

TAUNTON TOGETHER

Press Release

Taunton Together – THE multi-cultural event of 2018

On the 15th September 2018, from 11 am – 3.30 pm pay a trip to the Albemarle Centre in Taunton, where 20 cultural community groups from international communities in Taunton are coming together to share and celebrate the diverse cultures in Somerset through performance, food, arts, talks, community information with activities for all ages with the Major of Taunton speaking after 1pm.

As part of Somerset Diverse Communities, a project within the Community Council for Somerset (CCS) Taunton Together 2018 has grown massively from 2017 with 4 times more community groups involved! It offers activities and information for all the family: Avtar Indian Dance Somerset; Ray of Sunshine for a Child; Taunton Polish Association; Philippine International Neighbourhood Association Somerset; British Bangladeshi Association Somerset; Syrian Committee Taunton; Welsh Community; Thai Community; and much more.

Somerset Diverse Communities has also launched a short film every week for the past 10 weeks – recognising culture and diversity in Somerset with personal accounts of life and work in Somerset. To watch all the films follow the Facebook page www.facebook.com/somersetdiversecommunities.

Somerset Diverse Communities community engagement worker Beccy Jesson and Iwona Byrd from Diversity Group worked together to create the first Taunton Together event in 2017, and are delighted that the 2018 event is event bigger and better building on the relationships forged over the past year.

Beccy, said “We’re slowly building friendships and understanding through events such as Taunton Together. It’s been great to see how many new community groups have got involved this year – we’re expanding the event and the conversations around the bigger issues in Somerset. We are thrilled that the event organisers have succeeded in securing funding which will allow future smaller events and activities to continue after this 1 day event.”



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Iwona said “It has been a long time since Somerset has had something like this and we needed to organise an opportunity for communities to get to know each other. It doesn’t matter what religion you have or which country you come from, if you work together you can achieve something. Last year we achieved a successful first event and we hope this year will be bigger and better!”

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Background

Somerset Diverse Communities is a project of Community Council for Somerset (CCS) funded by: Sedgemoor District Council, Avon & Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner, Somerset Equalities Officer Group, South Somerset District Council and Somerset County Council.

Somerset Diverse Communities aims to build relationships with and between groups who support BME communities, to develop skills which facilitate the long term sustainability of BME community groups and to build unified, resilient and safe communities for all residents of Somerset, empowering visible and vocal BME communities across the county.

Somerset Diverse Communities webpage: http://somersetccc.org.uk/our_work/supporting-individuals/diversecommunities/

