faith Council** is hosting a 'Come Dine With Us' dinner on Wednesday 11 October at 7pm. The event will feature home-cooked food and opportunities for conversation with people of other faiths and cultures. The event is free of charge, but donations to the local food bank are welcome. The event is being held at Friends Meeting House, Clarendon Street, Nottingham, NG1 5JD. For further information, please email [melgotheridge39@aol.com](mailto:melgotheridge39@aol.com).

**Bridges for Communities** and **Darul Isra Mosque** are holding their annual inter faith event on the theme of 'Hear about Hajj' on Thursday 12 October from 7pm to 9pm. The event is an opportunity to learn more about the Muslim pilgrimage of Hajj, and will include a short presentation and a shared meal, including the opportunity for attendees to talk and learn from one another. The event is being held at Grammen Juboraj, 195 Rochmond Road, Cardiff, CF24 3BT. There is a fee to attend. For more information, and to book tickets, go to [cardiff.carpediem.cd/events/4655474-hear-about-hajj-at-grameen-juboraj/](http://cardiff.carpediem.cd/events/4655474-hear-about-hajj-at-grameen-juboraj/).

**Newcastle Council of Faiths** is holding its 'Annual Walk for Peace' on Sunday 15 October at 12.30pm. The Walk will visit the Hindu Temple, the Church of the Venerable Bede, the Central Mosque, the Sikh Gurdwara and the Synagogue. Prayers, refreshments and short talks will be offered along the way. Participants should meet at the Hindu Temple, West Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 9QB. For further information, contact Hari Shukla on 01912433620 or Church House on 0191 2704100.

**Waltham Forest Faith Communities Forum** is holding its Annual General Meeting on Monday 16 October from 6.45pm to 9pm. The meeting will report on the previous year, and will include contributions from a range of speakers on topics including marking Hate Crime Awareness Week. The meeting is being held in the Council Chamber at Waltham Forest Town Hall, Forest Road, Walthamstow, E17 4HF. For further information, email [communications@faithcommunities.org.uk](mailto:communications@faithcommunities.org.uk).

**Avon Council of Christians and Jews** is holding an event on Monday 16 October on 'Gender and Faith: Women and the Church'. There will be a talk by Carlotta Kramskoy, Interfaith Officer at Clifton Catholic Diocese, followed by a discussion. It is being held at Bristol University Multi-faith Chaplaincy, 1 Woodland Road, Bristol, BS8 1AU, at 7.15pm for 7.30pm. All are welcome. The event is free and contributions are welcome. For more information, contact [avonccj@gmail.com](mailto:avonccj@gmail.com).

**The Inter Faith Network for the UK** is holding a day event in Manchester on Tuesday 17 October for local inter faith practitioners from inter faith groups across the UK to share their experiences, discuss issues of common interest and concern and have focused learning opportunities about practical aspects of developing successful inter faith programmes. For further information, email [ifnet@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:ifnet@interfaith.org.uk).

**South East England Faiths Forum** is holding its annual conference and AGM on Tuesday 17 October on the theme of 'Chaplaincy in a Plural Society: Faiths in Service'. The event will run from 9.30am to 5.00pm. The conference will feature speakers and workshops covering chaplaincy work in hospitals, in crisis, in education and the workplace from a variety of faith traditions. The conference will be held at Worth Abbey, Turners Hill, Crawley, RH10 4SB in the Performance Arts Centre. There is a registration fee which includes lunch. To register, and for further information, contact Rabbi Wallach on 07909506506 or at [rabiwallach@gmail.com](mailto:rabiwallach@gmail.com).

**Interfaith Wolverhampton** is holding a 'Bring and Share' lunch on Tuesday 17 October from 12.45pm to 2.00pm. The lunch will feature a presentation from Kamran Fazil on Faith-based environmental concerns. The lunch is being held at Darlington Street Methodist Centre, 24 School Street, WV1 4LF. For further information, contact [admin@ifwton.org.uk](mailto:admin@ifwton.org.uk).

**Interfaith Scotland, Faith in Older People, Edinburgh University Chaplaincy and Stonewall Scotland** are holding a members dialogue event on Tuesday 17 October from 10am to 4pm. The theme of the event is 'Identity and Belonging' and this will take the format of a civic café. For further information, contact Else Kek by email at [else.kek@interfaithscotland.org](mailto:else.kek@interfaithscotland.org).

**Building Bridges in Burnley** is hosting an event on the theme of 'Sacred Sounds from different faith traditions' on Sunday 22 October from 2pm to 4pm. The event will feature performances from The Free Spiritual Centre Sufi Group, Fr Brian Keeley as well other individuals and choirs. The event is being held at Mezbaan Superstore, Colne Road, Burnley, BB10 1AS. For further information, email [bea\\_foster@hotmail.com](mailto:bea_foster@hotmail.com).

The **Multi-Faith Centre at the University of Derby** is holding an event on the theme of 'Hinduism: Enlightenment through cause and change' on Tuesday 24 October from 6pm to 8pm. The event will explore growth and change in Hinduism. The speaker will be Vijay Hirani. Booking is required. The event is being held at The Multi-Faith Centre at the University of Derby, Kedleston Road, Derby, DE22 1GB. For further information, go to [www.multifaithcentre.com](http://www.multifaithcentre.com).

**Religions for Peace (UK)** is holding a seminar on Wednesday 25 October entitled 'Towards a world free of nuclear weapons – what faith communities can do next'. The seminar is designed to provide the tools needed to talk to others in your faith community about the Nuclear Ban Treaty. It is being held at 6.30pm at Friends House, 173-177 Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ. For further information, contact 07825 189263. To book a place, visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/nuclear-ban-treaty-what-next-tickets-37413008315>.

The **Sion Centre for Dialogue and Encounter** is holding an event on Thursday 2 November entitled 'Jewish Christian Relations: Significant New Beginnings'. The event will mark the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Seelisburg Conference of 1947 and explore its enduring legacy. It will take place from 11.00am to 3.15pm at the Sion Centre, 34

Chepstow Villas, London, W11 2QZ. For further information, contact [sioncentrefordialogue@gmail.com](mailto:sioncentrefordialogue@gmail.com).

**York Interfaith Group** is holding an event on Tuesday 7 November. It will begin with a 'Bring and Share' Meal with Music from 5.30pm to 7.30pm and will then be followed at 7.30pm by its Monthly Meeting, for which the theme is Faith in the Armed Forces. It is being held from 5.30pm to 7.30pm at the York Medical Society Rooms, 23 Stonegate, York YO1 8AW. For further information, contact [yorkinterfaithgroup@gmail.com](mailto:yorkinterfaithgroup@gmail.com).

The **Employers Network for Equality & Inclusion** is holding an event on the theme of 'Pride & Prejudice: Faith and Sectarianism in Scotland' on Wednesday 15 November from 1pm to 3pm. The event will explore issues of demographics, hate crime and sectarianism in Scotland and will provide an opportunity for employers to network with others on these issues. The event is by invitation only. It is being held in Edinburgh. For further information, email [info@enei.org.uk](mailto:info@enei.org.uk).

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**For more information on events and projects in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales see:**

Northern Ireland Inter-Faith Forum: [www.niinterfaithforum.org](http://www.niinterfaithforum.org)

Interfaith Scotland: [www.interfaithscotland.org](http://www.interfaithscotland.org)

Inter-faith Council for Wales: [www.interfaithwales.org.uk](http://www.interfaithwales.org.uk)

If you have items which you would like considered for inclusion in the next e-bulletin please email these to [ifnet@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:ifnet@interfaith.org.uk) by **20 November** with 'e-bulletin' in the subject line. Submissions may be edited for length or style.

**Disclaimer:** Information in this bulletin has been sourced and compiled with care. IFN does not take responsibility for accuracy of information supplied by external organisations and inclusion of items within this e-bulletin does not imply endorsement or validation by IFN of the events, publications or the bodies which have produced these.

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