



Next edition of E-news due November 2017

Redbridge Faith Forum office hours are

10am to 4pm Monday, Tuesday 10am-1pm Wednesday, Thursday

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REDBRIDGE FAITH FORUM LOOKING FORWARD

Network Meeting – October 31st 2017

Redbridge Faith Forum warmly invites you to our next Network Open Meeting on the topic of Peace and Reconciliation – Building Bridges

Date: Tuesday 31st October 2017
Time: 11.45-12 noon Registration
12.00-13.30 Network Meeting
Venue: Gloucester Room, Central Library, Clements Rd IG1
1EA



Join the Conversation – this is a follow up to our July Network meeting to give everyone the opportunity to consider how we ourselves can build friendship and understanding across our differences in our community. This is an opportunity to:

- Hear encouraging local inspiring examples of bridge building.
- Share your own experiences, feelings and desires and listen respectfully to others.
- Be open to what you can learn from others.
- Share ideas for building bridges in our community

Refreshments will be provided. Please email faith.forum@redbridge.gov.uk to book your free place or contact the office on 0208 708 2478/2445. Advance registration is appreciated to help with arrangements but is not essential.

Come for Dinner with Redbridge Faith Forum - Tuesday, 14th November
6.30-8.30pm in the community hall of Ilford Islamic Centre, Albert Road Ilford

Please contact the faith forum office on 0208 708 2478 or email faith.forum@redbridge.gov.uk as soon as possible to reserve your ticket for this popular and most enjoyable event.

Tickets priced £12 for RFF Members, £12 for Non Members and £6 for children aged under 12 years – to include 3 course vegetarian meal plus soft drinks.

Tickets will be available to purchase at our next Network Meeting on 31st October.

Women's Interfaith Workshop Wednesday, 22nd November 2017 1.30-3.30 pm *New*
"Weddings, Ceremony, Customs & Tradition," - S.W. Essex & Settlement, Reform synagogue, Oaks Lane, Newbury Park IG2 7PL

We are continuing this interesting theme so having heard about Baha'i, Buddhist and Hindu wedding customs recently, we will now be concentrating on Jewish and Sikh wedding ceremonies, customs and traditions on 22nd November. All women are welcome to come along to Oaks Lane synagogue and hear from our Jewish and Sikh members. The following workshop will focus on Muslim and Christian weddings.

Our women's workshops are free to attend and are informal with the opportunity for discussion, questions and answers in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. Refreshments are provided.

For more information, and to reserve your place contact Saira/Karen on 020 8708 2478 or email faith.forum@redbridge.gov.uk.

REDBRIDGE FAITH FORUM LOOKING BACK

"Annual Multi-faith Walk of Peace" – Sunday 10th September 2017



Acting together for one world in peace was the theme of this year's Redbridge Faith Forum's Multi-faith Walk which took place on Sunday 10th September through Ilford. The walk started at the Holocaust Memorial Gardens where about 70 people were welcomed by Co-Chair Phil Butcher who used some of the various words for peace in his greeting which are in daily use in different faith communities such as Shalom, Shanti, Assalamalikum. Phil then introduced Rabbi Michael Pertz who spoke movingly about the need for forgiveness and reconciliation and the need to move on from atrocities such as the Holocaust which had affected his family personally.



A booklet was given to each participant which included a map of the route to be walked, a description of the venues and the beliefs of the different religions including prayers for peace.

The walkers then set off to walk to the Buddhist Vihara in Balfour Road where bounteous refreshments were enjoyed, and several faith leaders were invited to light a candle. A very interesting talk was given about the 5 precepts of Buddhism.



More walkers joined the Walk at this point which continued to the Hindu Temple in Cleveland Road and welcomed into the Temple by Vinaya Sharma Redbridge Faith Forum Trustee. Vinaya spoke about the topic of peace from a Hindu perspective and visitors were offered the gift of fruit.

The next venue the Ilford Islamic Centre was a short walk away where over 100 people gathered to hear from Imam Rafiq who spoke about the recent celebration of Eid ul Adha which marked the end of Hajj where all are treated equal regardless of social status, nationality or wealth. Refreshments were enjoyed and the invitation was extended to visit the mosque across the road.



Walkers then enjoyed chatting whilst proceeding to SS Peter & Paul Church in the High Road to be greeted by Paul Samuels who spoke about the Christian perspective on peace and was pleased to answer questions. The group then moved into the recently opened Prayer Garden where the opportunity was taken to

take some photographs.



The final destination was the Karamsar Gurdwara where everyone was invited to enter the prayer room. They received a warm welcome from Satwinder Singh a member Gurdwara Management Committee, then listened to a very thoughtful presentation from Tanveen Kaur..

The Walk proved to be a wonderful time of sharing and Redbridge Faith Forum is very grateful to all the faith communities who graciously opened their doors in welcome and to everyone who participated including police



Faith Community Liaison Officers Shaz and Kaser who kindly provided an escort. Overall over 150 people participated as not everyone walked the whole route.

Comments received in feedback about the event included:-

“It was wonderful to take part in this Redbridge Peace Walk. I feel that we are bringing communities together, which will make our society more peaceful”

“Very interesting. I have lived here all my life and this is the first time Redbridge really felt like one community”

“A very refreshing experience, positive conversation, listening to others. Each place of worship gives a very good account of itself”

“It was a great event and my father and I learnt a lot.”

“So good to hear young people’s thoughts”

“A wonderful time. Great chance to speak and share. Thank you very much”

“A great success – year on year the numbers increase – the joy of people coming together in warmth, peace and goodwill is something wonderful to witness. Great to see the regulars and great to see those new to the walk. May the message of community cohesion continue to spread”

“It was a wonderful experience meeting the old and the new participants of different faiths and sharing the word of peace at the walk. We are so lucky to have Redbridge Faith Forum. Everything is good about the walk. Everyone was enjoying the spirit together. Many thanks to all faith places of worship for refreshments and all.”

REDBRIDGE FAITH FORUM

What is it and what does it do?

RFF hold regular public meetings to discuss social issues affecting faith communities such as education, health, and give people the opportunity to meet and share with other faiths. RFF was set up in 2003 following a faith conference set up by Redbridge Council, which brought faith leaders together to talk about their communities' needs.

- RFF bring together local members of different faith communities.
- RFF promote social harmony.
- RFF foster a community spirit within Redbridge and the local area.
- RFF recognise the important contribution that religion and spirituality makes to the lives of Redbridge residents.
- RFF lobby relevant organisations that affect faith communities.

Current Trustees

RFF is an independent organisation with a charitable status (1118675). RFF has a board of trustees composed of representatives of different faiths :

Christian: ✝

- Phil Butcher (Co Chair)
- Rev Bernardino Mandlate

Hindu: ॐ

- Vinaya Sharma
- Appathurai Ramkumar

Jewish: ✡

- Lawrence Becker
- Angela Banner

Muslim: ﷻ

- Ali Qureshi
- Imam Rafiq
- Mo Dedat (Co Chair & Treasurer)

Sikh: ॴ

- Harbans Singh Seehra
- Harmander Singh

Baha'i: ☸

- Carol Khorsandyon

Buddhist: ☸

- Rev P Hemaratana
- Dr Suhasini

Jain: ॥

- vacancy

Zoroastrian: 𐬰𐬀𐬎𐬌

Redbridge Faith Forum Membership

We hope that you will understand that in order to continue our work to the benefit of all living in Redbridge, the Faith Forum needs to raise funds to cover the various activities we organise. Membership is open to all and there are a range of options available.

Associate member: (open to everyone) receives all e-mail updates, a membership certificate, invitations to all events, able to attend training sessions organised by RFF, able to vote at AGM – suggested donation £10 per year.

We are proposing two other membership scales for large groups and businesses as follows:

- **Place of Worship:** full membership (open to recognised faith groups and their designated representative) all rights as above; additionally such representative may be nominated for election to the Management Committee and - £30 per year.
- **Business member:** receives all e-mail updates, invited to all events, able to attend training sessions organised by RFF, able to vote at the AGM and provided with a copy of the RFF charter for display at the business premises. Business Member rates: small business £25 (less than 10 employees); medium business £50 (less than 200 employees); large £75 (more than 200 employees).

If you would like to become a RFF member please email faith.forum@redbridge.gov.uk for a membership form.

EVENTS TO COME IN REDBRIDGE

Abundance Day at Forest Farm Peace Garden *New*
Date: Sunday, 8th October 2017 - Time: 12noon-4:30pm

Live music /free workshops/Apple pressing demonstrations/apple walk/kids area/organic honey for sale / family friendly activities in the childrens' area.

The London Borough of Redbridge Recycling Team are running a 'Give and Take' stall with free books, clothes and bric-a-brac. Please bring along items you no longer want or need (electrical goods & large items cannot be accepted.)

Also there's Dr Bike of Recycle Ilford, a social enterprise & bike recycling project, that will provide a free maintenance check and repairs. Bring your bike!

Save King George's Hospital A&E March & Rally *New*
Saturday 14th October 2017 - Assembly 11:30am at Dagenham Central Park
Rally 3:00pm at Redbridge Town Hall

Councillors Athwal and Rodwell, the Leaders of Redbridge and Barking and Dagenham Councils will lead a march from Dagenham Central via Queens Hospital to Redbridge Town Hall on 14th October calling on Mr Hunt, the Secretary of State for Health, to review the plan to close King George A&E in 2019 due to the expanding North East London population.

This is the first time that all three councils have called for a review of the plan to close King George A&E and is a big advance for the campaign to keep King George A&E open.

The campaign team is asking residents to support the call for a review by assembling at Dagenham Central Park from 11:30am on Saturday 14th October to hear speeches and to start walking at 12:15 on to Redbridge Town Hall for a rally at 3pm.

Our senior politicians need public support to show Mr Hunt that there is a mass support for King George A&E to stay open. Local trade unions are organising a professional filming of the march

with the aim of footage being used by TV stations.

If you cannot manage the walk, the 128 bus runs from Queens Hospital to Ilford Town Centre.

Spread the word to friends and family and help build the turn out on October 14th

Mayor's Appeal Event – Cockney Sing-A-Long *New *

Saturday 14th October at 7.30pm in Grove Hall, Grosvenor Road Wanstead E11 2HD

Tickets are £18 and include either fish and chips or pie and mash (with a vegetarian alternative) and very lively entertainment. Bring your own drinks. All proceeds go to the Mayor's chosen charities: St Francis Hospice and Haven House.

To book, contact the Mayor's Appeal: Email: maryallen43@btinternet.com or redbridgemayorsappeal@hotmail.com or Tel: 07748 155 680 (daytime) or 07549 395 479 (evenings and weekends)

Redbridge Against Hate *New *

Tuesday 16th October 2017 1-5 pm at Vine United Reform Church, Ilford IG1 1JH

Victim Support and the Redbridge Equalities & Community Council are hosting an event to celebrate National Hate Crime Awareness Week - - information stalls, guest speakers and a short film screening.

Annual Peace Conference & Art Exhibition *New *

Thursday 19th October 4-8 pm – Gloucester Room Central Library Ilford

Global Peace Pioneers have organised this conference to bring people together and to disseminate the message of peace and harmony. The conference is free to attend but advance registration is necessary to reserve a place by calling on 020 3930 9530 or sending an email to info@globalpeace.org.uk with your name, contact number and postal address.

Contact GPP,1A Becketts House, 2-14 Ilford Hill Ilford, IG1 2DA
Tel: 020 3930 9530, info@globalpeace.org.uk, www.globalpeace.org.uk

National Peace Symposium *New *

Friday 20th October 6.30 pm Stratford Town Hall 29 Broadway, Stratford,London, E15 4BQ,

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community are holding a peace symposium with guest speakers and an evening dinner and extend an invitation to everyone to this free event.

Local Forum *New *

Tuesday 24 October 2017 6.30pm to 8.30pm Wanstead House 21 The Green, London E11 2NT

Come to a Local Forum and talk to us about ideas and issues in your local area. Raise questions and concerns about Council services that affect you.

You can put questions to Councillors and senior Council officers. Questions can be submitted in advance using the form at www.redbridge.gov.uk/localforums or asked on the night.

Information Sharing & Networking Event about Homelessness *New *

25TH October 2017 10 am-1.30pm

East London Housing Partnership welcomes local authorities, charity and voluntary sector partners, faith groups, advice organisations and government agencies to this information sharing and networking event which will take place in Barking.

The programme includes

Update on counts, estimates and sever weather provision in London
Housing Justice coordination of winter shelters
The draft London Housing Strategy consultation
The Outside Project: a winter shelter for LGBT people
ELHP projects for single homeless people

To book your free place email Emmanuel.atuwaogu@elhp.org.uk with you name, contact details and the name of the organisation you are representing. Places are limited so early booking is advised. For further details about ELHP visit www.elhp.org.uk

Redbridge Music Lounge

12.30-4.30 pm –Wednesdays 4 & 18 October & Thursdays 12 & 26 October at The Cranbrook Centre in Valentines Park – Melbourne Gate, Melbourne Road IG1 4SB (for directions see www.cranbrookcentre.london)

The venue is for musicians and anyone interested in playing music, who are retired, in part-time work, unemployed or semi-professional, even if committed to bands/group already but have time and expertise to offer and share mainly, for daytime projects, events and local festivals. Feel free to bring along your instruments and perform – rehearsal equipment and performing facilities are also available. For further information contact Chris Wyatt mob 07929 071155 email criswyatt@aol.com www.rmluk.org. Registered Charity 1151132

EVENTS ELSEWHERE

London Inter Faith Centre October Events *New *

From **October 4th**, on **Wednesdays between 2.00pm and 3.30pm**, a six week course, **Religion and the Nation**, looking at how Religion is currently affecting Society and Politics in the UK

There are three talks lined up for Monday evenings, the first of which is being given by **Mike King**, **“Why Secularism Matters for Peace in the Middle East”**, on **October 9th at 7.30pm** Our Abrahamic Texts group and Inter Faith Book group continue to meet on a regular basis.

For details of all events and activities please see our website, <http://londoninterfaith.org.uk/>

World Congress of Faiths: Annual Lecture on 16 November *New *

The World Congress of Faiths is holding its annual Younghusband Lecture from 6.30pm to 8.30pm on Thursday 16 November at the Montagu Centre, 21 Maple Street, London W1T 4BE.

The theme is 'Rehumanising Public Space?'. Professor Chris Baker of Goldsmiths University of London, Director of Research at the William Temple Foundation will raise very topical questions about the contribution of a renewed interest in religion and spirituality to political and civic regeneration. A formal response will be given by Rabbi Tony Bayfield, Professor of Jewish Theology and Thought at Leo Baeck College, followed by buzz groups for sharing ideas.

The event is free, with a retiring collection for the work of the Congress. To register, go to www.wcf-yhl2017.eventbrite.co.uk

Enquiries: Jenny Kartupelis, jenny@worldfaiths.org or 01223 781781

HAVE YOUR SAY

*Community Eye Services *New**

The local NHS is reviewing two sets of services they provide in the community (e.g. at community clinics or GP surgeries rather than in hospitals):

Community eye care services for minor eye conditions and stable eye conditions;

We would like to hear your views about what works well and what might need some improvement.

Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) are reviewing local NHS eye care services for treating minor eye conditions (e.g. dry eyes, red eye or blurred vision) and monitoring stable eye conditions (e.g. stable glaucoma).

We are committed to providing local people with eye care services that are easily accessible and meet their needs. Instead of being in hospitals, these services can be delivered in various locations including community clinics, high street opticians and GP practices. These are called community eye care services. Community-based services for treating minor eye conditions and monitoring stable eye conditions are already running in community clinics and GP surgeries in Barking and Dagenham and Havering. Services for monitoring stable eye conditions are delivered in community clinics and GP surgeries in Redbridge.

We would like to hear your views about community eye services, especially if use or have previously used eye care services in our area. Please share your views by completing this short survey by Wednesday 18th October 2017: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/7C5RDMN>. Your feedback will inform our review of current services.

*Spending NHS money wisely 2 in Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge *New**

Earlier this year Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge (BHR) CCGs ran a consultation on 'Spending NHS money wisely', looking at how we can reduce spending locally.

That first set of changes – to NHS prescribing, gluten-free products, cosmetic procedures and IVF – should amount to around £3 million of savings this year.

However, to get the local NHS into a secure financial position we have to make savings of £55 million and to do that we must look at further reducing spending now. That's why we are asking for your help. In 'Spending NHS money wisely 2' we are looking at:

No longer funding:

Ear wax removal
Some injections for lower back pain - disc, facet joint and epidural
Osteopathy

Restricting who is eligible for:

Cataract surgery
Podiatry

No longer prescribing some over the counter medicines, including:

Anti-malarial medicine
Probiotic supplements
Sunscreens, etc.

Please read the document on the website www.redbridgeccg.nhs.uk/spending-wisely that sets out our thinking and respond to our questionnaire by 5pm, 15 November 2017.

Urgent & emergency health care services in Redbridge *New*
Apply now to be a member of the focus group meeting 13th November

Healthwatch Redbridge is currently working in partnership with the Redbridge Health Scrutiny Committee to review Urgent and Emergency health care services being provided in Redbridge.

We would like to invite a range of people to attend a focus group to discuss the issues of accessing primary care, emergency care, urgent care and community support in the borough. The meeting is planned to take place in Redbridge on Monday 13 November from 2.00pm to 4.00pm

To ensure we are representative of the diversity of Redbridge, we will be inviting applications to attend the focus group and will confirm whether you have been offered a place nearer the time.

For more information [click here](#)

Thomas Thorn
Media and Volunteer Support Officer
Tel : 020 3874 4124
Healthwatch Redbridge
3rd Floor, 103 Cranbrook Road Ilford IG1 4PU

SOME CELEBRATIONS TO COME

1st October is Jashn-E Mehergan (Or Mihr Jashan) -Tradition: Iranian Zoroastrian

Jashn-e Mehergan is an early autumn festival, and like NoRuz its origins have been lost in antiquity. Mehergan is dedicated to the divinity Meher or Mithra, who is associated with the sun and with justice. The ripening of the crops and fruits at this time of the year is seen as symbolic of the ripening of the world into fullness, before the moment of the ultimate victory over evil. It evokes the physical resurrection of the body along with its immortal soul, as promised by Ahura Mazda. It is customary to visit the Fire Temple to offer thanks to the Creator God, to participate in a jashan or thanksgiving ceremony, to listen to stories of King Faridoon's triumphant capture of the evil Zohak and to share in a community meal that includes dry fruits and nuts, along with a drink, dancing and merrymaking. More Information: <http://www.cais-soas.com/CAIS/Celebrations/mehregan.htm>; <https://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/religious-festivals>

1st October is Ashura (10th Muharram) -Tradition: Muslim

For Sunni Muslims this is one of the two days of a minor fast that the Prophet kept in his lifetime. The second day of the fast may be observed either on the day preceding or the day following the 10th of Muharram. For Shi'a Muslims this is a day when they recall a great tragedy that took place on Muharram 10, AH 61 (680 CE). The Imam Husayn (son of Ali and Fatimah and therefore grandson of the Prophet) travelling with his family and many followers was attacked by the troops of the Caliph Yazid. After eight days without water Husayn was killed and his family and followers massacred at Karbala (now in Iraq). Shi'a Muslims remember the events in the days leading up to Ashura when they fast and recall these terrible events. The importance of this holy day can be judged from a popular Shi'a saying which some attribute to a Muslim poet and some to the sixth Imam, Jafar al-Saadiq: "Live as if every day is Ashura, every land Karbala!" For more: <http://www.ashura.com/>

2nd October is Gandhi Jayanti -Tradition: Hindu

Although not a religious ceremony as such, Gandhi's contribution to the philosophy of non-violence and to world wisdom has become enshrined into the world's psyche. This is a national holiday but a holiday many people around the world would be willing to embrace. Gandhi Jayanti is an Indian national holiday that celebrates the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, who is referred to as the 'Father of the Nation'. He was the driving force behind the foundation of the state of India. His birthday is celebrated with services, prayers and painting and essay contests with topics that glorify peace and non-violence, and the singing of Gandhi's favourite devotional song entitled 'Raghupati Raghav Raja Ram' (Ram Dhun for short). The distribution of alcohol is banned on Gandhi Jayanti, as on other national holidays. For more: <http://www.indiacelebrating.com/events/gandhi-jayanti/>

5th October – 12th October SUKKOT – Tradition: Jewish. A seven day harvest festival also known as the Feast of Tabernacles, which commemorates the 40 years that the Jews spent in the wilderness on the way from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land. A temporary hut or booth – called a sukkah – is used during this time for eating meals and for visits and socialising. In hot countries families may live in their sukkah during the festival. The roof, which has to be open in part to the elements, is covered with branches and decorated with fruit. Four species of plant, the lulav (palm branch), the etrog (a yellow citrus fruit), the hadas (myrtle) and the aravah (willow) are used at the festival. For more see: <http://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/2016-religious-festivals/october>

13th October is Simchat Torah -Tradition: - Jewish. One of the most joyous celebrations of the Jewish calendar, It is a day to celebrate the reading of the Law (this festival, which means 'Rejoicing in the Torah', marks the completion of the annual cycle of reading from the Torah). As the reading should be continuous, a second scroll is begun again as soon as the final portion of the Torah has been read from the first scroll; so, as the reading from Deuteronomy ends, with the next breath, Genesis begins without a break – the Torah is a circle that never ends. All the Torah scrolls are paraded around the synagogue, with children dancing and singing, as do many of the adults, giving as many people as possible the honour of carrying a Torah scroll. Most progressive Jews celebrate this one day earlier, combining it with the eighth day of Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret. Synagogue services involve readings, processions and blessing of the children. For more, see http://www.chabad.org/holidays/JewishNewYear/template_cdo/aid/4689/jewish/Simchat-Torah.htm

16th October to 23rd October is Inter Faith Week of Prayer for World Peace-Tradition: Christian/interfaith

At its inception, a Christian initiative, it has now been adopted by many faiths communities. It is a week that encourages those of different faiths who normally pray under the same sky, to come together to pray under the same roof in a stand of solidarity and peaceful cohabitation. It does not mean agreement for or conversion to the views expressed and the prayers said by fellow

attendants, it means respect for their right to the peaceful expression of their own views and faith. Prayers from the literature of several different world religions are published each year in a special leaflet for use in this week. This custom receives the support of members from many different religious communities. For more, see <http://www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.com/>

19th October Thursday to 23rd October Monday DIVALI/DEEPAVALI – Tradition: Hindu

For Hindus this is a New Year festival lasting from one to five days, during which fireworks are set off and lights are hung out. It is a festival of light, coinciding with the darkest night of the lunar month. Various interpretations are given to the festival in different parts of India, but it is generally associated with Lakshmi, goddess of wealth and prosperity, or with the victorious return of Rama and Sita to the kingdom of Ayodhya after their exile. Divali marks the beginning of the Indian financial year. For more, see: <http://www.diwalifestival.org/>

Sikh: (Bandi Chhor Divas)

Sikhs also celebrate Divali since Guru Hargobind, the sixth Guru, was released from Gwalior prison on this day. The Guru refused to accept release when it was offered him by the Emperor Jehangir unless 52 imprisoned Hindu princes were also given their freedom. To meet the Emperor's condition that only those who hold on to his cloak could leave the prison, the Guru had a coat with long tassels made. The Golden Temple in Amritsar is illuminated at this time and firework displays take place there. It is a time for new clothes, presents and sweets. For more

<http://www.sikhnet.com/news/bandi-chhor-divas>

Jain: Diwali has a special significance for Jains, as on this day in 527 BCE Mahavira gave his last teachings and attained ultimate liberation. Today lamps are lit and children are given sweets by their parents. Some devout Jains fast for the two days of Divali, following the example of Mahavira. Jain business people traditionally start their accounting year from Diwali. For more see:

<http://www.jainuniversity.org/jain-festival/Diwali-Festival>

20th October is the Installation of Scriptures as Guru Granth -Tradition: Sikh

On this day in 1708, the ninth Guru, Guru Gobind Singh, announced that he would be the last human Sikh Guru. On the same day the sacred collection known as the Adi Granth was officially installed as the 10th and everlasting Guru, named Guru Granth Sahib. Uniquely among Scriptures, it is the Guru Granth Sahib that is considered the Supreme Spiritual Authority and Head of the Sikh religion, rather than any living person. It is also the only scripture of its kind which not only contains the works of its own religious founders but also writings of people from other faiths. As their living Guru, the book is held in great reverence by Sikhs who treat it with the utmost respect. Sikhism rejects idol worship, so the Guru Granth Sahib is not worshipped; emphasis is placed on respect for the writings which appear within. Learn more at <http://www.sikhs.org/granth.htm>

21st October is Anniversary of the Birth of the Bab –1819 Shiraz, - Tradition: Persia Baha'i The Bab (the title means 'Gate') called people to religious renewal and to await the coming of a messenger from God, believed to be Baha'u'llah (his title means 'Glory of God'). Source:

<https://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/religious-festivals>

22nd October is ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF BAHÁ'U'LLAH - Tradition: Baha'i

Founder of the Baha'i faith, he was born the eldest son of a Persian nobleman in Tehran, Persia, in 1817. <https://www.interfaith.org.uk/resources/religious-festivals>

24th October to 25th October is Pavarana -Tradition: Buddhist

The last day of the Rains Retreat (the Vassa) is known as Pavarana Day or 'Leaving the Vassa'. Pavarana means 'to invite' and on this day monks who have completed the Retreat invite their fellows to admonish them for any failings. "The three month period (vassa) is often used by lay and monastic folk alike to make a variety of determinations; to take up a particular devotional or meditation practice, to challenge or renounce some old habit - like eating sugar or smoking or

drinking coffee (or worse). In Asia this may even be taken to the extent of lay folk taking temporary ordination for all or part of this time. The full moon of Pavarana marks the end of this period and is a time of celebration. For those who have maintained a strict practice it means they can relax a bit; hopefully having learnt something about the particular thing they had been investigating and not falling back into old habits". It is also known as 'Sangha Day'. For more see <http://www.buddhamind.info/leftside/lifesty-2/pavarana.htm>

31st October is All Hallow Eve -Tradition: Christian

For our Christian friends, All Hallows Eve falls on 31st October each year, and is the day before All Hallows' Day, also known as All Saints' Day in the Christian calendar. The Church traditionally held a vigil on All Hallows' Eve when worshippers would prepare themselves with prayers and fasting prior to the feast day itself. The name derives from the Old English 'hallowed' meaning holy or sanctified and is now usually contracted to the more familiar word Hallowe'en or Halloween. For more: http://www.sharefaith.com/guide/Christian-Holidays/all_hallows_eve.html

Disclaimer:

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