



Ecumenical and Interfaith News and Views

www.salvationarmy.org.uk/ecumenical

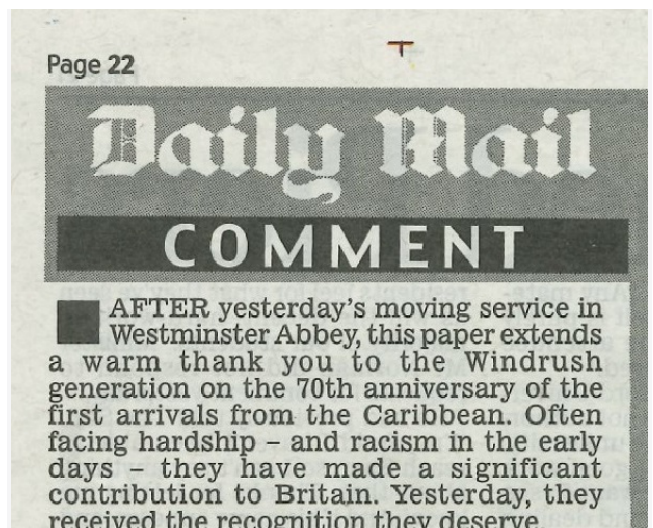
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Invited as TSA's representative on a glorious day to Westminster Abbey, following seventy years of really significant contribution to our nation, I can honestly say London was at its entrancing best. Together with friends and families of the Windrush generation this celebration gave thanks for their contribution to multicultural Britain. Sadly, it was overshadowed by political storms over migration and the poor treatment of some of the families associated with Windrush, but it certainly was also a service of reconciliation.

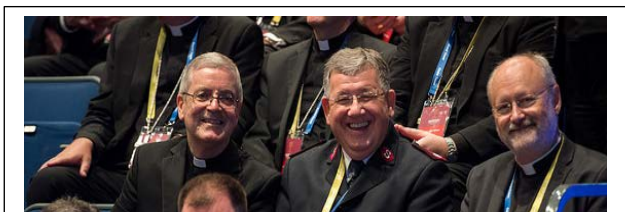
This well constructed service gave praise where it was due, challenge where it was required, and overtures of forgiveness from both perspectives. The music underlined this positivity leaving the whole congregation swaying in joyous praise of a God who liberates.

Indeed, God certainly gave liberty and empowerment to the Windrushers, which was abundantly felt in their music. In a gloriously infectious anthem, 'As I travel through this pilgrim land', Karen Gibson's choir, in the words of the CTE General Secretary Rev. David Cornick, "had the whole Abbey swaying and clapping!" And the specially commissioned 'Psalm to Windrush', finely interpreted by four talented soloists, reminded us all of the dreams and hopes of the migrants and the compassion of God.



The presence of the Prime Minister Mrs Teresa May, the Home Secretary and the Mayor of London was in itself a tribute to the contribution of the Windrushers to our nation, but it was also a poignant reminder that the gospel speaks into the very heart of policy making. It was indeed a worship service which was as much about the future, as much as the past. The second Bible reading, which was read beautifully by young schoolboy, Jayden Hamilton, reminded us that God places the treasure of the gospel into earthen vessels and the Windrush generation has certainly lived up to that reality!

All the denominations, and indeed our nation, have been enhanced by the addition and inclusion of the Windrush generation. All of us should take heart from the ways in which, through their lives and churches, the children of the Windrush generation have born witness to the power of God who helped them triumph over so many adversities.



Roman Catholic Ado Remus - Echo Arena, Liverpool. Along with colleagues across the Christian Churches our understanding of sacraments were shared in what was a gracious example of receptive ecumenism at its very best. Although there is still a long way to go, Christ's High Priestly prayer in John 17:22 is a shared goal and a sign of increasing desire for "One Church".

EVENTS 2018

Freedom Sunday Anti-Trafficking day - 18th October 2018 (Day of prayer in September 2018)

Prisons Week - October 14th-20th 2018 Hebrews 4:16

CTE publishes data protection summary

New data protection legislation came into power in May 2018. This requires a change of practice for most churches, informal ecumenical groups, Churches Together groups and Intermediate Bodies.

CTE has published a basic summary of the changes, stressing that the individual's right to privacy is at the heart of the legislation. Six underlying principles ensure those rights and every organisation, formal and informal, must be able to demonstrate compliance with the principles.

https://www.cte.org.uk/Articles/515214/Home/News/Latest_news_articles/CTE_publishes_data.aspx

World Prayer Centre, Cornerstone House, 5 Ethel Street, Birmingham B2 4BG - 0121 633 7393



In a British society that has faced un-mitigated change in its demographics in the last fifty years; the Christian Church has seen an ever increasing secularised society with falling rolls and challenges never previously ever experienced. With many of our cities with large ethnic populations often multi-faith in their make-up, the challenges have sadly seen a rise in Islamophobia alongside the rise of Anti-Semitism and racial attacks resulting in violence and faith hate related crimes.

In response to the need for tolerance and in obedience to Christ to love one another, the Salvation Army in the United Kingdom has recently been accepted as a full member of the Inter-Faith Network. This is a privilege and honour to network with brothers and sisters from other faiths as together we attempt to make the world we live in a safer and more tolerant society.



The Forum 2018

Churches Together in England 2018 17th-19th September features this year the theme is: "I am with you always"

The UKI territory was represented by the following delegates: Major Samuel Edgar (TESO), Gary & Abi Pitt with Bethany Gibson (Youth delegates), Major David Evans (Territorial Ecumenical Officer). The Forum gave a special emphasis to the declining numbers of young people in the church, right across the denominations



The SA delegation at the Forum 2018



The Inter Faith Network for the UK



The Society for Ecumenical Studies

The Society for Ecumenical Studies are hosting a conference called: *Liturgy and Theology Ecumenical Perspectives* in October. It will take place on Saturday 13th October 2018 at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, London, W1K 5BQ. The speakers are: **Paul Avis** - *What does Liturgy tell us about the Church and its Unity?* **Thomas O'Loughlin** - *Intercommunion and intercommunication: conflicting languages in Roman Catholic discourse.* **Carolyn Hammond** - *The theology of liturgy*
Cost: £20 (SfES members £15)