



PREC NEWS

PREC works with individuals & organisations for a fair & just society which celebrates diversity & gives everyone an equal chance to work, learn & live free from Discrimination

EQUALITY & HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION LAUNCH REPORT ON INTEGRATION IN THE WORKPLACE

This EHRC report examines how 8 employers, which include BT, Asda, the British Library and North Wales Police encourage lesbian, gay, bisexual, older employees and those with differing religions or beliefs to take up recruitment, promotion or advancement opportunities in the workplace.

The report will be used by the EHRC to develop guidance for employers on implementing effective equality policies.

All 8 employers in the survey adopted a variety of equality programmes aimed at making employees feel accepted and preventing discrimination based on age, sexual orientation, religion or belief.

The research revealed that no one policy or approach was appropriate for all organisations, however support from Senior Managers, in particular from the Chief Executive, was vital for equality policies to be properly implemented.

To view the report go to www.equalityhumanrights.com

ONE STOP SATURDAY SURGERY

Are you in need of information or advice?

Peterborough Women's Centre are providing Saturday Advice Surgeries, offering one to one advice on legal issues (family law), drug & alcohol abuse, domestic violence, sexual assault, debt, welfare & employment law, housing advice, community safety issues, immigration and education.

The next surgeries are on 31st October and 28th November 2009.

For further information, contact Peterborough Women's Centre, 01733 311568/311564, claudia@peterborough.womenscentre.org.uk

COMPUTER CLASS

PARCA (Poor African Refugee Community Association) are offering computer classes, with free my guide course.

Classes will take place from 2nd November 2009 every:

Thursday from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm
Friday from 10.00am to 1.00 pm

For further information, contact PARCA, 01733 563420, info@poor-refugee.org

PREC EDUCATION WORKING GROUP

PREC's priorities on education are to look at school attainment levels, school admissions and NEETs (young people not in employment, education or training).

Alison Davies, a new member of our Executive Committee and Chairperson of the School Admissions Forum, has been working on GCSE and Key Stage attainment levels, based on 2008 results and also going back 10 years to PREC's first 'River of Hope' report.

An initial findings report has been produced, which has highlighted some very positive issues, such as Pakistani student results showing a big jump in achieving 5 GCSE's at grades A-C.

The report is being finalised and once complete, will be published on PREC's website - www.prec.org.uk and will be accompanied by a series of discussion groups to better understand how standards can be raised for all young people across all communities in the city.

JAPANESE EXHIBITION AT PETERBOROUGH MUSEUM

East Meets East

East Meets East is a touring exhibition about connections between Japan and East Anglia and celebrates 150 years of relations between Japan and the UK. Watch short films about Japanese traditional arts and martial arts practiced in East Anglia, be awed by art work created by students from across the region and discover other local connections! This will be showing between 24th and 31st October 2009.

Big Draw Japan

To tie in with the East Meets East display, have a go at Japanese art and writing, including calligraphy and origami. FREE activities from 12 noon to 4.00 pm on Saturday 24th October 2009.

Forgive and Forget Lecture

A free lecture by Professor Tomoyo Nakao of Okaya University, on her experiences interviewing veterans of the Japanese prisoner of war camps in World War II. Pre-booking for this event on Monday 26th October 2009 at 7.00 pm is essential.

Please contact the Museum at museum@peterborough.gov.uk or call 01733 864663.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Operation Christmas Child is an initiative by Samaritan's Purse – a Christian relief and development organisation.

Take a shoe box, wrap the lid and box, then fill it with small gifts. The shoeboxes are then delivered to children from disadvantaged situations in Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia for Christmas.

For further information on the initiative go to www.operationchristmaschild.org.uk or call 0870 011 20002, 01392 455036

RESEARCH PARTICIPATION

Madeleine Wyatt is a PhD Researcher and a member of the Organisational Psychology Group at City University, London. She is currently conducting research to assess employees' career experiences and perceptions of career mobility, with the aim of identifying whether there are differences between employees from different groups and backgrounds.

If you would like to be involved in the research, a questionnaire can be found at www.surveymk.com/glassceiling, the questionnaire will be kept confidential and can be anonymous. The chance to win a £100 Amazon voucher is available for completion of the questionnaire. The research is very worthwhile, as there has been very little rigorous research on barriers to career progression.

For further info please contact Madeleine Wyatt at City University on 02070400125 or maddy.wyatt.1@city.ac.uk.

ZIMBABWE AWARENESS DAY

The Zimbabwe Peterborough Community will be holding an awareness day on Saturday 31st October 2009 from 2.00 pm, at Quakers Meeting House, 21 Thorpe Road, Crescent Bridge, Peterborough.

Speakers include representatives from Peterborough City Council, Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Citizens Advice Bureau and Peterborough Mediation Service. For further information call 07511423876 or e-mail zpc.info@yahoo.co.uk

EQUALITY BILL 09 CONSULTATION

The Government is proposing to 'harmonise' or 'simplify' the 6 equality stands on race, gender, disability, age, faith/religion and sexuality.

PREC has responded firmly to the Equality Office consultation and has made it clear that aspects of the proposals will be a weakening of current legislation, which is only now bedding down.

If the Equality Office proposals are agreed – there appears to be a lot of opposition towards diluting something that is beginning to work – PREC's concern is that the law will be as ineffectual as it was under s.71f of the 1976 Race Relations Act.

PREC is looking to create a local lobby to support the regional lobby on opposing the current proposals. PREC's response can be seen in full on our website – www.prec.org.uk

PETERBOROUGH APPROPRIATE ADULT SERVICE

Mike Sampson, formerly the Inspector in the Police Community Cohesion Unit, has now joined the City Council as the Appropriate Adult Service Co-ordinator.

Mike is looking to recruit appropriate adults as volunteers to look after young people's rights, entitlements and welfare whilst they are in police custody.

If you would be interested in becoming a volunteer, get in touch with Mike on 864670 or mike.sampson@peterborough.gov.uk for further information.

HEAL CHARITY EVENT

A big thank you is given to all those who attended and supported this event at the Cresset on 3rd October 2009.

PREC NEWS ROUNDUP

- PREC will be updating its Business Plan for April 2010 to March 2014. We would be interested in your views and are keen to find out what you think our priorities should include for the future. If you would like to give your thoughts, please e-mail us at info@prec.org.uk by Monday 23rd November 2009.
- PREC will be organising a series of discussions on various themes, including human rights, migration, employment, equality, political extremism and how British foreign policy may or may not encourage radicalism or violence. This series has been made possible by a small grant from the Department of Communities and Local Government through the Government Office for the East of England Region. Details of the events will be provided in due course and will be posted on our website – www.prec.org.uk
- PREC's work on a Race Equality/BME Network is continuing. Meetings are currently being arranged to take this forward and will be posted on our website next week. 30 organisations have already signed up, so if you haven't yet, please get in touch. Other networks will also be created, which will include advice work, women and young people. For further information, please contact MJ Ladha at PREC or Sarah Fletcher or John Cunningham at PCVS on 342683/311016, sarah.fletcher@pcvs.co.uk or john.cunningham@pcvs.co.uk
- The East of England Regional Assembly like all regional assemblies will no longer exist from April 2010. PREC represents the East of England Faiths Council on the Assembly's Social Inclusion Panel and have commented on the structures for the future. Other voluntary organisations have also provided their views and the collective response will be available on our website in due course.
- PREC has been contributing towards Black History Month celebrations every year since around 2004. This year, it has not been possible to organise anything due to lack of staffing resources. A number of people from Black communities have expressed disappointment that nothing has been organised or publicised locally. A number of people referred to an article by GPP in the Evening Telegraph. Jawaid Khan, GPP's Cohesion Manager, is looking to set up a work group to see if it is possible to organise anything in the near future and to help support a programme for 2010. Please contact him on 207335 or jawaid@gpp-peterborough.org.uk

FESTIVAL DATES

OCTOBER 2009

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| 9 | Sukkot, Jewish |
| 7 | Parvana, Buddhist |
| 11 | Simchat Torah, Jewish |
| 17 | Divali, Hindu, Sikh, Jain |
| 19-26 | Interfaith Week of Prayer for World Peace |
| 20 | Anniversary of the Birth of the Bab, Baha'i
Conferring of Guruship on Guru Granth Sahib, Sikh |

NOVEMBER 2009

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| 1 | All Saints Day, Christian |
| 2 | Birthday of Guru Nanak, Sikh
All Souls Day, Christian
Anniversary of the Crowning of Haile Selassie, Rastafarian |
| 5 | Kathina Day, Buddhist |
| 8 | Remembrance Sunday, Christian |
| 12 | Anniversary of the Birth of Baha'u'llah, Baha'i |
| 15 | Shichi-Go-San, Japanese |
| 24 | Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur, Sikh |
| 27 | Eid-ul-Adha/The Festival of Sacrifice, Muslim |
| 29 | Advent Sunday, Christian |
| 30 | St Andrews Day, Scottish, Christian |