



## Tackling food poverty in Lincoln

Subash Chellaiah



**The Multi-Faith Chaplaincy is part of the Lincoln Food Summit organised by the Caroline Kenyon. Since July 2017 a lot of activities have taken place throughout the city, networks created, to tackle food poverty in Lincoln. Caroline Kenyon says "Since starting the Lincoln Food Summit, an informal group looking at issues relating to food every in the city, I have been privileged to meet some amazing people involved in tackling this pressing and complex issue.**

One project I have come across is Mint Lane Cafe, which uses food from Tesco which would otherwise go to waste, to make nutritious meals at a very affordable price. They celebrated their first birthday recently and it was lovely to go along and mark the occasion with them.

In the meantime, at one of our meetings, it was flagged up that all the supermarket chains are getting much cannier about not having waste food, which means that more and more charities are chasing less and less food. A negative outcome of a good intention, sadly.

And then on the upside, I read in The Independent about the brilliant school girl, aged 11 years, who just happens to come from Lincolnshire and won a

national competition with her concept of a 'smart' fruit bowl that alerts you to when your fruit is going to go off, and helps minimise waste. How inspiring!

Chris Whaley, Catering Manager, says 'It is reassuring to know that a network exists that allows us to pass surplus food to those in need in the Lincoln area via the Subash and his contacts within the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy and the YMCA Lincolnshire. Forecasting sales is never easy and it's always a last minute call to Subash and his colleagues to help with the distribution and they rise to it every time.'

The Multi-Faith Chaplaincy are working closely with Chris and whenever the university will be closed due to public holidays any excess food from University catering is donated to the YMCA Lincolnshire via the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy. I collect the food and donate it to the YMCA Lincolnshire. It is a great opportunity to be able to provide food for those who need it – food that in the past went in the bin. I can see a change in the mindset of not only the catering manager but across the university that it is important to not waste food, food waste is wrong. Food shortage, food poverty is sadly a growing issue and awareness



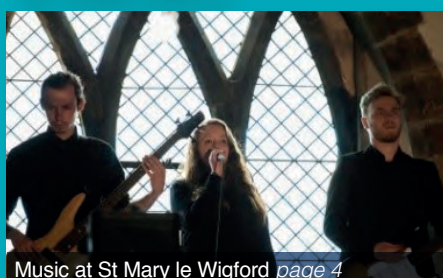
of this is spreading throughout the university and this can only be a good thing. I am privileged to be a part of this and have a leading role.

The Multi-Faith Chaplaincy peace garden located behind Witham House grows different vegetables that are used to make soup within the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy Kitchen. Whatever is excess from the peace garden is given to students in need but as the garden grows we will be able to provide fresh, home grown vegetables to a local charity ie. Mnt Lane Cafe.

The Multi-Faith Chaplaincy has a food bank that helps students in need. It is located in Witham House and donations come from local religious communities. Students who struggle financially do not need to worry about food because they know they can go to Student Services, be referred to the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy, and get two bags worth of food. This is sadly a growing reality, but students need not worry about food as they can always get some from the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy.

We continue to work closely with partners in the city to ensure no food is wasted and enabling excess food to go to where it is most needed is so important.

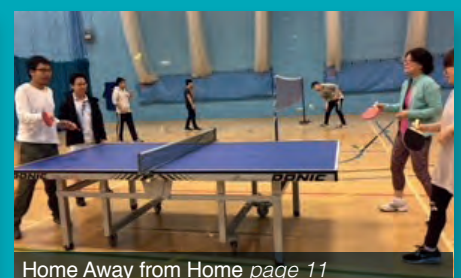
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# Message from the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy Co-Ordinator

Subash Chellaiah

## Chaplaincy Focus

ISSUE 3 – SEPTEMBER 2018

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**As we prepare for the new academic year I find I am looking back on the work the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy did last year. What a year 2017/2018 was and how quickly it went. The Peace Garden flourished, soup lunches, celebration of numerous festivals but most importantly the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy space has been a constant presence of welcome and tranquillity. Thank you to all who worked with the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy this last year to ensure it was a great academic year offering the range of services we did. The Multi-Faith Chaplaincy could not function the way it does without the help of the multi faith team of volunteers.**

The new academic year is almost here and with this comes a week of graduations. I would like to congratulate all those who are graduating this September. This is a time to look back and reflect on your time as a student at the University of Lincoln, be proud of your achievements, thankful for the friends and experiences you have had and made. This is also a time for celebration – celebrate your degree and all you have achieved. Graduating can also lead to a time of uncertainty as one chapter in your life is over and a new one is about to start – see this as an opportunity, a time to make plans and to look to the future. Plan the road you want to take and walk along it, seeing where it takes you and what opportunities come your way. If you want or need any support during this time the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy is only a phone call or e-mail away and feel free to get in touch.

A new academic year sees students continuing their degree and walking further down the path of education towards the goal of graduation. Some will be further along this journey than others. September will see an influx of new students joining the University of Lincoln and stating their undergraduate/postgraduate journey. Starting a new life here in Lincoln. We will welcome students from across the UK, Europe and the world. The Multi-Faith Chaplaincy is here for all students new and present, no matter what religion (or no faith) and from wherever in the world. We are here to welcome you, help you settle and answer any questions you may have. Moving to a new city can be daunting and it can be even more daunting as an international student as Lincoln is not only a new city, but you are in a new country too. During your first weeks and months in Lincoln, you will experience a wide range of emotions and feelings. Many students feel homesick – we are here if you want a friendly chat and help you find your local place of worship. Finding your local place of worship can be a great help as it enables you to follow a part of your routine you did at home, make like-minded friends and be a part of a local community.

International students, we are here to welcome you to the UK and we can help you settle here. It can be daunting moving to a new country – new foods, smells, language, weather and so on. Everything is new and we are here if you are suffering from culture shock, homesickness, or are generally struggling. These are all feelings I can relate to as the UK was once new to me too.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

## Need to Talk?

**You can meet a Volunteer Chaplain/ Faith Advisor any weekday afternoon during term time to talk about any issues which are affecting you personally or academically.**

We offer help, advice and confidential listening. Volunteer Chaplains/Faith Advisors see you on a one-to-one basis and visit you when you're sick or in hospital, and if needed we can connect you with Student Services or local agencies.

You can make an appointment to meet a Volunteer Chaplain/Faith Advisor any weekday during term time to talk about issues such as:

- Bereavement and loss
- Faith
- Health
- Money and debt
- Relationships
- Stress
- Work, organisation and deadlines

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# Charity – from a Pagan Perspective

David Gannon, Pagan Faith Advisor

**Modern Pagans in the UK (and across the world) follow a variety of different paths – from Wicca to Druidry, Heathenism to Shamanism.**

Unlike with many other spiritual practices and beliefs, we are not “People of the Book” and therefore do not follow teachings laid down in any scripture.

Instead, many of us seek to develop a closer relationship with the Divine Principle by living in harmony with the natural world, and by treating people and other living creatures with love and respect.

One thing that most Pagans have in common is an abiding connection and concern for the world on which we all live.

In addition to caring passionately about the environment and green issues generally, this also of course includes our fellow humans and other animals!

So many Pagans support, and are actively involved in, organisations that work in these areas – and by contributing time, money and effort, they hope to improve the well-being of all.

As spiritually aware, caring and compassionate people Pagans put their values and commitment to our world and its families into our everyday lives.

Many Pagans are therefore involved in the same organisations as non-Pagans – working for the general good – but in addition there are also Pagan charitable organisations working in a variety of fields. From pursuing specific educational initiatives to help improve peace and co-operation between Pagans and their non-Pagan neighbours, to actively working in the field to get things done on the ground.

Just one such example might be Pagan Aid. Their website reminds us that:

“Our beautiful, sacred Mother Earth is under attack. Her forests are being cleared. Her minerals are being plundered. Her rivers and seas are being poisoned. Her sky is being choked and her climate changing. Her creatures are being driven to extinction. Meanwhile millions of people live in extreme poverty. Some of them are poor as a result of the exploitation and industrialisation of the environment. Some of them have no choice but to deplete their local environment because of their poverty.

Pagan Aid wants to break this cycle of destitution and destruction by helping people to meet their basic needs through living in harmony with nature. We will do this by funding small-scale projects that help poor and marginalised communities



to protect and develop their own livelihoods and the environment about them – projects that put equal value on ending poverty and protecting Mother Earth.”

Of course, some would argue that in truly civilised societies there would be no need for charity – personal or institutional – but Pagans are not alone in understanding that practical action is sadly too often necessary.

And in conjunction with like-minded people from across the world’s faith communities, we seek to put our effort where our hearts are.

## Guide for the Perplexed

Prof Brian Winston, Jewish Faith Advisor



**Moshe ben Maimon, Moses the Son of Maimon, was born in Cordova, in Spain in 1135 and died, aged 69, in Fustat in Egypt which is now a suburb of Cairo. He**

**is buried in Tiberias in the Holy Land. And his importance is, for me, most vividly symbolised by the fact that not only is he for the Jews ‘The Rambam’ – the acronym in Hebrew of Rabbi Moshe the son of Maim on; he is also known to Islam as Mūsā bin Maymūn and to Christendom as Maimonides: -ides, ‘the son of’ in Greek.**

He wrote copiously – medical treatises on, for example, asthma, seizures, poisons and their antidotes, haemorrhoids. He was, incidentally,

Saladin’s physician – but, of course, he was also the major Jewish theologian and philosopher of the early European Middle Ages. His bibliography is immense but, most notably, he wrote in 1190, a *Moreh Nevukhim*, *A Guide for the Perplexed*. (And, most significantly I feel, he first penned in Arabic, *Dalālat al-Hā’irīn*.)

At the outset of this work he states his reason for writing it: Even well informed persons are bewildered, he claimed, by contradictions seeming irrationalities and opacities in the Holy Text. He goes on...

‘they understand these passages [only] in their literal signification, but they are entirely relieved of their perplexity when we explain or merely suggest that the terms are figurative. For this reason I have called this book *Guide for the Perplexed*.’

So, take a basic issue such as freedom of choice: How could Gd [Maimonides asks] command us through the prophets “do this” and “do not do this,”...? What place would the entire Torah have? And by what measure of justice would Gd punish the wicked and reward the righteous...? if we did not have the freedom to accept or reject the commandments. As it is written [Deuteronomy 30:15]: See, I have set before you life and good, and death and evil... but it does not say you must choose only good. Rather, it obviously implies you must have choice to also choose evil. You have free will; otherwise this has no meaning. For Maimonides, logic was more important than metaphysics. As he said: ‘Teach your tongue to say ‘I do not know,’ and you will progress.

## Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment Programme

Clive and Jill invite you to become animators of a Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment Programme.

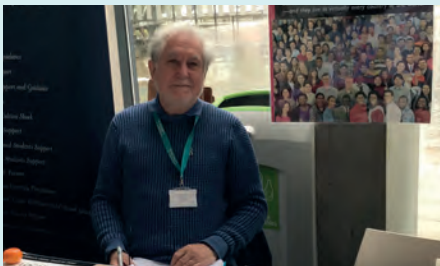


The key concepts of the programme rest on the importance of the interaction of youth of your age with junior youth (12-15) in the role of understanding themselves, true friendship, learning together and selfless service to the community. This will include exploring questions about life and aspirations and what kind of person they want to be.

Junior Youth Animators will work in small group settings with Junior Youth to develop capacities to serve society by engaging in meaningful discussions and study of the programme material along with artistic expression through drama, dance, art, sport, cooperative games, story-telling and self-created projects of community service. These will aid their consultative powers and develop such qualities as compassion, generosity, empathy, sense of justice and moral identity.

An initial period of preparation and training with others is necessary to study the Baha'i Junior Youth Spiritual Empowerment Programme materials, followed by working with Junior Youth from Lincoln.

An introductory session will be offered at the beginning of the Autumn term 2018 which will include films of ongoing Junior Youth projects in U.K. and around the world and the chance to ask questions.



Clive and Jill Tully, Baha'i Faith Advisors at the multi faith chaplaincy. [cliveatully@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cliveatully@hotmail.co.uk) [jilltully@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jilltully@hotmail.co.uk)  
Telephone 07932259825

The regular Baha'i devotional/meditation sessions will continue into the next academic year on the third Wednesday of every month at Witham House 1-2pm.

## Lincolnshire Sleep Easy Challenge

*Prof Craig Marsh, PVC | Director of Lincoln International Business School, Lincoln International Business School Executive Office*

**“On the night of 9th March, I joined a few hardy souls to take up the YMCA Lincolnshire Sleep Easy challenge, which was to spend the night in a cardboard box in the grounds of the Cathedral, in support of their work improving the lives of the homeless of the city and the county. I’m a relative newcomer to Lincoln, having started work at the University in April 2016. Like many others who arrive here I had fallen in love with this beautiful city, but at the same time I had also – like others – been really struck by the relatively large number of people sleeping out, in some cases only a stone’s throw from the University campus. I felt I wanted to help in some way, but really had no idea how. That is, until I met Rachael Hewitt in December last year, the fundraising officer for the Nomad Trust. As I’m sure everyone knows (I didn’t, until then), the Nomad Trust, part of the YMCA, run direct-access emergency accommodation for the homeless, and are raising money for a new day-care centre. I was inspired by Rachael’s story and signed up there and then for the Sleep Easy event. I happen to believe that we are all only one or two**



**unfortunate life events from being homeless, and that certainly seems true of the men and women Rachael and the team look after. Once or twice in my own life I could have found myself in the same situation, had things taken a slightly different turn.**

So, with some ‘insider information’ from my kids – who’ve done the Duke of Edinburgh and are Explorer Scouts – I kitted out a box with some plastic sheeting, and despite persistent rain for the entire night (note to self: next year take some earplugs!) I made it through to morning feeling a bit damp round the edges, but otherwise really pleased to have raised some money for a fantastic cause. I believe there may be the chance of a team

entry next year, so watch out for me recruiting some other willing volunteers from the University to join the event in 2018. I hope some of my colleagues will consider what is not only a worthwhile event, but also a fun evening out meeting many people who share a common cause, and in many cases work very hard to support it as volunteers. See you there next year I hope (and I’m happy to share those tips on staying dry!).”



## VII – A Music Department Performance at St. Mary le Wigford Church, May 2018

**Ancient truths met creative contemporary interpretation in the church of St. Mary le Wigford (the historic church located next to the railway station) when second year students from the Music Department came to perform ‘VII’ – The Seven Deadly Sins.**

Reflecting on the performance’s preparations, Father Matt Harbage commented, “Human nature changes little over the centuries; we are all prone to temptations like pride, greed and sloth (laziness). The engagement from the students both with the historic building of St. Mary’s and the seven vices was remarkable.”

The students transformed the church building; creating a sense of drama through original musical performance, lighting and audio/visual means. Reflecting on the piece, Lecturer Efthymiou commented, “The students were very grateful to St. Mary le Wigford for the opportunity to work on this exciting piece of music theatre. The building itself, as well as the theme of the event, inspired a number of intriguing pieces, which ranged from choral works to popular songs. The event was well received by a large and diverse audience, and I for one would be very keen to continue to work with St. Mary le Wigford on future projects”.

# The Peace Blanket

## “The Largest Peace Blanket”: What’s that all about?

The project is creating the Largest Peace Blanket made from Knitting and crochet and is hoping to break the World record. More importantly, the aim is to get the community together regardless of nationality, faith, ethnicity, background, etc.

### How did you come up with the idea?

We have been thinking of a way to get the people around the table to talk and know each other. Peace is an important aim, for everyone. So, we thought this would be a common aim to get people together.



### What are you hoping it will achieve?

We are hoping to get the different communities together, regardless Faith, Belief, Culture. Get everyone talking and knowing more about each other, for better integration of the community.

And, we are hoping to break the Guinness world record.

### How does this tie in with your role as the Muslim chaplain at the Multi-faith Chaplaincy?

In the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy, we are caring about students and their well-being. This includes linking them with the local community. It will be good to encourage students to get involved in the community project, to communicate more and integrate with the community.

### If interested, what could people do to get involved?

If you are interested to join, Please email us on [LargestPeaceCrochetBlanket@gmail.com](mailto:LargestPeaceCrochetBlanket@gmail.com) or call 07772 770680

We also meet at St Mary le Wigford church, on the fourth Saturday and second Tuesday of every month. You are welcome to join us there. Please call before to confirm if it is running.



# Lincolnshire Pilgrim Routes – Journeys of Faith

**What’s the difference between a walk and a pilgrimage? Is it distance or nature, or the environment or something else? The glorious countryside and big skies of Lincolnshire can be enjoyed by any casual walker, but a pilgrimage provides a journey to a holy place that involves an outward physical expedition accompanied by an inner spiritual journey.**

The Camino de Santiago de Compostela Pilgrimage in Spain is probably the best known, but you don’t have to travel hundreds of miles to take part in a pilgrimage.

The Journeys of Faith series of local pilgrimages, each around 50 miles, join up significant religious and historical hot spots around the County. Providing an opportunity to walk in the steps of ancient pilgrims, each of the three Journeys end at Lincoln Cathedral and

embrace much of the local history as well as the people, places and events that have shaped religious freedoms and social justice over the centuries.

The three Journeys of Faith start at:

**Louth** The epicentre of the 16th century Lincolnshire Rising involving thousands of people opposing the closure of the monasteries by Henry VIII. This route also includes the birthplace of Stephen Langton the Archbishop of Canterbury who negotiated the Magna Carta.

**Epworth** “Wesley country” where Wesley senior was rector for many years. His son John founded the Methodist movement, whilst brother Charles composed thousands of hymns.

**Boston & Bourne** Joint start points for the South Route. A circular walk from St Botolph’s Church to the Pilgrim Fathers Memorial provides a prelude. The longer

pilgrimage starts at Bourne Abbey and embraces nearby Sempringham where Gilbert founded his 12th century Abbey for men and women.

The Louth “Journey” is the first of the three pilgrimage routes to be launched and a guidebook will be available later this year. It will contain walking instructions & maps, a brief history of churches on the route, and contemplative verse. In inviting you to take part, the Dean of Lincoln Cathedral says, “In a world overloaded with change and uncertainty Pilgrimage has the potential to be life changing and transformative, bringing a new perspective, a sense of healing or a moment of decision. God’s presence is all around us. May your pilgrim journey be one of openness, of discovery and of delight.”

Please contact [rma@lincolncathedral.com](mailto:rma@lincolncathedral.com) for further information.



# Meeting with the International Agents Network Lunch

On the 23rd of May 2018, the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy was invited to take part at a welcome-event for the University of Lincoln's agents, taking place in the café-area of the Isaac Newton Building. Though only lasting an hour, the free-food, the new company and a short quiz had the whole room rumbling with activity. As the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy, we took part as one of the handful of stands representing the University's

major limbs, taking place alongside its summer and language schools, its sport facilities and its Student Union. Although much of the engagement at our stand focused around the slightly-embarrassed-looking individuals hoping to find



the answer to the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy's part of the quiz, we were nevertheless granted a great opportunity to explain the work that we do (in this way, as the Chaplain pointed out, even taking on an international level).

The importance of our work really hit home at the end of the event when a new PhD student, having been taking part and hearing about the work that we do, came to us seeking personal support. This is what we are here for: to offer the support to any one of all faiths and none.



# University of Lincoln Catholic Chaplaincy 2018

*Helen Townsend, Catholic Chaplain*

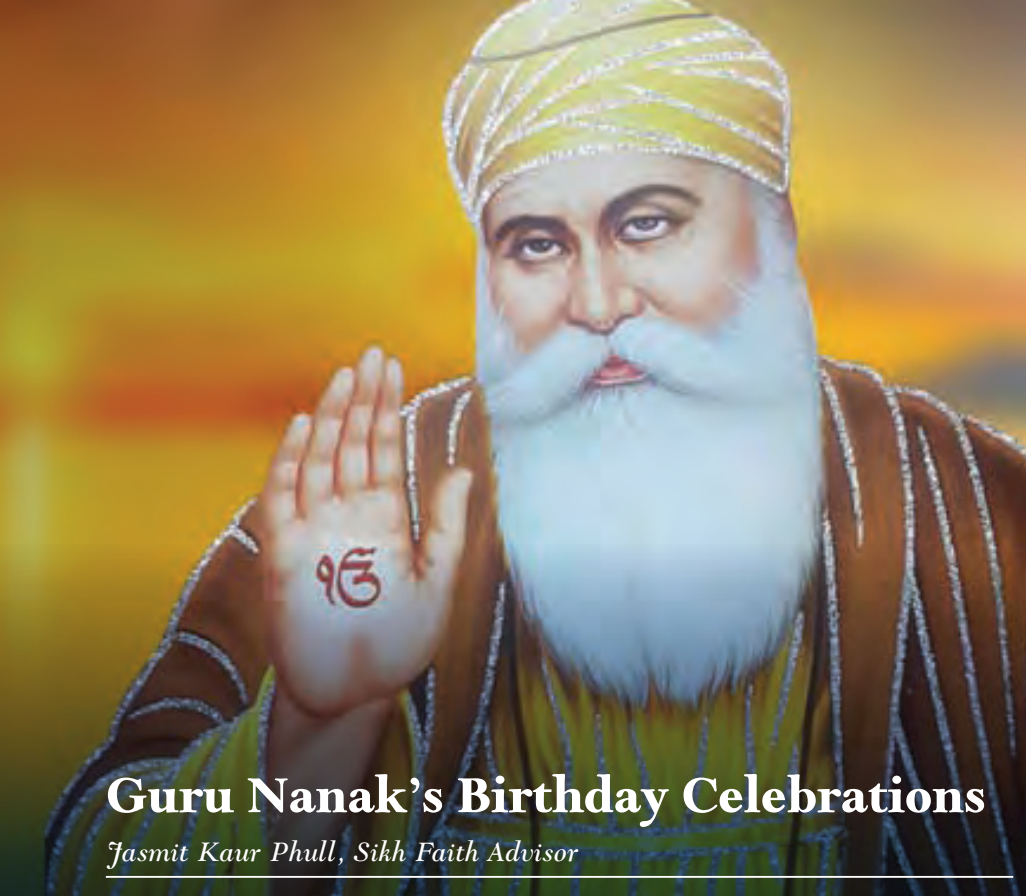
The Catholic Chaplaincy at the University of Lincoln is a place where students can meet, make friends and join in spiritual and social events. You don't have to be a Catholic to join in! Since Christmas, the Catholic Chaplaincy has been busy with events and trips. In January we were delighted to celebrate the graduation of one of our doctoral students, Emmanuel Etsename. One of our students who had helped with our English Language Classes for migrant workers, Dominik Schlecta, came to give a talk to sixth formers at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Academy about the experience of being at the University of Lincoln. Our Chaplaincy group visited Mount St Bernard Abbey in Leicestershire during Lent, for a day finding out about life in a monastery and attending monastic services to hear plain

chant and to pray with the community. We also attended film and supper nights at St Hugh's Parish in Lincoln during Lent, to learn what the Catholic Mass is about and to deepen our understanding of the Eucharist. We continue to offer meditation weekly on Campus, and for events such as Study Happy at the Library. We had a great tour of the Cathedral roof in April and in May we went on pilgrimage to Derbyshire, to Padley, in fantastic sunshine. We enjoyed an evening of free jazz with the Dominic Holmes trio in May.

In June a small group travelled to Leicester Holy Cross Priory for a day retreat and workshop on media skills and explaining about the Catholic Faith. During the summer we have been enjoying some healthy lunchtime walks from the Campus to local parks and



beauty spots. At the start of July, we enjoyed a Strawberry Tea at St Hugh's. As always, there is Catholic Mass on campus once a month in term time, and all are welcome.



## Guru Nanak's Birthday Celebrations

*Jasmit Kaur Phull, Sikh Faith Advisor*



### Guru Nanak's Birthday Celebrations on Sunday 4th November 2018

Guru Nanak is considered by Sikhs to have been the embodiment of God on Earth. Guru Nanak is the First Guru who was born in 1469 and taught us the path of Truth and Honesty

He believed in Equality and did not believe in the caste system. He was the Champion of Gender Equality. In India at the time Guru Nanak was around, women had very few rights. In the practice of Sati widows were often burnt alive as their husbands were cremated, and women in general were not allowed to remarry. Guru Nanak Dev Ji preached against this discrimination and sought to improve the respect of women. Guru Nanak Dev Ji is revered in many different cultures and as such has been given various names. In Afghanistan He is

commonly called Nanak Peer. He is also known as Nanak Rishi in Nepal, Baba Nanak in Iraq, Nanaka-Chrya in Sri Lanka and Nanak Lama in Tibet. These are just a few examples.

Guru Nanak travelled far and wide teaching people the message of One God who dwells in every one of His creations and constitutes the eternal Truth. From an early age Guru Nanak made friends with both Hindu and Muslim children and was very inquisitive about Life.

(Guru Nanak's Birthday this year is on Friday 23rd November 2018)

Guru Nanak invented Langar, the free vegetarian meal that is served at all Sikh Temples throughout the world to all visitors, without distinction of religion, caste, gender, economic status or ethnicity. Rich and Poor sit side by side, on the floor to have Langar. At the Sikh Golden Temple in Amritsar, India, nearly 100,000 people eat here on an average day—and not a single one of them will pay for the food they consume. The number doubles during festivals. "He who regards all men and women as equals is religious" Guru Nanak.



## Double Celebration for University of Lincoln



The University of Lincoln is marking a double celebration following news of a major national award for its Vice Chancellor and a rise to its highest ever league table position.

Lincoln has risen to 43rd in the Complete University Guide 2019 (published on 25th April 2018), an achievement which is complemented by the University's Vice Chancellor, Professor Mary Stuart, winning The Guardian's 'Inspiring Leader 2018' at a ceremony in London last night.

The award recognises inspirational leadership within the UK higher education sector and celebrates institutions and leaders who have had a far-reaching impact on higher education, who have encouraged innovation, and demonstrated visionary thinking.

Professor Mary Stuart said: "I feel very humbled to receive this award. My start in higher education in the UK was not the most typical and there were many challenges, but education has always inspired me. I have tried to champion the transformative nature of how education can change minds, change lives and change the world.

"This award is not only for me but for all the staff and students here at Lincoln. Our University is home to extraordinary people who are truly passionate about higher education and research and who fundamentally believe that an exceptional student experience should be at the heart of any university. I am delighted to serve my University and will continue to do all I can to support students, research and the sector."

## Pop up coffee

The Community Pop Up Cafe takes place first Saturday of each month at St Faith's Church Hall, West Parade 11am – 2pm. There is Coffee, tea and cakes. Homemade soup and roll. Craft Stalls. Bric a brac and Raffle.

Family Art Workshop. Free Entry. We encourage people to relax with friends and meet their neighbours which includes getting together with all ages, students, the elderly and families with children. Next one is Saturday 1st September.

# MULTI-FAITH CHAPLAINCY EVENTS



## Welcome Week

16 – 21st September 2018  
Minerva Building

## West End Gala

Sunday 23rd September 2018  
Time: 10 am – 3 pm  
Grandstand Community Centre,  
Carholme Road

Activities include:  
Peace Blanket  
Free Hugs  
Labyrinth

## Away Day

### Spirituality and Wellbeing: Promoting Mental Health

The Multi-Faith Chaplaincy invites the staff to attend the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy Away Day on the theme of 'Spirituality and Wellbeing: Promoting Mental health' to be held on 24th September at the Conference Centre Riseholme campus.

The event is free to attend but a limited number of spaces are available. If you have decided to come then email at [schellaiah@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:schellaiah@lincoln.ac.uk)

## Trips

### Faith Awareness Trip

Wednesday 14th November 2018  
9 – 4 pm

Visiting Jain Temple, Hindu Temple,  
Gurdwara and Synagogue

Free but registration is required  
[chaplaincy@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:chaplaincy@lincoln.ac.uk)

## Multi-Faith Chaplaincy Q/A Panel Discussion

### Friends and Family – Reflecting on close relationships

Monday 12th November 2018  
6.30 pm – 9 pm  
Venue: Co-op Lecture Theatre;  
MB0312 (Minerva Building)

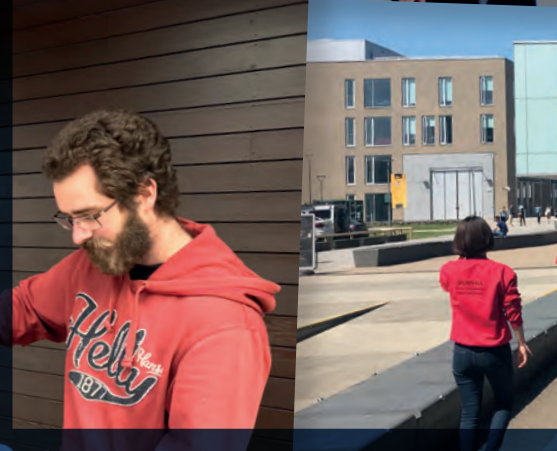
### The Place of Social Media

Monday 4th February 2019  
6.30 pm – 9 pm  
Venue: Cargill Lecture Theatre;  
MB0302 (Minerva Building)

### Our Common Home – What is our responsibility for the Earth?

Wednesday 24th April 2019  
6.30 pm – 9 pm  
Venue: Co-op Lecture Theatre;  
MB0312 (Minerva Building)

Free entry but registration is required  
[chaplaincy@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:chaplaincy@lincoln.ac.uk)



## Celebration of Festivals

### Guru Nanak's Birth Anniversary celebrations

Sunday 4th November 2018  
Time: 5.30 – 8.30 pm  
Venue: Minerva Building

Free entry but registration is required  
[chaplaincy@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:chaplaincy@lincoln.ac.uk)

### The Festival of Lights (Diwali) Celebration

Wednesday 7th November 2018  
Venue: Engine Shed  
Time: 5.30 pm – 8.30 pm  
Free Entry





## Witham House

The University of Lincoln Multi-Faith space, based in Witham House, is a facility used for worship, prayer, interfaith dialogue and hospitality by the diverse student body.

Witham House has four principal objectives:

- To provide the spaces necessary for different religious groups to pray, worship and explore their faith together on campus.
- To be a centre for interfaith dialogue and common endeavour that seeks to address the religious tensions of today's world.
- To be welcome and hospitable to all.
- To provide a reflective space on a hectic campus where both students and staff can take time out, away from noise and the stress of work either individually or in organised meditations, yoga, and so on.

Registered University of Lincoln SU Faith Societies committed to principles of interfaith understanding are welcome to use the space for their meetings. Please contact the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy for more information.

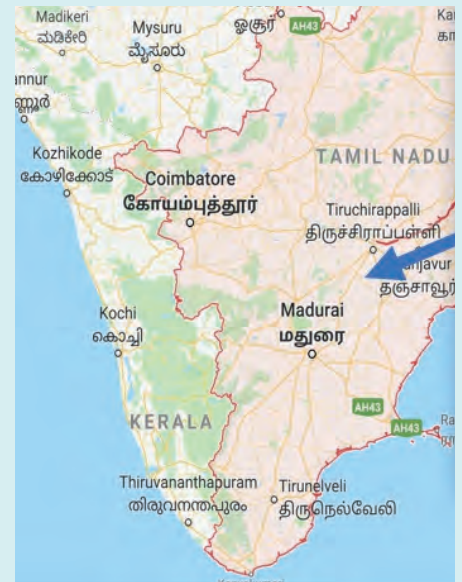
## Multi-Faith Chaplaincy Regular Events

- Communion Service for Christians on campus (Anglican, Methodist, United Reformed Church and Free Churches) – 1st Wednesday of the month in Witham House
- Catholic Mass on Campus
- Christian Orthodox Worship Service (Artoklasia)
- Jumma Prayer – Every Fridays during Term Time
- Christian Meditation
- Quaker Meeting for Worship
- Arthi Hindu Prayer (Every Tuesdays during term time)
- Baha'i Meditation
- Buddhist Meditation
- Chinese Christian Group Meeting
- Peace Gardening
- £1 Lunch – Every Thursdays
- Science and Faith Discussion
- Celebration of Festivals/ Interfaith Events

To know more details of times and venues or to get involve please contact the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy chaplaincy@lincoln.ac.uk . Witham House is open during the week university opening hours as the space has prayer rooms, quiet room and interfaith library.



# From the East Midlands to Tamil Nadu...



Sue and Chandra, the Head Teacher, reviewing a lesson together

In February 2018 Doug Duckworth, a humanist faith adviser at the Lincoln University Multi-Faith Chaplaincy and his partner Sue Goodman, spent four weeks volunteering at a pre-school in India run by friends of Subash Chellaiah, the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy Co-Ordinator.

The Little Elephant Play School in the small town of Keeranur in Tamil Nadu was set up by the Institute for Rural Community Service (IRCS), a local NGO dedicated to providing affordable services to rural communities, free from discrimination on grounds of faith or gender. Starting with just five pupils in June 2012, in the 2017/18 academic year the school has 120 pupils in six classes and charges an average annual fee of only £140, despite offering an

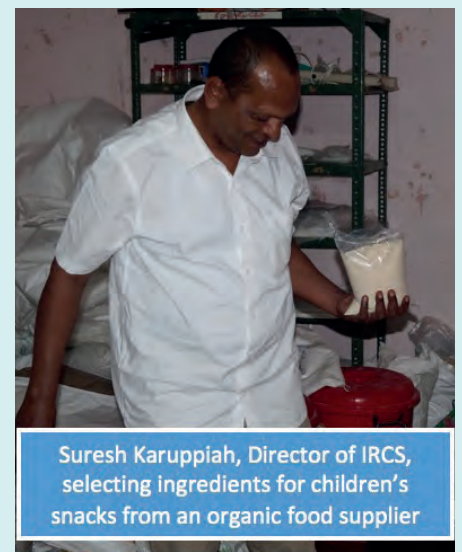
average class size of just twenty children and providing books and other teaching materials at no extra charge.

Balancing the school budget is a challenge for IRCS, who are always grateful for the charitable donations they receive from the UK. Funding is especially tight at the moment as IRCS needs to expand into primary school provision, which will require additional school buildings on a separate site.

Sue is a specialist in global education development management and says of her time at the school:

“The school’s main aim is to offer quality education in the medium of English. Teachers spend time planning lessons in detail and preparing resources. The children study Tamil and the older children also have Hindi lessons. The staff use a variety of teaching styles to make lessons meaningful and to encourage pupils to learn. The children are lively and responsive learners and by age five are confident enough to speak in English. I have enjoyed the privilege of teaching them and working with all staff at the school.”

Looking back on his time at the school Doug says:



Suresh Karupiah, Director of IRCS, selecting ingredients for children’s snacks from an organic food supplier

“At times the culture shock was overwhelming, not knowing the language or the customs, even going for a meal was an adventure. But the love the staff showed for the children and the children’s’ tolerant and respectful attitude to each other, especially those less able than themselves, will stay with me as a fine example of how we should all behave to one another.”

## Working together – University of Lincoln Multi-Faith Chaplaincy and St Faiths’ on the West End Community

Working Together – seeks to build cohesive and inclusive links with the local West End Community and students from the University of Lincoln. Student engagement with local communities through the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy will help to build mutual respect, relationships and awareness of each other’s needs. A group of diverse students will be working on this project helping to build a compassionate and inclusive community in the West End. At the

end of the year a short video will be produced showing the students experience working with this project.

There will be a discussion evening with food in a relaxed environment, a place of knowing each other, working together as a community despite differences, and working with what can bring us together as a community.

Lincoln is a beautiful, friendly and welcoming city. We need to continue to drive the city forward and celebrate

the growing diversity Lincoln has. There need to be more opportunities to get to know your neighbours, develop friendships and move away from potential incidences of hate and prejudice. Events like this are a start towards getting to know others within the local community and reducing the possibility of hate crimes as people develop a great understanding of each other. From eating together and having a discussion we can learn from each other and perhaps a community will grow.

# Church as a home away from home

Mrs. Nancy Ng, Chinese Christian Chaplain



**In 2010, the Lincoln Chinese Christian Church established its first Students' Ministry in order to meet the needs of the growing student population at the Lincoln University campus. The purpose for this ministry is to help provide a place of worship for Chinese Christian students who may find themselves without a church base.**

Since then the LCCSF has seen many students come and go. The turnover was great but the rewards of serving this Chinese speaking students was even greater. With years of working with the students we realized each new academic year caters to different group of students. In the early days we had a majority of Hong Kong students and so our language of communication is Cantonese based.

Then in 2012-2015 there was a large group from Malaysia who were actively involved in the students' program, and so English and Mandarin became our medium of communication. In recent years due to a larger community of students from China our church has to have bilingual worship to cater for this group.

In order to cater to the spiritual and the physical needs of the students we have developed a set program providing

the necessary care in maintaining and sustaining students' religious growth and academic pursuits.

Our yearly program embraces the 3 'P's':

**Provides** all events and activities to help making students life more enjoyable.

**Prepare** them to pursue a habit of active participation in volunteering their time to serve in the fellowship or church as a way of building leadership.

**Placating**, where necessary, in issues between students, or University.

Under these principles the church has trained many leaders to lead on the job training in the first year.

Sport has been a part of LCCSF program to encourage fitness and keeping in touch with members and non-members. Our monthly badminton and table tennis games held on the last Tuesday of the week provides a time of relaxation away from their studies.

We believe if local churches could open themselves and homes for more students to be blessed and enjoy the love of God, then maybe one day they will understand how much God loves them.



As the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy co-ordinator at the University, this is a great opportunity to bring students and the local community working together in partnership with the Student Union and communities in the West End.

The first event is on Saturday 13th October at St Faith's Hall, at 6.30 pm. Each Working Together Event will cover a different topic, the first one being 'Building compassionate communities'.

The evenings will be open to students and those in the local community – helping to build relations between the university and the West End community in which many students live. There will be student volunteers (through the SU volunteer program), who will prepare and cook the food to be served during the evening.

We will raise money through this event and it will go towards providing education in India and St Faith's.

## What a Waste!

Prof Nigel Curry,  
Director of Mint Lane Rescue Cafe



**A third of all food grown in the world is wasted. For fresh food, this can be 50%: 1% value of everything produced in the world is waste food.**

In Lincoln, we are tackling this with the Lincoln Food Strategy. Waste food comes from the whole food chain. A third of vegetables grown in the county are 'ploughed back in' because supermarkets won't take them. At a local depot, there are 40,000 tins of Curry rejected by supermarkets because of a spelling mistake on the label. At Hemswell, there is a biogas generator converting waste food from our plates into renewable gas – the antidote to fracking!



One Food Strategy project is Mint Lane Café, where we make cheap nourishing meals entirely from supermarket 'waste'. If you want to eat well, enjoy good company and volunteer to help people in food poverty, find out more at:

<https://www.facebook.com/mintlanecafe>

Mint Lane Café  
friendship through food

Mint Lane CIC 10551752  
mintlanecafe@gmail.com  
Facebook @MintLaneCafe  
Instagram @mintlanecafe

# Bird Wellness Area

A brand-new Bird Wellness Area has been donated and installed at the Kitchen Garden behind the Witham House of Multi-Faith chaplaincy. It includes a nature stone bird bath to cool off on a hot summer day and a multi-level feeding station with ample opportunity to offer food for every bird's taste.

The RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) suggests supporting birds with suitable food throughout the entire year.

In autumn and winter, they need high-energy nutrition such as fat balls, seeds or whole nuts to keep warm during the time when natural food is scarce. Spring and early summer is the main breeding season, with chicks being feed by their parents. Large and solid chunks of food like whole peanuts, large granola or pieces of bread should not be placed on an open bird table, as the young birds can choke on them. Good alternatives are sunflower seeds, soaked raisins and currants, pinhead oatmeal, mild grated cheese, meal or waxworms, insect mixes, mixtures without loose peanuts and large lentils, fresh cut fruits like apple, pear or banana. Always make sure to provide clean water as well. Never give birds milk, cooked oatmeal or fat rests from your kitchen.

If you would like to support the Bird Wellness Area, feel free to donate any suitable bird food to the Kitchen Garden ([environment@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:environment@lincoln.ac.uk)).



## To whet the appetite... Science & Faith Discussions

**“The arts and sciences can mingle productively in the multi-dimensional world in which there is a constant recognition that many types of map are necessary to do justice to the ‘logical structure of the Universe’**

– Dr. Denis R. Alexander

There will no doubt always be Flatlanders who will claim that their scientific account of reality is the only one that counts, sticking to circles and denying the existence of spheres. But hopefully most people will see that there can be many valid, complementary descriptions of the same reality that generate well-justified beliefs that not merely coexist but flourish together in their diversity.

This is no slide into an amorphous post-modern relativism in which anything goes, but a recognition that different types of belief about the same reality are absolutely necessary to do it justice. An account that highlights mechanism at the expense of meaning, or particles without considering purpose, is severely deficient, as if the mechanic's description of a car engine were the only one that mattered, and not the question as to where the car was going.”

Agree? Disagree? Join the Science & Faith discussions, first Thursday of each month during term time 12noon – 1pm in the Isaac Newton building atrium.

For more information contact [chaplaincy@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:chaplaincy@lincoln.ac.uk) or Alex Borman [aborman@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:aborman@lincoln.ac.uk)

## Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG) News

*Pastor Vera Icheke, Pentecostal Chaplain*

**Victory Centre Lincoln, a parish of the Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG) is a church that worships the Almighty God in Spirit and in Truth. A good number of our members are students from the University of Lincoln studying at various academic levels. Many of these students have travelled thousands of miles to study in Lincoln. Therefore, one of the key aims of the parish is to make these students feel at home and experience a greater level of satisfaction which is very similar to what they would experience right back in their distant home. Several activities have been lined up this year to ensure students are fully engaged within the spare times they have outside their academic works.**

It was quite amazing to see the turnout of the students during the April edition of the coffee morning. The coffee morning is one of the social events of the parish which fosters more interaction among members, making of new friends and connections. The ‘Tastes from Africa Day’ was another great social event held in May. This event brought many Lincoln city dwellers together. Various traditional African dishes were served and there was enlightenment session



on various African traditions. Several burning questions about African food and traditions were answered. This event was such a great opportunity for members, students and community dwellers that enjoyed African delicacies and meet new people. The students in the parish were very instrumental to the success of this event. Not only did they do most of the serving, but they also came out en-masse with their friends to give their full support.

Finally, the parish is deeply involved with Lincoln food bank. Due to the magnitude of this charity work, the parish is currently seeking more student volunteers. By this, we look to further engage the students in impacting their community positively.

# Birthday Presents

Joseph F B Pearce, QLS College of Social Science



**I always enjoyed the receiving aspect of birthdays when I was younger. Nowadays, I am fortunate to have enough to keep me happy and want to focus more on**

**giving to others. The rush of excitement you get from receiving presents usually wears off entirely after a few hours anyway. Raising money for people in need is the perfect alternative!**

So, this year I started a “birthday fundraiser” on Facebook for Action Against Hunger. Their mission is to eradicate famine from poverty-stricken communities around the world. I chose this charity because of its positive reviews from sites such as givewell.org, which are pretty useful for making informed decisions about where you’re putting your money. As the name suggests, Action Against Hunger put their funding into practical action.

Fundraising for charity is something we see everywhere but cannot have enough of. A quick Google search reveals that although global extreme poverty levels are still significant, they are falling every year and are at their lowest ever in 2018. This not only tells us that productive fundraising and activism work, but that a big push in charitable activities is urgently needed to end absolute poverty once and for all.

The wonderful thing about today is that we can be all made aware of the extent of these problems, and similarly, we can all lend a hand. I would encourage young people to try and fit activism into their lives wherever possible. Facebook has made it very easy to start your own fundraiser, birthday or not. If fundraising isn’t your thing, there are local charities and societies aching for your hands-on support, even if it just means volunteering for a couple of hours a week. The world needs you!

## Introducing Compassionate Lincoln



**Compassionate Lincoln is a campaign to encourage compassionate, community-led responses to social issues and challenges that affect our city of Lincoln. As a compassionate city, we believe that everyone has the power to make a difference and that even the smallest acts of kindness can change lives for the better.**

Compassionate Lincoln holds a series of community events throughout the year. The next event is ‘The Big Lincoln Soup’ on Saturday 6 October. This is an exciting opportunity to hear pitches from local people with big ideas for making a difference in our community! Further details and tickets are available here: [www.lincolndrillhall.com/shows/the-big-lincoln-soup](http://www.lincolndrillhall.com/shows/the-big-lincoln-soup).

To learn more about Compassionate Lincoln and to get involved, like the Facebook page or follow @CompassionateLN on Twitter. Alternatively, you can contact the Compassionate Lincoln Steering Group by emailing Jan Kemp at [compassionatelincoln@gmail.com](mailto:compassionatelincoln@gmail.com).

Compassionate Lincoln is a campaign for everyone! We all have a part to play.

## Caodaism – The Divine Eye

Mark Lilley, Quaker Chaplain



**On a recent visit to Vietnam I was privileged to encounter the three main religious traditions- Buddhism, Roman Catholicism,**

**and Caodaism. Caodaism is an ‘indigenous’ Vietnamese religion that was founded by a charter signed in 1926 by 28 followers of the ‘Higher Power’, Cao-Dai. This founding charter has the title (in French and Chinese) – Dieu et Humanité Amour et Justice – ‘God and Humanity, Love and Justice’.**

Members of many different faiths could recognise aspects of the beliefs and practices of Caodaism. The temples have a similar structure internally to Christian churches, with an altar and sanctuary, while Muslims might recognise the seating of believers on the temple floor on elaborate rugs and cushions. Buddhists would be familiar with Cao-Dai principles of birth and rebirth, with progression

of the individual to Nirvana, and Bahai followers would recognise the idea of ‘New Covenants’ and revelations of the Divine. Humanists may be struck by the official sainthood of thinkers such as Shakespeare, Louis Pasteur, and Victor Hugo.

The experience of the temple is an enveloping of colours, symbols, images, texts and ‘space’. The central image of Caodaism is unavoidably piercing-large representations of the ‘Divine Eye’, indicating that God sees everything, at all times, in every place. The photo shows the image of the eye in a Cao-Dai temple in Hanoi.

This religion, with its beliefs and practices, is completely different to my own Quaker tradition. Yet I felt a sense of the sacred in a certain form. I left the temple with this idea as a gift: openness to difference will often create familiarity in a space that is holy to another tradition. Religions and philosophies are all different, but we can ‘Be open to new light’, as Quakers say.



## Student Ecotherapy Project SEP Follow-up

**Reza Shaw is currently working on a project with the COE. The Multi-Faith Chaplaincy is helping him to connect with the local communities to engage with them through the SEP**

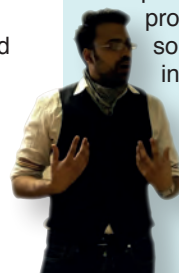
The SEP has focused on:

**Building Networks** – South England and local organisations.

**Preparing Voluntary Portfolios** – eager to start working with local communities in building social cohesion, to suit a variety of applicants who might want to get involved.

**Proposal for local church grounds** – working closely with the COE representatives to bring an SEP creation to Lincoln.

**Meditation Garden** – to give the local space something interactive, promoting mental wellbeing, and something pleasing to look at in itself, to be as accessible as possible for everyone who would want to come and find some peace and harmony.



# Fairtrade Fortnight 2018



Fairtrade Fortnight was two weeks of activities highlighting the importance of Fairtrade. This year we were able to work with both student societies as well as different departments throughout the university. The fortnight was interrupted by the heavy snow storms which meant a few events had to be cancelled, but the team worked hard to ensure key messages were still communicated.

## KEY EVENTS

**Oxfam Society** – chocolate tasting, selling and information stand detailing why Fairtrade is important to Cocoa farmers. The group spoke to a lot of staff and students and sold over £60 worth of chocolate.

**Smoothie Bike** – the smoothie bike used Fairtrade banana's and Fairtrade coconut milk donated to us. We gave out information about the Fairtrade products and invited staff and students to ask how they could support the initiative further. This event was co-run with HR and The Healthy Campus week and we combined it with sharing information about sustainable transport in Lincoln and getting active through cycling.

**Community Soup Lunch & Fairtrade discussion** – the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy team worked with the Amnesty Society to provide free soup with vegetables grown from the kitchen garden. It raised awareness of the complexities of growing food from scratch and the ordeals farmers across the world may have to face. The event also hosted a arts and craft session and attendees could also play Giant Snakes and Ladders.

To get involved email [environment@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:environment@lincoln.ac.uk).



# Diversity Festival at the University of Lincoln

The Diversity Festival at the University of Lincoln was born in the wake of the Brexit vote of 2016. It began with a realisation that the excitement and pride taken in the diversity of our society by many of us in the University community was not always shared beyond our campus.

We became aware of an urgent need to show our staff and students that they were welcome in Lincoln, and with this in mind, the Diversity Festival sought to bring together the university and the wider community in a celebration of difference.

At the same time, the opportunity was taken to embrace diversity based on gender, sexuality, and disability too. Everyone should be welcome and valued, and this year's event was our second. It was a great success.



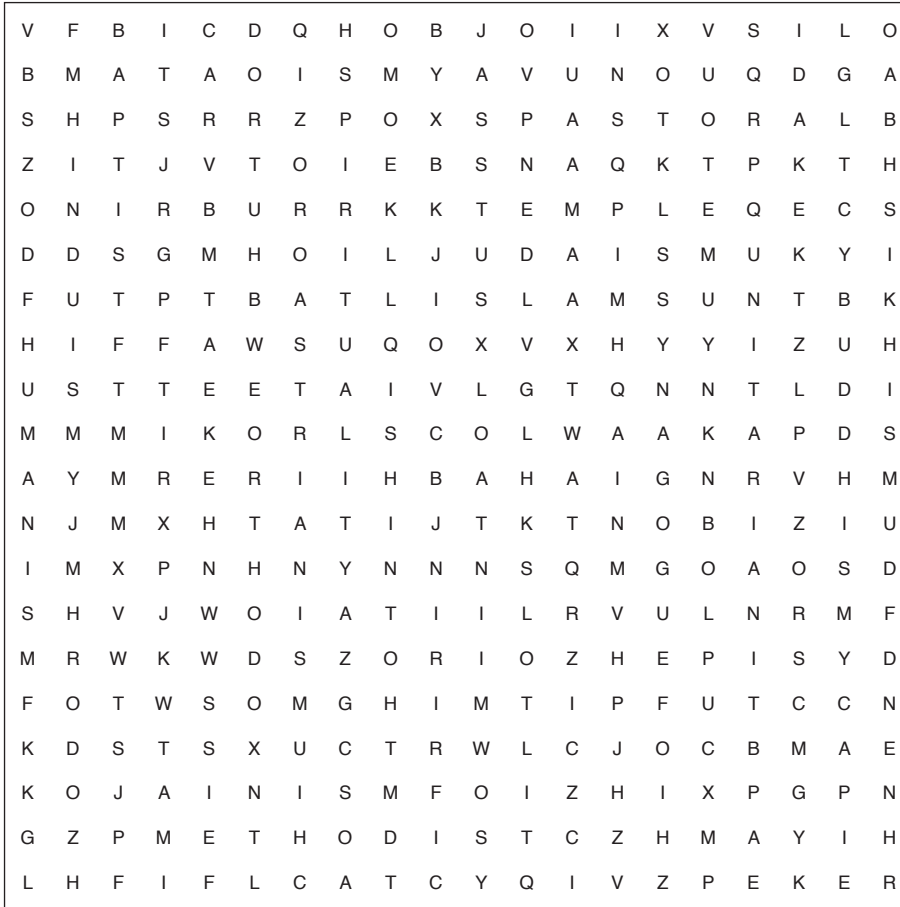
Under one roof in the University Atrium there were a range of different faiths, together with community groups, LGBTQ organisations, and equality and disability charities. There was a range of cultural exhibits from the magnificent Indian Drumming, to a variety of delicious foods to sample. Away from the main venue there were language tasters and workshops too.

Unfortunately, when the day arrived, the heavens opened. Our plan to have stalls and events outside was quickly rethought, and instead everyone was brought inside. In many ways this was hugely advantageous for the event, because whilst the rain undoubtedly put off some visitors, the atmosphere in the atrium was vibrant and entertaining.

Indeed, it was only fitting that an improved situation came about as a result of a setback.



# Wordsearch



- |              |           |              |                |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|----------------|
| Anglican     | Humanism  | Orthodox     | Synagogue      |
| Bahai        | Islam     | Pagan        | Taoism         |
| Baptist      | Jainism   | Pastoral     | Temple         |
| Buddhism     | Judaism   | Shinto       | Unitarian      |
| Christianity | Methodist | Sikhism      | Zoroastrianism |
| Hinduism     | Mormon    | Spirituality |                |

# CONTACT DETAILS

## GENERAL ENQUIRIES

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At the formal opening of the new Lincoln Mosque held on 5th May 2018 organised by the Lincoln Islamic Association.



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# THE BACK PAGE

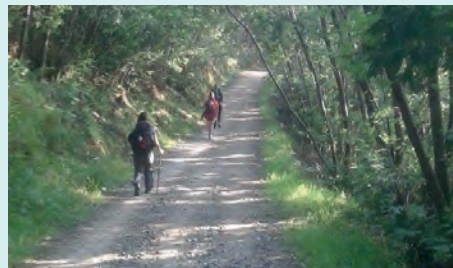


## The Camino de Santiago de Compostela

*Jonathan Shiell, PhD student*

This Summer, though much as a trial run, the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy put together a team (of students, staff and anyone else with an interest) to take part in the Portuguese-route of the pilgrimage known generally as “The Camino”. Culminating at the shrine in the Cathedral of St James in Galicia, Spain, the particular route in question covers around 250km over 10 days.

The intention is to organise similar trips every summer, potentially alternating along the different official routes. Long acquainted with heavy pilgrim traffic, the number of pilgrim-hostels and meals means that the costs are consistently low (between food, accommodation and flights, the total figure for the whole trip is generally around £300).



Following in the footsteps of a thousand years of pilgrims before them, those who travel the Camino enjoy not simply local food and culture, good exercise and fresh air, close community with those that they travel with and the sights and sounds of the forests, mountains, and ancient villages that they traverse through, but they are awakened to the true joys of peace and of quiet: affording us the opportunity to step back from every-day life, to focus on the ‘there’ and the ‘then’, with no troubles to deal with greater than the struggles of the day’s walking. It is in this time that we are able to reflect on something bigger: to look back objectively over our lives, whether on our own or through discussion with those around us, and to find that we have never truly been alone at all.

## The Camino experience

*Sally Johnston*

It is hard to describe the Camino experience. What stands out is the camaraderie and the sense of community. The support from the Portuguese people is tremendous. They regale us with ‘Bom Camino’ at every turn. The Camino is tough—we set off in the dark between 4 and 5am, walking for maybe 10 hours.

On the way we pass beautiful eucalyptus woods, rocky coasts, and ancient shrines. It is all wonderful. A special moment was hearing mass resonating across the valley as we walked through mist-covered forest. It was a saint’s feast day and on such occasions hymns and readings are broadcast to the community. The Camino is, I believe, life changing for all who participate. To complete it one has to be very determined but it is well worth it.



## THURSDAY STAFF & STUDENT £1 LUNCH

Multi-Faith Chaplaincy first Thursday staff and student £1 lunch will be on 20th September at 12.30 pm at Witham House. All welcome to join.

The lunch will be made from vegetables produced from the Peace Garden as well as surplus food from a local community organisation! Suggested donation of £1 – all proceeds will go towards the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy edible kitchen garden and to support local charities.

If you want to get involved by helping with this – help assist with the meal preparation, cleaning and offering hospitality, contact us at [chaplaincy@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:chaplaincy@lincoln.ac.uk)

**Thursdays Staff & Student £1 Lunch**

UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN

University of Lincoln Multi-Faith Chaplaincy at Witham House (Next to Sports Centre) 12:30pm – 2pm

Lunch is made from the vegetable produce from the peace garden and from the surplus food from the local community organisation!

Suggested donation of £1 - all proceeds go towards the chaplaincy edible kitchen garden and to support the local charities

Student Services MULTI-FAITH CHAPLAINCY UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN

Places of Worship and Ethnic Shops within the City of Lincoln

Facebook: @UoLChaplaincy, Twitter: @ChaplaincyUoL, Instagram: /uolchaplaincy, YouTube: UoL Multi-Faith Chaplaincy

[chaplaincy@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:chaplaincy@lincoln.ac.uk)

/UoLChaplaincy
 /ChaplaincyUoL
 /uolchaplaincy
 /UoL Multi-Faith Chaplaincy

Free copies of ‘Place of worship and ethnic shops within the City of Lincoln’ maps are available at Witham House, Student Support Centre and Student Wellbeing Centre.