



Table of Contents

REDBRIDGE FAITH FORUM LOOKING FORWARD..... 2

 Tuesday, 2nd July 6.30 pm RFF Annual General Meeting 2

 Tuesday, 16th July RFF Quiz Evening 7pm 2

 Tuesday, 30th July RFF Network Meeting – 12 noon – 1.30pm..... 2

REDBRIDGE FAITH FORUM LOOKING BACK 3

 Wednesday, 24th April – Women’s Interfaith Workshop..... 3

 Tuesday, 30^h April – RFF Network Meeting- Community Hubs 3

JUNE FAITH FESTIVALS 3

REDBRIDGE FAITH FORUM 4

 What is it and what does it do?..... 4

 Current Trustees 4

DID YOU KNOW?..... 5

 Christians Against Poverty Job Club now open at Clementswood Baptist Church .. 5

 Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Govt Faith Leader Training Initiative5

 Redbridge Institute Free English classes for absolute beginners 6

 Help Available to clean-up your neighbourhood 6

 Free Counter Terrorism Awareness Briefing for Faith Communities 6

 Help & Support for Victims of Hate Crime 7

CONSULTATIONS..... 7

 Consultation on changes to local CCG Commissioning Policy 7

 Consultation on proposal to relocate Moorfields Eye Hospital..... 8

EVENTS TO COME..... 9

 POP Up Art Market & Exhibition 9

 Afternoon Tea with Barkingside 21 9

 Redbridge Music Lounge at The Cranbrook Centre, Valentines Park 10

 Crime Prevention Coffee Morning hosted by Barkingside 21 10

 Conference on Faith, Cultural & Spirituality in Palliative Care 10

 Workshop: -How to develop a heritage project for Lottery funding 10

REDBRIDGE FAITH FORUM LOOKING FORWARD

Tuesday, 2nd July 6.30 pm RFF Annual General Meeting
at Gardens of Peace, Hainault, IG6 3SW

There will be the opportunity to enjoy a guided tour of the Gardens after the formal Annual General Meeting has concluded at 7.15pm. Please save the date and come and join us.

Tuesday, 16th July RFF Quiz Evening 7pm
at The Drive Methodist Church Hall, IG1 3PP

Get together with friends and family to form teams of 8 to join us for an enjoyable and fun social evening whilst also raising funds for Redbridge Faith Forum. Tickets to be priced £6 inclusive of tea/coffee and cake. We can match people up to teams if you are in a smaller group or wish to come on our own so please don't hesitate to join us – you will receive a very warm welcome.

Tuesday, 30th July RFF Network Meeting - 12 noon - 1.30pm
in Community Hall of Vine Church – access via Holstock Road IG11 1LG

Greening Redbridge, Facing the climate crisis in our borough

Our objectives for the event are to:

- Learn from groups across Redbridge who are working on environmental concerns in order to address the Climate Crisis
- Raise awareness about climate change issues affecting people living in Redbridge
- Suggest activities that Faith organisations could carry out to protect the environment

At this event, we hope to bring together individuals, voluntary, community and faith sector groups and organisations in Redbridge including sections within LBR and Vision which are working to draw attention to the threat of climate change, through their different kinds of environmental work. So far the following groups have agreed to participate.

- LBR Air Quality Control Team,
- LBR Our Streets team,
- Nature Conservancy,
- Cleaner Greener Wanstead
- Wanstead Climate Action
- Transition Town Ilford

The event will be held in the Community Hall at Vine Church in Holstock Road, IG1 1LG, Central Ilford. For running the main session we will use the "world cafe" method, with 4 to 6 organisations hosting a table each, and addressing a different aspect of the climate crisis.

For further information about the event you can email PeterMusgrave1950@gmail.com

Or Redbridge Faith Forum (faith.forum@redbridge.gov.uk)

REDBRIDGE FAITH FORUM LOOKING BACK

Wednesday, 24th April – Women’s Interfaith Workshop

St Andrews Church, The Drive, Ilford IG1 3PE

A most enjoyable afternoon was had by a mixed faith group of women at this Redbridge Faith Forum Event at St Andrews Church, The Drive, Ilford learning about and discussing the birth ceremonies, custom and tradition associated with Christian and Sikh Faiths. Everyone was encouraged to ask questions and very interesting conversations took place. Please click [here](#) for a full report.

Tuesday, 30th April – RFF Network Meeting- Community Hubs

Ilford Islamic Centre, Albert Rd, IG1 1HW

This meeting was an opportunity for residents to feedback their views to the council on the plans to establish six community hubs across the borough as a means of bringing together health, social, cultural and other local resources. The proposed locations are in Seven Kings, Gants Hill, Wanstead, Ashton’s Playing Field, Hainault and Ilford Town Centre.

The audience were asked to focus on three questions

1. “What are your hopes and fears for these proposed community hubs?”
2. “What would success look like for these proposed community hubs?”
3. “Can you help us reach local residents?”

The audience was divided into five groups to consider these questions – you can view the report of responses by clicking [here](#).

More information about the project is available at www.redbridge.gov.uk/hubs and consultation on the Gants Hill proposed hub will take place later this year.

JUNE FAITH FESTIVALS

A full list of all the festivals can be found on our website under resources just follow this link [here](#) . See below for an explanation of the faith festival of Ramadan which will culminate in the celebration of Eid-ul-Fitr which is likely to be on 5th June depending on the lunar cycle.

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar and Muslims believe that it is during this month that God revealed the first verses of the Quran to the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him).

Muslims see this month as a time for reflection and self-purification, and abstain from certain pleasures in life, including food and drink, from sunrise to sunset. While fasting during Ramadan is one of the five pillars in Islam and is compulsory, there are exceptions, such as young children, those who are unwell and pregnant women.

In addition to abstinence from food and drink, there are other actions that Muslims carry out during this month. These actions include:

- **Charity – Many Muslims discharge their obligatory charity (Zakat) during this month;**

- Performance of supererogatory nightly prayers;
- An increase in the recitation of the Quran;
- Engaging in optional good deeds and abstaining from actions considered sins.

The length of time that Muslims fast depends on the location and season, with fasting hours varying from eight to nineteen hours. This year, Muslims in the UK will be fasting for nineteen hours.

During Ramadan, Muslims wake up to partake in Suhoor - a meal just before dawn. Once dawn breaks, Muslims are considered to be in the state of fasting until sunset. At sunset, Muslims will break their fast, typically with dates and water. This is called Iftar (the breaking of the fast) and is usually followed by a meal. Breaking the fast at sunset is an occasion for family, friends and the community to come together.

The end of Ramadan is based on the sighting of the new moon and is marked by Eid-ul-Fitr, the Festival of the Breaking of the Fast. It's one of the two major holidays in the Islamic year and is celebrated with an extra prayer, as well as visiting family and friends, feasting and gift giving.

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: ☆ Rabbi Larry Becker, Angela Banner

Muslim: ☪ Mo Dedat (Treasurer), Mohamed Omer (Co-Chair), Imam Khurram Rafiq

Sikh: ੴ Harbans Singh Seehra, Harmander Singh

Buddhist: ☸ Rev P Hemaratana, Dr Suhasini

Bahai Carol Khorsandyon

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 vote at AGM – suggested donation £10 per year.

Voluntary organisations - £20 per annum.

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.

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

DID YOU KNOW?

Christians Against Poverty Job Club now open at Clementswood Baptist Church

Members of Clementswood Baptist Church, 132 Ilford Lane IG1 2LG are supporting their local community to find employment in tough economic time by deciding to get specialised training from the UK charity Christians Against Poverty.

The Church is now offering free weekly workshops to boost the job-hunting process for unemployed people by equipping them with the tools, skills and confidence to find work.

Job Club Manager Sophia Burley who will be leading the workshops, said: "With more people facing long-term unemployment, there is a real need for a personal service which provides practical and emotional support for people to find work again. Christians Against Poverty Job Clubs are designed to do just this."

Christians Against Poverty Job Clubs will cover topics such as identifying strengths, CV writing and interview techniques. The weekly course that combines one-to-one consultations, group support and practical sessions that cover topics such as identifying strengths, CV writing and interview techniques.

The club will held weekly starting from May 30th at 2:30pm in the church hall, Ilford Lane.

Further infomation

To find out more about Christians Against Poverty Job Clubs or to book your place visit capjobclubs.org to book a place telephone 0800 3280006.

Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Govt Faith Leader Training Initiative

The Edward Cadbury Centre for the Public Understanding of Religion has recently launched the National Faith Leader Training Initiative (funded by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.) Training will focus on developing faith leader's understanding of various topics, and how to identify issues, for example domestic abuse.

'Our rapidly-changing world keeps posing new practical challenges for faith leaders. What does effective leadership mean? How can faith leaders identify, confront and prevent abuse of all kinds from occurring in our communities? What does British law say about marriage and divorce, about equalities and hate crime? The new national Faith Leader Training Initiative for England (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/FLTI>) will equip you to deal with these practical challenges and more. The programme comprises four training days beginning in **June 2019** in prestigious conference venues in Manchester, Birmingham and London (with Leeds to follow in Autumn 2019), or alternatively you

can take the online version of course. The programme is suitable for anyone with leadership responsibilities in a faith community. For more information and to book your free place, please visit <https://spark.adobe.com/page/NuyVB2k73JSn7/> or <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/FLTI> and if you have any queries, please email flti@contacts.bham.ac.uk, or contact the programme coordinator directly at A.Davies.4@bham.ac.uk.

Redbridge Institute Free English classes for absolute beginners

Redbridge Institute has successfully won a bid to deliver the Integrated Communities English Language Programme in Redbridge. This is a project funded by the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). We are one of six organisations in the UK to have achieved this. Redbridge Institute is offering **FREE English classes** across the borough to support those taking their first steps in learning English. We have places available on courses now and learners can start straight away. In order to be eligible you must have lived in the UK for a minimum of one year and not have studied English in the UK before.

We are looking for **community based organisations** that would be willing to use their facilities as hubs to deliver the English courses. If you have a venue that can accommodate this, get in touch with us now!

We are recruiting **volunteers** who can become ESOL Ambassadors to help us reach out to local communities to promote the courses. This is a fantastic opportunity for those who have some free time and are looking to support their local communities.

We are enrolling now! Call us on 020 8550 2398 or come and visit us at Redbridge Institute, Gaysham Avenue, Gants Hill, IG2 6TD. You can drop us an email at efe@redbridge-iae.ac.uk

Help Available to clean-up your neighbourhood

CleanupUP (registered charity 1120115) can help you run your own clean-up and put you in touch with others who also care and want to take action. You can improve your neighbourhood and make a difference to your local community.

For more information please get in touch with Neeta telephone 07463660843 – email Neeta.Kanagaratnam@cleanupuk.org.uk

Free Counter Terrorism Awareness Briefing for Faith Communities

As the current threat level from terrorism is at SEVERE which means an attack is highly likely, the Counter Terrorism team at Ilford police station are happy to come and deliver a briefing to your community members at your chosen date/time. The ACT project is a Home office led initiative to promote and encourage members of the community to work in partnership with the police to report, deter and detect terrorist activity and crime.

The briefing session provides essential knowledge in counter terrorism awareness to both help prevent an attack and to know what to do if caught up in one and usually takes two hours to deliver. For further queries and to book a session please PC TICKNER or PC HUSSAIN on 0208 345 2601 or e-mail EastAreaEABCUMailbox-.CTPBST@met.pnn.police.uk

Help & Support for Victims of Hate Crime

Redbridge Equalities & Community Council along with sister organisations run a project – Community Against Hate Crime. A hate crime is a crime motivated or aggravated by prejudice against a particular group in society – for reasons of race, religion, disability, gender, gender reassignment, sexuality, migrant or refugee...If you are the victim of hate crime please get in touch to make an appointment to see RECC advice worker on 020-8551 8178 for advice and advocacy services.

The organisation will also come along to speak at events to inform how to report hate crime and what can be done to support those being targeted and can establish mutual support groups of victims. You can also volunteer to become involved in the Community Witness & Support Team.

Email - Office1@redbrideequalities.org.uk - 020-8551 8178

RECC, Room 203, 2nd Floor, Heraldic House, 160-162 Cranbrook Road IG1 4PE.

CONSULTATIONS

Consultation on changes to local CCG Commissioning Policy

Across North East London, the seven Clinical Commissioning Groups have been working together to look at how to make sure that people, wherever they live, are able to have the same treatments and procedures.

In order to do this in a consistent way, the CCGs want to make changes to what is known as their commissioning policy. This lists specific treatments, procedures and interventions the NHS funds, and who is eligible to have them. They want to merge the different commissioning policies (currently there are different ones for Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge; City and Hackney; Newham; Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest) to create one.

By doing this, it would mean that:

- All patients living in North East London would have access to the same types of care
- The care patients would receive would be in line with the latest clinical guidance
- Hospitals and GPs would be clear about what policy to refer to, reducing confusion
- Patients would not have treatments that don't work or aren't the best option for them.
- NHS funds would be spent paying for procedures that people need, and that would give them a better quality of life.

After much discussion, reviewing of clinical evidence and guidance, and looking at work done by NHS England, their GPs have come up with what they think needs to be changed in order to create a new commissioning policy for North East London.

They will now begin their six weeks of targeted engagement (until 3 July 2019) so they can discuss their proposals with local people and get their feedback.

Further information including detailed information about the proposals is on the website

Consultation on proposal to relocate Moorfields Eye Hospital

- **Consultation runs until Monday 16 September**
- **Public invited to give their views at <http://oriel-london.org.uk>**

People in Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge are being asked for their views on a proposal to move Moorfields Eye Hospital from its century-old site at City Road to a new facility at St Pancras Hospital.

The consultation invites members of the public to have their say on the proposed move which will bring together excellent eye care, ground-breaking research and world-leading education in ophthalmology on one site, for the benefit of patients.

In 2017/18 nearly 34,000 people were referred from Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge to Moorfields and in that year alone, Moorfields had more than 740,000 visits in total from patients – making it the largest eye care provider in the UK. Every day 250 people in the UK start to lose their sight and almost 10 per cent of all NHS hospital appointments are for eyes.

The trust treats a wide range of eye problems, from common complaints to rare conditions that require specialist treatment not available elsewhere.

A new centre will bring doctors and scientists closer together to optimise developments in care and research. This cannot be done effectively at Moorfields' City Road site which was built more than 100 years ago when hospital care was provided very differently.

Major advances in technology provide the opportunity for better diagnostics, treatments and information sharing, which could mean fewer waits and fewer hospital visits for patients. But the right facilities are needed to realise their full potential.

After the consultation closes on Monday 16 September, NHS commissioners will decide whether the proposed move should proceed to the next stage of planning.

If approved, Moorfields will begin the process of selling the current City Road site, buying land at St Pancras and appointing a construction firm. The new facility could open to patients in 2025/26.

David Probert, chief executive for Moorfields Eye Hospital, said:

“This is a crucial milestone in our ambitious proposal to design, build and operate a new, integrated eye care, research and education facility.

“Our ability to provide modern, efficient and effective treatment is achieved despite the limitations of our century-old City Road site, which sometimes means that patients do not always get the best care, delivered in modern ways.

“That is why we are looking at moving the hospital to a new purpose-built centre where we would be able to transform lives, turn research into new treatments faster and share our knowledge and

understanding with the clinicians of tomorrow.

“We’ve already had feedback from over 1600 people across the country through earlier public engagements and want to make sure that any future decision is made based on the involvement of those who use and provide our services. I strongly encourage patients, staff and the wider public to use this consultation to send us their views.”

EVENTS TO COME

POP Up Art Market & Exhibition

Saturday 8th June 10 am – 5 pm Ken Aston Square Barkingside

Free event outside Fullwell Cross Leisure Centre, High Street Barkingside.

Afternoon Tea with Barkingside 21

Thursday 13th June 2-4pm at Sweet, Barkingside High Street

This is an informal social event – everyone welcome. Cup of tea or coffee and a patisserie for £3 per head.

World Music Day Community Picnic

Sunday, 16th June 2019 – 12noon – 4.30pm at Forest Farm Peace Garden IG6

Bring a picnic and enjoy a relaxing family-friendly day of music nature and community in the beautiful garden. Free Entry – donations welcome. www.forestfarmpeacegarden.org. Email info@forestfarmpeacegarden.org.

Evening Guided Walk with the local RSPB – Claybury Park/Woods.

Sunday, 16th June 2019 at 6 pm

This evening walk will be led by Richard Nelson and will try to spot 2 species of woodpecker as well as nuthatch and treecreeper. Also on the look out for birds of prey and perhaps stonechat and warblers perched in the bushes. This is a good opportunity to test birdsong knowledge as birds will often tune up for the final “dusk” chorus towards the end of the day. Price £2 for RSPB members, £3 for non members.

Booking essential – email nelondonRSPB@yahoo.co.uk

Redbridge Music Lounge at The Cranbrook Centre, Valentines Park

Wednesdays 5th & 19th June & Thursdays 13th and 27th June - 12.30-4.30 pm at 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

Crime Prevention Coffee Morning hosted by Barkingside 21

Tuesday 25th June – 9.45am for 10-11 am – Hainault Room, Fullwell Cross Library

This is a free event with a talk by Sgt Kim Hollenberg of the Fullwell/Fairlop Safer Neighbourhood Team. All welcome.

Conference on Faith, Cultural & Spirituality in Palliative Care

Thursday 27th June – 9.30am-4.30 pm City Gates Church

Saint Francis Hospice, Haven House Children's Hospice, NELFT and BHRUT have joined together to bring a '*Faith, Cultural and Spirituality in Palliative Care*' conference. The aim of the day is to help build our knowledge so that we can understand the needs of our people and serve our communities at end of life.

The day will start at 9.30am at the City Gates Church, 25-29 Clements Road, Ilford IG1 1BH and finish at 4.15pm. Lunch and refreshments will be provided. Please complete the link below to reserve your place

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/exploring-culture-faith-and-spirituality-in-palliative-care-tickets-60117940378>

Workshop: -How to develop a heritage project for Lottery funding

Delivered by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Havering Museum

Thursday 11th of July, 9.45am to 1pm

Participants: 1 place per organisation

Venue: Havering Museum, 19-21 High Street, Romford RM1 1JU, [MAP here](#)

Calling all voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations from Barking & Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge - the National Lottery Heritage Fund has new funding available that we want to share with you! This session covers requests from £3,000 to £250,000.

Attend our Workshop to be inspired, to improve your understanding of heritage, and to learn about what to include if you want to design a project we could fund. Havering Museum will be on hand to provide an introductory session to exciting heritage material from their collections, and will give us a curator-led tour of the Museum itself.

The workshop is interactive and will include:

- Introduction to Havering Museum's collection and heritage material you could use in your project
- 'What is Heritage?' discussion to help you shape your idea
- Information and tips to help you design a fundable project
- A short guided tour

Refreshments will be provided

To book a place please sign up online at: [Ticketsource](#)

The National Lottery Heritage Fund distributes the heritage share of National Lottery ticket sales, supporting a variety of projects across the UK. The projects funded vary from recording diverse community histories to providing life-changing training, restoring natural landscapes to rescuing neglected buildings.

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