



*We commit ourselves in a spirit of  
friendship and co-operation to work  
together as people of faith for a just  
and inclusive Scotland*

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**The Scottish Inter  
Faith Council  
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Glasgow G41 2RF**

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## **Scottish Inter Faith Week 2010**

The theme for Scottish Inter Faith Week in 2010 was Faith in Action in recognition that faith can inspire people to make a positive difference in the world and that people from different faith traditions can work together for the common good. Scottish Inter Faith Week provided individuals and groups with an opportunity to reflect upon the inspiring actions undertaken by people of faith on a local, national and global level. Due to unprecedented weather conditions at the end of November, a number of events that were planned to take place across the country to mark the week had to be postponed or cancelled. However, a number of events survived the blizzards and were greatly appreciated by those who attended. A snapshot of these can be found throughout the newsletter along with other events and activities of recent months.



### **About SIFC**

The Scottish Inter Faith Council (SIFC) offers a religiously neutral forum where representatives of faith communities can meet on a basis of equality. It encourages the formation of local inter faith associations and assists and supports them in their work. It also facilitates dialogue between the Scottish Government and faith communities on a variety of issues.

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## Launch of Scottish Inter Faith Week in Inverness

The launch of Inter Faith Week on 28 November was accomplished as a triumph over adverse conditions. The preceding days had brought an onslaught of snowfall across most of Scotland and with guests due to arrive in Inverness from around the country there was a concern that the event would have to be called off. Despite the difficulties posed by the weather, the indomitable spirit and determination of the Highland folk was undeterred and the Highland Council and Inverness Inter Faith Group took the event in hand.

As guests gathered at the Highland Chambers a wonderful introductory feature was provided by the Kiltlearn Fiddlers with a variety of entertaining Highland music. The Equalities Unit of the Highland Council had put up an excellent display of various local activities of the past two years, and the Inverness Inter Faith Group had produced a leaflet with similar content for distribution to attendees.

Guests partook in a varied and interesting buffet for an extended period as they awaited the arrival of Dr Maureen Sier from the Scottish Government Equality Unit and Frances Hume from the Scottish Inter Faith Council to formally open the event as they had been somewhat delayed in what turned out to be an epic journey from Glasgow.

With the train safely arrived, official proceedings commenced. The initial welcome came from the Inverness Provost Jimmy Gray, followed by an unusual welcome from the Inverness Inter Faith Group's chairman Dr. Redeppa Reddy, in that he was currently in India and had made a welcome introduction by DVD which was played via the Council Chamber's large display screen. Frances Hume outlined the theme for Scottish Inter Faith Week in 2010 as 'Faith in Action'. Dr Maureen Sier gave an inspiring talk on ways in which SIFC brought people of faith together and inspired them to take forward social action projects for the common good of society.

James Campbell shared about the work of Blytheswood Care, a charity that puts 'faith into action' across the globe. He reiterated the Provost's remarks about Christian ideals of charitable help for people who were often in dire need of support in kind as well as in a spiritual sense.

The rail-born travellers had to leave early to return south, and Councillor Hamish Wood very ably undertook the remaining chairmanship role. Some planned contributions were part of the casualties of weather. However, guests enjoyed two beautiful items: an Indian dance by Prachi Deshpande and Gaelic Hymns by Ceitidh Smith with clarsach accompaniment by Rachel Lincoln. Altogether, the open area with buffet, seating, wall display and music provided a wonderful atmosphere, further warmed and enlivened by the 45 guests who had managed to get there and make the occasion truly memorable.

## Multi Faith Consultation on the Millennium Development Goals

Mrs Ravinder Kaur Nijjar, Co-Chair of the Religions for Peace European Women of Faith Network, was invited to take part in a two-day consultation on the Millennium Development Goals on 20-21 September.



The consultation took place at the United Nations in New York where over 50 world leaders gathered to discuss effective ways of engaging religious leaders and faith communities in efforts to achieve these goals. The interactive dialogue between faith leaders, political leaders, and the United Nations, focused in particular on global partnerships for development that ensure the legal empowerment of the poor, address maternal mortality and confront violence against women.

## Dundee News

Iain Stewart, Church of Scotland Inter Faith Worker, hosted a Multi-Faith Concert in Scottish Inter Faith Week for Abertay Chaplaincy in conjunction with Dundee Inter Faith Association. The night incorporated a rich array of talent from across Scotland's religious and cultural spectrum, which was enjoyed by all. The performers included three young Muslim boys beautifully performing 'Nasheeds' (rhythmically reciting parts of the Qur'an), harp playing, traditional Scottish songs with 'Three's A Crowd', Indian tabla drums and sitar, a Chinese Zither, and Caecilian and African Choirs.



The night was concluded with a tribute to Carrie Varjavandi, a real beacon in Dundee Inter Faith Association who will be moving to China, initially for a year. Reverend Leslie Barrett then piped out the audience safely on their way. Several hundred pounds were raised for the Pakistani floods appeal. The audience and participants were reminded that music has the ability to break down barriers and bring people together to experience the same emotions in a way that few other vehicles can.



Dundee Inter Faith Association organised an inter faith lunch in September to coincide with the return of students to the city. It took place in the Mark Henderson Centre, the main office for Signpost International. There was a lovely atmosphere which was enhanced by the Ferryport Fiddlers. A number of students came along from Abertay University and it is hoped that they will be involved in inter faith activities in the city.

Faith in Community Scotland established a new project, 'Faith in Community Dundee' in November. The project will be working with faith groups and the wider community to start up and support projects which combat poverty in Dundee's priority communities.

The project is currently looking for a voluntary administrator. If anyone is interested in volunteering, contact the co-ordinator, Ellen McCance on 0771 5974280

or email: [ellen@faithincommunitydundee.org](mailto:ellen@faithincommunitydundee.org)

## Glasgow Events

Many families battled the elements to attend the 'Faith, Family and Fun Day' held at St Mungo Museum of Religious Life and Art as part of Scottish Inter Faith Week. Children and their parents from diverse backgrounds enjoyed a variety of arts and crafts activities and listened to stories of faith from around the world. One of the highlights of the event was provided by Maryhill Integration Network, whose young dancers performed dances from Africa, Europe, China and the Middle East. Their colourful costumes thrilled the children who enjoyed clapping and stamping their feet to the vibrant rhythms. The 'Faith, Family and Fun Day' has proved a great success and has become an annual event at the museum.



A number of other events took place in Glasgow to mark inter faith week. Blessed John Duns Scotus Church hosted an inter faith evening of sharing faith, food and prayer. Inner Space hosted a talk, meditation and sharing on the theme of 'What is friendship' and the University of Glasgow hosted three stimulating lectures by Dr Rose Drew entitled 'Buddhist and Christian? Exploring Dual Belonging'.

On Saturday 13 January a Buddhist – Christian conversation took place in St Mungo Museum focussing on the topic of Sacred Art. The Buddhist presenter gave insight into the painting of Thankas and showed one that she was currently working on. It is painstaking work and requires concentration and mindfulness. The Christian presenter gave an outline of Christianity's approach to sacred art and commented on how some art was the product of prayer and meditation.

## Dumfries Celebrates World Religion Day

World Religion Day was celebrated in Dumfries and Galloway with a special event in Dumfries on Sunday 16 January. Over 20 people from all age groups and different faiths came together in the Cumberland Day Centre and shared readings, thoughts and prayers. A short film made in Northern Ireland and refreshments were also enjoyed. The aim of World Religion Day is to foster the establishment of inter faith understanding and harmony by emphasizing the common denominators underlying all religions and to adopt a unified approach to the changes that confront humanity at this time.



Venus Carew explained: 'The history of man's cultures and civilisation is the history of his religions. Nothing has such an integrating effect as the bond of common faith. The theme of our event was that the earth is but one country and mankind its citizens and that brought us all together. World Religion Day helps us understand different faiths and share the joy and hope of belief with others. This leads to better relationships and increased respect for other people in communities across our region'.

## Edinburgh Tibetan Buddhist Centre and the Snow Buddha

After months of refurbishment and redecoration by a team of dedicated volunteers the new Tibetan Buddhist Centre of Kagyu Samye Dzong Edinburgh opened in September. The joyful opening ceremony, presided over by the Abbot of Samye Ling, Lama Yeshe Losal Rinpoche, was attended by a packed house of members and supporters. Since then there has been a steadily increasing flow of people coming to avail themselves of the beautiful shrine room, meditation space and facilities at the Walker Street centre in the heart of Edinburgh's West end.



Then the weather turned Arctic, making many roads in Edinburgh impassable. For a few days it became a case of snow stopped pray! They say Tibet is the Land of Snow and it seemed as though Tibet had come to Edinburgh, especially when a snow Buddha manifested outside the front door! He became something of a landmark and attracted the attention of passersby, many of whom stopped to take photos. The snow Buddha has since melted away, but with his passing taught a valuable lesson in impermanence. Samye Dzong is open to people of all faiths and everyone is welcome to pop in.



## Edinburgh Women's Interfaith Group

About 15 women met to celebrate the end of the old year and beginning of the new. All enjoyed some festive food and then gathered to share thoughts and experiences on 'what brings light into my life'. The variety of contributions was striking: from the kindness of people, particularly in the present cold weather, to landscapes, music, painting, Celtic poetry, Shakespeare, and watching children playing and helping them to develop. One friend pointed out that the Jewish festival of Hanukkah, a 'festival of light', had just ended. Then all in turn lit tea lights, signifying remembrance of someone, a group of people, or some situation in need of prayer.

## 'Sister Cities' International Exchange to Barcelona

On 20 October, a group of Glasgow delegates comprising religious leaders, staff, volunteers and members of SIFC, set off to Barcelona for the second leg of an exchange programme between inter faith organisations in the 'sister cities' of Barcelona, Glasgow and New York. The aim of the programme is for delegates from SIFC, the Interfaith Centre for New York and Catalonia's UNESCO Centre for Inter-religious Dialogue to meet and share good practice in inter faith initiatives in their respective cities.

UNESCO Catalonia, who hosted our trip to Barcelona, are a non religious organisation which promoted the creation of the Association for Inter-religious Dialogue (AUDI), a multi faith organisation bringing together and mobilizing more than 200 people from diverse religious traditions. Inter faith work in Spain has greatly increased in the last ten years due to changing demographics with immigrants arriving from across the globe. During our stay in Barcelona we were given a tour of two areas of the city where a large proportion of immigrants reside. In the Rabal district we met with local religious leaders. In the Sant Roc neighbourhood we met in the local parish church in the heart of the community and met with local workers who were making a difference in the community.

A key issue for UNESCO Catalonia is to assist people from different faiths to access accommodation for worship which can become a dedicated space for that faith community, often in the face of local opposition. In Barcelona there are 80,000 Muslims and no purpose built Mosque. We joined a massive group who were gathered in a Sports Hall for Friday Prayers. UNESCO are currently campaigning for them to have their own place of worship. The Sikh community now have their own Gurdwara in Badalona as a result of UNESCO's campaigning. We were privileged to be included in prayers and a meal at the Gurdwara and were honoured to be presented with orange scarves by the Sikh community in recognition of the delegates' work in inter faith dialogue in their different countries.



We also enjoyed visits to the Islamic Council of Catalonia, a local Jewish synagogue, "Cor de Maria" Catholic Church and a local Protestant Church. We had a wonderful evening at "Tibet House". It was hard to believe that this Tibetan Buddhist temple had once been a parking lot! It had been so beautifully transformed and was another example of faith communities using whatever space is available for worship and meditation. We also participated in a very interesting and informative dialogue with Catalan inter faith groups at Barcelona's Baha'i Centre.





We met with a number of public bodies during our stay. We were given a presentation by "Mossos d'Esquadra", Catalan's Law Enforcement Police and participated in a round table discussion with the Civil Rights and other Councillorships and the local police. We visited the Catalan Government Religious Affairs Office, Barcelona's Religious Affairs Office and Badalona City Council and were given presentations on the religious makeup of the cities.

Within the confines of the peace and tranquillity of the Philip Neri monastery where we stayed and lived together during this trip, there was time to share ideas and form wonderful new friendships. On most mornings there was a time for reflection on different themes. At one of these

sessions we had a discussion on Media and Religion. It seems that in Barcelona there are similar issues with the negative portrayal of religion in the media. It was stressed that it is important to give faith groups their own voice rather than use the subjective voice of a potentially ill-informed outsider.

While we were in Barcelona, the city was eagerly awaiting a visit from the Pope. His arrival was to include a Mass in the "Sagrada Familia Church", a magnificent building designed by the Spanish architect, Gaudi. The continued development of the building is a truly inter faith project as people from all over the world and from all religions have helped support and finance this outstanding work, which has been in progress for over a century. For Gaudi this building was always to be a Divine witness to the whole world, a thing of great beauty all peoples can share. A stair is planned around which will wind messages of peace and harmony for all mankind, in many different languages. We were privileged to be given a comprehensive tour with the chief architect who is continuing Gaudi's work. However it was not missed that there is a sense of irony that this huge extravaganza is unfolding while so many have no space of worship to call their own.



The visit to Barcelona concluded with a closing public session at UNESCO Catalonia's headquarters. Representatives from New York, Glasgow and Barcelona gave closing reflections on all that we had learned during the visit. Staff at UNESCO Catalonia spoke movingly about the impact that this opportunity to share their work with us had made upon them as a team. It had reminded them that their efforts were significant and worthwhile, despite the opposition and prejudice they have sometimes experienced. They said they felt that there has been a move from "intolerance" in Barcelona, to "tolerance" and sometimes "acceptance" and even "inclusion", but their dream is to move beyond that to "love" for all their communities. One of our abiding findings as a team was the realisation of the difference that even one person with a vision for justice and peace can make to their society.

Our challenge is to take this inspiration back and to implement it in Glasgow. This year plans are underway for Glasgow to host the final leg of the three city exchange and welcome delegates from New York and Barcelona to the city.

Shanny Newall and Frances Hume

## Multicultural Celebrations in Glasgow

Shobha Nagpal is the Chair of the Scottish Indian Mahila Cultural Centre, a women's voluntary organisation run by volunteers. The group produced a fantastic 'International Women's Day' celebration on 14 March. The aim was that whilst it should be a day of enjoyment it should also give the communities an opportunity to recognise and celebrate local women's achievements and their contribution to society.

The day started with a variety of enjoyable workshops including Belly Dancing, 'Jago' (a traditional Punjabi style dance), Brazilian dance, Gujrati Dandia sticks dance, Chinese ribbon dance, Henna hand painting, Ayurvedic cooking information and demonstration, a health stall, yoga and meditation. After lunch was served, the women watched a slide presentation: 'Women We are Proud of'. Five women who have been an inspiration to others in the fields of Education, Gender Equality, Arts and Culture, Politics and Social Work were presented. A formal stage entertainment followed, including a Scottish Piper, Harpist, Opera, Poetry recital, Ballet, Brazilian dance, Indian Bharatnatyam, Chinese Oriental Dancing, Belly Dancing and Cumbia fusion.



As the Chair and Founding Director of Peace Arts, Shobha produced the stage show 'The Haunted Hall' on 31 October at the Partick Burgh Hall in Glasgow. In the production, dance and drama sequences based on Halloween and Diwali were presented by a multicultural community-based cast and organisations from varied backgrounds and cultures. From Columbian Cumbia to Pan African, Ballet to Bharatnatyam, Greek to Indian folk, the show promoted peace, tolerance and understanding through music and dance and educated the audience and participants about the wonderful cultures flourishing in Glasgow. The show was a huge success and received some wonderful feedback.



## Christians and Muslims share prayers at Christmas

A neighbouring church and mosque in Aberdeen marked their friendship on Christmas Eve by opening their doors for simultaneous prayers, then sharing food with local people. Friday 24 December was a holy day for Muslims as well as the night of Christmas, the birth of Christ, for Christians. The prayers were said and a common message shared at 1pm. St John's Episcopal Church and the Crown Street mosque in Aberdeen, which share a link corridor, invited local people and traders to attend their respective services and the social event afterwards.

The Rev Isaac Poobalan, Rector of St John's, commented: "The essence of both Christian and Muslim faiths, the heart of the matter for me, is hospitality. That's why, with Christians, the core of our service is communion, a meal shared together. Church should be a place of hospitality and when we lose that, hostility comes in." Imam Muhammad Abul Hassan, of Crown Street mosque, agreed. He pointed out that although Muslims do not celebrate Christmas, they honour Jesus as a key prophet of God and recognise his mother, Mary. Hassan explained: "Based on today's society, I think it's very important for different religions to come together and understand each religion as it really is. We have misunderstanding of all kinds of religion and there is extremism but true Muslims look to have a multi-faith dialogue. We have that dialogue to understand the essence of true faith." He continued: "This is really important because people come from all different backgrounds and faiths and we should try and live with each other and help each other as much as we can."

Scotland's First Minister Alex Salmond welcomed the move in a message of support to the two communities. He wrote: "This is a wonderful example of the different strands of Scotland's tartan coming together to celebrate both the diversity of our nation and the values we share. I wish the initiative every success". Between Christmas and New Year, the church and the mosque held a fundraising dinner to raise money for a 2,500-bed hospital in Tamil Nadu, South India. Mr Poobalan said: "When we have the courage to break down the initial barriers, what comes out is quite amazing, how much we share in terms of the essence of faith. That brings joy because we discover we both believe in similar things. There's no denying there are differences, but what emerges is that the similarities are greater than what is projected. I see more similarities than differences."

## Religious Leaders' Meeting

The religious leaders of Scotland met at the Church of Scotland Offices in Edinburgh on 18 January. They were hosted by the Church of Scotland moderator, Right Reverend John Christie. The leaders had a stimulating conversation on the limits of religious freedom in a secular and multi faith society. They agreed that the purpose of their meetings was to discuss such issues and that this was important enough to be taken forward to a future meeting. They also discussed whether Scottish Inter Faith Week should be moved to February to fit in with the United Nations Inter Faith Harmony Week. It was decided that it would remain in its unique position



in November to incorporate St Andrews Day. Archbishop Mario Conti shared that as chair of the Catholic Committee for Inter-religious Dialogue he has written to every Catholic Parish in Scotland alerting them to Inter Faith Week in 2011 which will take place from 27 November to 4 December.

## Youth Events

While adverse weather conditions meant that the annual youth retreat and youth conference had to be postponed to the New Year, a good number of youth inter faith events have taken place in recent months. In October, Dr Maureen Sier and Frances Hume delivered a day of workshops on 'The Do's and Don't of Dialogue' at Gordonstoun School near Elgin for pupils from Gordonstoun, Lossiemouth High School and Elgin Academy. Also in October, the Catholic Church held a seminar for senior school pupils from Catholic schools in the central belt with workshops on inter faith relations, including one from SIFC, and opportunities to question religious leaders from a variety of faiths. Religious Education materials on inter religious dialogue has been developed and sent to every Catholic school in the country.

In November, Olivia Furber, a member of SIFC's youth steering committee, organised a Environmental Film Festival in Edinburgh. One film that was screened was 'Dirt! The Movie', looking at the importance of earth from both an environmental and spiritual perspective. A panel of environmentalists from the Christian, Baha'i, Muslim and Buddhist faiths gave a presentation and answered questions on their respective faith's response to environmental concerns.



Also in November, the University of Strathclyde Student's Association hosted its first ever week devoted to developing inter faith relations. Titled "One Strathclyde Many Faiths", the week was the brainchild of SIFC's youth steering committee member, Charandeep Singh, who in 2010 took up the role of Vice President Equality & Diversity at the university. Charandeep, Strathclyde Chaplain Rev Marjory MacAskill and the faith societies organised activities to bring together the different faith groups on campus. These included an open doors day, an exhibition on different faiths, 'face to faith' dialogue, a staff seminar and an inter faith dinner attended by 22 students and staff.

## Women's Inter Faith Network in Scotland

The Scottish Inter Faith Council established a Women's Inter Faith Network in Scotland in June 2010. The network brings together women from across Scotland from all faith traditions to engage in inter faith dialogue and social action projects. The Network will be hosting a Women's Inter Faith Seminar on Sunday 27 March on the theme of 'The Heart of Wellbeing' in partnership with SIFC and the Janki Foundation.

The next meeting of the Women's Inter Faith Network will take place on Monday 28th February at 4.30pm at the Brahma Kumaris Centre at 20 Polwarth Crescent in Edinburgh and all are very welcome to attend.

Ravinder Kaur Nijjar is in the process of establishing a UK Women of Faith Network for women of faith from Scotland, England, Northern Ireland and Wales. An initial meeting took place in London in June. A second meeting will be taking place in Birmingham on 30 March when Ravinder will launch an exhibition to mark International Women's Day on the Status and Honour of Women across the world faiths.

## Meeting at the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service

On 4 November members of the Scottish Inter Faith Council met with the Glasgow Area Management Board at the offices of the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS). For several months COPFS has enjoyed a close working relationship with SIFC as part of COPFS' Equality Advisory Group, a group of equality experts representing various community interests across Scotland, selected to advise COPFS of the impact of its policy decisions on those represented groups.

The meeting focused particularly on hate crimes and how COPFS deals with this on behalf of victims, witnesses and their families. Glasgow managers were keen to find out how they could learn more about how people of different faiths across Scotland saw the criminal justice system and how it could be improved. Representatives from SIFC urged COPFS to send members of staff to respective places of worship and find opportunities to describe what COPFS' role was in Scottish society and receive feedback from congregations about how to proceed.



## Inter Faith Symposium on Nostra Aetate

SCoJeC, the Scottish Council of Jewish Communities, was honoured to sponsor an inter faith symposium on 6 October jointly with the Catholic Bishop's Committee for Inter-Religious Dialogue to mark the 45th anniversary of Nostra Aetate ("In our time"), the declaration by Pope John XXIII following the Second Vatican Council, that opened the doors to inter-religious dialogue. The guest speakers were Chief Rabbi David Rosen and Father John Pawlikowski, both leading members of the International Council of Christians and Jews.

Welcoming the seventy participants to Giffnock Shul, Rabbi Moshe Rubin commented that it was only two weeks since he and other faith leaders had welcomed the Pope to Scotland. He said "it was truly remarkable that we were surrounded by so many people of different faiths who would in the past have felt threatened by each other. Much of that change is due to Nostra Aetate."

The day's proceedings were summed up by Archbishop Mario Conti, Chair of the Catholic Bishop's Committee for Inter-religious Dialogue. He said that Nostra Aetate was "a boost for the work we are doing developing understanding between different faiths". Rabbi Rosen commented that "the things that bring us together are more important than the things that keep us apart, pointing to a mutual responsibility in terms of safeguarding the sanctity of life, the family, the integrity of creation, justice, and peace, which flow from God." Rabbi Rosen and Father Pawlikowski also spoke at the Lauriston Jesuit Centre in Edinburgh and at the universities of Glasgow and Aberdeen.

## Bible and Qur'an Group in Dundee

The Bible and Qur'an group is one of a number of outcomes from the Muslim and Christian Perspectives' meetings that have been taking place in Dundee since October 2007. The foundation for these meetings is our 'common ground', the dual common ground of love of God and of neighbour and the context this gives for people to grow in mutual understanding and respect whilst recognising the central and significant differences between the faiths. The Bible and Qur'an group comprise Christians and Muslims who take their Scriptures seriously and have a desire to meet together to discuss them in the context of a chosen topic.

The group comprises two Imams and four other Muslims, two ministers, and five other Christians. Following an inaugural meeting there have been a further four meetings looking at verses in the Qur'an and the Bible on Creation, Forgiveness, Friendship and Joseph. The topic for the next meeting is Community.

Although the group has only been meeting for a short time it is evident that the time together is proving worthwhile. Engagement with the Bible and Qur'an has resulted in a deeper understanding of each other's Scriptures as those present learn to communicate their truths. This in turn has led to respectful and deepening friendships which has fostered 'good quality disagreements' – proving that we need not shy away from bringing God and our understanding and experience of Him into the 'public space'.

The group follows the community ethic of the Scriptural Reasoning Society and the organization is based on the guidelines from 'How to Pitch a Tent': a Bible and Qur'an group should ideally have no more than 12 participants – six from each faith with, ideally, a gender balance within and between the two faiths. It is built on recognition of the particularity, distinctiveness and integrity of each of the two faith traditions and a strong respect for the cherished differences between Christianity and Islam. Within that context there is also recognition of parity between members of each faith and also the equal value of the gifts that every woman or man brings from their personal background and life experience to the table of study and interpretation of sacred texts.

## Central Scotland

The showing of the film 'The Imam and the Pastor' that was due to take place during Scottish Inter Faith Week was cancelled due to snow but will take place in the New Year. This inspiring documentary film brings to life the reconciliation between Imam Muhammad Ashafa and Pastor James Wuye and their initiatives to promote co-operation and resolve conflicts in northern Nigeria. A trailer of the film can be viewed at the website [www.ftfilms.org.uk/imam.html](http://www.ftfilms.org.uk/imam.html).

Andrew Sarle, the Secretary of Central Scotland Interfaith, has set up IRENIC, the Inter Religious ENcounter Information Consultancy, through which he provides a news service. His website, [www.irenic.org.uk](http://www.irenic.org.uk) provides summaries of, and links to, some of the latest stories of inter faith activity throughout the world. The website also contains a list of addresses of Scotland's faith communities (excluding churches) and a diary of important dates in the religious calendar. Andrew can also offer assistance for those wishing to deepen their inter faith encounters.

## Upcoming Events

For details of our upcoming events please check the news and events section of our website: [www.scottishinterfaithcouncil.org](http://www.scottishinterfaithcouncil.org) or ring Frances Hume on 0141 420 6982.