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[Faith Centre Website](#)

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✚ **Multi-Faith Spaces: Symptoms of Agents of Religious and Social Change** – is the title of a three year research project led by a team of academics at Manchester University. Having contributed to the study since April 2010, we were delighted to welcome Dr Chris Hewson to the Faith Centre for two days this week. Chris is currently visiting a number of 'faith spaces' across Europe to interview stakeholders and users. Indeed, it was a case of Zurich one day, Burnley the next. Clearly he left the best wine till last!! We certainly kept him very busy, with a constant stream of people coming to meet him, varying from Campus partners (students/staff) to members of our faith communities, to visiting speakers to people who were visiting for the first time! A beautiful mix of the very people who make this such a very special place to be. On his departure Chris commented, *"The Burnley & Pendle Faith Centre clearly demonstrates the value of placing multi-faith spaces within established local facilities, yet operating them as inclusive community resources. The 'Spiritual Space' provides a very effective template for others to follow".* If anyone would like to contribute to the study via the ether, do feel free to email Chris on chris.hewson@manchester.ac.uk – he'd be delighted to hear from you.

✚ **East Lancashire Goes Global (ECGG) – Mon 20 June – Fri 1 July** - our UN Summit / Exhibition for Year 9 students and wider community is now a touch under four weeks away. The study will 'home in' on the 8 Millennium Development Goals and promises to be a highly interactive. Following a very productive meeting with our partners last Friday – CLEO, Global Link and Lancashire Global Education Centre – we are pressing ahead with our final planning, especially the fine tuning of the programme. Special thanks to our local high schools who have supported the programme so well. We have just one or two places left – and going fast! We hope a "planned" teachers' strike on Thurs 30 June does not affect productivity, though we have a possible Plan B up our sleeve, if it is necessary! More information will appear in the next week or two. Should be good . . . do keep this important initiative in your thoughts and prayers. Do check out our evolving web link - [UN Summit](#)

✚ **Whitworth High School** – today we were due to be welcoming 40 students from the school for a GCSE RE Conference led our dear friend, Claire Willis of Thomas Whitham Sixth Form. Sadly, Claire suffered a serious back injury following the Great Manchester Run last Sunday. We send Claire our love and very best wishes for a speedy recovery. Not to be beaten, Plan B has kicked into operation, and we look forward to facilitating a Revision Day for the Year 11 students at Whitworth next Thursday (26th), when two very good friends of the Centre – Margaret Richardson and Pete Grimshaw – will be leading workshops on the general themes of Peace & Justice and Equality. Thanks to all concerned. We hope it goes really well.

✚ **Perspectives on the Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h.)** – following last week's successful event, look out for our updated web link with next week's bulletin.

- ✚ **Medical Advances – Ethical Dilemmas – What is Faith’s Response?** – date for the diary. **Thursday 16 June at 1930hrs**, led by **Dr David Cook**. In partnership Churches Together in Lancashire and A Company of Speakers. More info to follow shortly.

- ✚ **One contract ends, but the work continues** – as many readers will know, Richard Hoyle from the Methodist District has been working closely with us for over three years now, offering valuable guidance and support to our local high schools and others through a variety of provision – assemblies to lunch time sessions in the faith spaces, supporting curriculum and so on. His funding with the District came to an end a few weeks ago. The good news is that his work continues with our schools, albeit with a slightly reduced coverage, following some funding which has been secured at the Faith Centre via colleagues at County Hall. It is good to see that this important work continues. Special thanks to the Methodist District for their ongoing support, especially over the past three years, and to LCC for their support and commitment to maintaining the momentum of this vital work for our young people.

- ✚ **Buddhist Encounter** – yesterday it was a joy to welcome Year 6 students from Christ the King RC Primary School and our good friend Kelsang Pagpa, Resident Teacher and Buddhist monk from the Vajravarahi Buddhist Centre in Preston. A excellent opportunity for the students to learn about Buddhism. Many of these Year 6 students will have visited the Centre on a number of occasions to meet people of different faiths. We wish them all every success when they move on to high school.

- ✚ **The Event** – Burnley Churches are giving an opportunity for young people in the local area and beyond, for a great night of live music with twelve24, a fantastic band, with prizes and real life stories. Takes place at Sir John Thursby Community College on **Saturday 28th May** from **1800hrs – 2000hrs**. Tickets are **£1** (payable on the door). Should be a great night – please support. For further details, please ring the Pais Office 01282 454149 or send an email on theevent@paisproject.com

- ✚ **Celebrate RE 2011** – readers will recall that in late March we held a very colourful exhibition to celebrate RE in this part of East Lancashire. We recently took delivery of a beautiful A2 display, summarising the valued work of our local community colleges, which will form part of a national collection of celebrations. This selection will be available on our web pages in the next few weeks – see a upcoming bulletin. For e-bulletin readers, to view our display, please see attachment. A framed version of this now sits proudly in the Centre, along with a certificate for our MJ Award.

- ✚ **Burnley College** – last week it was a pleasure to welcome Janet Crossley, Head of Student Services at the College and various faith leaders for a meeting to discuss chaplaincy provision at the College. I wish them well in this very important work.

At first people refuse to believe that a strange new thing can be done
Then they begin to hope it can be done
Then they see it can be done
Then it is done and all the world wonders why it was not done centuries ago

Frances Hodgson Burnett (1849 – 1924)
English Playwright and Author