

## THE 'NEW' DAWN IN BRITISH POLITICS ~ WHAT LIES AHEAD?

**Fernando Almeida Diniz (Chair)  
& Tesfu Gessesse (Director)**

The recent UK election has certainly brought surprises, not least a coalition government which few would have predicted. Whether this constitutes a 'new dawn' in social policy leading to cultural change is uncertain, given that the coalition partners have had to re-construct their respective manifestos to make a consensus programme for government. As citizens, we have to rely on what is said in the media to try to predict what might change, to what purpose and with what impact on black and ethnic minority communities, such as CORE. The language used in the media offers only vague indicators of government policy. Apart from focus on the strong global and domestic economic pressures that will endure for years ahead, we notice repeated mention of three other themes by both coalition partners: Civil Liberties; the future of 'Quangos' as a means for implementing social mobility policy; and Devolving Power to Communities. These themes need attention as they will affect our work with grassroots minority ethnic communities.

In this CORE Newsletter, we reflect on topics that

were the focus of our comment previously (see: BCDP Newsletters 1-3, 2009) and relate these to themes emerging in the current uncertain political debate. Our objective is clear: by looking back over the record of the past, we will present, in the light of the 'new dawn', an agenda of priorities that forms CORE's remit, values and strategic goals, from a grassroots community-based perspective.

### Economic Cuts & Fairness

Budget cuts are not new and have happened over the past years. Consider the number of voluntary sector organisations that struggle to survive or recently closed across Scotland. The election confirms the scale of the financial problems facing Britain and that future cuts will target the public sector. The question is: how will this be handled at national and local level across Scotland? Our reason for citing our experience in Edinburgh is not to suggest that the City Council is unique in facing such difficulties but to ask whether the two goals of 'cuts' and 'fairness' are compatible. How can these two goals be reconciled by service providers across Scotland?

In his reflections, UnFair or Fairer Scotland (BCDP Newsletter 2, 2009), Tesfu told us about the competing pressures that surfaced when funders try to distribute painful budget cuts. He argued that the decision-making processes used by the City Council to manage policies aiming to combat social exclusion had unwittingly resulted in the opposite outcome (i.e. they caused more social exclusion). He asked: "*What measures were*

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*employed to assess the impact of the allocations to ensure that minority ethnic service users were not affected disproportionately or discriminated against (as in the Race Equality Duty)?”*

Fernando (BCDP Newsletter 2, 2009) reinforced Tesfu’s criticism by relating it to the report of The Audit Commission (2008) The Impact of the Race Equality Duty on Council Services. The Commission found examples of good Best Value practice in individual Councils but also found clear evidence of systemic weakness, if not failure to meet the Race Equality Duty. The Commissions’ solution to the problem was that Councils *“adopt a more effective programme of race equality impact assessments that covers all service areas in a consistent manner, and ensure that results are properly implemented..... regularly publish information on minority ethnic communities, the inequalities they encounter and their needs – and use this information to improve services”*. Fernando concluded that in practical terms, public services and community organisations need accurate statistical data in order to efficiently use their scarce resources during the ongoing severe economic downturn. CORE is engaging constructively at a local level with service providers and political representatives in Edinburgh to make the best use of community resources to enhance social mobility and to minimise conflict. Many more Councils can expect to face such struggles. How are they planning to confront these?

### Civil Liberties

Both coalition partners have independently flagged their intention to review what they regard as the diminution of British civil liberties, stemming from the previous government’s ‘anti-terrorism’ laws introduced post-9/11 and the Iraq war. Also they’ve flagged their intention to review immigration policy. Our specific interest in these topics is the important practical matter of the perceptions and treatment of black minority ethnic communities by

institutions of the state (e.g. the police and the UK Border Agency) and how this fits with the quest by government for racial harmony and community cohesion.

Voluntary organisations that support minority ethnic communities across Britain have had to dedicate a big part of their resources to casework to deal with the increasing day-to-day barriers that individuals or families face in living their lives. CORE, and previously BCDP, has a wealth of experience and data on the civil and institutional barriers, some of which are related to ‘race’, that caseworkers have to deal with. For the purposes of this article, we present examples of recurring themes that have surfaced and will continue to require attention.

- Personal freedom and safety: racist attacks and harassment in public spaces, particularly of children, women and older people.
- Anti-terrorism Culture: operation of ‘Stop-and-search’ and specific anti-terrorist laws; surveillance at airports – ‘travelling whilst looking Asian-Muslim’; underlying messages about ‘alien identities’- e.g., hijjab.
- Ambiguous Immigration Controls: non-white ethnic minorities under suspicion of being illegal, media-fuelled public perception of bogus claims by immigrant welfare scroungers; the treatment and detention of asylum seekers/refugees; the stress caused by ‘dawn raids’; split families awaiting resident status decisions/appeals; work permits.

The examples listed raise fundamental questions about UK human rights and civil liberties policies. UK government policy and practice has been criticised by mainstream organisations like Liberty and the Westminster Parliament itself. But we should also look at those areas of public policy that are the responsibility of the Scottish Parliament. In a previous newsletter (BCDP newsletter 3, 2009), Fernando commented on the rapid shift in composition of minority ethnic communities in Scotland and asked what impact this has on community

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cohesion and racial harmony. He noted that whereas South Asians formed the largest group in the past, recent data showed the increased presence of Africans, Eastern Europeans, Latin Americans and other diverse ethnic groups. These groups have arrived during a decade of unprecedented immigration into Britain, as a consequence of EU expansion, ongoing global conflicts, asylum and legal/illegal economic migration. He concluded: We need an open debate to disentangle the ongoing complex factors, some of which are related to issues of 'ethnicity' and 'race', that are causing particular pressures in mainstream and minority ethnic urban communities, such as Pilton.

Mr Clegg, the deputy prime minister, has just (20 May 2010) announced that 'ordinary people will be asked to say which bits of previous Home Office legislation should be scrapped and which ones kept'. If this promise is to come to fruition, where will such debates take place and how will grassroots minority ethnic voices be heard? CORE is engaging constructively at a local level with political representatives but we are not aware of any such debate taking place nationally with grassroots community organisations. Could it be that this task will continue to be delegated to the EHRC, which has to date acted as the interface between government and civic society in the implementation of Equality & Human Rights policy? Or are we about to see a change as a result of the coalition government's approach to such 'quangos'?

### **The case of EHRC**

All voluntary organisations whose work is directly concerned with supporting and improving the lives of marginalised groups have been expected to look to the EHRC - and its predecessors (CRE, EOC, DRC) - for strategic leadership, support and potential resources. What have been the results? We do not wish to rehearse or re-state all our earlier concerns about the effectiveness or otherwise of the newly established EHRC (see BCDP

Newsletter 1, 2009) but to say that the questions we raised about its strategic plans and working approach remain the same. What has changed is the political climate within which the coalition government had expressed doubts about 'quangos' and has since announced major closures and budget cuts for some. How will the well publicised recent crises of leadership and working practices, which have left serious doubts at all levels about the value of EHRC, affect its future?

We remarked earlier that voluntary organisations like CORE were 'expected' by government to look to the EHRC for leadership, support and resources. Is this the only choice for the future? Our informal contacts with the national network of colleagues in similar voluntary organisations as ours indicate that there may not be overwhelming support for the 'status quo'. Tesfu has argued before that given devolved responsibility and public finances, "*local organisations are best placed to reach victims of discrimination, inequality and bad human relations*". It may not be an exaggeration to say that this may be the last chance for the EHRC to deliver what is expected of it.

### **Devolving Power to Communities**

In some senses, we see this notion of democratic engagement as a logical end to the issues of civil empowerment, resource allocation and social mobility that we have expressed above. However, we are cautious and ask whether the 'promised land' will deal with the alienation felt by many citizens with those who are in positions of political power and influence (see, Power Commission reports).

What our long experience has taught us is that while national government institutions (like EHRC) are occupied developing strategic policies and structures, organisations like CORE deal with the casualties of inequality and attempt to transform the practices of public service agencies. Local communities, white and black, value the

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commitment, efforts to understand their struggles and see the relevance of these voluntary and precariously funded organisations. We hesitate to speculate what these same citizens would know or think of their local and national democratic institutions. One can be certain that it would highlight the necessity for finding collaborative partnerships at all levels to gain the trust and active engagement of citizens in finding solutions to improve community prosperity and safety. The public might show interest if this is what is meant by 'devolving power to communities'?

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT CORE?

### Chinese New Year



CORE organised a special event to mark the Chinese New Year on 16 February 2010 at North Edinburgh Arts Centre. The purpose of this event was to celebrate cultural festivities in North Edinburgh and highlight the cultural diversity of the area. Local people were able to gather together in a relaxed setting and learn about Chinese

cultures and traditions.

There was a lantern-making workshop in the afternoon followed by an evening party – a fun event with Chinese food, music and live performances. Over 40 adults and 20 children from a wide range of ethnic backgrounds came along to participate in all the activities.

We would like to thank all our local Chinese volunteers who worked tirelessly to make this event a success. We particularly would like to thank Sue and Harry for all their hard work.

### Eco Fusion



Eco Fusion was a first-of-its-kind multi-cultural environmental event which was held in Holyrood Park, Edinburgh, on Sunday 11 April from 11am till 4pm. Eco Fusion celebrated the end of the first year of the Working With Difference Programme (WWDP) with a day of fun activities, live music, stalls and physical activities.

### Working With Difference Programme (WWDP)

The WWDP recognises the fact that Scotland's outdoor spaces are powerful playgrounds that can be utilised for recreational, health, social and educational development for the local BME communities. CORE is a partner in the

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Eco Fusion

WWDP and through this partnership we are planning to organise a wide range of outdoor activities including conservation volunteering, regular walking groups, visits to woodlands and countryside.

## ESF Skills Project Graduation Ceremony



On Thursday 25th March 2010, twenty-six black and minority ethnic students received certificates at a ceremony held in the Royal College of Physicians in George Street after completing the Skills Project courses.

CORE Chairman Fernando Diniz told graduates and their guests: *“As a university professor I have attended so many graduation ceremonies but this one gives me particular pleasure because it takes place outside the normal structures of university life. Today is a great reason for celebration – since the project was first launched 26 people have moved into employment, 37 have moved into some other form of education and 31 have moved into training”.*

Presenting the certificates, Inverleith Councillor Stuart McIvor stated: *“I know how hard you have had to work to achieve your qualification. For many of you, English is perhaps not your first language but you have managed to overcome that challenge, and also shown a willingness to*

*improve your skills and qualifications. That will not only be of benefit to you yourselves, but also future employers and your communities. Scotland is a country that needs these skills”.*

MSP Shirley-Ann Somerville was scheduled to speak at the ceremony but was forced to cancel through parliamentary commitments. She did send a letter to the graduates, which read: *‘I would like to send my best wishes and congratulations to all those who are graduating today. I thoroughly enjoyed attending last year’s event as it gave me the opportunity to meet those who have benefited from the project. The project gives people the chance to develop important skills which can lead to further people’s life skills and confidence to build on and improve their personal development’.* She concluded: *‘I welcome the work carried out by Skillnet and CORE to provide the training sessions on a wide variety of subjects, and I am sure all today would join me in thanking all staff and volunteers for their dedication. Your graduation is extra special as you are the first graduates of the newly named CORE. Best of luck for your futures and I look forward to hearing the success stories’.*

## Family Networking Group (FNG)

CORE’s FNG aims to offer opportunities for local families to network socialise and take part in a wide range of learning and social activities within a fun and safe environment. The FNG also aims to encourage its members to promote cultural awareness and diversity in North Edinburgh enabling local people to learn more about each other’s culture and traditions.

The group also organise outings to interesting places and have recently visited Edinburgh’s Pentland Hills.

## Global Awareness Project

The first Global Awareness group started at North Edinburgh Arts in March 2010. The purpose of this project is to promote knowledge, awareness and understanding

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of development issues and poverty reduction agenda amongst North Edinburgh BME communities, equipping them with skills to take positive actions/change behaviour towards eliminating global poverty, including changes in their own actions.

## North Edinburgh BME Forum

The aim of North Edinburgh Black & Minority Ethnic (BME) Forum is to bring people from the local BME communities together to share their experiences of living in the community and the issues and challenges it brings.

The first forum session took place in February and reflected on the health research that we did with Pilton Health Project. In the final research report three factors had been identified to affect mental health of people in North Edinburgh – Stress, Racism, and Isolation. Participants were asked what they thought affected their mental health most – racism seemed to be the key issue, followed closely by stress and Isolation. The group then identified community led ways of addressing these issues.

**STRESS:** drama workshops/events targeting service providers, taking part in ‘speed networking events’ or other such events, BME days at stress centres led by BME volunteers.

**ISOLATION:** more free recreational facilities accessible to everyone, involving local faith organisations – arranging visits to homes where accessing the outside is an issue, developing volunteer opportunities and promoting social activities.

**RACISM:** open multicultural events – across ages. Annual events like carnivals or mela in local area, make BME community more visible i.e. by volunteering, doing job placements, participating in the local community, physical exercise, walking groups, joining local sports events, making sports facilities more accessible.

## Minority Ethnic Mum’s Support Group in collaboration with Circle-Haven

Once again the Mums’ group has been busy over the last few months. The group started back after the winter break on 4th February and has been running every week since then except school holidays. The emphasis of the group sessions has been to raise awareness of local facilities, for women to participate in training, learn different art and craft activities and have time out for self. The activities have ranged from a visit from North Edinburgh Volunteer Centre, visit from Healthy Living project, Jewellery making, Mothers Day Card making, Henna Hand painting/origami, First Aid training, Massage, participation in Artlink Photo Exhibition and participation in National Museum People and Possession Project.

The group is proving to be beneficial to women who attend as it provides them with access to other local and citywide services as well as a space to meet other women and participate in a number of informal/structured activities based on their interest.

## World Cafe

The World Cafe is continuing to take place monthly with the opportunity to taste food from around the world. The last 3 Cafe’s have provided mouth watering food from Africa, China, Asia and Middle East as well as Scottish. The Cafe has attracted people of all cultural backgrounds both from local and citywide communities. The atmosphere at the Cafe is always buzzing with people socialising, having great food, meeting new people and experiencing a family multicultural atmosphere.

Our new Volunteer Co-ordinator Alice Musamba is doing a tremendous job co-ordinating and developing the Cafe.

Some comments provided by customers:-

*“Lovely Food,  
good conversation  
and I learned  
some Chinese”*

*“Nice food and  
excellent people to  
meet, music was good,  
great to be here”*

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World Café

## International Women's Day

CORE participated in a collaborative local event to mark International Women's Day which took place on 8th and 9th March. A number of different activities ranging from Aromatherapy, Henna Hand painting, Dance, Complimentary therapies, art and crafts, information stalls, food tasters etc took place. Both events at Old Kirk Church and Blackhall Mosque were well attended with a number of networks established.

## Community Outreach

We are currently conducting outreach within the local community to reach and identify new local minority ethnic communities to raise awareness of the services provided by CORE including ensuring that we maximise the number of people accessing our services from a cross section of the community. The outreach would also allow CORE to further address the needs of new communities moving into the community.

## YOUTH & CHILDREN'S WORK

### Club4Us

#### Mini Stars (5-7 year olds – Monday 5-6:30pm)



Mini Stars have had a full programme with a focus on Healthy Lifestyles; explored through healthy eating,

storytelling, drama and sports activities. The children seemed to particularly enjoy the Break Dancing, Football and Basketball sessions. We finished this term with a presentation to parents and a trip to the Fun Factory; a group favourite.

#### Junior Stars – (8-12 year olds – Friday 2-3:30pm)

This group really like to explore new places and discover new things; we have visited The National Museum of Scotland and Inverleith Park this term to spark their interests. Our main focus has been to work on creating a short film with the group; they have enjoyed writing, rehearsing and filming for this.



12 Young People attended an event organised by Young Scot called 'We're Here' on the 27th March. The young people attended a number of workshops based around equality and diversity and how to express themselves creatively.

#### Young Stars – (12-16 year olds – Wednesday 5-6:30pm)

This group really enjoy making and eating food so have done a lot of cooking this term. The young people were sitting exams and the club was a good space for them to socialise and relax and have fun away from the pressures

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of exams. The young people took part in interviews with a researcher from a local University and have developed invaluable interview skills in the process. The young people enjoyed visits to the Trampoline Centre, Cramond Beach and Island and finished the term with a trip to the Botanic Gardens. They also had a visit from Careers Scotland for advice and information regarding career options.

### Youth and Children's Easter Programme

The Easter programme took place at The Old Kirk on Pennywell Road from the 6th April to the 15th April. 26 young people, aged 5-16 years, attended the two weeks of activities. All of those who participated enjoyed the activities; especially the climbing wall at St Pauls, the sports day with Edinburgh Leisure and the trips to The Yard Adventure Centre, Dynamic Earth and Camera Obscura.

### Integration Work

#### Basketball Club – (10-18 year olds – Thursday 7-9pm)

The Basketball Club runs in partnership with Pilton Youth and Children's Project (PYCP). There is a good mix of gender, ethnicity and age with approximately 16 young people coming each week. During the break there is an educational input where topics chosen by the young people at the start of term are discussed. Discussion included; healthy eating, bullying, disabilities and relationships. Fast Forward also came along to talk about steroids, Fast Forward are starting a project to raise awareness about steroids and a couple of our young people are going to be involved.

#### Multicultural Children's Club – (5-8 year olds – Tuesday 3-5pm)

The Multicultural Children's Club runs in partnership with Forthview Primary School. This group has run for 8 weeks and we have worked with 24 children from Primary 1 to

Primary 4, 12 of these children were from minority ethnic backgrounds. This group works with 12 new members every 4 weeks. During the four weeks we explore, equality, prejudices, identity and Global Citizenship. During the Fair Trade Fortnight we focused on Fair Trade. CORE is pleased to announce that funding has been received to continue this group.

### Advice and Information Work – (Children and Young People – Drop in)

This service is available to Children and Young People. They can access the service themselves or a referral can be made from a parent/guardian, teacher or social worker. This service used to be a drop in on Friday afternoons however it is now available Monday-Friday, 9am – 5pm. Children and Young People can drop in to the office and if Alyson (our advice worker) is available they can talk there and then, otherwise they can make an appointment.

So far this term advice has been offered on further education opportunities and career options.

Any young person wishing to seek support, advice, information or has an issue that is bothering them can call Alyson on 0131 467 7990.

### Casework & Equality News

Since CORE's new Case Worker started in March, Samantha has helped clients with housing repair problems, tenancy renewal, neighbour harassment, welfare benefits, access to children after family breakdown, debt problems, problems in accessing services due to English language ability, and a host of other issues. Samantha also referred clients with immigration issues to other local agencies.

Equality news: the new Equality Act became law on 8 April 2010, but actually comes into force from October 2010. There are over 200 separate pieces of equality legislation in the UK, so in theory it's a good idea to tidy things up

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Easter Youth Group

in one single equality act. In practice however, Black interest groups worry about dilution of the provisions of the Race Relations Act 1976 (as amended), including some important measures introduced after the murder of Stephen Lawrence. From April 2011 the new Equality Act creates a new single public sector equality duty covering race and other protected characteristics (e.g. gender). Public bodies will be required to consider needs, by reference to these protected characteristics when designing and delivering public services. Some of the previous specific duties (under the Race Relations Act) have gone (e.g. duties to monitor and collect information about, e.g., ethnicity, and how many ethnic minority employees were subject to disciplinary processes), and instead there will be a focus on 'outcomes'. Public bodies didn't like the previous specific duties as they found them burdensome and it cost them too much money (despite the fact that hardly any public bodies properly complied with the duties anyway), so it seems these reduced measures aim to simplify things and save money. It remains to be seen whether the new measures will actually improve equality.

## UPCOMING PROJECTS AND EVENTS

### Chinese Junior Culture Group

We are delighted to have been awarded funding from Awards for All and John Watson's Trust Fund to establish Chinese Junior Culture Group. This Project will target Chinese young people aged 5-12 years with focus on building Chinese young people's cultural identity, raise confidence and support them to overcome barriers that get in the way of their participation in other existing young people's clubs. **The Club will run weekly during term**

**time on Thursday afternoon but the final start date is still not confirmed. Any parent from the Chinese Community wishing to register their child should call 467 7990.**

### Personal Development Programme

Once a month CORE will be holding a day of Personal Development Workshops. The focus will be on whatever you need to look for training, volunteering, or jobs. During the day participants will be able to improve their CV, learn how to present themselves at interviews, gain confidence, develop skills and find out about volunteering and learning opportunities. Guest speakers will attend. Light refreshments served. **To register your interest in this course contact Samantha on 0131 467 7990. Places limited. Programme starts June 2010.**

### Cultural Exchange Day 22nd June

The Family Networking Group (FNG) invites you to their annual Cultural Exchange Day on the 22nd June at North Edinburgh Arts Centre from 11.30am to 2.30pm. The event will include information stalls displaying on participant's home countries, henna hand painting, multicultural food, live music, dance and much more. **All welcome.**

### Drama Group

CORE is teaming up with Pilton Community Health Project to bring together a diverse group of BME people who live in the Greater Pilton area to explore and develop solutions to barriers for local BME people accessing health services.

CORE is looking for up to 10 local BME people to participate in this new project. Group members will receive training in health inequalities and barriers to accessing health services. They will be supported to produce a short theatre piece(s) illustrating one or more barriers. A half day conference that shows the barriers and explore achievable solutions using the prepared

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theatre piece(s) will be organised and delivered by the group. A professional theatre company will train members of the group in basic drama skills. **Please contact Adil Ibrahim for more details.**

### Walking Groups

Thanks to funding from Paths for All, CORE is organising new local walking groups. The aim of this activity is to increase the health and well-being of inactive local BME people by promoting regular walking and encouraging people to walk more.

### Outings



Thanks to funding from the Forestry Commission, CORE is organising a number of outings to country parks and woodland as follows:

**Sunday 4th July 2010 (10am – 3.30pm):  
Pentland Hills**

**Saturday 17th July 2010 (10am – 3.30pm):  
Currie Wood**

**Monday 26th July (10am – 2.00pm):  
Dalkeith Country Park**

**Saturday 7th August 2010 (10am – 4.00pm):  
Strathclyde Country Park**

These outings will help participants to improve their health and lifestyle, get some fresh air and renew their knowledge of woodlands and countryside. **Please contact Adil Ibrahim for more details.**



### Children & Young People's Summer Programme

CORE is now taking bookings for its popular summer activity programme for children aged between 5 and 16 years old. The programme of activities run 3 days per week over 4 weeks from the 6th July and is free to attend.

CORE has also teamed up with CAPRO an outdoor adventure centre based in Edinburgh, to do a number of outdoor activities with children aged 8 to 16 years. This is on the 7th, 8th, 13th and 14th July from 9:30am – 4:30pm.

**To find out more about either programme, contact Alyson on 0131 467 7990.**

### New Staff

We are delighted to welcome Alyson Ross as the new Youth and Children's Link/Development Worker who commenced her employment on 14th December 2009.

We are also delighted to welcome Samantha Naik who was officially appointed as CORE's new Caseworker on the 17th May.

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## CURRENT CORE PROGRAMME

### BME SKILLS PROJECT

Opportunity for black minority ethnic individuals to gain new skills to help lead you into employment and further training.

**For more details on how to join this programme contact Adil**

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASSES

Classes available to suit your needs. CORE can help you find the right class.

**Contact Adil.**

### ADVICE & INFORMATION

Confidential one to one advice on benefits, health, housing, immigration, community safety & other issues affecting minority ethnic peoples' lives.

**Contact Samantha to make an appointment.**

**Or come along to the drop in session between 1.30pm & 3.30pm on Fridays.**

### FAMILY NETWORKING GROUP

The group meets at North Edinburgh Arts Centre.

11.30am to 2.30pm. Every second Tuesday

Tuesday 8th June 2010: Outing to Redhall Walled Gardens

Tuesday 22nd June 2010: Cultural Exchange Day & Refugee Week event.

**Contact Adil for more details**

### WOMEN'S KEEP FIT CLASS

Free fitness class for women only and for all levels of fitness.

Thursdays 12.15pm to 1.15pm at Muirhouse Millennium Centre.

**Contact Caroline for more details**

### WEEKLY FOOTBALL SESSIONS

Free football sessions for men

Every Monday 5pm- 6pm

At Spartans Football Academy, 94 Pilton Drive, EH5 2HF  
(Behind Ainslie Park Leisure Centre)

### DfID GLOBAL AWARENESS PROJECT

Group meets every Wednesday between 4 and 6pm at North Edinburgh Arts Centre.

Come along and help us promote understanding of global poverty issues amongst our local communities. The group will also help you to explore your own skills to take positive actions or change behaviour towards eliminating global poverty.

**Please contact Adil Ibrahim if you would like to get involved.**

### MINORITY ETHNIC MUM'S SUPPORT GROUP (in partnership with Circle-Haven)

Meets every Wednesday at 11:30 to 1:30pm for mum's with children under 5 years old.

At the Haven Project, Craigmoynton Primary School  
Creche for kids

**Contact Khalida for more information**

### WORLD CAFÉ

Cultural food buffet evening.

Last Friday of the Month (except December) at North Edinburgh Arts Centre.

Time: 5:30pm - 7pm

Buffet price £5 adults & £2.50 kids

Forthcoming World Café dates:

Friday 25th June, Friday 30th July, Friday 27th August.

**Contact CORE to make a booking or just come along**

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Young Stars break dancing



## CHILDREN / YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES

### Mini Stars Club (5-7yrs)

Mondays 5pm-6:30pm at West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre

### Junior Stars Club (8-12yrs)

Fridays 2-4pm at Fet Lor Youth Club

### Young Stars Club (12-16yrs)

Wednesdays 5-6:30pm at Fet Lor Youth Club

**Contact: Alyson for more details.**

### BASKETBALL CLUB 11-18 year olds

Every Thursday at PYCP.

7pm to 9pm. **Contact Alyson for more details.**

### MULTICULTURAL CHILDREN'S CLUB

Every Tuesday at Forthview Primary School from 3pm to 5pm. **Contact Alyson**

### ADVICE & SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Help with bullying, problems at school or in neighbourhood, racism & prejudice, worried about something. **Contact Alyson for appointment or text 07854566407.**

## NOTICE BOARD

### Improve Your English Listening & Speaking

Elementary / Pre-Intermediate Levels

6th July to 29th July

Monday to Friday 10am to 12noon or Monday to Friday 1pm to 3pm

Duncan Place Resource Centre, Leith

Creche for under 5's.

Course fee £40. You may be eligible for a fee waiver.

Phone 0131 535 4700 for more details.

### Does your child need a helping hand at school?

Additional Support for Learning is available for children who, for various reasons, aren't getting the most out of school. Parents have the right to have a say in their child's education and to speak up when they feel their child needs support.

#### How to get this extra help?

Contact your child's school or phone the ENQUIRE helpline on 0845 123 2303

### Edinburgh Blackhall Mosque

Edinburgh's newest mosque situated in North Edinburgh.

**Prayer & worship** – Hold the 5 daily prayers in congregation as well as the Friday Jummah prayer, for both men and women.

**Islamic Education** – classes run throughout the week and weekend for children and young people. There are also classes for adults in reading, recitation and interpretation of Arabic and the Holy Quran, and also basic Islamic teachings.

**Youth Activities** – the youth groups have an Islamic ethos but they are open to all children and young people from around Edinburgh and are run in partnership with the local neighbourhood centre.

**Community Projects** – Include aromatherapy course, body balance and keep fit aerobic classes. Offers the community not only health, fitness and specialised skills but an opportunity to socialise.

**Address: 1 House O' Hill Road, Edinburgh, EH4 2AJ**  
**Telephone: 0131 343 3802**

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Multicultural Club