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Photographs from the Human Rights 60th Anniversary Event, held at the Civic Centre, Enfield.

More pictures inside.

## Enfield Celebrates Human Rights Anniversary

The 60th anniversary and the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) was commemorated by the borough of Enfield on Monday 9th March 2009. The free event held at Enfield Civic Centre was jointly organised by Enfield Racial Equality Council, Enfield Council and Enfield and the Barnets United Nations Association.

A rapt audience, which included Enfield Councillors and EREC members witnessed the signing of a copy of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by Cllr Jon Kaye.

David Wardrop from the UK United Nations Association explained the history behind the UDHR and gave an intense account of the final hour leading up to the signing of the document on 10th December 1948 in Paris. He said **"It is very special to sign**

**this document in Enfield, because this is a copy of the original document which was designed in Enfield. Therefore it is very important that this document has come home tonight".**

Mr Wardrop continued to describe how the Universal Declaration was a landmark response to the horrors of World War II. It demanded that everyone worldwide be treated equally, with dignity and respect and without discrimination. As well as being the most translated document in the world and could be found in over 350 languages.

The evenings programme included EREC's Strategic Race Forum which hosted a presentation on the 'Human Rights Act'.

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PHOTOGRAPHS



# Enfield Celebrates Human Rights Anniversary

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Bevin Betton, EREC Chair stated, **“Human rights are not just a matter of great declarations and fine words from governments. If not implemented in everyday life they mean nothing. That is why it is particularly appropriate for Enfield Racial Equality Council to be taking part in this event today. For thirty years – half the lifetime of the Universal Declaration – we have been seeking to make a reality of human rights, particularly for black and minority ethnic citizens, in Enfield”.**

Guest speaker Joshua Castellino, Professor of Law at Middlesex University explained how the most important achievement of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was the basis it created for human rights as a legal principle. He described how today there were many challenges including:

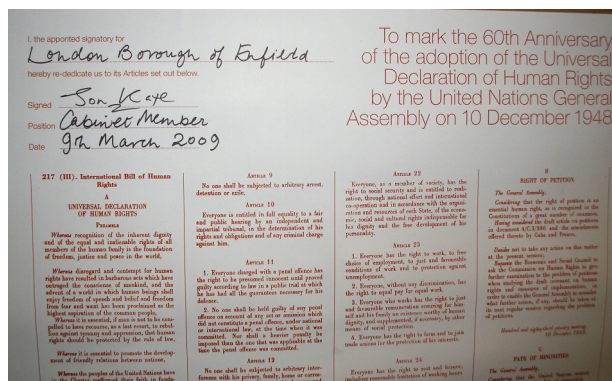
- Sacrificing human rights to the demands of the “war on terror”

- Lack of access to law worldwide for many deprived of their human rights.
- Continuing discrimination as regards culture, gender and ethnicity
- Failure to protect the rights of the vulnerable, especially refugees, children and trafficked women

The Strategic Race Forum ended with a panel discussion. The audience agreed that Human Rights should be taught in all schools. As well as agreeing that the Declaration should be displayed prominently in public places around the world, such as in the NHS, local authority buildings, schools, colleges and universities.

The newly-signed Declaration will be displayed at the Civic Centre next to the mosaic plaque (which already marks World Human Rights Day) as a lasting record of the Council’s commitment to its principles. For more information about the UDHR go to [www.equalityhumanrights.com](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com)

Photographs from the Human Rights 60th Anniversary Event. Bevin Betton EREC Chair and copy of signed UDHR



## Enfield Hate Crime Forum 03/06/09

**“Ten years on – the journey so far “**

The next forum is **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2009** at 6.15pm, Room 1, Community House, 311 Fore Street, Edmonton, London, N9 0PZ and will be looking at how far we have come since the McPherson inquiry that was published ten years ago following the death of Stephen Lawrence.

The Borough Commander and the Community Safety lead member will update the

forum on the steps taken and describe how they have worked to implement the recommendations of the inquiry. This is a chance for local community members to have face to face communication on how race related crime in Enfield is dealt with.

For further information and to book please contact Suj Ponnampalam on 020 8379 6137 or [sujeewan.ponnampalam@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:sujeewan.ponnampalam@enfield.gov.uk) by 29/05/09.

## Strategic Race Forum 12/05/09

The May Strategic Race Forum 's main topic of discussion was the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2009 (JSNA)

Thirty-five people, representing 15 organisations attended the presentation by Peter Feldon, LBE Project Lead at Community House. He explained how the government has asked all localities to find out more about health and well-being needs through the JSNA.

This means Enfield Council and NHS Enfield want to get a better idea of what residents think is important about health and wellbeing.

The Forum members broke into small groups and discussed the presentation, examining the following important questions about individual health and wellbeing:

- Factors impacting on chances of living a long and healthy life
- Where people get the most useful advice from
- Unmet need
- Barriers to accessing health and social care services

The views and thoughts of Forum members will be collated into a report available shortly from the Improving Health Project and at the next Strategic Race Forum.

The JSNA 2009 will incorporate the findings from this consultation and will be published in September and used to help plan services for next year.

For further information about the consultation contact Peter Feldon on 020 8379 3957 or email [peter.feldon@enfield.gov.uk](mailto:peter.feldon@enfield.gov.uk)

## EREC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2009**  
**6pm – 9pm**

**Council Chamber**  
**Enfield Civic Centre**  
**Silver Street**  
**Enfield, EN1**

- **Presentation of Annual Report**
- **Election of Board of Trustees**
- **Presentation of Certificates to Community Advisor Trainees**
- **Guest Speakers**

*\*Buffet and Refreshments will be available\**

*\*Wheelchair Access and Induction Loop\**

EREC, Community House, 311 Fore Street,  
Edmonton, London, N9 OPZ

Tel: 020 8373 6271/2  
Email: [info@enfieldrec.org.uk](mailto:info@enfieldrec.org.uk)

This is a public meeting and everyone is welcome

Please come and find out about the work we have been doing

~ Thank you for your continued support ~

### Note to EREC Members

By now, you should have received your first mailing about the AGM. We need your nominations for the Board and Membership Panel elections – so please complete the forms in your pack and return them by the deadline date of Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2009.

If any member wishes to be nominated, please let your colleagues know that you are interested so that your name may be proposed.

### YOUR VOTES COUNT

**Remember** - Only organisations and individuals who are members of EREC are entitled to nominate, be nominated and vote at elections – so if you have not yet renewed your membership, please do so asap

If you need any help with your forms, or would like to become a member of EREC, please contact Soula Solomon on 020 8373 6271/2.



## Contact us:

### Enfield Racial Equality Council

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London  
N9 0PZ

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**Web:** [www.enfieldrec.org.uk](http://www.enfieldrec.org.uk)



Become a member of Enfield Racial Equality Council.

If you support the work of EREC, then why not join us as a member. Membership is free and open to individuals who live or work in Enfield and to organisations operating in Enfield, who are committed in furthering the work of EREC.

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Enfield Racial Equality Council. EREC cannot take responsibility for information or articles submitted for inclusion in the newsletter.

**We welcome your comments about this newsletter.**  
**If you would like to include information or an article in our next edition please contact us.**

***Challenging Racism and Promoting Racial Equality  
within the London Borough of Enfield***

### EHRC Strategic Funding Programme

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has announced the new Strategic Funding Programme, providing funding of up to £450,000 for community and voluntary sector organisations.

If you would like to support EREC in developing our bid and to work in partnership then please contact the office immediately.

The priority areas include funding organisations providing guidance, advice and advocacy services; infrastructure development and capacity building and good relations. Applying for funding is a two stage process and the first deadline is 12th June 2009.

The final priority area, legal case-work will be launched in later in the summer.

Contact EREC for more information on our Strategic Funding Programme bid on 020 8373 6271.

### Soldiers Win Human Rights Protection

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) will have to provide proper protection to soldiers serving overseas and more information to bereaved families, following a landmark human rights judgment.

Private Jason Smith was deployed to Iraq in June 2003. He repeatedly told army medical staff that he was feeling seriously unwell due to the temperature, which was in excess of 50 degrees Celsius, before reporting sick and later dying.

The EHRC intervened in the hearing between the mother Catherine Smith and the Secretary of State for Defence to argue that armed forces personnel serving abroad are protected by Article 2 (Right to Life) of the European Convention and the Human Rights Act. This applies whether or not they are physically on an armed forces base.

This judgement will ensure the lives of troops are properly safeguarded ie ensuring they have adequate equipment and medical facilities. It will also mean future investigations into similar deaths will have to be independent, open to scrutiny and involve the family who should be entitled to public funding.

To read the full story go to  
[www.equalityhumanrights.com](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com)

### Awards for Bridging Cultures

The Award for Bridging Cultures (ABCs) launched last year, celebrates activities that promote dialogue between cultures. The ABCs reward local projects by community and voluntary organisations that help build bridges between communities and cultures and is funded by the Baring Foundation.

One of the reasons to apply is that the work of voluntary and community groups at grass level do not always receive the recognition they deserve. The ABC's will showcase this work and raise awareness of activities on the ground and will also encourage people to share the learning from their projects with other organisations.

The winners and commended projects will receive cash prizes and the chance to make a short film. A new award will celebrate individual volunteers who have made a significant contribution to starting or running such projects. All applicants will be invited to a learning conference and awards ceremony in December 2009.

For more information go to  
[www.bridgingcultures.org.uk](http://www.bridgingcultures.org.uk) or call  
024 7679 5768. The deadline for applications is 14/09/09.