

# Norwich Interfaith Events 2015-20

Date	Event
Dec 2020	How the universal themes of Christmas link to the Christian story of a Jewish family born in Bethlehem to bring hope, and the emotional appeal of its traditions to many faiths, linked to winter, feasting, family, presents, animals, charities, and peace in the world. David, Chair and Anglican.
Nov 2020	Gayatri Verma, Hindu, on the Navatri festival, with contributions invited from members on “the Spirit within us”.
Nov 2020	Interfaith Week. Lucy Coote, Community Ambassador for Rosedale Funeral Homes, funds and organises a Zoomed Video of different faiths discussing their communities’ responses to the Coronavirus. Bahai, Christian Anglican, Quaker and Mormon, Hindu, Muslim, Liberal Jewish. Available on YouTube.
Oct 2020	Rev Chris Copsey, Anglican, on working with the Norfolk Coroner.
Sep 2020	Chris Wood, Pagan, on Heroes and Statues, following the toppling of the Edward Colston statue in Bristol for Slavery links to his philanthropism highlighted by the Black Lives Matter campaign in the USA following the police killing of George Floyd by kneeling on his neck.
Aug 2020	Cynthia Capey, on her work in Ipswich and Suffolk with the East of England Multifaith Centre, and funded by Essex University.
July 2020	The Roma Community, its culture and the discrimination it faces, by Hazel Marsh UEA, whose father was a traveller.
Jun 2020	MEETINGS MOVE TO ZOOM VIDEO. Members catch up at first meeting.
<b>Mar 2020</b>	<b>Meeting together in halls no longer permitted because of Covid-19.</b>
Feb 2020	Faith Healing in Practice. Spiritualist Rona, and Quaker Kiron, talked about how they heal, then a session of healing for members seated on chairs.
Feb 2020 Community	Aldeburgh. 5 day event on “ Alive in the Universe: Time and Timelessness” with Friday presentation and activity on Faith, organised by Cynthia Capey of the East of England Multifaith Centre in Ipswich Suffolk. Attended by David and Daphne Griffith.
Jan 2020	Framingham Earl High School. Miles Neville, Director of Religion, Philosophy and Ethics. World Religions morning for Y10 and Y11 groups as part of their RE provision: Younger students present: Norwich as City of Sanctuary. Speakers: Quaker, Sikh, Muslim, Unitarian, Salvation Army, Interfaith (David Chair).
Jan 2020	Annual Holocaust Memorial Day service in St Peter’s Mancroft. Jan 27th.
Jan 2020	Marsha Parker, Jewish Educator/presenter (Board of Deputies of British Jews), currently Chair of Norwich Council of Christians and Jews, leading a discussion on the Holocaust.

Dec 2019	Diwali, Hindu Festival of Light. by Gayatri, Hindu and member of SACRE.
Dec 2019	Christmas Trees (25) Festival in St Peter's Mancroft. NIFL decorated a tree which was lit for a week, with books and handouts available for visitors.
Nov 2019	Film: "Free to Believe". Introduction by the Film Director and Bahai, Tom Fox. Originally produced for UN on Religious Freedom as a Human Right.
Oct 2019	Playing and distributing the Board Game of Diversity to further understanding of World Religions. Martineau Hall.
Oct 2019 Community	"Loving God and our Neighbour in the Holy Land." A Rabbi, an Imam and a Priest met at Matlaske near Holt to discuss the challenges, invited by Revd David Longe who was chaplain to the Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem, and recently appointed Rector of the Matlaske group of parishes.
Sept 2019 Open Day	Hindu Indian Fair at Hindu Temple, New Road (A47), near Acle, NR13 3QE Part of Heritage Days.
Sept 2019 Community	Annual Peace Camp at the Forum. UN Peace Day. NIFL table with display and questions on religions. Demonstration of Game: Diversity. Visited and commended by Mayor of Norwich.
Aug 2019	Does Religion have to be organised, and have its own day? David Griffith discussion at the Forum.
July 2019	Summer Walk around Norwich. Led by Chris Wood.
June 2019 Community	The Great Get Together Picnic was an initiative founded in 2017 by the family and friends of Jo Cox by the More in Common in partnership with more than 100 organisations. Since then we've heard from all quarters that the Great Get Together shouldn't be a one-off, so it's now a project of The Jo Cox Foundation (reg charity 117083). <a href="http://www.greatgettogether.org">http://www.greatgettogether.org</a> "We are far more united and have far more in common than that which divides us." Jo Cox, first speech to parliament.
May 2019	In the light of the fire at Notre Dame in Paris, and the debate over its future, "Are buildings a help or a hindrance to Religions?" David Griffith.
April 2019	AGM. New Routes. New Routes was established in 2004 as a small project addressing the integration needs of the first 30, isolated, dispersed asylum seekers in Norwich. New Routes is now open six days a week, delivering 14 different activities for women, adults, families, and young people. Roshan Dykes. <a href="http://newroutes.org.uk/">http://newroutes.org.uk/</a>
Mar 2019	New beginnings. A discussion on how faith renews the soul Forum Cafe.
Mar 2019 National	IFN UK day event for local inter faith practitioners to: share experiences, discuss issues. Topics include: religious literacy work, including engaging with schools and SACREs; responding in solidarity to tackle and prevent prejudice and hatred; using Twitter and Facebook; partnership working with other bodies, such as local authorities, in pursuit of common aims, such as enabling greater understanding about and between faith communities and encouraging mixing and common action for the wellbeing of all. C Wood Chair, attended.

Mar 2019	<p>International Women's Day – (<a href="http://www.un.org">www.un.org</a>)  The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Greenways, Eaton  Choices of Presentations (4x25mins starting at 2.30,3,3.30,4pm)  –Art collaborative project  -Table displays about religions' culture, history, current activities etc.  - Service activity table? Assembling sanitary kits...  - Display/games table celebrating influential women past and present –  4.30: Whole group physical activity (eg. Bollywood dance) – cultural hall  Other presentations on the roles of women:  1. I am a daughter and a mother (importance of family ties)  2. I am a sister and a friend (helping each other)  3. I am a voice in my community  4. I am a woman of faith</p>
Jan 2019	The Role of Interfaith in our 21st Community.. Forum, Cafe Marzano
Nov 2018	Lessons learnt from World War One. Forum, Cafe Marzano
Oct 2018	Autumn Festivals. Share your Faith celebrations.
Aug 2018	A Guided Walk. Meet outside the Forum. C Wood.
July 2018	Music of Inspiration.Bring along a piece of music that inspires you and share it with us
June 2018	Why do we worship Creation Deities? Lorna Smart. Atheist.
May 2018	AGM and “Norwich City of Sanctuary” Lauren Henery and Gavin Howell
April 2018	“St. George: does a well-travelled dragon-slayer still have spiritual meaning in a multi-faith England?”– a talk by Chris Wood
Mar 2018	The symbolism of Water
Feb 2018	Marriage Customs in Different Faiths.
January 2018	Bahai: World Religions Day pm. Friends Meeting House, Upper Goat Lane. Theme: Music and Poetry. Icebreaker, Collaborative Art.
Dec 2017 Community	<p>Researcher on a project titled British [Muslim] Values, run out of the University of East Anglia (UEA). The project seeks to explore what 'British Values' means to Muslims across Eastern England. Professor Lee Marsden, Professor of Faith and Global Politics at UEA.  Project website includes a trailer for one of the films made by our filmmakers, titled Alif. Lam. Mim: <a href="https://britishmuslimvalues.wordpress.com/2017/10/10/alif-lam-mim-trailer/">https://britishmuslimvalues.wordpress.com/2017/10/10/alif-lam-mim-trailer/</a> .</p>
Dec 2017	Birth' A discussion on all aspects of child-birth in our different traditions.

Dec 2017 Community	Candlelit fundraising concert in aid of <b>New Routes</b> : Octagon Chapel. The theme is 'Have Hope' and included readings and songs. Octagon members, New Routes participants and students from Framingham Earl High School. We Shall Overcome, Jerusalem, Gentle Angry People and You'll Never Walk Alone. Gavin Howell of the Octagon Chapel. More information can be found on the website: <a href="http://newroutes.org.uk/">http://newroutes.org.uk/</a> · To develop the capacity and skills of the disadvantaged minority ethnic individuals and communities of Norwich to support the fulfilment of potential and enable active involvement in society.
Nov 2017 Community	<b>Interfaith Week.</b> <u>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November</u> , 10am-3pm 'Exhibition Islam'. Rose Lane Mosque, 70-72 Rose Lane, Norwich NR1 1PT <u>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November</u> , 9am-4pm 'Unity in Diversity' A joint event between NIFL and the Baha'i community, which generously made its regular presence in the Forum available as an inter-faith event, with a focus on the Golden Rule – activities for children included. <u>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November</u> , 7:30pm Meeting: 'Freedom to Believe' NIFL <u>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November</u> Open Day. Hindu Temple, near Acle, NR13 3QE <u>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November</u> , 7pm Norwich Pagan Moot: 'Boudica & Her Footprint in History' A talk by Chris Wood. Silver Road Community Centre.
Nov 2017 Community	'Vigil for Peace in Norwich City'. Sunday 12th November, 12.30-1pm At the Spirit of Peace sculpture behind the War Memorial, overlooking the market, then laying a wreath of white and red poppies 'In memory of all the victims of war'. (Monthly peace vigils organised by <a href="http://www.norwichpeace.org">www.norwichpeace.org</a> with the full co-operation of police, City Council, St Peter Mancroft.)
Oct 2017 Community	A unity walk organised by The Norfolk Baha'i, on Gorleston Beach. Local Baha'is are joining with Baha'is all over the world to celebrate 200 years since the birth of Baha'u'llah, the founder of the Baha'i Faith. Baha'is believe in One God, One World, One People. Presentation at Cliff Hotel.
Oct 2017 Community	10.30am Tree planting ceremony. Organised by The Norfolk Baha'i In the Eaton Park Community Centre, South Park Avenue, Norwich NR4 7AZ.
Oct 2017	"Ghosts". Discussion.
Aug 2017	"Idols and Icons: Understanding Different Perspectives on Communion with the Divine through Images"? Used positively in Hinduism,,: Japanese Shinto today. The monotheist faiths use the word in a negative sense, but some still make use of images, whether statues or icons, as a link to God and/or saints – and not "idolatry". Official doctrine and folk religion differ too. Modern <u>Western Pagan</u> practice includes the use of images, whether flat pictures or statues, for communion with deities, including their use as vessels for deity and/or spirits, and we share with indigenous traditions worldwide the acknowledgement of indwelling spirits in sacred objects, whether naturally there or called in by a human. We don't use the word 'idol', though, largely because most of us have grown up in a society where the Christian, negative connotation adheres to it.

March 2017	<u>Pocahontas: Propaganda, Legend, Hope</u> . Married John Rolfe from Heacham, Norfolk. Talk by Chris Wood, marking 400 years since her death. <a href="https://www.heacham-manor.co.uk/blog/heacham-blogs/the-legend-of-pocahontas-in-heacham">https://www.heacham-manor.co.uk/blog/heacham-blogs/the-legend-of-pocahontas-in-heacham</a>
Feb 2017	Cover Up - Modesty, the Body and Religion. Martineau Hall.
Early 2017	Synagogue invited Spiritualists and others to a special service. This was the first time the two communities had been together formally since 1948, after six years when the Spiritualist Church had provided a home for the Jewish community following the loss of the Synagogue in an air-raid in 1942.
Jan 2017	How can we use the legacy Inter-Faith Week? Martineau Hall, Colegate.
Sunday 15/1/2017 2pm-4pm	World Religion Day. Short film: Chris Newby's Something Understood Panel Discussion - people from diverse faith backgrounds discuss issues raised. Collaborative Art Project Buddhist chants with local members of Soka Gakkai International. Shared Refreshments. Organised by Norfolk Bahai Community and NIL at Friends Meeting House, Upper Goat Lane, Norwich
Nov 2016	Request to improve Worship Area at Hellesdon Hospital with a questionnaire by Julia Warren Chaplain.
Nov 2016	InterFaith Week events: a 'Moving Meal', starter, main course and dessert at the Orthodox Synagogue, the Ihsan Mosque and the Roman Catholic Cathedral, respectively, with profits going to local social enterprise The Feed, which trains disadvantaged adults to cook; a sports evening, hosted by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; and, as a finale, an Inter-Faith Choir, performing in the Anglican Cathedral. These were complemented by open-house events hosted by the Bangladeshi Islamic Centre, the Liberal Jewish Community, the Spiritualist Church and Soka Gakkai International Buddhists. All told, we had a much bigger profile and impact. C. Wood. InterFaith Week: Previously a multifaith 'service' in conjunction with United Nations Association also commemorating UN Day: entailed a series of performances by various faith groups.
Oct 2016	A Talk on Diwali by Gayatri Verma at Martineau Hall.
Oct 2016	Visit: <u>The Second Annual Inter-Faith Pilgrimage at Walsingham.</u>
Sept 2016	<u>'The Kindertransport'</u> A talk by Phyllida Scrivens. Escaping Hitler: Phyllida's biography of Joe Stirling
Aug 2016	<u>'Faith History in Norwich'</u> A walk led by Chris Wood.
July 2016	<b><u>'Proposal for Peace'</u></b> . Organised by SGI-UK and NIFL. <b>The Forum.</b> A free public lecture by Robert Harrap, General Director of SGI-UK, a socially engaged Buddhist organisation, introducing the work of Buddhist philosopher Daisaku Ikeda, who calls for increased efforts to rid the world of poverty and war. Mr Ikeda has been sending an annual peace proposal to the UN since 1983.
July 2016	<u>'Norwich Peace Camp and Peace Cycle'</u> . At The Forum

July 2016 Community	<p>'Family, Neighbours, Strangers: Religion and the Good Society: Inaugural Symposium' followed by Plenary. <b>Julian Study Centre, UEA</b></p> <p><b>Keynote address: Bishop Michael Ipgrave</b> (Lichfield), "Faith and British Values". <b>Family:</b> Do faith communities have anything to offer wider society about building healthy relationships and caring for one another?</p> <p><b>Strangers:</b> What do faith communities have to offer wider society in terms of how we look after strangers, refugees, the dispossessed and disadvantaged? <b>Neighbours:</b> How do and should faith communities relate to those of other faiths and none?</p>
May 2016	<p>AGM followed by "What St. Walstan means"</p> <p>St. Walstan died in 1016, and is a local Christian saint, with links to Bawburgh, Costessey, Taverham and Bowthorpe, as well as resonances with the stories of other saints (e.g. Brigid, Francis) and other, non-Christian figures (e.g. the Buddha, Iron John, Tubal Cain, even Thor).</p>
April 2016	<p>The role of silence.</p> <p>In our lives today silence may be rarer than it has ever been, but is it still important for spiritual fulfilment?</p> <p>Do we need it and what role does it play in our faiths?</p>
Mar 2016	"Discipline and Self-denial in an age of instant gratification".
Mar 2016 Community	<p>God matters to us all</p> <p>Organised by UEA's Interdisciplinary Institute for the Humanities</p> <p>Venue: Thomas Paine Study Centre lecture theatre, UEA</p> <p>The speaker is the Rt Hon Charles Clarke,</p>
Feb 2016 Community	<p>Debate: Faith and British Politics</p> <p>Organised by UEA's Interdisciplinary Institute for the Humanities</p> <p>Venue: Thomas Paine Study Centre lecture theatre, UEA</p> <p>The speakers are Baroness Warsi (former Minister of State for Faith and Communities) and Aaqil Ahmed (BBC Head of Religion and Ethics)</p>
Jan 2016	"New Year Vows - why? ... and how to make them stick"
Dec 2015	<p>Tales Around the Hearth Fire.</p> <p>Mid-winter is a time for drawing together and challenging the dark by travelling on the wings of story. Come with a story, or a seasonal custom from your faith to share!</p>
Nov 2015	<p>Interfaith Week: Octagon Chapel</p> <p>Anglican Christian Bishop of Norwich, The Right Revd. Graham James.</p> <p>"Friendship seeking understanding: a personal inter-faith story"</p>
Oct 2015 Community	<p>Faith Leaders &amp; Mental Health: Supporting people in your community with mental health problems: free afternoon event organised by Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust.</p>
Oct 2015	<p><b>Giving Thanks</b></p> <p>Do you give thanks? For what and to whom? As a matter of course, or when a prayer is answered? To whom is gratitude owed in non-theistic traditions? Is it a human need for an exchange of energy or purely a polite discharge of debt? What is the relationship between thanks, sacrifice, offerings?</p>

Oct 2015	Multifaith Pilgrimage to the Anglican and Catholic Shrines at Walsingham
Sept 2015 Community	Free Exhibition & Open Day on the life of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH). 11-3pm Venue: Norwich & Norfolk Muslim Association Community Centre. > Guided tour of the mosque, Literature stalls. Islamic awareness projects.
Aug 2015	Annual guided walk. Meet opposite Playhouse theatre.
July 2015	<u>Place and the past.</u> The deliberate destruction of religious and other cultural heritage, as an act of war, is an attack not only on the body of a country or people, but on its soul. Does it matter?
June 2015 Community	A stall at the Norwich Peace Camp. 9-4pm. <a href="http://www.norwichpeace.org/">http://www.norwichpeace.org/</a>
May 2015	A simple vegetarian dish to share. As we eat, we would like to discuss ideas on how we promote understanding.