



Bridges of Faith Project.

Held at St.Alban's Chaddesden on 15th September

Led by Janet Tristram and Shazia Parveen

from the Forum of Faiths for Derby.

This is a project set up to help highlight the need for everyone to work together for a more accepting and peaceful society, no matter who they are or from which faith or indeed no faith.

The evening began with a quiz to test our knowledge of the different faiths that are practised in our society. We weren't very hopeful at the beginning but it was surprising just how much we actually did know - out of 25 points none of the four teams scored below 19 which we thought was pretty good!

Janet then gave a short presentation on the importance of interfaith work, and why we need to foster an atmosphere of understanding and acceptance - If we could succeed in doing it among the great faiths of the world then there would more chance of it happening among the great powers of the world. A big idea, but if we start with our own communities then it may spread further afield!

Then it was time for the workshops, Janet led a very interesting one about the Artefacts found within different Faiths - Prayers beads, Prayer mat, and Prayer hats. We had pictures of everything from "Holy Water", a ram's horn to a gong. Some were examples of items that are specific to one faith, but many items are used by many faiths. For example prayer beads are used by Catholics and Muslim people, Holy water is used by Christians (from the Holy Land & Lourdes), Muslims (from Mecca) and Hindus (from River Ganges).

Shazia gave a wonderful display of henna painting or 'mendhi'. Several of the ladies had intricate designs painted onto their hands and arms and then went home to show them off!

While we enjoyed a second cup of coffee or tea Janet took the opportunity to answer any questions people had, feeling that sometimes people are more comfortable asking questions privately rather than in a big group.

Here are a few pictures of our evening.....



If you are interested in holding one of these events in your parish please contact Janet or Shazia at the Forum of Faiths: 01332 604067 or admin@ffderby.org.uk

Sandra Endsor