

BARNET WIN NEWSLETTER

November 2015



Guy Fawkes Night, also known as Guy Fawkes Day, Bonfire Night and Firework Night, is an annual commemoration observed on 5 November in Great Britain and some Commonwealth countries. Its history begins 410 years ago with the events of 5th November 1605, when Guy (aka Guido) Fawkes, a member of the Gunpowder Plot, was arrested while guarding explosives the plotters had placed beneath the House of Lords. Celebrating the fact that King James I had survived the attempt on his life, people lit bonfires around London and months later the introduction of the Observance of 5th November Act enforced an annual public day of thanksgiving for the plot's failure.

There are several songs/rhymes about Guy Fawkes - this is the first verse of the most famous.

*Remember, remember the fifth of November
Gunpowder, treason and plot.*

*I see no reason, why gunpowder treason
Should ever be forgot.*

Here is a link to several more:

http://www.rhymes.org.uk/remember_remember_the_5th_november.htm

Dear Members and Friends

Last month's coffee morning at the home of Louise Doffman was lovely and enjoyable, and many thanks Louise for your fabulous spread and hospitality. There are four functions this month, one of which - the talk on Domestic Violence - you have been separately informed.

However, we have great pleasure in informing - and inviting - you to the following three functions:

INVITATION TO DINNER

Tuesday 10th November 2015 7.30pm

At the home of Jaleh Alae

Instead of a Coffee Evening, Jaleh has invited Barnet WIN members to dinner at her home. **PLEASE NOTE THIS IS FOR WOMEN ONLY. All details on the attached flyer.**

BEYOND FORGIVING - film screening

Sunday 15th November 2015 2.00-4.00pm

Charlotte Street Hotel Cinema, Charlotte Street, London W.1.

The screening of this extraordinary film (28 minutes) is being organised by Head Office as WIN's function during National Interfaith Week - it will be introduced by two high profile guests and followed by a Q&A and afternoon tea. All details regarding the film and ticket applications were sent out last month. If you wish to apply and have lost the form, please contact Jackie Goymour on honeyhill@btinternet.com or 020 8455 6433.

CELEBRATING DIWALI

Saturday 21st November 2015 8.00pm

Hindu Cultural Centre, Finchley

We are delighted to celebrate Diwali with our Hindu friends at the Hindu Cultural Centre Finchley. A fabulous programme has been organised, together with a vegetarian supper. All thanks to our Hindu Committee Member, Suchita, for her amazing input. We very much hope you will all come, and don't forget, **MEN AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOME TO THIS EVENT**. Reduced prices for the under 16s. We would like as many members and their family and friends to come, so we look forward to seeing you. **All details on the attached flyer.**

We very much hope to see you at all or some of the Group and Head Office events. In the interim, we wish you and your families health, happiness and peace, and look forward to seeing you soon.

Love

Kate and *Jaleh*

Chair and Vice-Chair, Barnet WIN

Here are the feasts/fasts and holy days being commemorated by our communities in the month of **November 2015:**

1 All Saints' Day - Christian

Christian holy day for honouring saints, both known and unknown. In general, saints are persons with reputations for unusual lives of holiness and devotion to God or who were martyred for their faith. It is also a Holy Day of Obligation in the Roman Catholic Church where saints have special formal status.

2 All Souls Day - Catholic Christian

Christian day of prayers of remembrance and intercession for the dead. Prayers of the faithful are seen as helping to cleanse the souls for the beatific vision of God in heaven.

9-13 Deepavali/Diwali - Hindu/Jain/ Sikh

Hindu celebration of a five-day festival of lights marking the end of the Hindu year. The first day is observed as a holiday. The holiday symbolises the human urge to move toward the light. Gifts are exchanged, fireworks set off

and festive meals are prepared. It is also the Jain celebration of Lord Mahavira's day of final liberation and the festival is also observed by Sikhs.

12 Birth of Baha'u'llah - Bahai (begins sundown on 11th)

This is the day when the Baha'is celebrate the birth of their founder and teacher. They refrain from work on this day.

This is also the day of the **Jain** New Year.

15 Nativity Fast - Orthodox Christian

This is a period of abstinence and penance practiced by the Eastern Orthodox, Oriental Orthodox and Eastern Catholic Churches, in preparation for the Nativity of Christ (December 25). The fast is similar to the Western Advent, except that it runs for 40 days instead of four weeks.

22 Christ the King - Christian

This is a Christian celebration of the pre-eminence of Jesus of all earthly authorities.

24 Guru Tegh Bahadur Martyrdom - Sikh

Guru Tegh Bahadur (1621 – November 1675), revered as the *ninth Nanak*, was the ninth of ten Gurus (Prophets) of the Sikh religion. Guru Teg Bahadur carried forward the light of Guru Nanak's sanctity and divinity, and his spiritual revelations are registered in the form of 115 poetic hymns in the eternal Guru of Sikhs - Guru Granth Sahib. Guru Teg Bahadur set a remarkable precedent of martyrdom for the cause of freedom of religion of any human being, irrespective of their faith, when he was publicly beheaded in 1675 for resisting the forced conversions of Hindus in Kashmir and after himself refusing to convert. For this sacrifice, Guru Teg Bahadur is also known as *Hind-di-Chaadar* (shield of India.)

25 Guru Nanak Dev Sahib - birthday - Sikh

Sikhs honour the birth of the first Sikh teacher who lives from c.1469 - c.1539. People join together in sacred readings, prayers, hymns and partake in communal meals.

26 Day of the Covenant - Baha'i

Baha'i celebration of the covenant given in the last will and testament of Baha'u'llah. This link tells you more about the covenant.

<http://www.bahai.org/beliefs/bahauallah-covenant/>

28 Ascension of Abdu'l-Baha - Baha'i (begins sundown on 27th)

Baha'is celebrate the rising of the spirit of Abdu'l Baha to the heavenly dwelling.

29 Advent begins - Christian

Christian time of preparation for observing the birth of Jesus Christ. Advent begins on the Sunday nearest November 30th and is the beginning of the Christian worship year. Advent is observed with the lighting of advent candles, display of wreaths, and special ceremonies. Advent also anticipates the coming again to earth of Jesus Christ. The season continues through until 24th December.

30 Saint Andrew's Day - Christian

Christian observance of the coming of Christianity to the area now known as Scotland. The martyrdom of Saint Andrew is remembered as the season of Advent is about to begin.