

## FOREWORD FROM TESFU GESSESSE DIRECTOR

This Edition is dedicated to the history of the BCDP as the organisation will be re-launched with a new name that reflects the current demographics and its area of work.

Khalida as always, has done an excellent job recording the events that took place over the past 14 years. Without dismissing the contribution made by many past and present employees of the BCDP, its board members, and other professional colleagues Khalida, first as a Community Development Worker and now as Operations Manager, has played a great role in supporting me in developing the organisation.

The Newsletter highlights the groups we established, the research we undertook, major events we held and the hurdles we overcame to sustain BCDP's contribution to community cohesion in Scotland.

Khalida also concludes by sharing her observation about BCDP's struggle against racism and discrimination during the past two decades and her optimism for the future through improved work of the new organisation CORE - Community Organisation for Race Equality - which has now been established.

I trust you find the newsletter informative and interesting. To those of you who were involved in the organisation over the years, this edition will bring back memories of the past and allow you to reflect on the changes that took place in this area. Those of you who are unfamiliar with our work will find this a valuable source of background information. **Happy Reading**



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# GOING DOWN MEMORY LANE!

## Khalida Hussain Operations Manager, BCDP

As one of the longest serving staff members of BCDP, I am delighted to have this opportunity to reflect on BCDP's developments since it started back in August 1995, although its roots go back to August 1991 when The Muirhouse Anti-Racism Campaign (MARC) successfully managed to evict a racist family from the area. Over the years BCDP has spearheaded a number of significant developments, from acquiring its own office space, successfully reaching out to the communities of Greater Pilton to developing a range of services identified by the communities themselves, to hosting major conferences.

As the organisation moves into its next stage of strategic change, with a new identity and vision for the future, I will attempt to record key milestones in BCDP's journey and highlight particular examples of innovative projects which illustrate BCDP's commitment to principles of social justice and community activism.

## SUMMARY OF KEY MILESTONES IN BCDP's JOURNEY (1991-2009)

**1991** – Muirhouse Anti- Racist Campaign

**1993** – Publication of *Challenging Racism in Scotland - A Community Guide to Anti-Racism Education and Action pack*

**1995** – Establishment of Black Community Development Project

**1995** – Office space acquired at Craigmroyston High School

**1995** – Open Sunday Group, Minority Ethnic Women's Group, one to one case work, Chinese Women's Group

**1997** – *Communities Against Racism* Conference

**1998** – *Our voices! Our rights! Our freedom to live!*  
– second needs survey report

**1999** – Establishment of Youth and Children's clubs/  
Multi-Agency Community Safety Group

**1999**- *Women Safety* conference

**2000** – Kids Around the World Summer Club initiated in partnership with Craigmroyston Community Centre

**2001**- BCDP and Lothian & Borders Police, Joint Remote Reporting Pilot Project

**2001** – Sadly founder member of BCDP Maureen McMillan passed away

**2002** – EMPOWER Scotland established with BCDP being one of the partners of this unique European funded project.

**2003** – *Identifying and Meeting the Needs of BME Children and Young People* Conference

**2004** – *Capacity Building* Conference

**2005** – Homework Study Support Club, Edinburgh Southside Youth club and BME Men's group established

**2006** -Establishment of *Family Networking Group*

**2007** – Establishment of Monthly World Café

**2008** – Establishment of Black Skills Project in partnership with Skillnet Edinburgh/ Youth and Children's Integration Project

**2009**- BCDP began a strategic review of its past and decided to change its identity to reflect the demographic changes in Scotland and that of the people of North Edinburgh. The new name **CORE - Community Organisation for Race Equality** was formally adopted and registered and we moved to new offices.



Maureen McMillan

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Study Support Group 2005

The Summary of Key Milestones provides a snap shot of the ongoing endeavours of BCDP, continuously evolving over the years, meeting new needs along the way. We have come a long way and seen so many people move out of the poverty trap, helped with addressing racial harassment and discrimination, enabled families to be re-housed or housed, supported excluded community members to come out of isolation, assisted with employment opportunities/ further education, promoted integration into the community through joint and collaborative working.

BCDP prides itself in its work with grass-root communities, working with and for communities, but there has also been the need to advocate change at strategic level. We have been doing this through representation at various forums both local and citywide as well as through conferences and seminars on topics/issues of importance to the community. As a result, the BCDP community has seen some change over the years, but as everyone is aware the struggle towards race equality has been ongoing for decades and will continue for some time, as will our challenge to combat other forms of injustice that sadly exist in society.

To illustrate the range of BCDP's community-based contribution, I would like to share examples of some of the successful projects that I have been involved in developing.

### Projects for Families

#### • Open Sunday Group (weekly 1-4pm):

This was a rare opportunity for BME communities, both local and citywide, to come together to participate in recreational and leisure opportunities. The successful project ran for almost 6 years where families of all ages came together in a safe, supportive environment to learn, share and participate in activities such as swimming, badminton, fitness classes, arts and crafts, pool and snooker, basketball, complimentary therapies and a

crèche for under-5s. The numbers attending this group often reached over 50. We can confidently say that it was a unique project with huge benefits for the communities, not only to come out of isolation but to have their cultural, language and religious needs recognised, which had often presented barriers for them when accessing mainstream leisure opportunities.

#### • Family Networking Group (Fortnightly 12 - 2pm):

BCDP set up this group in November 2006 in response to families feeling isolated, unaware of other BME people in the community, moving new to the area with little awareness of people to connect with or the support networks available. The group aims to offer opportunities for networking, socialising, learning from presentations given by local organisations and participating in and organising events like the annual Cultural Exchange Day, which aims to promote cultural awareness and diversity in North Edinburgh, thus enabling local people to learn about each other's cultures and traditions. The group continues to exist and its attendance has been overwhelming at times, attracting up to 18 to 20 people.

#### • World Café – (Monthly 5 - 7pm):

The idea for the World Café came about following BME participants of the Family Networking Group cooking some delicious dishes for BCDP's annual Cultural Exchange Day. The community members were extremely talented in making food from their home countries, which illustrated so much potential for sharing that skill. In July 2007 we explored the idea of how best to utilise these skills and involved the community in initiating a project which is now the World Café.

World Café brings together people from all sections of the community both local, citywide, residents and workers in a family atmosphere where customers can experience the delights of food from around the globe made by our volunteers. It is a place for volunteers to show case their talents, learn from each other, meet people from their

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Family Networking Group 2006

community, pick up skills for cooking healthy meals, practise their English and share their culture with the local community in an informal friendly family environment.

Over 15 volunteers have gone on to do their training in Food and Hygiene, with 8 of them doing Food and Health training. The potential for development of this venture is enormous, which benefits not only the volunteers but also creates a vehicle for community cohesion. This project is still taking place once a month and is co-ordinated by one of the volunteers who was originally involved in the development of the project and then was successful in getting the Co-ordinator's post.

## Projects for Children and Young People

### • Youth and Children's Group's (weekly for 3 age groups):

BME children and young people living in Greater Pilton area had rarely participated in local youth groups due to a number of barriers and issues of safety. This led BCDP to set up youth focused provision, by addressing issues such as personal safety from violence through providing transport for young people to and from their homes, a safe space for them to interact and take part in activities of interest to them and including exposing them to other local facilities and youth provisions. This work is still ongoing and hugely welcomed by parents and their children. Through this work we have witnessed changes in the young people we have worked with, through raised confidence and self esteem, ability to express their needs and wants confidently, become aware of how best to deal with bullying and incidence of a racist nature, feelings of being connected within their community, raised awareness of the opportunities available to them, amongst others.

Over time BCDP has seen some young people grow from the tender age of 5 years to becoming teenagers. Witnessing them grow into confident adults has been an indicator of success for our organisation. We are aware

that our input alone has not been the sole contributing factor but we have played our part towards it. This work is still continuing to attract more and new young people to the clubs.

### • Kids Around the World Project – (Summer 6 weeks and Easter 2 weeks, 5 days per week):

This was a hugely successful project that ran over 5 years with the first 3 years in partnership with Craigroyston Community Centre. It provided BME young people opportunities to integrate into the local community through coming into contact with local indigenous young people. The young people benefitted from taking part in full day informal activities over the holiday period with the objective of forming relationships, creating understanding, learning and participating in indoor and outdoor activities that may otherwise not have been available to them, learning about their environment and connecting within their community. It was a popular club reaching full capacity of 55 young people, with some on a waiting list.

This Project not only had impact on the young people but also the parents, local organisations, local community in creating a sense of belonging, reinforced identity, health and wellbeing and young people feeling socially accepted and included. Unfortunately due to funding constraints this project ended in 2005; however since then we have continued to provide opportunities for BME children and young people during the holiday periods through the existing funded youth and children's project. The Summer and Easter programmes continue to provide a varied and enjoyable programme of activities for 5-16 year olds, although the scale of the project has been reduced to 4 weeks in Summer over 3 days per week and 2 weeks in Easter over 3 days per week.

### • Junior Stars Homework Study Support Club (weekly –Friday 2-4):

BCDP took the initiative in February 2005 to set up a homework study support club for 5-12 year olds so as to

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Kids Around the World 2000

address the needs of BME children, often living in low income households, suffering poor health, overcrowding, low self esteem, racism, poor educational experience, all of which impacted on their educational attainment. This successful project was very well received by parents of BME children, attracting between 12 to 15 young people per session. The project ran until June 2008 providing multiple benefits to the young people, such as support to build their language/literacy/numeracy skills, opportunity to interact with other young people from the community, build their confidence and self esteem, improved communication skill and supported their learning at school, amongst other benefits.

The Junior Stars Club participants demonstrated their improved skills and abilities through staging a successful performance of "We are the Dream" in June 2006, inspired by Dr Martin Luther King. The Home Work club was later amalgamated into one of the youth clubs, with literacy and numeracy forming part of that and all other youth clubs.

• **Youth and Children's Integration Project:**

This project was a culmination of the need to link BME children and young people to local youth services. Throughout our youth and children's work over the years, it was apparent to us that young people should be benefitting from the local services that exist for them as they do for anyone else; there were often issues that young people also needed one-to-one advice and support on.

Although our existing youth work addressed some of these needs by linking of young people to local projects, this was not enough. This is when the Integration Project was established by employing a dedicated worker whose sole role would be to safely support young people in accessing local mainstream youth clubs. Recently we successfully worked with Pilton Youth and Children's Project in bringing young people from both organisations together using Basketball as a medium. Other initiatives

with local schools are also currently underway.

Advice and information is also one aspect of this project, giving young people an opportunity to seek support on a one-to-one basis to address issues affecting them. Both aspects of this project are developing well.

## Projects for Women

• **Minority Ethnic Women's Group (weekly, Thursday 12-2):**

In 1996, through contact at the Sunday Group, women members identified a need to have a safe space to meet, to share and discuss issues and to take part in informal learning opportunities. Over the years, the group has provided women with numerous opportunities from: taking part in People's of Edinburgh Project, producing Chinese Folklore banner which was displayed at the City Art Centre in 1996, staging a short play to mark the 16 Days Campaign Against Violence Against Women in 1999 and launching their pocket size booklet of Cookery and Beauty tips to mark International Women's Day that same year. They also went on to take part in a series of health related workshops to develop their health awareness in 2000. In 2002 the group split into two groups so as to better meet the language needs of the Chinese women members; the group continues to meet today.

• **Mums support group (weekly Friday 9.30 to 11.30am):**

This group is relatively new, having started in February 2009, and came about due to lack of support networks for mums with young children. Since starting the group, there has been overwhelming interest for mums to connect with other BME mums. A partnership that has been formed with The Haven Project has also been hugely positive for both the participants and the two organisations. Before becoming aware of this group, some women were very isolated but now they have built new relationships, connected outside of the group, seek advice and support from one another, attend events

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Women's Group 1997

together and go out together with their children. In a short space of time, some women have gone on to volunteer locally, attend local/BCDP courses and accessed other local and citywide services that they were previously unaware of. The group has not only provided a connection for them and their children but exposed them to other opportunities available.

### A Final Thought

BCDP and its communities have faced many challenges over the past two decades and will continue to do so in the future, some of which have been referred to in previous issues of this Newsletter. I am confident that the formation of **CORE - Community Organisation for Race Equality** - is a positive step which will preserve the best of BCDP's experience and develop new ideas and approaches to making Scotland a more just society. I wish to acknowledge the commitment of Tesfu Gessesse and the Board of Trustees who have directed BCDP towards this journey, my colleagues over the years and all members of the local community in Greater Pilton who have been active in contributing to BCDP's success.

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT BCDP?

### Family Networking Group - Cultural Exchange Day

The Family Networking Group members took part in a range of programmed activities over the past 3 months; however the highlight was the Cultural Exchange Day, which took place on Monday 15th June 2009 at Craigryston Community Centre and attracted over 45 people from various cultural backgrounds across the local area. Locals, long-term friends and newcomers to the

area spent a warm and lively afternoon together, chatting, dancing, sharing food and browsing amongst stalls laden with pictures and objects reflecting the participants' individual cultures. The event was an opportunity for participants to learn new things about other world cultures through language, food and the interaction of different cultures. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Family Group for their contribution and commitment to the event.

### Summer Trip – Beecraigs Country Park

Families from across North Edinburgh enjoyed the delights of Beecraigs Country Park in Linlithgow on Monday the 27th of July 09. In total 70 adults and children attended the outing and, although the weather was cloudy, there was plenty to do including a big adventure park for the children to play and many different walks for people to explore. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the day.

### Minority Ethnic Mum's Support Group

The mum's group took part in a number of activities over the April to June term, such as yoga, reflexology, manicure, cooking, visit to Scottish Parliament and they finished off their term with a social get together before breaking up for summer period. The new programme for the next session, which has commenced this September, includes activities that women have requested; these range from child development, jewellery making, beauty/ makeup and massage. All BME women with children under 5 are welcome to come along. Also any other women who wish to make contact with other minority ethnic women is welcome to participate.

### World Café

World Café has been taking place monthly with delicious food being served for all the new and regular customers who seem to have come to enjoy the delights of various exciting dishes on offer. Every month we have attracted over 40 customers from all cultural backgrounds who

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Cultural Exchange Day

appreciate this local facility. The volunteers thoroughly enjoy the experience they gain from being involved, including the training that some of the volunteers have benefitted from. Fifteen of our service users have now either acquired Elementary Food and Hygiene training or Elementary Food and Health. Well done to all those who gained their certificates.

## **Equality & Human Rights Commission Event**

BCDP organised and hosted a workshop for the Equality and Human Rights Commission Scotland (EHRC) on Friday the 22nd of May which took place at West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre. The purpose of the workshop was to give attendees the opportunity to find out more about the Commission, to learn how best to use their services and to inform them about which issues of unlawful discrimination are significant to them and their service users. The workshop was attended by a number of community organisations from across Edinburgh as well as two trainee solicitors, student social workers and the local Councillor Stuart McIvor (Inverleith Ward).

## **Extra – Ordinary General Meeting**

On the 22nd June, BCDP held an Extra-ordinary General Meeting at West Pilton Neighbourhood Centre to formally agree for the Black Community Development Project to change its name to CORE – Community Organisation for Race Equality. The new name and new constitution were formally agreed by all in attendance. BCDP will formally launch the newly named organisation in November 2009.

## **Club4us – Youth & Children’s Clubs**

Our Junior Stars group visited Lauriston Castle Gardens, and the Sculpture Trail at the Gallery of Modern Art, while the older group, the Young Stars went walking in the Botanical Gardens and Silverknowes beach. Mini Stars were also excited to end the term by visiting their two most favourite play centres, Soft Play at Pilton Youth and

Children’s Centre, and the Fun Factory at Newhaven.

On 6th July, we held an end of year Certificate of Participation Ceremony for all Children and Young People, at North Edinburgh Arts Centre. It was very well attended by family and friends of the young people. We would like to thank Labour Councillor Cammy Day and local activist Betty McVey, who kindly agreed to hand out the Certificates of Participation to all of our young people. And a special thank you to Milan from the Mini Stars group who opened the ceremony with a speech.

Finally, our Autumn Term began again on August 24th and the young people made the most of the sun shine by doing outdoor activities, such as trip to Inverleith park and Silverknowes beach, whilst during wet times they benefited from indoor activities such as indoor wall climbing and games. New and exciting programme of activities are planned for the coming months.

## **Youth & Children’s Summer Programme**

BCDP hosted a very successful summer programme for children and young people between the ages of 5 and 16 years. There were over 35 children who attended the 4 weeks of activities which took place from 14th July to 6th August, at Old Kirk Church on Pennywell Road. Some of the highlights included a trip to the adventure playground at Dalkeith Country Park, wild animal spotting at Edinburgh Zoo, designing their own t-shirts, street dance and a guided tour of Arthur’s Seat by Historic Scotland’s Ranger Service.

## **Youth & Children’s Link Work**

Before the summer, a number of young people aged 9–16yrs were supported to attend the fantastic Basketball club at Pilton Youth & Children’s Project. This was really popular, and showed that we have some rising Basketball stars in our midst! It was also a great example of the anti-racist learning and integration that BCDP’s link work provides. Sadly this ended in June, but we explored ways of continuing this work and have recently been awarded

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Summer Programme

funds from The Fairer Scotland Fund to restart the club. Fantastic news for all the interested basketball players.

## Youth & Children's Advice & Information Work

Young people have started accessing the advice service for help and support. Issues have been varied and have included isolation, lack of self confidence, bullying, EMA grant, jobs. The Advice Service leaflet is now available in the following community languages - Arabic, Cantonese and Polish.

## UPCOMING PROJECTS

### The Black Community Skills Project

The Black Community Skills Project training courses started on 28th September 2009 at Muirhouse Library. The courses run for 3 days a week, from 10am to 2.30pm, for a period of 12 weeks, as follows:

Mondays & Thursdays: Information Technology & Literacy  
Wednesdays: Employability Skills Workshops.

IT classes include introduction to computing, using a web browser and setting up an email account, digital media, creating and using e-groups and searching for jobs online. Employability Skills workshops include CV writing, completing job application forms, interview and presentation skills, teamwork skills, confidence building, first aid and visits to and presentations by outside agencies.

Participants enjoy childcare support, an agreed learning plan, continuous progress assessment, chance to speak to potential employers, opportunity for further study or training. Travel allowance and a £50 one off payment on completion of the course is provided.

The next Skills Project training courses will start in January 2010.

**Places are limited. For further details please contact Adil Ibrahim on 0131 467 7990 or email [adil@bcdp.org.uk](mailto:adil@bcdp.org.uk).**

### Working With Difference Programme

Scotland's outdoor spaces are powerful playgrounds that can be utilised for recreational, health, social and educational development. Working With Difference Programme (WWDP) is a new and innovative programme of learning and engagement with marginalised communities across Scotland. Through partnership working, it aims to create opportunities enabling marginalised groups to benefit from outdoor activities such as growing food, community gardening and countryside conservation. WWDP's approach is 'learning by doing' and using a variety of outdoor activities and community based venues to demonstrate how working with and enjoying outdoor spaces can enhance people's lives and bring community groups together. **At the moment we are trying to identify who will be interested in this type of activities. If you are, please contact Adil Ibrahim.**

### New Development Awareness Funded Project

BCDP is delighted with its 2 year funding received from Department for International Development (Dfid). We are currently recruiting our Community Education Worker to lead this project. The purpose of this project is to promote knowledge/awareness and understanding of development issues and poverty reduction amongst minority ethnic communities of North Edinburgh, by equipping them with the skills to take positive actions towards eliminating global poverty, including taking steps to make changes in their own actions. **Anyone interested in being involved in this Project should contact Khalida or Adil.**

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Skills Project

## Weekly Football Sessions

A new and exciting opportunity for local BME men

Every Saturday 4.30pm - 6.00pm

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

The aims of this activity are to provide new opportunities for the local Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) men to participate in physical activities in an organised fashion and to help promote and strengthen community cohesion and social inclusion in North Edinburgh. **For more details or to register, please contact Adil Ibrahim**

## 'Finance Matters' Project

Are you 50+, from Black & Minority Ethnic communities and live in Edinburgh? You may be entitled to more benefits and services. The BCDP is starting a new project 'Finance Matters' which is funded by Nationwide Foundation. The purpose of this project is to assist Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) people who are aged 50 years and over to access advice, support, guidance and training on managing finances, debt and benefits. We aim to do this by organising one-to-one support sessions and regular open surgeries where we will provide you with free, confidential, up to date and culturally sensitive information and training on financial matters. **If you are interested to find out more information about this project please contact Adil Ibrahim.**

## New Cooking Classes

Starting 26th October 2009

Would you like to learn new recipes and cooking skills to make your dining experience even more satisfying?

By joining our new 'Keepwell' cooking classes, you will learn not only how to prepare new meals and find out about healthy eating options, but also meet new people and learn about other cultures. Classes will run for 6 weeks, from Monday 26th October 5.30pm to 7.30pm

at Pilton Community Health Project. **For more details please contact Adil Ibrahim**

## New Basketball Club for Young People

Starting soon

**Contact Zaki for more information.**

# CURRENT BCDP PROGRAMME

## BME SKILLS PROJECT

Courses include: Employability Skills & Information Technology (IT) & Literacy

Opportunity for black minority ethnic individuals to gain new skills leading to employment and further training.

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

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASSES

If you are looking for a suitable English language class for yourself or for a member of your family, then BCDP can direct you to the right provider. Classes are currently running at Telford College, Stevenson College or in the community through Community Learning and Development. **Please contact Adil for more information.**

## FAMILY NETWORKING GROUP

The group meets at West Pilton Child & Family Centre, 33 Ferry Road Drive

12noon to 2pm. Fortnightly

Meeting Dates: October 12th, November 2nd, 16th and 30th, December 14th

**Contact Jacque or Adil for more details or just come along**

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Mum's Support Group

## WOMEN'S KEEP FIT CLASS

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

Thursdays 2pm to 3pm at Muirhouse Millennium Centre.

**Contact Caroline for more details or just go along**

## MINORITY ETHNIC MUM'S SUPPORT GROUP

Meets every Friday at 9:30 to 11:30am for mum's with children under 5 years old.

At the Haven Project, Craigmoynton Primary School Creche for kids

BCDP working in partnership with Haven / Circle Scotland

**Contact Khalida for more information or just come along**

## 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 30th October

Friday 27th November

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

## ONE TO ONE ADVICE & INFORMATION FOR ADULTS

Confidential advice and support on issues such as housing, discrimination, benefits.

**Contact Jacqueline to make an appointment.**

## YOUTH & CHILDREN'S SERVICES

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

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

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

Fridays 2-3.30pm at Fet Lor Youth Club

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

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

## ADVICE & SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Help with bullying, problems at school or in neighbourhood, racism & prejudice, worried about something.

Contact Advice Worker Aiysha Hamid.

**Tel: 0131 467 7990, text 07854566407. Or come to the Friday drop-in between 1:30pm & 3:30pm at the BCDP office.**

## NOTICE BOARD

### Work Ready Mentoring

If you have had little or no life opportunities for education or employment LINKnet and Sikh Sanjog jointly run 'Work Ready Mentoring Project'.

The project provides basic training in groups for you to identify what you really want to do while you are matched with a mentor for individual help to supplement training.

**Call Pamela on 0131 553 4737 for more information**

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World Café



## Barri Grubb (the fruit & veg people)

SHOP OPENING TIMES:

Monday 10:30am – 4.30pm, Tues to Thurs 8:30am  
– 4:30pm, Friday 8:30am – 2pm

Address: PCHP, 73 Boswall Parkway, Edinburgh, EH5 2PW,  
Tel: 0131 551 1671

Barri Grubb aim to help local people tackle the main barriers to a healthier diet by providing local services – low cost fruit & veg, food stall at community venues, cooking classes, taster sessions, nutritional information, healthy eating recipes, cooking recipes.

## IOM (International Organisation for Migration)

Thinking of going back to your home country?

IOM may be able to help you.

0800 783 2332

What IOM can do for you:

Work in partnership with a number of refugee advice agencies throughout the UK to provide you with assistance for a dignified and orderly return to your home country.

Additionally, we may be able to help you resettle with Reintegration Assistance. This would depend on your individual circumstances.

## Job Opportunities Support Project

Would you like to improve your opportunities to gain employment within housing and the public sector?

The project is a new initiative managed by Bield, Hanover Scotland and Trust. It is aimed at reducing the communication and cultural gap between employers and BME communities.

You will be provided with confidential help, support and advice on:

CV preparation, the right places to search for jobs, filling in job applications, interview techniques, contact with employers.

**Please contact: Nasreen Amjad at Trust Housing Association on 0131 444 4953 or email: [namjad@trustha.org.uk](mailto:namjad@trustha.org.uk)**

## Beyond the Veil - 'Promoting a better understanding of Women and Islam'

Group provides basic information about Islam, encourage inter-faith dialogue, portraying a positive image of Muslim women and challenging negative stereotypes.

**Muslim Women's Group are looking for new people to join. [www.beyondtheveil.org.uk](http://www.beyondtheveil.org.uk); email [info@beyondtheveil.org.uk](mailto:info@beyondtheveil.org.uk)**

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Youth Groups Award Ceremony