



# ANNUAL REVIEW 2017/2018

RESPECTED EDUCATION DIALOGUE  
INTEGRITY COMMUNITY VALUES  
COOPERATION DISTINCTIVENESS  
COMMON GOOD UNDERSTANDING  
NEIGHBOURLINESS FAITH ACTION  
BELONGING TACKLING PREJUDICE  
RESPECTED EDUCATION DIALOGUE  
INTEGRITY COMMUNITY VALUES  
COOPERATION DISTINCTIVENESS





**ANNUAL REVIEW  
2017/2018**

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## THIS REVIEW

This Annual Review reports on the work of the Inter Faith Network between the July 2017 and the July 2018 AGMs. It complements the formal Trustees’ report published as part of the Statutory Accounts which are available on the Charity Commission website.

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2 Grosvenor Gardens  
London  
SW1W 0DH

ifnet@interfaith.org.uk  
www.interfaith.org.uk  
www.twitter.com/IFNetUK  
www.facebook.com/IFNetUK

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

This year has been for IFN above all else a year of youth inter faith engagement. For many years IFN has encouraged the wider involvement of young people in inter faith learning and bridge building. This year, we made it a special focus with the development and launch of *Connect: a youth inter faith action guide*. It was a process which at every stage was shaped with the help of young people of different backgrounds and from different parts of the UK.

*Connect* includes many examples of youth inter faith good practice from IFN member bodies and others. We hope that it will be a really valuable resource.

There has been a hugely positive energy to the *Connect* process and this was very much evident in the National Meeting in July, at which *Connect* was launched, where so many young people spoke and played a part in facilitation.

Sadly, the year has seen continued challenges of hate crime, as well as impact of terrorism. It saw IFN again working to support and encourage solidarity in the face of these.

The times have been turbulent politically and there has been a sense of increased social division in a number of respects. IFN has engaged with the Government's consultation on an Integrated Communities Strategy and the Faith Communities Forum held a special session to discuss this with the relevant senior official from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government which leads on the Strategy.

Through its meetings, publications and through social media, IFN has continued to highlight the positive work of its member bodies and others to develop and deepen inter faith understanding and cooperation. It has also encouraged the development of different kinds of inter faith activity. For example, in the course of the year IFN worked with Sporting Equals UK to look at the contribution of sport. It was wonderful to have such inspiring examples, from local inter faith cricket matches to Premier League football club community programmes.

Inter Faith Week is the largest of IFN's programmes of work and continues to grow and to engage new people. The strong encouragement and support of the Government for this is very important and we are grateful, in particular, to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for that.

We thank IFN's donors and funders for their generosity and encouragement which enables IFN to continue its crucial work. We thank, too, IFN's member bodies, Trustees, staff and volunteers for all that they do.

There are few more urgent tasks in today's world than working for inter faith understanding and cooperation and towards a society where, in the words of IFN's vision statement, "there is understanding of the diversity and richness of the faith communities in the UK and the contribution that they make; and where we live and work together with mutual respect and shared commitment to the common good".



+ Richard Atkinson. JS Birdi

**Bishop Richard Atkinson OBE**  
**Jatinder Singh Birdi**

Co-Chairs

The Inter Faith Network for the UK

# ABOUT THE INTER FAITH NETWORK FOR THE UK

The Inter Faith Network for the UK (IFN) was founded in 1987 to “advance public knowledge and mutual understanding of the teachings, traditions and practices of the different faith communities in Britain, including an awareness both of their distinctive features and their common ground and to promote good relations between persons of different faiths.”

IFN’s role is unique – linking national faith community representative bodies, local, regional and national inter faith organisations and academic and educational bodies with a focus on inter faith or multi-faith issues. It works with them to deepen inter faith understanding and cooperation.

IFN works for the public benefit and its work is wide-ranging, touching the lives of many thousands of people directly and through the organisations and initiatives with which it engages. Working with its member bodies is an important part of this.

Each of IFN’s member bodies makes its own contribution to inter faith understanding and cooperation in the UK, which IFN aims to support by providing opportunities for sharing of good practice and raising awareness of their work.

A list of member bodies can be found at the back of this Review and at [www.interfaith.org.uk/members](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/members).



Photo: Lisa Bedi

Nikhwat Marawat and Venerable Bogoda Seelawimala

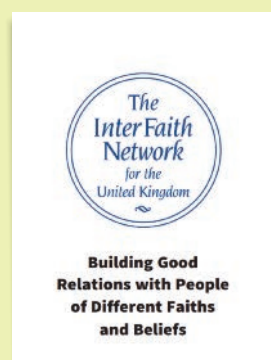
## Our Vision

Our vision is of a society where there is understanding of the diversity and richness of the faith communities in the UK and the contribution that they make and where we live and work together with mutual respect and shared commitment to the common good.

## Our Mission

Working with faith communities, inter faith organisations, educators and others to increase understanding and cooperation between people of different faiths and to wide public awareness of the distinctive religious traditions in the UK.

Working to achieve this through: supporting and encouraging inter faith initiatives and sharing good practice between these; helping create opportunities for mutual learning and tackling prejudice; and offering opportunity for engagement between faith communities and Government and other public agencies on relevant issues.



[www.interfaith.org.uk/code](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/code)

# CONNECT: INTER FAITH ENGAGEMENT OF YOUNG PEOPLE



The launch of *Connect: a youth inter faith action guide* at the 2018 National Meeting in Derby

Photo: Lisa Bedi

Increasing the active involvement of young people in inter faith activity is of enormous importance. IFN has worked for many years to encourage this. In 2017–18 it gave this area special focus through a programme called ‘Connect: inter faith engagement of young people.’

The ‘Connect’ programme contributes to greater, solidly based, engagement by young people in activity for inter faith learning, understanding and cooperation. It aims to strengthen inter-generational inter faith engagement through:

- Publication of *Connect: a youth inter faith action guide*.
- A youth-focused National Meeting in July at which young people presented and facilitated (see p 10) and at which the *Connect* guide was launched.
- Development of a Call to Action paper for the National Meeting on possible ways of boosting young people’s inter faith engagement, including drawing in those who would not usually be involved/ ‘hard to reach’ groups.

## CONNECT: A VIBRANT NEW YOUTH INTER FAITH ACTION GUIDE PACKED WITH EXCITING EXAMPLES OF YOUTH INTER FAITH ENGAGEMENT FROM AROUND THE UK

Download for free from  
[www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/connect](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/connect)

Also available in printed form from the IFN office.





Participants at the Focus Group session in Leeds

- Development of a youth strand to IFN's 2019–22 Strategic Plan, drawing on the work leading to the launch of *Connect*, the Call to Action paper and discussion of this at the National Meeting.
- Strengthening of existing links with youth organisations and initiatives and building of new ones.

## FUNDING

IFN is very grateful to those who helped to fund the Connect project, including the Golden Tours Foundation, the Inter Faith Youth Trust, the Mulberry Trust, and the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (as part of its general support towards the work of IFN).

***“I love this new guide written in a way that is simple and engaging with plenty of examples in images and case studies. The guide gives not only invaluable practical advice that young people need to be able to carry out inter faith work as best they can, but through various events, schemes and other work being done shows they are part of something bigger. Inter faith is so important for young people because this is the time they will start forming their first opinions and beliefs on a range of topics including faith, for better or worse. This guide will allow those opinions to be properly informed – better helping water the seeds of coexistence in a generation.”***

ROSS BRITAIN

***“The new guide is a very useful tool, made by young people for young people and not only them but for inter faith practitioners in general. What is most crucial, in my opinion, is the examples which include some showing young people engaging in inter faith groups already. Some have the misconception that young people don't have an interest in local inter faith engagement. I think that this guide demonstrates that there really is an interest and it shows how we can tap into that. I think that the guide also shows what works, what excites young people and what is fun.”***

JASKIRAN KAUR MEHMI

## A YOUTH CENTRED PROCESS

The programme had young people at its heart from the outset. It was taken forward with the assistance of an Advisory Group, one of whose co-facilitators was LSE student Jaskiran Kaur Mehmi, who was a Committee member of her local inter faith group – Leeds Concord – before moving to study. Her Co-facilitator was Padideh Sabeti, IFN Trustee. Other members were: IFN Trustee Mike Stygal; Simon Wiegand, International Intern at Interfaith Scotland; Katharine Crew, Campus Leadership Manager at the Council of Christians and Jews; Jasmine Roberts, Methodist Youth Representative and British Youth Council; Ben Shapiro, Programmes Officer, Parliamentors, Faith and Belief Forum; Hasan Shabir, Peace Matters, Leeds; and Jaimal Patel, Religions for Peace UK Youth Interfaith Network.

The programme included research into what young people saw as the key inter faith issues for them. A light touch social media poll of young people was carried out. Then a questionnaire was sent to: IFN member bodies, across all four categories of membership; other inter faith organisations which might have experience of working with young



Participants at the Focus Group session in London

Photo: Mike Stone





Participants at Focus Group sessions in Birmingham, Cardiff, Glasgow, Leeds and London

London photos: Mike Stone

people; national youth organisations; student organisations; chaplaincies; Religious Education and other educational bodies, where relevant; and Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education (SACREs).

Five focus group sessions for young people aged 16–25 took place in Birmingham and Leeds in February; and in Cardiff, Glasgow and London in March. These explored such issues as what makes young people want to take part in inter faith activity, how to reach groups that are harder to engage, and developing successful inter faith activities for young people. Participants were also asked how the first edition of *Connect*, published in 2004, needed to be updated for young people today.

Three visits were made to schools, two in England and one in Wales: Denbigh School, Milton Keynes; Bishop Justus Church of England School, Bromley; and Ysgol Gyfun Rhydywaun, Penywaun, Rhondda Cynon Taf. These reflected different contexts, including rural and urban; religiously diverse and not; maintained and voluntary aided; and one

where there was Welsh language teaching. Denbigh School also has an active student SACRE. The visits were designed to: elicit pupils' reflections on why it matters for young people to develop skills for inter faith dialogue and action and their ideas for the new *Connect* guide. They also enabled exploration of how the schools enabled inter faith encounter and dialogue through the curriculum and in other contexts.



Participants at the Focus Group session in London

Photo: Mike Stone

# NATIONAL MEETING 2018 – ‘YOUNG PEOPLE AND INTER FAITH ENGAGEMENT: MAKING A DIFFERENCE TOGETHER’

The theme of the 2018 National Meeting was ‘Young People and Inter Faith Engagement: Making a Difference Together’. The meeting took place on 4 July at the ground of Derby County Football Club.

The day was chaired by the Co-Chairs of IFN, the Rt Revd Richard Atkinson OBE and Jatinder Singh Birdi.

The meeting focused on young people’s engagement in activities which promote inter faith cooperation and understanding. It was the culmination of the Connect programme described in the previous section and the occasion for the launch of the new *Connect* guide.

## BISHOP RICHARD ATKINSON

*“The theme of today is really important. We need good inter faith activity which is inter-generational, drawing on the insights of all. This is a good opportunity for people of different generations to cherish one another’s contribution. Those of us who are a little bit older need to ensure that we are in listening mode and are open to being challenged and changed in the encounter. That should be the quality of our engagement, whoever we are.”*

During the plenary session:

- Qazi Abdul Mateen, Trustee of the Multi-Faith Centre at the University of Derby, and Kiran Singh, PhD Student at the University of Derby, gave a welcome to Derby.
- Padideh Sabeti, IFN Trustee, member of the Baha’i community and a Co-Facilitator of the Connect programme’s Advisory Group introduced the *Connect* guide and opened the day with reflections about the importance of faith communities supporting and encouraging youth inter faith engagement.

## PADIDEH SABETI

*“I don’t think it will come as a surprise that one of the key findings is that young people are motivated to get involved in inter faith activities in order to tackle wider issues – they have expressed a wish to make a difference and build a better society.”*

- Presentations about the different ways in which they have become involved in inter faith activity and the importance of opportunities for that were



The launch of *Connect: a youth inter faith action guide* at the 2018 National Meeting in Derby



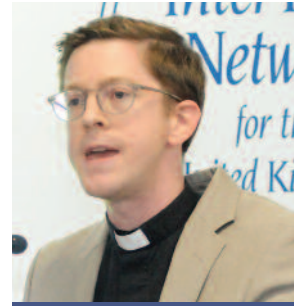
Padideh Sabeti



Marie van der Zyl



Jaskiran Kaur Mehmi



The Revd Dr James Walters

Photos: Lisa Bedi



Frances Hume

given by Parhin Begum, Inter Faith Development Officer, Blackburn with Darwen CVS; Antony Hamilton, Devon Inter Faith Forum for Youth; and Jaspreet Singh, President of Birmingham City University Students' Union, Faith and Belief

Forum ParliamEntors Alumnus and member of the British Organisation of Sikh Students.

**PARHIN BEGUM**

*“When we live in a multicultural or a multi-faith society, we are sometimes just living alongside the other community but not with them. We have a perception of them, based on what we read or see in the media, and we think we have got them all figured out. Sometimes, we might not understand them, we might fear them, or we might find them strange but we don’t make an effort to get to know them. And this is how in most cases animosities or misunderstandings brew in our communities.”*

**ANTONY HAMILTON**

*“The activities [that got me involved in inter faith activity] were fun and left me wanting more. From my first event, I always looked forward to the next. The part of the event that is sometimes underestimated – which was simply the time I spent bonding with these people of other faiths – was what I now feel to be the most important part. We didn’t need to always be discussing inter faith, just sharing a laugh and some food.”*

**JASPREET SINGH**

*“Faith plays a key role for me and for many of us youngsters. It helps when we are closer to our faith and we know about our faith. We students, we open our minds and start asking very hard questions. I think that only when we come closer to our own faith can we initiate inter faith dialogue.”*

- Frances Hume, Development Officer, Interfaith Scotland, spoke about Interfaith Scotland’s wide-ranging work with young people and offered reflections on supporting and encouraging young people’s inter faith engagement in a range of different contexts.

**FRANCES HUME**

*“Interfaith Scotland’s activities with young people have included: away-days to places of*



Qazi Abul Mateen and Kiran Singh



Chan Parmar and Sanaa Makkan

Photos: Lisa Bedi

*spiritual significance, such as Holy Isle; retreats, such as on the Island of Iona; inter faith picnics and dinners; football matches; hill walks; visits to places of worship; art, music and dance projects; trying on dress from different faiths and cultures; making films (some of which are on our website); and social action projects.”*

- Chan Parmar, Strategic Officer, Bolton Inter Faith Council and Sanaa Makkan, Bolton Interfaith Young Ambassador, spoke about the importance of local inter faith bodies working with young people in their areas and creating opportunities for civic engagement and skills development.

#### CHAN PARMAR

*“Different cultures, traditions, heritage – inter faith engagement is a platform for everyone. It is about building relationships, forgetting the outer differences and working together with everybody for peace and harmony, building trust and respect for one another. We believe, and I’m sure everybody here does too – that young people are the future. There are hopefully the good leaders of tomorrow, doing good work in the community and helping others.”*

- Jaskiran Kaur Mehmi, LSE student, inter faith practitioner and Co-Facilitator of the programme’s Advisory Group; Mike Stygal, IFN Trustee, Advisory Group member, and Pagan Federation; and Ashley Beck, Inter Faith Development Officer, Inter Faith Network for the UK, formally launched the Connect guide.

#### MIKE STYGAL

*“Youth inter faith opportunities are vitally important and they are something in which young people themselves are deeply interested. So having an updated Connect guide as a resource to facilitate those opportunities is really, really useful.”*

#### ASHLEY BECK

*“I hope that the Connect youth inter faith action guide will continue to enable young people to just pick it up and get enthused. Many of them, of course, are already enthused. The guide contains some pointers on how to get involved and how to set up inter faith activities. Very importantly, it also points young people to other sources of information.”*

- The Revd Canon Dr James Walters, Chaplain and

Senior Lecturer in Practice, LSE, and Director, LSE Faith Centre, talked about the key role that Higher and Further Education chaplaincies and faith centres can play in facilitating inter faith engagement on campus and acting as a seedbed for young inter faith bridge builders and leaders.

#### DR JAMES WALTERS

*“My conviction is that, if we are to stem the tide of religion-related violence and oppression of religious minorities that is increasing on every continent of the planet, then inter faith has to be part of a global citizenship formation that is undertaken by as many young people as possible.”*

- Reflections on the themes of the day were offered in the afternoon by Marie van der Zyl, President, Board of Deputies of British Jews and IFN Trustee; Tarang Shelat, Hindu Forum of Britain and Birmingham Council of Faiths; Natasha Raspudic, King’s College London and IFN volunteer; and Sami Bryant, Cardiff University, Youth Ambassador Eco-Islam, and Muslim Council of Wales.



National Meeting Discussion Group



National Meeting Discussion Group



National Meeting Discussion Group

Photo: Lisa Bedi

### TARANG SHELAT

***“If we are going to solve problems that we are currently having, we have to engage our children from a young age and ensure that they interact with other children of different faiths. If this issue is not tackled early, prejudiced views can be set and it can then be difficult to change their minds.”***

### NATASHA RASPUDIC

***“More work needs to go into giving young people the confidence to engage in inter faith activity. I have heard mentioned many times today the ‘value’ of young people, and how so much can be learned from them, and I am convinced that this is true, but I am also aware of the fact that young people often do not feel appreciated or confident enough to voice their opinions.”***

### SAMI BRYANT

***“Inter faith dialogue can be the consequence of social action and the consequence of doing things together. One of the themes I have heard coming through today in general is how important it is not to just sit and speak. Yes, there are important issues we need to speak about and figure out, but sometimes that comes more naturally from people who work together.”***

Discussion groups were held on the following topics:

- ‘Young people and dialogue, including about difficult issues’, with a presentation from Paraskevi Koumi, Programmes Officer, Schools, Faith and Belief Forum.
- ‘Youth inter faith social action’, with a presentation from Nikhwat Marawat, ‘The Delicate Mind’ and Faith and Belief Forum ParliaMentors Alumnus.
- ‘Youth inter faith engagement through cultural and sporting activity’, with a presentation from Afrasiab Anwar, Building Bridges in Burnley.
- ‘Youth inter faith engagement on campus’, with a presentation by Ayad Marhoon, Leeds University Ahlul Bayt Society and LUU Interfaith Society read, in his absence, by Katharine Crew, Campus Leadership Manager, Council of Christians and Jews (CCJ), who also gave a presentation with Ross Britain, CCJ.
- ‘Inter faith learning and engagement in schools’, with a presentation by Newham Student SACRE Chair Nawal Rasool and Secretary Fatima Khatun.

Photos: Lisa Bedi



Ross Brittain and Bishop Richard Atkinson

- ‘Youth civic engagement with an inter faith dimension’, with a presentation by **Becky Brookman, National Citizens Service Programme Manager, Jewish Lads and Girls Brigade (JLGB)**.
- ‘Developing a youth dimension to existing inter faith programmes’, with a presentation by **Riaz Ravat BEM, Deputy Director, St Philip’s Centre**.

The following facilitated and served as rapporteurs: Nahal Namvari, student, Cardiff University; Sister Margaret Shepherd nds, Sion Centre for Dialogue and Encounter and Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales; Jules Ireng, Young Friends General Meeting; Zac Lloyd, Project Assistant, IFN; Neil Pitchford, Druid Network; Nudrat Mughal, the Action Factory; Minister David Hopkins, Spiritualists’ National Union; Trip Pannu, Windsor and Maidenhead Community Forum; Katharine Crew, Campus Leadership Manager, Council of Christians and Jews; Professor Paul Weller, Inter Faith Working Group of the Baptist Union of Great Britain; David Hampshire, Assistant Director, IFN; Aparna Ramesh,



Sister Margaret Shepherd nds and Nahal Namvari

Volunteer, Hindu Temple of Scotland, Glasgow and Interfaith Scotland; the Revd James Breslin, Newcastle Council of Faiths and United Reformed Church; Usman Ali, Wakefield Interfaith Network and Wakefield City Youth and Community Forum; Ervad Yazad Bhadha, Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe and Youth Representative, Harrow Interfaith; and the Revd Canon Dr John Hall, Devon Faith and Belief Forum.

A full report on the National Meeting is available at [www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/publications](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/publications).

**BISHOP RICHARD ATKINSON**

**“Hearing the voice of the young is vital. I always like the words in the Rule of Benedict which is followed by the Benedictine community. In Chapter 3, which is about taking counsel, it includes these words:**

***The reason we have said that all should be called for counsel is that the Lord often reveals to the younger what is best.”***

Photos: Lisa Bedi



Professor Dr Paul Weller and Usman Ali



Musarrat Tariq and Aparna Ramesh

## RESPONDING TOGETHER

During the period covered by this Annual Review, there were terrorist attacks in Barcelona, Cambrils, Turku and Parsons Green in London.

Because of the impact of both the London attack and also those in Spain and Finland on inter faith relations in the UK, statements were issued by the Co-Chairs with the Moderators of IFN's Faith Communities Forum. These statements extended their sympathies and thoughts and prayers to those affected and conveyed strongly the significance of responding together as one, expressing a collective condemnation of violent and hateful acts in the name of religion and disavowing purported religious justification by terrorists, violent extremists and those that commit hate crimes. They were widely shared and used. All statements and messages can be seen at [www.interfaith.org.uk/news/statements-and-messages](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/news/statements-and-messages).

The following section of the statement issued on 18 August after the Barcelona and Cambrils attacks gives an example of the strong condemnation of terrorist violence and the importance of 'standing together' that ran through all the statements.

**... We condemn in the strongest possible terms the use of terrorist violence. It is a betrayal of the values of our different faith communities and of those of a democratic society.**

**In the UK, we have stood together in the face of a number of attacks in recent months. We have continued to work for a society where we live together peaceably, seeking to resolve differences through dialogue and within the framework of the law.**

**Those who perpetrate acts of terror sometimes justify their actions on the basis of distorted and extreme interpretations of a religious tradition to which they have a link – despite the repeated rejection of their views by members of the community in question. Because of that every time there is a terrorist attack there is a need to support communities that may be rendered vulnerable by it. There can be no space for prejudice which singles out**



**any community because of criminal actions carried out by a few in the name of its religion.**

**The last few months have seen a rise in religiously motivated attacks, notably Islamophobia and Antisemitism but also affecting Sikhs, Hindus and others. As IFN has said in its guidance *Looking After One Another: The Safety and Security of our Faith Communities*, it is vital to report hate incidents and to work to counteract prejudice and hatred. Also vital is responsible journalism: too often, of late, there have been examples of stories or opinion pieces which have the probable effect of compounding or stirring up prejudice...**

The period was also one which saw a rise in reported hate crime, including hate crime incidents linked to religious identity. The Home Office reported that in 2017/18, there were 94,098 hate crime offences recorded by the police in England and Wales, an increase of 17% compared with the previous year. 8,336 (9%) of these were classed as religious hate crimes. This continues the upward trend in recent years with the number of hate crimes recorded by the police having more than doubled since 2012/13 (from 42,255 to 94,098 offences; an increase of 123%). There have been spikes in hate crime following certain events such as the EU Referendum and the terrorist attacks in 2017.

In March IFN's Co-Chairs sent this message to member bodies:

**The last few days have seen a number of disturbing incidents, from hate-filled letters to a number of Muslims headed 'Punish a Muslim Day', to a Sikh being asked by a venue in Nottingham to remove his turban or leave, and racist chanting outside a student's room at Nottingham Trent University. There was also recently a report of a Sikh having their turban dislodged while waiting for a meeting outside Portcullis House, Houses of Parliament, apparently by someone who thought the Sikh was Muslim. The level of reported hate incidents, more generally, continues to be high.**

**The climate is a disturbing one and responding to hate and religious illiteracy will be on the agendas of both the next IFN local inter faith practitioner day and the Faith Communities Forum's meeting this week.**

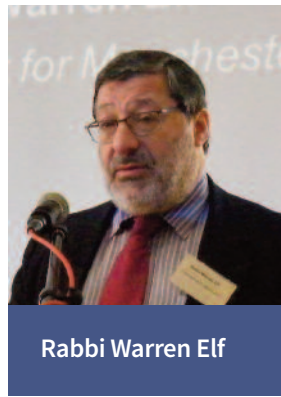


**These circumstances underline the importance of effective prevention and response, including, very significantly, that of faith and inter faith bodies. You may wish to circulate or recirculate to your members the document *Looking after***

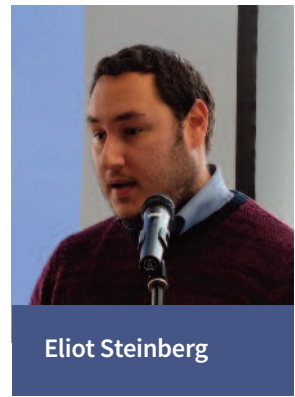
***One Another: The Safety and Security of our Faith Communities.***

## LOCAL INTER FAITH PRACTITIONERS REFLECT ON RESPONSE TO TERROR ATTACKS

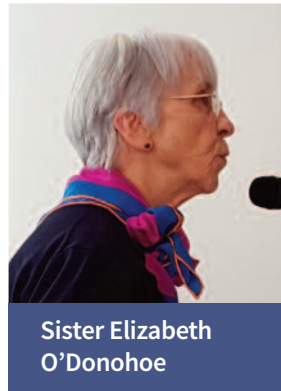
At the day event for local inter faith practitioners held in Manchester in October, 'Responding to terrorism, extremism and hatred' was one of the themes discussed. Rabbi Warren Elf, Community Development Worker, Faith Network 4 Manchester, gave a presentation reflecting on faith communities' responses in Manchester to recent attacks, notably the Manchester Arena terror attack in May that year. His presentation is included in the full report of that event at [www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/ifn-day-event-for-local-inter-faith-practitioners-a-short-report-manchester](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/ifn-day-event-for-local-inter-faith-practitioners-a-short-report-manchester).



Rabbi Warren Elf



Eliot Steinberg



Sister Elizabeth O'Donohoe

At a similar event for local inter faith practitioners held by IFN in London in March, Sister Elizabeth O'Donohoe, Islington Faiths Forum, spoke about how the longstanding links the Forum had previously established enabled it to

respond swiftly following the attack near Finsbury Park Mosque the previous summer.

Also at that meeting there was an item on 'Responding together to tackle prejudice and hatred'. Elliot Steinberg, Policy Officer, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government spoke about the work of the Faith and Integration Team at MHCLG on tackling hatred and tensions and its Hate Crime Action Plan.

Their presentations are both included in the event report at [www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/ifn-day-event-for-local-inter-faith-practitioners-lon-2018](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/ifn-day-event-for-local-inter-faith-practitioners-lon-2018).

Further information about both events is on page 25 of this Review.

*Note:* In urgent situations, the Co-Chairs and the Moderators of the Faith Communities Forum may make a joint statement in their capacities as Officers of IFN and representatives of the Faith Communities Forum respectively, and on their own behalf, which does not then commit member bodies. Statements can be made on events that affect inter faith relations in the UK, or on overseas events when these are directly affecting relation between different faith communities in this country or deemed to have a very strong likelihood of doing so.



# INFORMATION, ADVICE AND SHARING GOOD PRACTICE

An important way that IFN helps to increase awareness of the teachings, traditions and practices of the different faith communities in the UK and to promote good relations between people of different faiths is through providing information and advice.

During this period IFN continued to act as a key source of advice and information on inter faith issues in the UK, working with its member bodies to do so, and providing contact details to assist in connecting enquirers with those who may be best able to help them. As well as individual members of the public, organisations that IFN assisted during the period included Government Departments, local authorities, other public bodies, voluntary organisations, educational institutions and the media.

IFN responds to queries which come in by phone, through its websites and on Facebook and Twitter, as well as informally through face-to-face engagement.

In some cases, IFN staff are involved with projects on a longer term basis, where this is seen as fitting with IFN's aims and helping to carry these out. For example, this year has seen continued engagement with the Equality and Diversity Forum, the Near Neighbours Programme of the Church Urban Fund and the Church of England, the Religious Education Council of England and Wales and Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunals Service.

Staff visits and attendance at events are also an important part of this work of keeping people in touch and sharing good practice. Some of this year's, examples: speaking at a meeting held by Aylesbury District Council to look at developing a new inter faith initiative; chairing by invitation a York Interfaith Group event on 'What People Most Misunderstand about my Faith'; attending a celebration of Mahavir Janma Kalyanak organised jointly by the Institute of Jainology and the Jain All Party Parliamentary Group at the House of Commons; an inter faith iftar hosted by the Board of Deputies of British Jews; a schools' inter faith day organised by Arsenal in the Community; a roundtable organised by Heritage England and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport on the



Government's response to the Taylor Review recommendations; and Interfaith Scotland's day event for Scottish local inter faith groups.

## E-BULLETIN

IFN produces a bi-monthly e-bulletin packed with news about inter faith projects and resources and with updates about key faith and public life developments. It is sent to subscribers and is also available on the IFN website in both PDF and web page formats. Members of the public can subscribe to the E-Bulletin on the homepage of the IFN website at [www.interfaith.org.uk/#signup](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/#signup).



## ENQUIRIES

Just a few of the enquiries to which IFN has responded this year...

- Can you give me some advice on starting a young people's inter faith group in my local area?
- I would like to hold an inter faith dialogue event at my school. Please can you offer some advice?
- I work in a homeless hostel and would like to run an inter faith workshop for the residents. Can you signpost me to some people who may be able to help with this?
- How might I go about setting up a local inter faith group in my area?
- Where can I find a calendar of different religious festivals?
- Do you have any examples of constitutions for local faith leaders' groups?
- Where might I find information about the contribution of people from different religious backgrounds in the First World War?
- Who can I contact about inter faith relationships?
- Can you give me some information about inter faith sports projects?
- Can you help our group with guidance on using social media?

## CIRCULARS

IFN issued Circulars throughout the year to draw member bodies' attention to a wide range of issues and opportunities. They helped to keep members in touch with relevant faith and public life issues, IFN news, and the work of other relevant bodies, such as the Equality and Human Rights Commission. They also highlighted some particular themes such as using arts and culture and sporting activities to encourage inter faith understanding and cooperation. 37 Circulars were sent to member bodies during the period covered by this review.

## WEBSITES

IFN's websites provide information, advice and sharing good practice. IFN has two websites: [www.interfaith.org.uk](http://www.interfaith.org.uk), which is its main organisational website, and [www.interfaithweek.org](http://www.interfaithweek.org) for its Inter Faith Week programme.

## TWITTER, FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM

Facebook, Twitter and Instagram are increasingly important channels for information about faith and inter faith activity and they are also very useful tools for encouraging wider involvement.

As well as sharing news and highlighting positive stories through social media, IFN also runs special

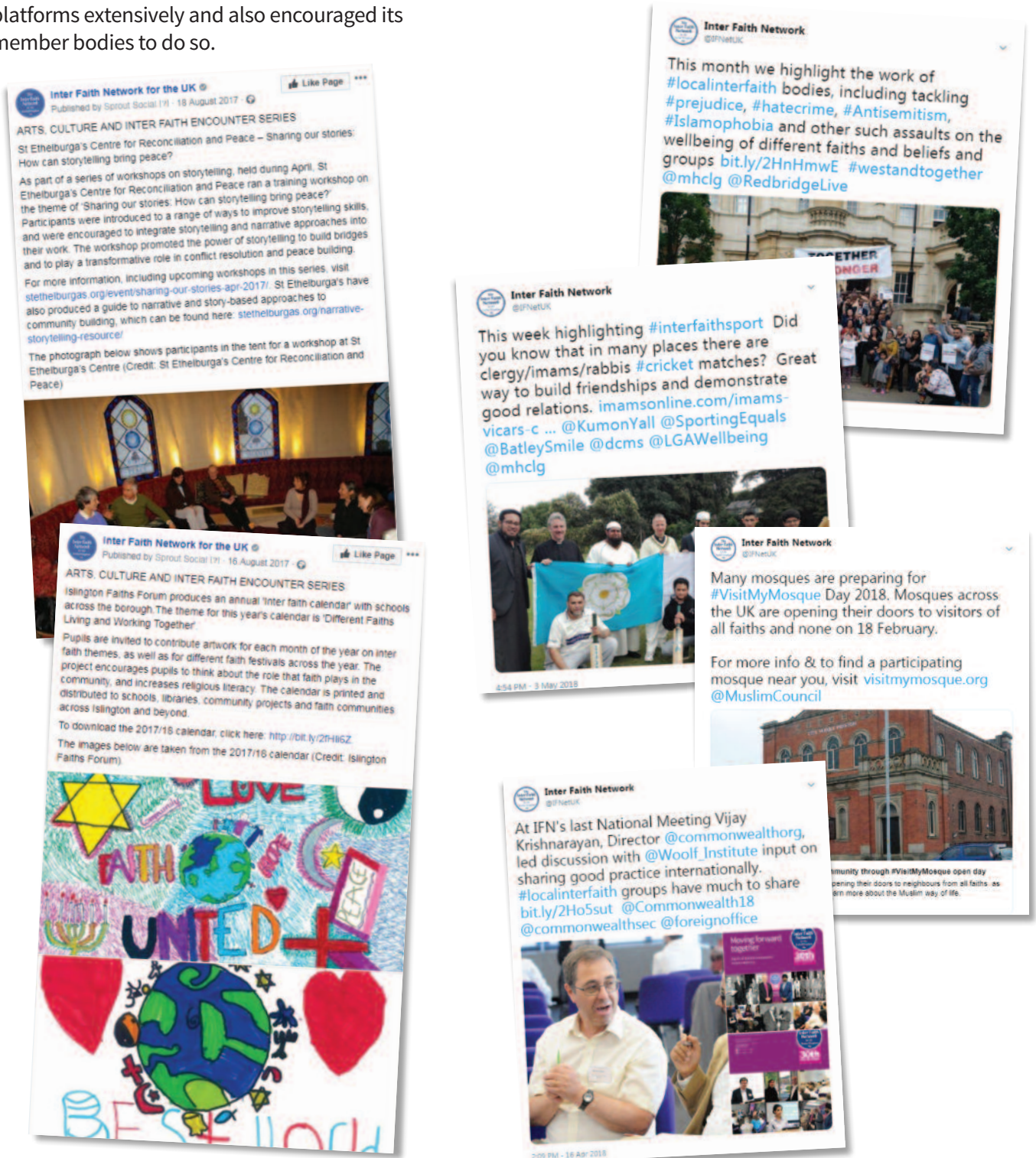


series on Facebook and Twitter. For example, during August, it published a series of Facebook profiles on the theme of 'Arts, Culture and Inter Faith Encounter'. These were based on examples contributed by IFN member bodies of their recent work that used arts and culture to help people develop inter faith understanding and cooperation, and to engage with one another.

IFN runs separate Facebook and Twitter accounts for the Inter Faith Network and Inter Faith Week. During this period, IFN continued to use these platforms extensively and also encouraged its member bodies to do so.

In October 2017, IFN created an Instagram account for Inter Faith Week, and has continued to develop this for photographic content.

IFN's 2018 National Meeting had a special focus on young people. During consultative meetings with young people, linked to the Connect programme, young people had highlighted Instagram as a preferred medium. IFN therefore added an Instagram account in the lead up to the National Meeting.



## FAITH COMMUNITIES AND COMMON ACTION



Participants at the September FCF meeting

National Faith Community Representative Bodies in membership of IFN share a commitment to working for the wellbeing of wider society and to developing inter faith understanding and cooperation.

All such bodies have their own programmes of work and patterns of engagement with other communities, as well as with Government and other agencies. Multi faith engagement on these issues is not a substitute for these. At the same time, there is great value in the faith communities discussing collectively, on a regular basis, issues of common concern and exchanging information about their programmes of work. The Faith Communities Forum (FCF) is the IFN framework which provides the opportunity for this form of engagement on inter faith and public life issues.



FCF members launching Inter Faith Week 2017



Participants at the May FCF meeting

Meetings of the Forum took place in September and November 2017 and in March 2018. Each meeting included sharing of news and information about National Faith Community Representative Bodies' own work and particular issues of concern. On the agenda were a wide range of issues including:

- 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 presentations from Max Brodie, Community Resilience Lead, Civil Contingencies Secretariat, Cabinet Office and Dr Jo Gillespie, Head of Resilience (North) and Recovery, Resilience and Emergencies Division, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).
- 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.
- The Government's Integration Strategy, with a presentation from Penny Hobman, Deputy Director, Integration Strategy, MHCLG.
- The establishment of a Religion Media Centre, with a presentation from Ben Rich, one of its Trustees.
- Youth inter faith engagement, including:
  - an overview of the work of the National Citizens Service (NCS) programme and its significance for young people, inter faith engagement and faith communities' involvement by Naim Moukarzel of the NCS Trust;



March meeting of the FCF

- a presentation by Padideh Sabeti of the Office of External Affairs of the UK Baha'i Community and Co-Facilitator of IFN's Youth Inter Faith Engagement Advisory Group on IFN's current work with young people, its member bodies and others to develop a new edition of the *Connect* youth inter faith guide and a discussion paper for the youth focused National Meeting.

- Hate crime.

A special session of IFN's Faith Communities Forum was also held in May to discuss the Government's Green Paper on the Integrated Communities Strategy. Hardip Begol, Director, Integration and Communities, MHCLG attended the meeting to make a presentation and answer questions.

At each meeting IFN included a short reflection, relating to the main Agenda theme, from a representative of a different faith community member body about its bases for engaging. The meetings across the period covered by this Review included reflections from Major Alan Dixon, 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 from Ervad Yazad T Bhadha on bases in the Zoroastrian tradition for thinking about integration and its importance to society.

The Faith Communities Forum has 10 Moderators – 2 Co-Moderators, who jointly chair the Forum, and 8 Vice-Moderators. 6 Moderator places are held by the largest communities: Christian, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Jewish, and Buddhist. The other places are held in a rotation agreed by the other groups. The Moderators have a particular role in relation to statement-making (see page 16).



Participants at the September FCF meeting



Naim Moukarzel, NCS Trust, presenting to the March FCF meeting

In this period, the Co-Moderators were:  
The Rt Revd Richard Atkinson OBE [Christian]  
Mr Malcolm Deboo [Zoroastrian]  
and the Vice-Moderators were:  
Mr Mohinder Singh Chana [Sikh]  
Ms Bev Heslin [Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints]  
Rabbi David Mason [Jewish]  
Mr Satya Minhas [Hindu]  
Maulana Shahid Raza OBE [Muslim]  
Venerable Bogoda Seelawimala [Buddhist]  
Dr Natubhai Shah MBE [Jain]  
Mr Karl Wightman [Baha'i]

# ADDING VALUE TO THE WORK OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL INTER FAITH ORGANISATIONS

Among IFN's member bodies are inter faith organisations and programmes whose work is carried out at UK or national level or which, while regionally focused, are used by people across the country. They are important resources for people who want to get involved in inter faith activity.

A number of these, such as the Council of Christians and Jews, work primarily with particular religious traditions; others, such as the Faith and Belief Forum, work with people of any religion or belief. Some of the organisations have a particular focus for their work, such as Religions for Peace (UK).

IFN adds value to the work of these organisations through raising the profile of that and through sharing information and ideas through its meetings, publications, e-bulletin and social media.

A meeting for member National and Regional Inter Faith Organisations took place in London in March. This was for both these bodies and IFN member bodies in the Educational and Academic Bodies category to discuss youth inter faith engagement, and tackling hate crime and prejudice. Presentations on youth inter faith engagement were given by Ashley Beck of IFN about IFN's youth inter faith engagement programme and by Phil Champain of the Faith and Belief Forum on its programmes with young people. There were also reflections on the hate crime related section of Government's Integrated Communities Strategy



Phil Champain, Faith and Belief Forum, speaking at the joint category meeting in March



Participants at the joint category meeting in March



Photo: Alan Kay

Participants at the meeting in Glasgow of IFN with national inter faith linking bodies

Green Paper, including: on the role of inter faith organisations and educational and academic bodies in providing resources and skills for tackling hate and prejudice, and how they are currently engaged with these topics. Other topics of discussion included updates on member bodies' current inter faith work and issues of concern to them, and a number of IFN matters.

### INTER FAITH LINKING BODIES

The Inter Faith Network links in membership the national inter faith linking bodies of the devolved nations: Interfaith Scotland, the Inter-Faith Council for Wales (IfCW)/Cyngor Cyd-Efydd Cymru, and the Northern Ireland Inter-Faith Forum, each of which appoints a Trustee to IFN's Board. IFN works closely with these bodies and each year convenes a meeting with them to enable sharing of news and good practice.

The annual meetings rotate between Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The 2018 meeting took place in June, hosted by Interfaith Scotland at its Inter Faith Dialogue Centre in Glasgow.

Issues on the agenda included: Inter Faith Week, in particular the forthcoming 10th Inter Faith Week and 15th Scottish Interfaith Week and the roles of the different national bodies; the planned update of *The Local Inter Faith Guide*; matters of interest and concern, such as hate crime and Brexit; and a brief round-up of key developments within each organisation since the last meeting.

In March a focus group for the Connect project was held by IFN in Cardiff in consultation with the IfCW which also advised on a school visit for the project. Further information is on Page 7. Later in the year, IFN's Executive Director, Dr Harriet Crabtree,



Ashley Beck taking part in Interfaith Scotland's annual networking seminar for local inter faith groups in Scotland



attended the annual Inter Faith Dinner and Lecture in Cardiff of the Muslim Council of Wales.

## EDUCATION AND RELIGIOUS LITERACY

IFN's member bodies include a number of educational and academic bodies which, in different ways, work to promote inter faith understanding and cooperation in the UK. Some are specialist academic institutions researching aspects of inter faith relations and others are educational bodies with a focus on particular areas, such as Religious Education in schools.

### MEETING OF EDUCATIONAL AND ACADEMIC BODIES

A meeting for member Educational and Academic Bodies and National and Regional Inter Faith Organisations was held in London in March. See the report on page 22.

### INCREASING RELIGIOUS LITERACY AT LOCAL LEVEL

At the day event for local inter faith practitioners held in Manchester in October, 'Supporting RE and inter faith engagement in schools' was the topic of one of the discussion groups. This explored how local inter faith bodies do, and can, work with schools and SACREs on supporting religious education in the curriculum.

Alison Bradley of Liverpool Community Spirit, gave a presentation about its work with schools, and in particular about Home of Hospitality – where students experience a 'living room of faith' with a traditional welcome from a faith representative, learn greetings and experience hospitality traditions. Her presentation is included in the full report of that event at [www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/ifn-day-event-for-local-inter-faith-practitioners-a-short-report-manchester](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/ifn-day-event-for-local-inter-faith-practitioners-a-short-report-manchester).

At the March day event for local inter faith practitioners held by IFN in London, one of the plenary themes was 'Local inter faith groups – educating for inter faith understanding'. Santosh Kundi of Warwick District Faiths Forum (WDF), spoke about its work to increase religious literacy of public bodies such as police and local authorities through presentations on different faiths arranged for them by the WDF. Ryad Khodabocus of Luton Council of Faiths (LCF) spoke about its wide ranging work with schools to enhance the inter faith experience of pupils. Their presentations are both



included in the event report at [www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/ifn-day-event-for-local-inter-faith-practitioners-lon-2018](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/ifn-day-event-for-local-inter-faith-practitioners-lon-2018).

Further information about both events is on page 25.

## THE UK AND THE WIDER WORLD

A number of IFN's member bodies, such as UK branches of international inter faith organisations, have a particular focus on inter faith activity and cross-faith work globally.

The focus of IFN's own work is the UK. However, IFN's work – and inter faith work in the UK more generally – is of interest to governments, researchers, students and inter faith practitioners in other countries. Many make contact as part of exploring good practice around the world. This year there was discussion and sharing of good practice with enquirers from Austria, Germany, India, Indonesia and the United Arab Emirates.



# SUPPORTING GRASSROOTS ENGAGEMENT

There are currently around 250 local inter faith organisations in the UK. Some link many faiths; others have a focus on building good relations between particular faiths in a local area.

These local bodies play an important role in developing inter faith understanding and cooperation in their areas.

IFN supports this grassroots activity through support and advice. It does that through responding to enquiries, visiting and speaking with groups and by enabling practitioners to share insights and practical learning through attending meetings and contributing to resources. This helps strengthen their programmes and, through this, the local communities which they serve.

IFN also leads on Inter Faith Week as one of its key programmes (see page 30). Local inter faith initiatives play a key role in the Week, marking it in a wide variety of creative ways. IFN seeks to highlight these through its work to support the Week, and provides a single point of reference through listing activities on the website, including via a searchable map.

## SHARING GOOD PRACTICE PERSON TO PERSON

IFN held a day event in Manchester in October, and another in London in March, for local inter faith practitioners from anywhere in the UK to share experiences, discuss issues of common interest and have focused learning opportunities about practical aspects of developing successful inter faith programmes. Many topics were discussed at the events:

- the importance of local inter faith work
- responding to terrorism, extremism and hatred
- conversations in friendly spaces
- the importance of local inter faith organisations and local authorities working in partnership
- partnership working with other bodies in pursuit of common aims such as inter faith understanding, cooperation and integration
- supporting RE and inter faith engagement in schools

## What are local inter faith organisations?

Local inter faith organisations bring people of different faiths together in a specific area or locality. They vary in their makeup and programmes but their work usually includes some or all of the following activities:

- Promoting inter faith understanding through discussion/dialogue
- Joint social action projects
- Visits to places of worship
- Faith trails and multi faith walks or pilgrimages
- Educational events or exhibitions
- Assisting on multi faith civic ceremonies
- Shared meals
- Inter Faith Week events
- Providing speakers to help school children learn about different faiths from practitioners as part of Religious Education
- Working to prevent community tensions and also to respond to these when necessary
- Enabling and supporting joint responses to major events
- Diversity training
- Providing advice and assistance to public bodies

Find your nearest local group:  
[www.interfaith.org.uk/locator](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/locator)

- women and inter faith engagement
- the importance of building local links
- using social media to increase the impact of local inter faith work
- developing successful programmes with impact and widening the circle of engagement
- initiating new local inter faith bodies and reviewing the work and direction of existing ones
- increasing engagement with and by young people
- local groups' work on religious literacy and with schools

## FEEDBACK

100% of participants who gave feedback on the day said that they found it to be interesting and worthwhile.

***"...I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to listen and learn"***

***"I found the event useful and informative..."***

***"[It was] good to network with members of other groups"***

The days were chaired by Jatinder Singh Birdi, Co-Chair of IFN. Presenters and facilitators included: IFN staff and, in order of participation, Revd Charles Kwaku-Odoi, Faith Network 4 Manchester; Rabbi Warren Elf, Faith Network 4 Manchester; Elinor Chohan, Altrincham Interfaith Group; Alison Bradley, Liverpool Community Spirit; Fakhra Rehman, North Kirklees Inter-Faith Council; Dr Peter Rookes, Birmingham Council of Faiths; Kathryn Azarpay, Birmingham Council of Faiths; Chan Parmar, Bolton Interfaith Council; Miss Puja Solanki, Bolton Interfaith Youth Ambassador; Sister Patricia Harriss, York Inter Faith Group; Chirag Khajuria, Blackpool Faith Forum; the Revd Alan Green, Tower Hamlets Inter Faith Forum; George Ballantyne, Leicester City Council; Santosh Kundi, Warwick District Faiths Forum; Ryad Khodabocus, Luton Council of Faiths; Elliot Steinberg, Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government; Sister Elizabeth O'Donohoe, Islington Faiths Forum; Chris Wood, Norwich InterFaith Link; and Narendra Waghela, Leicester Council of Faiths and IFN Trustee.

IFN encouraged the use of social media throughout the events, with participants using the hashtag #IFNlocal.



Andy Sipple, Kettering Interfaith Forum, George Ballentyne, Leicester City Council, and Ervad Yazad Bhadha, Harrow Interfaith



Wendy Smith, Waltham Forest Faith Communities Forum



Dr Harriet Crabtree, IFN and Jatinder Singh Birdi, IFN Co-Chair and Warwick District Faiths Forum



Santosh Kundi, Warwick District Faiths Forum, and Pat Wilkinson, Solihull Faiths Forum



Alison Bradley, Liverpool Community Spirit, presenting in a discussion group



Rupa Shah Flynn and the Revd Charles Kwaku-Odoi, Faith Network 4 Manchester



The Revd Richard Tetlow, Moseley Inter Faith Forum, Mufti Helal Mahmood, Oldham Interfaith Forum, and Ismail Hasham, Blackburn with Darwen Interfaith Forum



Discussion group participants

Full reports of the two events are available to download on the IFN website at: [www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/publications](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/publications).

### HIGHLIGHTING THE WORK OF LOCAL GROUPS

IFN ran a short campaign across Facebook and Twitter during the end of March and early April, with

a #localinterfaith hashtag. The aim was to raise the profile of local inter faith organisations, highlight positive stories about local inter faith initiatives and share good practice and ideas.

28 tweets were done for the campaign highlighting many different dimensions of local groups' work from dialogue, to social action and religious literacy.



# SPORT AND INTER FAITH RELATIONS



IFN/Sporting Equals event 'Using the Power of Sport to Build Good Inter Faith Relations'

## USING THE POWER OF SPORT TO BUILD GOOD INTER FAITH RELATIONS

On 14 November, as part of Inter Faith Week, IFN held, in partnership with Sporting Equals UK, a symposium focusing on sport and inter faith engagement: 'Using the Power of Sport to Build Good Inter Faith Relations'.

The symposium provided an excellent opportunity for practitioners from the world of sport and from inter faith initiatives to explore how sport can help people of different backgrounds to meet one another, come to understand each other better, develop skills for cooperation and build stronger inter faith relations.

The event was held at Leicester Tigers' stadium and participants came from national sports organisations, regional sports clubs, public sector organisations, and faith and inter faith bodies.

The day opened with a welcome from the Rt Revd Richard Atkinson, IFN Co-Chair, and an opening presentation by Arun Kang, CEO of Sporting Equals. Presentations followed by Tim Mathias, Inclusion and Equalities Executive for Premiership Rugby; Matt Parish, Director of Education and Inclusion, Burnley Football Club and Afrasiab Anwar, Community Faith Coordinator, Building Bridges in Burnley; Sadia Akram, Women in Sport project, Manchester; the Revd Canon Paul Hackwood, Executive Chair of the Church Urban Fund and Director of Near Neighbours; Shaheen Bi, Head of

Projects at Sporting Equals; and Arfan Akram, East London Cricket Co-Coordinator and Tour Captain and team member, Cllr Mukesh Patel, members of the East London multi faith team arranged by Essex County Cricket Club which had recently played the Vatican XI in Rome. The speakers on the closing panel were Professor John Williams, Co-Director, University of Leicester Unit for Diversity, Inclusion and Community Engagement; Rehan Haidar, Senior Policy Officer, Department for Communities and Local Government, who was supporting development of a new integration strategy; and IFN's Executive Director, Dr Harriet Crabtree.

There were 3 workshops during the programme: **Creating opportunities for engagement between single faith based bodies**, with presentations by Wasim Riaz, Project Manager, and Shana Khan, Association of Muslim Schools Inter Faith Games Programme, and Alan Sefton, Head, Arsenal in the Community; **Working with sport and physical exercise as part of developing local inter faith initiatives**, with a presentation by Trip Pannu, Windsor and Maidenhead Community Forum; and **Sport and inter faith engagement in a wider inclusion context**, with presentations from Helen Derby of the English Federation of Disability Sport and Kathryn Wall of Gwent Police Multi Faith Panel.

Press releases were sent out about the event and the Islam Channel attended to film a number of interviews and parts of the day. Its programme on the event was shown later in November.

A copy of the report on the day can be found at [www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/using-the-power-of-sport-to-build-good-inter-faith-relations](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/using-the-power-of-sport-to-build-good-inter-faith-relations).

## ENCOURAGING MORE INTER FAITH SPORT ACTIVITIES

During May IFN profiled on Twitter and Facebook some of the many ways that sport and physical activity can help build inter faith understanding and cooperation. Football, cycling, hiking and cricket were among the many sports and activities profiled. It also developed, with Sporting Equals, an accompanying website page with ideas for this. This can be found at [www.interfaith.org.uk/activity/sport](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/activity/sport).



# INTER FAITH WEEK

Inter Faith Week takes place each year in November. It is a key IFN programme. Its aims are to:

- Strengthen good inter faith relations at all levels
- Increase awareness of the different and distinct faith communities in the UK, in particular celebrating and building on the contribution which their members make to their neighbourhoods and to wider society
- Increase understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs

Building good relationships and working partnerships between people of different faiths and beliefs is, of course, part of the year-round work of many people and organisations across the UK.

Having a special Week provides an important focal point, however, which helps to open inter faith activity up to a wider audience so that more and more people are made aware of the importance of this vital work and are able to participate in it.

The Week was first held in England and Wales during 2009, with Northern Ireland participating for the first time in 2010. The Week is led by IFN, which works closely with the national inter faith linking bodies of these nations. The pioneering Scottish Interfaith Week has taken place since 2004 and is led by Interfaith Scotland. More information can be found at [www.interfaithscotland.org](http://www.interfaithscotland.org).

Inter Faith Week 2017 ran from Sunday 12 to Sunday 19 November.

Preparing, promoting and supporting the development of Inter Faith Week is an important part of IFN's work in the months leading up to the Week. In 2017, this included uploading activities to



the interactive map on the Inter Faith Week website; engaging with new constituencies; publicising the Week, including through social media; research; and encouraging media interest.

The Inter Faith Network for the UK Board of Trustees decided that, as in the previous year, the Week would begin on Remembrance Sunday, encouraging people of different faiths and beliefs to mark this together.

Messages of encouragement were offered by The Rt Hon Theresa May MP, Prime Minister and Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth, Minister for Faith at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government as well as others.



**Top row:**

Union of Jewish Students members at an event held by Barnet Multi Faith Forum, Middlesex University London, Yad Vashem UK and Faith Matters (Photo: IFN)

IFN Trustee with Lord Mayor of Leeds at a Leeds Museums and Leeds Concord Interfaith Fellowship event (Photo: IFN)

Multi-faith social action to mark Mitzvah Day and Inter Faith Week (Photo: Mitzvah Day)

South Cardiff Interfaith Network event 'Young, free and religious' (Photo: IFN)

Students at Carmel College, St Helens, spelling 'IFWeek' (Photo: Carmel College Chaplaincy)

**Middle row:**

Participants at a Scottish Interfaith Week event (Photos: Interfaith Scotland)

Little Gonerby Infant School, Grantham, celebrating the Week (Photo: Little Gonerby Infant School)

'Strengthening Communities Through Faith' organised by Hammersmith & Fulham Council (Photo: Hammersmith & Fulham Council)

A multifaith Remembrance service in Leicester (Photo: Sikh Welfare and Cultural Society)

**Bottom Row**

Multi-faith storytelling with the Khayyal Theatre Company, organised by Grassroots Luton (Photo: Luton Council of Faiths and Grassroots Luton)

'Variety of Performance' organised by Solihull Faiths Forum (Photo: Solihull Faiths Forum)

Bolton Interfaith Council celebrating 'Unity in the Community' (Photo: The Bolton News)

The Faith and Belief Forum 'Interfaith Summit' (Photo: Faith and Belief Forum)

A tour of places of worship for women in Sandwell organised by Near Neighbours (Photo: Near Neighbours)



All photos on this page were taken by IFN

People from the following organisations: Top Row – Blackpool Faith Forum, The Inter Faith Network for the UK, The Pagan Federation. Middle Row – The National Union of Students, Interfaith Scotland, North Kirklees Inter Faith Council and Oldham Interfaith Forum, Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe. Bottom Row – Faith Network 4 Manchester, Jain Network and Sri Lankan Sangha Sabha of Great Britain, Bolton Interfaith Young Ambassadors, Bolton Interfaith Council, and Wakefield Interfaith Network.

***“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.”***

LORD BOURNE OF ABERYSTWYTH, MINISTER FOR FAITH, MINISTRY OF HOUSING, COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Inter Faith Week 2017 was the largest Week to date, both in terms of activities organised and people reached. Many thousands of people took part, in dozens of towns, cities and rural areas. The Rt Hon

Theresa May, Prime Minister, reflected on the week with a special message:

***“Inter Faith Week 2017 was an inspiring effort across all neighbourhoods and faiths across the United Kingdom, in building understanding, tolerance and a sense of community. These sentiments are so important as we build a country where everyone has the chance to succeed and where no one suffers discrimination because of their backgrounds, ethnicity, religion or belief.”***

PRIME MINISTER, THERESA MAY MP

An illustrated report on Inter Faith Week 2017 can be downloaded from the Inter Faith Week website at [www.interfaithweek.org/resources/inter-faith-week-stories-from-2017-inspiration-for-2018](http://www.interfaithweek.org/resources/inter-faith-week-stories-from-2017-inspiration-for-2018).



## SPREADING THE WORD

The Inter Faith Network for the UK publicised the Week throughout the preceding months. It did this using a dedicated website, [www.interfaithweek.org](http://www.interfaithweek.org), targeted mailings, a widely distributed flyer, badges, Twitter and Facebook and ~ for the first time ~ Instagram. Participants were also invited to show their support through a social media campaign, using special cards for their own messages about what the Week meant to them and why it is important. Many activity holders also purchased specially designed badges for the Week, which further reinforced the Week's marking across the country.

## EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

702 activities were recorded as having taken place across England, Wales and Northern Ireland to mark Inter Faith Week 2017. It was the biggest Week to date.

Week-long programmes of events were held in a number of towns and cities, including Birmingham, Bolton, Kendal, Leeds, Leicester, Norwich, Preston and York.

The Near Neighbours Programme of the Church Urban Fund and the Inter Faith Youth Trust supported with grants a number of events during the Week.

The Week saw an amazing array of activities. They included:

- multi-faith Remembrance events and ceremonies
- dialogues and discussion
- social action projects
- faith trails, walks and pilgrimages
- peace and non-violence events
- arts, culture and music activities
- celebrations and festivals
- open door days at local places of worship
- activities at higher and further education institutions
- school activities
- inter faith sporting activities
- women's activities
- activities organised by or with local authorities and other public agencies, including the emergency services
- national initiatives
- special online projects and social media campaigns.

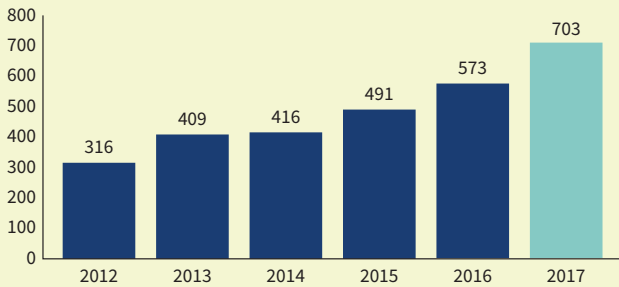
## USING THE POWER OF SPORT TO BUILD GOOD INTER FAITH RELATIONS

On 14 November, as part of Inter Faith Week, IFN held, in partnership with Sporting Equals, an event focusing on sport and inter faith engagement: 'Using the Power of Sport to Build Good Inter Faith Relations'. More information about this is on page 28.



Batley Poets publicising an Inter Faith Week event

## GROWTH IN EVENTS



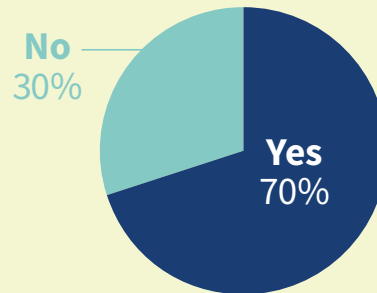
The chart at the top of the next page shows a breakdown of events held during the Week by type. The Inter Faith Week website also included events by category for those interested in specific types of activity. Many activities fall into multiple categories, so the numbers on the chart differ from the total number of activities.

A full list of activities can be found at [www.interfaithweek.org/resources/inter-faith-week-2017-list-of-activities](http://www.interfaithweek.org/resources/inter-faith-week-2017-list-of-activities).

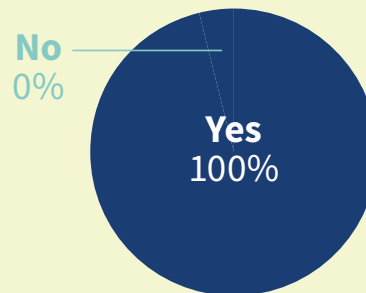
The Week was marked by over 750 organisations of many kinds – local faith communities; local, national and regional inter faith organisations; chaplaincies; schools, HE and FE institutions; and many more. Activity organisers did not always list every partner, so it is likely that more organisations took part than are listed. New partnerships were also formed, with 53% of survey respondents saying they had worked with new partners for the first time during the Week.

As shown in the chart at the bottom of the next page, the organisations varied widely by type. The figure only includes named organisations that IFN is certain took part in the arrangement of an activity. Events run jointly by several organisations were a common feature of the Week.

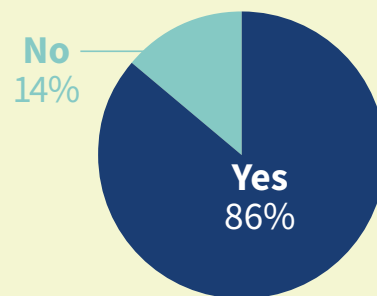
**SURVEY Q:** Did you use the Week as an opportunity to do something you have not done before, such as try a new kind of activity, reach out to a different audience, increase awareness about religious diversity or launch a new resource/initiative?



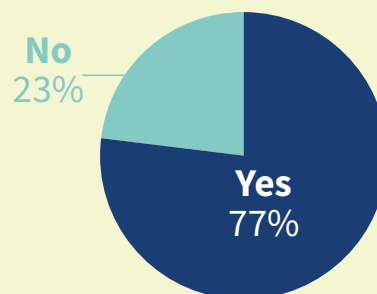
**SURVEY Q:** Did your Inter Faith Week activity help you to engage new people?



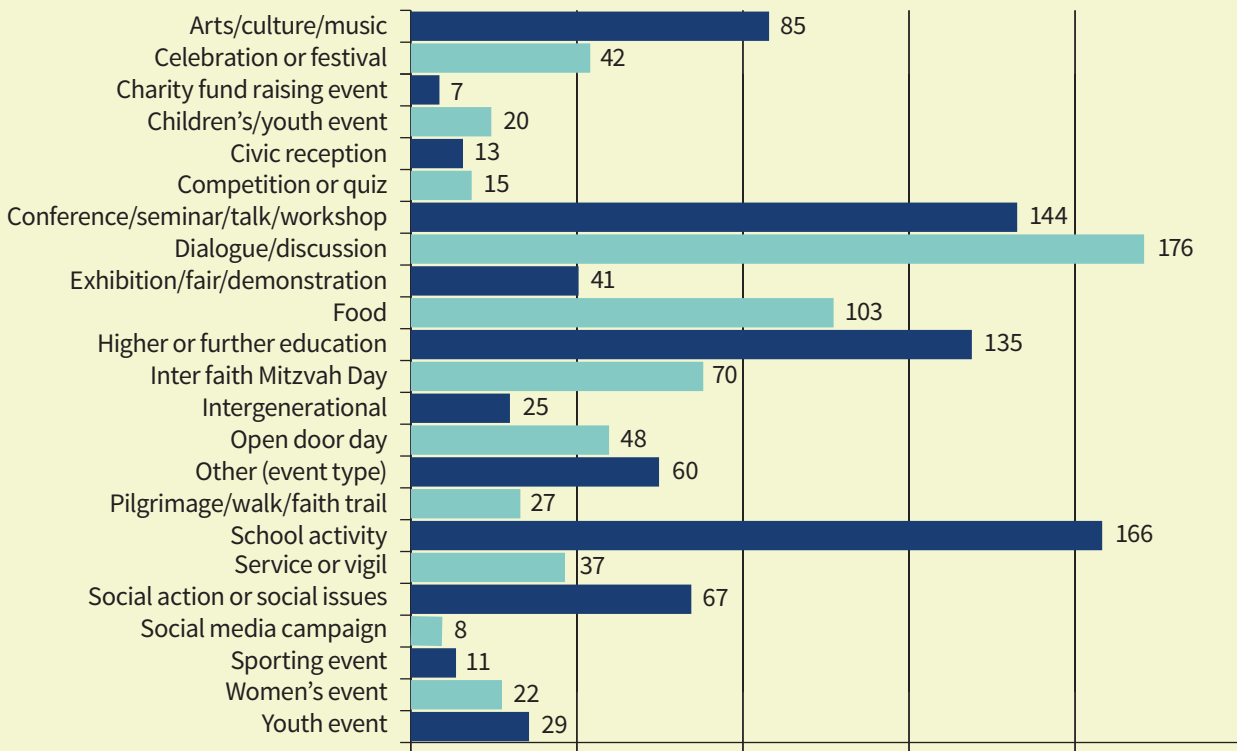
**SURVEY Q:** Do you think your Inter Faith Week activity helped participants to learn more about different faiths and beliefs?



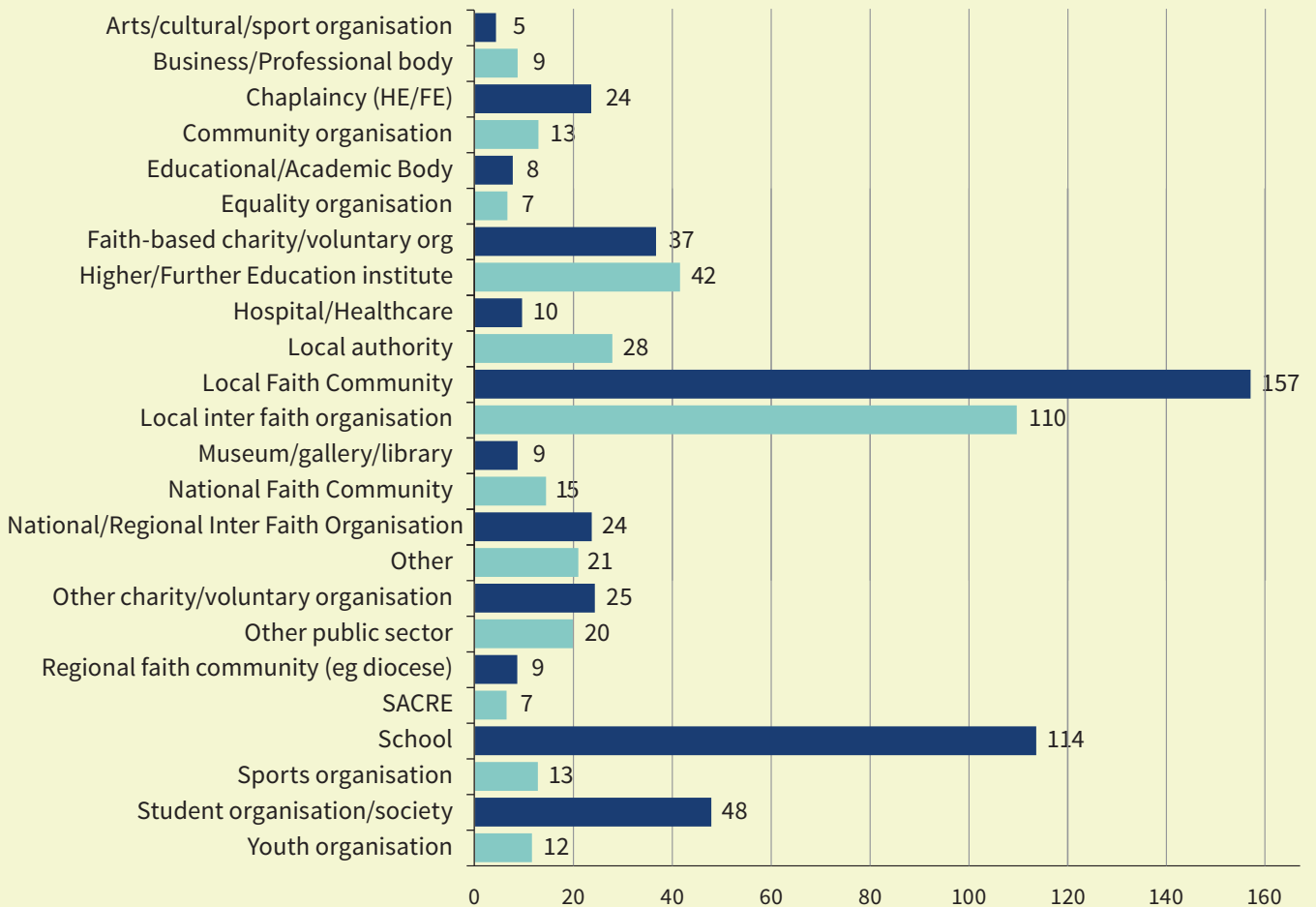
**SURVEY Q:** Are you planning any kind of follow up activity?

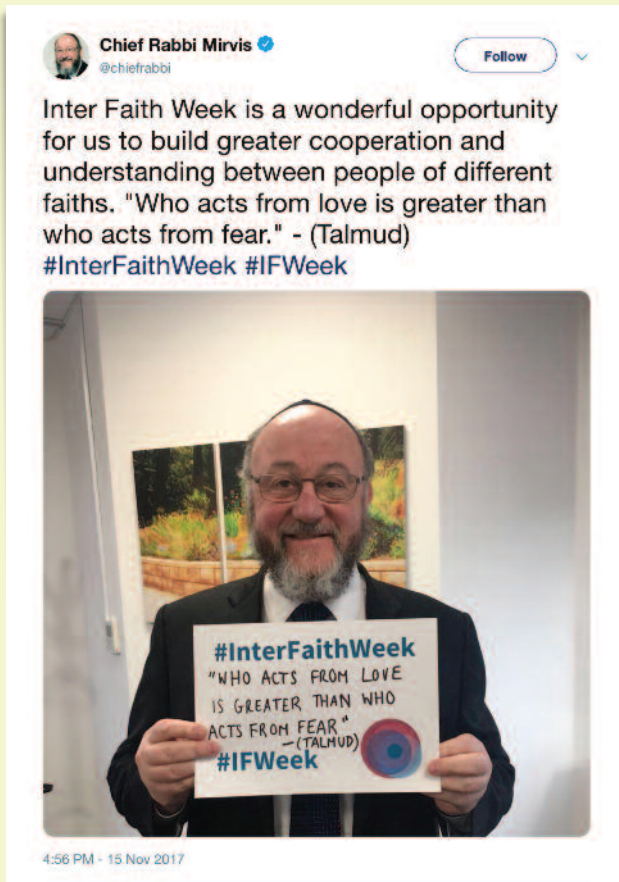


### INTER FAITH WEEK 2017 EVENT TYPES



### TYPES OF ORGANISATION MARKING INTER FAITH WEEK 2017





**MEDIA AND SOCIAL MEDIA**

Inter Faith Week 2017 was the biggest Week to date on social media, with Twitter, Facebook and Instagram being widely used to spread the message of the Week, as well as news and information about events and activities.

Inter Faith Week was active on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram in the build up to the Week, and throughout the Week itself. Inter Faith Week is '@IFWeek' on all three platforms.

On Twitter, use of the hashtags #InterFaithWeek and #IFWeek was encouraged, with the former being most widely used. In total, tweets about the Week had a potential reach of 13.4 million Twitter users, the most to date, registering around 40.4 million potential impressions. On Facebook, people were encouraged to 'like' the Inter Faith Week page.

A number of prominent figures tweeted and posted about the Week, including Prime Minister Theresa May, Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth, the Mayor of



**Many faiths at event to launch week**

**Faiths come together for "incredible" event in Bournemouth**

**Council supports national Interfaith Week**



**Pilgrims tour places of worship for Interfaith Week**

**Friendship between faiths celebrated during week of Kendal events**

**Bolton Interfaith Week was truly inspiring**

**INTERFAITH WEEK TOURNAMENT A SUCCESS**

Surrey FA's Youth Forum delivered a 5 a-side Inter-Faith Football Tournament on Saturday 18th November at Carshalton Athletic FC during...

**CCJ Student Leaders prepare for Interfaith Week**

We're looking forward to interfaith Week when our Student Leaders will be holding launch events at their universities.

London, and Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis. Inter Faith Week also worked with the National Union of Students to run a special social media campaign, #IFWCoffeeConvos, encouraging informal conversations about faith and belief during the Week.

The Week also had a strongly local focus, and received excellent coverage in numerous local newspapers and on local radio. Many articles were written about Inter Faith Week activities by member bodies and others online. There was also some coverage in national newspapers and faith and cultural news outlets.

Local news coverage significantly increases the impact of activities and strengthens programmes of work conducted for the Week. It also prompts some people to consider getting involved in inter faith activity for the first time, and encourages participation in future years.

### INTER FAITH WEEK 2018

A report on the 2017 Week with a section looking forward to the 2018 Week was published in May: *Stories from 2017, Inspiration for 2018*. It can be downloaded at [www.interfaithweek.org/resources/inter-faith-week-stories-from-2017-inspiration-for-2018](http://www.interfaithweek.org/resources/inter-faith-week-stories-from-2017-inspiration-for-2018).

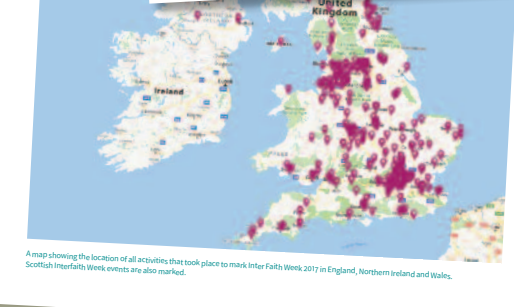
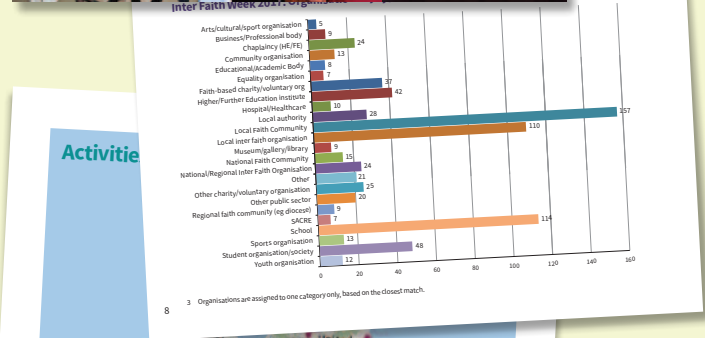


Photo: Interfaith Scotland

Participants at a Scottish Interfaith Week event



# MEMBERSHIP

The 2018 AGM, in Derby on 4 July, accepted into provisional membership the following organisations:

## *National faith community representative bodies*

- Salvation Army United Kingdom Territory with the Republic of Ireland (“the Salvation Army”)

## *Local inter faith organisations*

- Greater Yarmouth Inter Faith and Belief Network
- Swindon Inter Faith Group
- North Kent Council for Inter Faith Relations – Kent Thameside

The AGM also affirmed the full membership of the bodies which had been admitted into provisional membership in 2016: Interfaith Working Group of

the Baptist Union of Great Britain; Cornwall Faith Forum; Solihull Faith Forum and Wakefield Interfaith Network.

The AGM noted the withdrawal from IFN membership of the following organisations, which had ceased to operate: Doncaster Interfaith; Hampshire Interfaith Network and Kirklees Faiths Forum. It also noted withdrawal from IFN membership of Jain Samaj Europe, as its general policy was now no longer to affiliate with organisations beyond its locality.

The AGM noted that the Maimonides Interfaith Foundation had changed its name to the Khalili Foundation and that 3FF (the Three Faiths Forum) had changed its name to the Faith and Belief Forum.

# LOOKING AHEAD

## STRATEGIC AIMS

In September IFN’s Board of Trustees agreed to extend the 2015–2017 Strategic Plan by one year to include 2018. The Plan is structured around the following aims:

- 1 Raise awareness** of the importance of inter faith engagement, cooperation and dialogue and be a trusted source of information about this
- 2 Help strengthen and increase opportunities** for inter faith learning, dialogue and engagement at every level and help widen participation in these
- 3 Continue to develop IFN’s unique linking role** and work towards new ways of engaging, including across the nations and regions
- 4 Support faith communities’ engagement on relevant matters** on a multi faith basis, both with each other and in the public square, and develop opportunities for engagement with issues of living well together in a multi faith society including with contentious and challenging issues
- 5 Help raise awareness** about the different faith communities in the UK, including their contribution to society
- 6 Ensure that IFN is sustainable, effective, and able to respond quickly** to challenges and change

The Board is now taking forward work on strategic priorities for 2019–22, responding to the changing inter faith landscape within the UK, and bearing in mind points offered by member bodies at the 2018 National Meeting and AGM. The plan will cover a three-year period, with each year running from 1 April to 31 March.

# TRUSTEES



The 2017–18 Board of Trustees

At the 2018 AGM Rabbi Maurice Michaels was re-elected Honorary Treasurer of IFN.

Acharya Modgala Duguid, Dr Stephen Herman, Padideh Sabeti and Lord Singh of Wimbledon CBE retired at the AGM. Acharya Duguid had served as a Trustee since 2012, serving on both the Strategic Review Working Group and the Membership Subcommittee, most recently as its Chair. Dr Herman had been a Trustee since 2016 and had served as a member of the Membership Subcommittee. Ms Sabeti had been a Trustee since 2014, had been co-facilitating the Advisory Group for the Youth Inter Faith Engagement project, and kindly agreed to continue in that role for the Advisory Group's final meeting, which took place after the AGM. All were thanked warmly for their service.

At the AGM it was also noted that Narendra Waghela, who had been a Trustee since 2015 and had served as a member of the FGPS, had finished his term of office. He was also thanked warmly for his service.

Particular thanks were given to Lord Singh, who had served as a Trustee since IFN was founded and had also served as Vice-Chair from 1987 to 1992; 1995 to 2001; 2007 to 2012; and 2015 to 2016; and also as a Co-Chair from 1992 to 1995. Special thanks had been offered to him at IFN's 30th Anniversary National Meeting in 2017 and a presentation made to him.

Among those elected as ordinary members of the Board for 2018–2019 were five people newly elected to the Board: Mrs Josephine Backus; Mr Mohinder Singh Chana (who has served in the past); Mrs Miriam Levene; Miss Lina Mar and Ms Patricia Stoa.



Trustees at May Board meeting

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES AS ELECTED AT 2018 AGM

### CO-CHAIRS

The Rt Revd Richard Atkinson OBE

Mr Jatinder Singh Birdi

### HONORARY TREASURER

Rabbi Maurice Michaels

### TRUSTEES

Mrs Josephine Backus

Dr Sandra Baillie

Mr Manjit Singh Bhogal

Mr Keith Bishop

Mr Mohinder Singh

Chana

The Revd James Breslin

Prof Brian Gates MBE

The Revd Canon Dr John

Hall

Minister David Hopkins

Ms Julie Jones

Mr Pejman Khojasteh

Ms Sabira Lakha

Mrs Miriam Levene

Miss Lina Mar

Mr Nitin Palan MBE

Dr Maureen Sier

Ms Patricia Stoa

Mr Mike Stygal

Ms Marie van der Zyl

# IFN STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS



Ashley Beck, Hannah Cassidy, Dr Harriet Crabtree, So Sum Lee and David Hampshire



Zac Lloyd and Shmailish Anwar

## STAFF

- Mr Ashley Beck, Inter Faith Development Officer
- Ms Alice Bennington, Clerical Assistant p/t [0.2 FTE] (from November 2017)
- Mrs Hannah Cassidy, PA/ Senior Administrator p/t [0.9 FTE]
- Dr Harriet Crabtree OBE, Executive Director
- Mr David Hampshire, Assistant Director
- Ms So Sum Lee, Clerical Assistant p/t [0.2 FTE] (from November 2017)
- Mr Zac Lloyd, Intern (until September 2017); Project Assistant (from September 2017)
- Mrs Keetha Singham, Finance Assistant p/t [0.5 FTE]

## VOLUNTEERS

- Miss Shmailish Anwar (in October and November 2017)
- Ms Nur Alia Abu Bakar (until August 2017)
- Ms Natasha Blank
- Ms Caroline Elliker
- Mr Joseph Kilsby (from May 2018)
- Mr Franco Manni (until December 2017)
- Mr Emmanuel Oleifo (from May 2018)
- Ms Natasha Raspudic (from October 2017)

Volunteers make a very important contribution to IFN's work. Some help on a one-off basis, others have volunteered for longer periods. IFN is grateful to them all for their contribution. If you are interested in volunteering, see Get Involved (p. 45).



Joseph Kilsby



Natasha Raspudic



Alice Bennington



# SUPPORTERS IN 2017

The Inter Faith Network for the UK's programme of building good relations between the different faith communities in the UK is funded through support from faith communities, Government, trusts and individuals supportive of its work, as well as through the subscription fees of member bodies.

The Trustees of IFN thank most warmly all those who have given financial support during the calendar year 2017 and also those who have given the gifts of time, skills, and other in-kind support

## TRUSTS, FOUNDATIONS AND COMPANIES

Ardwick Trust  
 CB and HH Taylor 1984 Trust  
 Cook Butler Trust  
 Golden Tours Foundation  
 Inlight Trust  
 Inter Faith Youth Trust  
 N Smith Charitable Settlement  
 Mulberry Trust  
 Roger Vere Foundation  
 The Second J A Littman Foundation  
 Westminster Foundation  
 Whitecourt Charitable Trust  
 William and Christine Eynon Charity

## FAITH COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Archbishops' Council of the Church of England  
 Quakers British Yearly Meeting  
 Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe

## GOVERNMENT FUNDING

The Inter Faith Network received support towards its work in 2017 from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.



Ministry of Housing,  
 Communities &  
 Local Government

## OTHER DONORS

Altrincham Interfaith Group  
 Joseph Interfaith Foundation  
 Wayfinders Association of Modern Wizardry  
 Welwyn Hatfield Inter Faith Group  
 Wisbech Interfaith Forum  
 The Most Revd Father Olu Abiola OBE  
 Mr Keith Bishop  
 Miss Stephanie Browne  
 Mrs Elizabeth Crabtree  
 Miss Mehru Fitter  
 The Rt Revd Colin Fletcher OBE  
 Dr Rosalind Henderson  
 Ms Salina Hoang  
 Mr William Hopkinson  
 Dr Dermot Killingley  
 Dr Anthony McAffry  
 Rabbi Maurice Michaels  
 Miss Rita Nunan  
 Dr Norman Richardson MBE  
 Ms Clare Salters  
 Dr Harshad Sanghrajka MBE  
 Mr Rashid Siddiqui  
 Mr David Stevens  
 The Revd Kevin Tingay  
 Bessie White  
 The Revd Canon Michael Wolfe

As well as those who have given but prefer to remain anonymous.

*Note: IFN's accounts are on a calendar year basis and the support of those who have kindly given in 2018 will be noted in the 2018-19 Annual Review.*

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>2017 Total</i>	<i>2016 Total</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>				
Donations and legacies	21,400	395,249	416,649	350,592
Charitable Activities	—	280	280	184
Investment Income	—	19	19	226
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,400</b>	<b>395,548</b>	<b>416,948</b>	<b>351,002</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Raising funds	(1,504)	(38,975)	(40,479)	(40,751)
Charitable Activities				
Information, Advice and Comms	(2,288)	(59,279)	(61,567)	(66,482)
Meetings and Events	(9,100)	(101,233)	(110,333)	(86,054)
Publications and Research	(3,241)	(83,999)	(87,240)	(83,957)
Increasing Awareness & Engagement	(3,968)	(70,511)	(74,479)	(75,652)
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b><u>(20,101)</u></b>	<b><u>(353,997)</u></b>	<b><u>(374,098)</u></b>	<b><u>(352,896)</u></b>
<b>Net income (expenditure)/ Net surplus (deficit) for the year</b>	<b>1,299</b>	<b>41,551</b>	<b>42,850</b>	<b>(1,894)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>				
Funds at beginning of the year	—	<u>55,823</u>	<u>55,823</u>	<u>57,717</u>
<b>Funds at the end of the year</b>	<b><u>1,299</u></b>	<b><u>97,374</u></b>	<b><u>98,673</u></b>	<b><u>55,823</u></b>

All the charitable company's operations are classed as continuing.  
All the charitable company's recognised gains and losses are shown above.  
The movement on reserves is shown above.

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

	2017		2016	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Tangible Fixed Assets</b>		7,254		3,582
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Debtors and prepayments	15,036		18,313	
Cash at bank	<u>109,774</u>		<u>79,088</u>	
	124,810		97,401	
<b>Creditors: amounts due within one year</b>	<u>(33,391)</u>		<u>(45,160)</u>	
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		91,419		52,241
<b>Net Assets</b>		98,673		55,823
<b>Funds</b>				
Restricted Funds		1,299		—
Unrestricted Funds		97,374		55,823
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>98,673</b>		<b>55,823</b>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to Small Companies. They were approved by the Board of Trustees on 8 May 2018 and signed on its behalf by Rabbi Maurice Michaels, Honorary Treasurer.

*Note: the full Statutory Accounts and Trustee Report for 2017 can be accessed on the Charity Commission website.*

## Multi-faith local inter faith bodies around the UK



# GET INVOLVED: MAKE A DIFFERENCE

There are many different ways to find out more, keep in touch, and get involved in helping create inter faith cooperation and understanding:

## KEEP IN TOUCH

- sign up to receive IFN's E-bulletin ([www.interfaith.org.uk/news/ifn-e-bulletin/#signup](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/news/ifn-e-bulletin/#signup))
- 'like' us at [www.facebook.com/IFNetUK](http://www.facebook.com/IFNetUK)
- follow us at [www.twitter.com/IFNetUK](http://www.twitter.com/IFNetUK) and [www.instagram.com/IFNetUK](http://www.instagram.com/IFNetUK)
- keep an eye on our regularly updated website at [www.interfaith.org.uk](http://www.interfaith.org.uk)

## TAKE PART IN INTER FAITH WEEK

- take part in – or organise – an Inter Faith Week activity in your local area, workplace or place of study ([www.interfaithweek.org](http://www.interfaithweek.org))

## GIFT YOUR TIME AND SKILLS OR MAKE A DONATION

- volunteer at the Inter Faith Network office – find out more at [www.interfaith.org.uk/involved/vacancies/volunteering](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/involved/vacancies/volunteering)
- volunteer your services and skills to help a national or local inter faith initiative. IFN's e-bulletin includes information on volunteering opportunities. More information can also be found at [www.interfaith.org.uk/involved/vacancies/volunteering](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/involved/vacancies/volunteering)
- make a donation to support the work of your local inter faith organisation, a national inter faith initiative or other inter faith project or to support the work of the Inter Faith Network (details on how to do so are on the next page)

## MULTI FAITH SOCIAL ACTION PROJECTS

- take part in – or organise – a multi-faith social action project, such as one linked to Inter Faith Week, Mitzvah Day, Sewa Day, Sadaqa Day, Near Neighbours or Faith Action

## JOIN AN INTER FAITH GROUP OR INITIATIVE

- get involved through your own faith community if you belong to one (those in membership of IFN can be found at [www.interfaith.org.uk/members/list](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/members/list))
- find out about the nearest local inter faith organisation to you and take part in its activities ([www.interfaith.org.uk/involved/groups](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/involved/groups))
- join a national inter faith initiative which promotes inter faith understanding between particular faiths or works for a goal such as peace or social justice. You can find details at [www.interfaith.org.uk/involved/find-a-national-initiative](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/involved/find-a-national-initiative)
- get involved in school or youth inter faith initiatives – take a look at [www.interfaith.org.uk/activity/youth](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/activity/youth)
- get involved in an inter faith society on campus – your Students' Union will be able to tell you if there is one. If there is not, you might like to help set one up. Helpful pointers can be found in the NUS resource *Good Inter Faith Relations on Campus: A Toolkit* at [www.interfaithweek.org/uploads/Good\\_inter\\_faith\\_relations\\_on\\_campus\\_toolkit.pdf](http://www.interfaithweek.org/uploads/Good_inter_faith_relations_on_campus_toolkit.pdf) and IFN's *Connect: A youth inter faith action guide* at [www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/connect](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/connect)

## START AN INITIATIVE

- start a local inter faith initiative by reaching out to others in your local community. You might find the *IFN/Near Neighbours Faiths Working Together Toolkit* and the *Local Inter Faith Guide* helpful – both can be downloaded from [www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/publications](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/publications)

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

## THE IMPORTANCE OF YOUR SUPPORT

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.

**EVERY GIFT, HOWEVER LARGE OR SMALL, IS VALUED AND CAREFULLY USED TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

## MAKE A DONATION

Please consider making a gift today to support the work of the Inter Faith Network. Gifts at all levels are valued and make a difference. You can donate on our website at [www.interfaith.org.uk/donate](http://www.interfaith.org.uk/donate), via PayPal or by sending a cheque to The Inter Faith Network for the UK, 2 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DH.

*Thank You!*

## REMEMBERING A FAMILY MEMBER OR FRIEND

From time to time we receive an 'in memoriam' gift after an individual has passed away, funded from a collection following their death or through a donation from their heirs. Such gifts provide a living memorial to a loved one, supporting inter faith understanding in this country – for now and for the future. If you would like to make a gift in memory of a loved one, you can contact us at [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 Hannah Cassidy, on 020 7730 0410 or contact us at [remember@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:remember@interfaith.org.uk).**

# MEMBER ORGANISATIONS OF THE INTER FAITH NETWORK FOR THE UK 2018–19

## FAITH COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVE BODIES

Baha'i Community of the UK  
 BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha  
 Board of Deputies of British Jews  
 British Muslim Forum  
 Buddhist Society  
 Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
 Churches Together in Britain and Ireland  
 Churches Together in England  
 Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales  
 Council of African and Afro-Caribbean Churches (UK)  
 Druid Network  
 General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches  
 Hindu Council (UK)  
 Hindu Forum of Britain  
 Inter Faith Working Group of the Baptist Union of Great Britain  
 Islamic Cultural Centre  
 Jain Network  
 Jamiat-e-Ulama Britain (Association of Muslim Scholars)  
 Methodist Church in Britain  
 Mosques and Imams National Advisory Board  
 Muslim Council of Britain  
 National Council of Hindu Temples (UK)  
 Network of Buddhist Organisations (UK)  
 Network of Sikh Organisations (UK)  
 Pagan Federation  
 Quaker Committee for Christian and Interfaith Relations  
 Salvation Army United Kingdom Territory with the Republic of Ireland  
 Spiritualists' National Union  
 Sri Lankan Sangha Sabha of GB  
 United Reformed Church in the UK  
 Vishwa Hindu Parishad (UK)  
 World Ahlul-Bayt Islamic League  
 World Islamic Mission (UK)  
 Zoroastrian Trust Funds of Europe

## EDUCATIONAL AND ACADEMIC BODIES

Cambridge Inter-Faith Programme  
 Community Religions Project, University of Leeds  
 Institute of Jainology  
 Islamic Foundation  
 National Association of SACREs  
 Religious Education Council of England and Wales

Shap Working Party on World Religions in Education  
 Sion Centre for Dialogue and Encounter  
 Wales Association of SACREs  
 Woolf Institute

## NATIONAL AND REGIONAL INTER FAITH ORGANISATIONS

Northern Ireland Inter-Faith Forum  
 Interfaith Scotland  
 Inter-faith Council for Wales/Cyngor  
 Cyd-Ffydd Cymru  
 Faiths Forum for London  
 North East Regional Faiths Network  
 South East England Faith Forum  
 All Faiths Network for the UK  
 Children of Abraham (Imams and Rabbis Council of the United Kingdom)  
 Christian Muslim Forum  
 Christians Aware Interfaith Programme  
 Council of Christians and Jews  
 Council of Dharmic Faiths  
 East of England Faiths Agency  
 Faith and Belief Forum  
 Hindu Christian Forum  
 Interfaith Alliance UK  
 International Association for Religious Freedom (British Chapter)  
 International Interfaith Centre  
 Joseph Interfaith Foundation  
 Khalili Foundation  
 London Boroughs Faiths Network  
 London Inter Faith Centre  
 London Society of Jews and Christians  
 Multi-Faith Centre at the University of Derby  
 Religions for Peace (UK)  
 Scriptural Reasoning  
 St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace  
 St Philip's Centre for Study and Engagement in a Multi Faith Society  
 United Religions Initiative (UK)  
 Westminster Interfaith  
 Women's Interfaith Network  
 World Congress of Faiths

## LOCAL INTER FAITH GROUPS

Altrincham Inter Faith Group  
 Barking and Dagenham Faith Forum  
 Barnet Multi-Faith Forum  
 Bedford Council of Faiths  
 Birmingham Council of Faiths  
 Blackpool Faith Forum  
 Bolton Interfaith Council  
 Faith Links (Bournemouth and Poole)  
 Bradford Concord Interfaith Society

Brent Multi-Faith Forum  
 Brighton and Hove Inter-Faith Contact Group  
 Bristol Inter Faith Group  
 Bristol Multi-Faith Forum  
 Building Bridges in Burnley  
 Calderdale Interfaith Council  
 Cambridge Inter-Faith Group  
 Canterbury and District Inter Faith Action  
 Cheltenham Inter Faith  
 Cherwell Faith Forum  
 Cleveland and Tees Valley Inter Faith Group  
 Cornwall Faiths Forum  
 Coventry Multi-Faith Forum  
 Crawley Interfaith Network  
 Faiths Together in Croydon  
 Cumbria Interfaith Forum  
 Devon Faith and Belief Forum  
 Dudley Borough Interfaith Network  
 Eastbourne Faiths Forum  
 Elmbridge Multi-Faith Forum  
 Exeter Faith and Belief Group  
 Gateshead Inter Faith Forum  
 Greater Yarmouth Inter Faith and Belief Network  
 Harrow Interfaith  
 Hastings and District Interfaith Forum  
 Hillingdon Inter Faith Network  
 Horsham Interfaith Forum  
 Hounslow Friends of Faith  
 Hull and East Riding Interfaith  
 Inter Faith Isle of Man  
 Islington Faiths Forum  
 Keighley Interfaith Group  
 Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames Inter-Faith Forum  
 Faiths Together in Lambeth  
 Lancashire Forum of Faiths  
 Faith in Lancaster  
 Leeds Concord Interfaith Fellowship  
 Leeds Faiths Forum  
 Leicester Council of Faiths  
 Interfaith Forum for Leicestershire  
 Loughborough Council of Faiths  
 Luton Council of Faiths  
 Faith Network for Manchester  
 Mansfield Interfaith Group  
 Medway Inter Faith Action Forum  
 Merseyside Council of Faiths  
 Interfaith MK (Milton Keynes)  
 Milton Keynes Council of Faiths  
 Newcastle Council of Faiths  
 Newham Association of Faiths  
 North Herts Faith Forum  
 North Kent Council for Inter Faith Relations – Kent Thameside  
 North Kirklees Inter-Faith Council  
 North Lincolnshire Multi Faith Partnership

North Staffordshire Forum of Faiths  
 Northampton Inter Faith Forum  
 Norwich Interfaith Link  
 Nottingham Inter Faith Council  
 Oldham Inter Faith Forum  
 Building Bridges Pendle – Interfaith Community Project  
 Peterborough Inter-Faith Council  
 Plymouth Centre for Faiths and Cultural Diversity  
 Portsmouth Inter Faith Forum  
 Preston Faith Forum  
 Redbridge Faith Forum  
 Rochdale Multi Faith Partnership  
 Rugby Inter Faith Forum  
 Salford Interfaith Network  
 Sheffield Inter Faith  
 Solihull Faiths Forum  
 South London Inter Faith Group  
 South Shropshire Interfaith Forum  
 Southampton Council of Faiths  
 Southwark Multi Faith Forum  
 Stafford and District Friends of Faith  
 Stratford-on-Avon Interfaith Forum  
 Swindon Inter Faith Group  
 Faiths United (Tameside)  
 Torbay Interfaith Forum  
 Tower Hamlets Inter Faith Forum  
 Wakefield Interfaith Network  
 Waltham Forest Faith Communities Forum  
 Warwick District Faiths Forum  
 Watford Inter Faith Association  
 Wellingborough Inter Faith Group  
 Welwyn Hatfield Interfaith Group  
 Westminster Faith Exchange  
 William Campbell-Taylor (City of London Interfaith)  
 Windsor and Maidenhead Community Forum  
 Wisbech Interfaith Forum  
 Interfaith Wolverhampton  
 Worcestershire Inter-Faith Forum  
 Wycombe Sharing of Faiths  
 York Interfaith Group

*As at July 2018*



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2 Grosvenor Gardens,  
London SW1W 0DH

ifnet@interfaith.org.uk  
www.interfaith.org.uk

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RESPECTEDUCATIONDIALOGUE  
INTEGRITYCOMMUNITYVALUES  
COOPERATIONDISTINCTIVENESS  
COMMONGOODUNDERSTANDING  
NEIGHBOURLINESSFAITHACTION  
BELONGINGTACKLINGPREJUDICE  
RESPECTEDUCATIONDIALOGUE  
INTEGRITYCOMMUNITYVALUES  
COOPERATIONDISTINCTIVENESS